

N Destiny 1231

Chapter 1231

With that thought in mind, she tried her best to keep herself at ease. Ren set her down on the edge of the bed and she snuggled under the covers herself. She even scooted over to make some room for him.

Ren got in bed and turned the lights off. Ruka's heart skipped a beat as he reached out to pull her close. She was tucked securely against his broad chest.

It just so happened that she was pressed up against his heart. She could hear the steady, powerful beating of his heart, and her own began to pound a little wildly.

She reached out to wrap her arms around his waist. In the darkness, he pulled her chin up. Once her head was tilted high enough, she felt something warm pressing against her lips. His kiss came without any warning.

He was not in a rush. His kiss was slow and tender as if he were savoring the taste of her lips. The fresh scent of mint did nothing to affect the dominance he displayed. It was as if she was his gift one that he needed to unwrap as patiently as possible, instead of doing it with force.

Ruka grew light-headed from the kiss. She could not think of anything else apart from drowning in his passion. The warmth of his kiss warmed even the crevices of her heart, and her body began to tremble...

Then, disaster struck! Ruka felt a familiar sensation and hastened to push him away. "Hm? What's the matter?" His hoarse voice rang out.

"My... my period just started... just now..." Ruka's cheeks were burning up in utter embarrassment. Oh gosh! No wonder I've been feeling so sleepy lately. After doing some calculations, she realized that it came a week late.

Unfortunately, it chose to come right at this moment. To avoid staining his bedsheets, Ruka quickly jumped off the bed and ran back to her room.

She checked herself once she returned to her room, and true enough, she was right. Thankfully she came prepared, or otherwise, it would be mortifying if he had to go out in the middle of the night to buy pads for her.

After dealing with the crisis, she decided to return to his room, but when she opened her door she saw him waiting. His eyes had a dangerous glint in them.

When she looked into his eyes, she felt like he was going to eat her alive. "I'm sorry..." she apologized at once.

Ren was feeling a little frustrated too, but what could he do?

He stroked her head and pulled her into a hug. "Sleep in my room." Ruka shook her head. "I can't. I might make a mess on your bedsheets."

"I can always change it." He was resolute, so she could only nod and follow him back. She could feel her cramps starting up too. They tormented her each month.

Although she climbed back into his bed, she lay there stiffly without daring to move about. She nestled in his arms again, but she could not stop herself from massaging her abdomen gently and inhaling sharply.

"Does it hurt?" He sensed it right away and pressed his large, warm hand against her abdomen.

All of a sudden, Ruka realized just how warm his hand was. It was so warm that it felt like a hot water bottle, and it eased most of her pain. She held his hand and said, "Lend me your warmth!"

Ren used his hand to massage her abdomen, but this time, his hand slid under her pajama top and pressed right against her skin.

Chapter 1232

Ruka gasped a little, but she enjoyed the warmth of his hand. His chin began to rub against her forehead, and the little stubble made her feel a little ticklish.

“Do you feel better now?” he asked after a while. “Yeah, a lot better!” Not only was she not in any pain anymore, but she was so comfortable that she was about to fall asleep.

“Go ahead and sleep,” he coaxed as his hand continued to press warmly against her abdomen.

Ruka fell asleep in next to no time, while Ren was fated to stay up a little longer. Once the bed was fully warmed up, he turned the air-conditioning to a higher temperature before sneaking out of bed and heading for the bathroom.

It was morning at last.

Ruka lazed in bed like a drowsy kitten. It was so warm under the covers that she did not feel like opening her eyes, even though she knew the sun was up. She snuggled back into his arms to carry on dreaming.

“Ruka.” His attractive voice rang out beside her ear.

She mumbled sleepily in response and felt a kiss being planted on her lips. She smiled and wrapped her arms around his neck to stop him from getting out of bed.

Ren did not try to stop her. Usually, he would have gotten out of bed and started working by now, but Ruka was a sleepyhead and she dragged him down with her, so he decided to stay with her a little while longer.

As for Elijah, who was waiting outside to start his daily report to Ren, began to feel rather anxious. However, a thought occurred to him, and suddenly, he found it perfectly reasonable for Ren to sleep in a little late today.

Finally, at half past eight in the morning. Ren came out of the bedroom fully dressed for work. Elijah gave him an envious look. “Do your reporting downstairs!” Ren said quietly.

“Yes, I understand. Miss Singed needs her sleep, Elijah responded at once.

By the time Ruka woke up, Ren had gone out. She became a little annoyed with herself. Why did she laze about in bed for so long that she missed out on having breakfast with him? Just as she began to have her breakfast alone feeling all morose, one of the servants came over with a bouquet of flowers. "Miss Singed, Mr. Husson prepared this for you."

Ruka's eyes lit up with excitement. She took the bouquet of red roses over and saw the card stuck between them.

After fishing it out, she saw the message that read, 'Good morning, my Ruka He signed it off himself and his signature was just as commanding and authoritative as he was.

It was clear that he bought the flowers and wrote the card himself before asking someone to deliver it to the house for her.

Ruka felt all warm and fuzzy inside. The servants had also prepared warm ginger tea to help keep her body warm. He must have instructed them to do so!

Even though he was not beside her right now, she could still feel his tender care. At noon, she received a call from her mother who informed her that they were

packing up now and getting ready to move into their new house.

"Ruka, Ren prepared a villa for us. It looks very grand and luxurious, and the security system is top-notch. We'll be safe here," Claire described gratefully.

"Mom, do you need me to come and help. you with the move?"

Chapter 1233

"No. Ren has sent some people over to help us out. There's a large truck stopped outside the house right now. I think we'll be done with just one trip since the villa is fully furnished. We'll just need to bring along our daily necessities."

Ruka could deduce that Ren prepared a new house for her parents to protect them. If she married him, her parents would also become part of his closest circle, and he needed to do this to prevent them from being attacked by those with ulterior motives. At the Translation Department.

Victoria came out of the conference room looking as pale as a sheet. Her eyes were filled with hatred and the unwillingness to concede. She never thought that Ren would act against her so mercilessly.

She knew that she was powerless against Ren, but she believed that with Orson's influence, he would be able to ensure that Ren lost in the upcoming elections. She could not wait to see him disgraced.

Inara and Michelle walked past her with a stack of documents in their hands. In the past, they would have greeted Victoria courteously in an attempt to curry favor with her, but right now, neither one of them showed her any sign of respect.

"I heard that Ruka failed her assessment because Victoria used her powers to interfere. I used to look up to her and wanted to become as accomplished as her, but it looks like I'll need to take that back now. I don't want to be as shameless and deplorable as her!"

Victoria was furious to see that even the interns had the guts to mock her right to her face. She glowered at them, while they stood there with smug expressions as they watched her leave.

"D*mn it!" Victoria was so mad that she felt a little woozy and had to lean against the wall to support herself.

Three days later, it was Christmas Eve. Although Ren was reluctant to let Ruka leave, he did get to spend a few days with her and he did not want her to miss out on spending time with her family during the holiday season.

Ren led her to the car and personally opened the door for her. Once she had her seatbelt on, he bent down and inspected it carefully before stroking her head and kissing her forehead. "I'll come and pick you up after Christmas."

“Okay.” Ruka looked up at him a little wistfully too. She would have given him a hug if it had not been for all the bodyguards around them. She sat safely in the car, while four other SUVs protected her from the front and back. No expense was spared to keep her safe.

Ruka took in the sights of the crowded streets when a thought flashed across her mind. If she married Ren and he continued to remain in his position, it meant that she would not have much of a chance to stroll about on the streets.

Even so, her smile did not fade. He was worth it, even if she had to give up everything. So what if she had to make some adjustments to her life and routine if it meant that she could be with him?

She was willing to do whatever it took to be with him, even if it meant giving up her life.

Chapter 1234

There were two gray cars tailing Ruka’s procession. The men in the two cars stared at the fleet of cars in front of them. with a dangerous look in their eyes.

They were not going to act now, but from now on, she would always be under their watchful gaze. Meanwhile, Ren was on a call in his office when Elijah came in with another man.

It was a man in a dark-colored suit. He was over six feet tall and carried himself with an authoritative air. Elijah held his hand out politely and said, “Please come in, Mr. Presgrave.”

Once Elijah brought the visitor in, he went back to his adjacent office. Less than ten minutes later, he saw one of the staff running toward Ren’s office with a stack of documents in his hands. Elijah immediately called out and stopped the man.

“Casey, you can’t go in right now. Mr. Husson has an important discussion going on right now.”

“What I have here is very important too. I need Mr. Husson’s signature as soon as possible.” The man, Casey Amherst, waved the documents in front of him.

“Delay it for as long as possible. I’m certain that Mr. Husson does not wish to be interrupted for any reason right now.”

Elijah's tone was sterner than usual. Casey became a lot less insistent. Whenever Elijah used that tone, it meant that Ren was in a meeting with someone extremely important.

"When should I come back then?" Casey asked a little frantically. "Try coming back in two hours," Elijah replied.

Casey had no choice but to leave with his documents. Elijah glanced at the door of the office. Ren was currently in a discussion that involved the general elections, and even he did not dare to go in to prepare the tea and coffee for them. For the next two hours, Ren attended to his guest himself. It was Elliot Presgrave.

He was the wealthiest man in the entire country and had built his fortune internationally as well. He commanded a lot of respect, and even though he was a businessman, no one dared to underestimate his influence. Now that he was backing Ren, Elijah believed that Ren would not have any issues in the upcoming elections.

Ruka arrived at the new house. It was a quiet neighborhood without the bustling liveliness of the city center, but it gave her a strong sense of security. Every villa had a butler, and all their needs would be taken care of without having to step foot out of the house.

Robert and Claire had received an extended break, so they could rest until July next year. Ren was the one who informed them of this. Thus, they were in no rush to get back to work abroad. Instead, they could enjoy some peace and quiet back in their home country.

"Mom, Dad, do you know what happened?" Ruka asked in shock when she heard the news.

"Nothing happened, you silly girl. Ren is just protecting us! He's heading into the elections soon and those who wish to unseat him will try to affect him by attacking those around him. You're the biggest target, so Ren had the foresight to make sure we're protected," Robert explained.

Ruka nodded in understanding, while Claire added, "Don't be afraid, Ruka. Ren will keep you safe."

“Mom, Dad, I'm not afraid.” Ruka had a steely look in her eyes. She was determined to accompany him. throughout this challenging period.

Chapter 1235

There was a pile of documents stacked up on Elijah’s desk and he had received several calls with urgent reminders, but all he could do was hold the fort down for now. He glanced at his watch and saw that two hours had passed.

Just then, he heard the door to the main office opening. Ren came out first and he stepped aside to let Elliot pass. As leaders in their respective fields, they were equals in every way, and when they stood together, it only proved that birds of a feather did indeed flock together.

They were both men that belonged to the top 1% of society and were innate leaders among men. Their presence and aura could not be mimicked or faked. It was something that could only come naturally.

“Sir, I will see Mr. Presgrave out,” Elijah came over and said. Ren held his hand out to Elliot who shook it without hesitation. “See you, Elliot. I won’t be sending you off then.”

“Yes, there’s no need for you to send me off. Let’s check our schedules and find a time to invite Richard out for a meal, just the three of us,” Elliot said with a smile. They exchanged a look of understanding and empathy for one another.

“Certainly. Let’s do it when we're all free.” Ren nodded and smiled.

Elijah did feel a little pressured as he stood beside the two of them. He was a pretty good-looking man himself, but standing in front of these two, he had to admit that they were the finest men who exuded an aura of leadership.

Elijah walked Elliot out to the parking lot outside. One of the bodyguards opened the door for Elliot and he slid in before saying to Elijah courteously, “Thank you for seeing me out, Mr. Jackman.”

“You're most welcome. Goodbye, Mr.. Presgrave,” Elijah replied and watched as the procession of bulletproof cars drove off.

Then, Elijah returned to the office and brought the pile of documents to Ren, who was standing in front of the French window with a cup of coffee. He seemed to be in deep thought.

“Did everything go smoothly, Sir?” Elijah asked in concern. “Yes. Very smoothly.” Ren nodded.

“Miss Singed has arrived safely at her parents’ new villa. The Singeds won’t be leaving their house for the next few days. They will be under our protection at all times,” Elijah reported.

Ren narrowed his eyes. He could not help but think that Ruka would be bored out of her mind if she stayed cooped up inside the house for too long. If it hadn’t been for him, she wouldn’t have had to go through all of this.

Just then, Ren’s phone rang, and he picked it up. “Yes, Scarlet?”

“Ren, did you send Ruka back to her parents? It’s Christmas Eve today. Do you think it’d be alright if we invited them to join us for a celebration?”

“I’m a little swamped today, Scarlet. I’ll let Elijah handle the arrangements.”

“Alright. Come home for dinner once you’re done with work. Mom and Dad are here too.”

Ren’s heart tightened. “Scarlet, make sure Dad doesn’t find out about my relationship with Ruka.”

“Relax. Everyone’s on high alert right now. No one will inform Dad about it before the elections. We know what his temper’s like,” Scarlet assured him before adding a reminder. “Don’t work too late.. You need to take care of your health too.”

Chapter 1236

“Yes, I got it.” Ren smiled warmly. His family’s love for him was his source of strength. Meanwhile, at a hillside villa near the city center, a grand feast was laid out on the dining table, and the woman who stood at the French window waiting for her husband to come home was dressed in a beige dress designed for pregnant women.

From behind, she still looked like a young lady, but if one walked around her, they would see her beautiful belly. She caressed it while waiting patiently. Just then, she saw the flashing car lights. drawing near. Her lips curved into a smile. He was home at last.

Near the dining table, an old man sat down for a game of chess with his grandson. The young heir of the Presgraves was already showing all the makings of a highly intelligent soul. He carefully considered his every move, so much so that Francis was beginning to feel the pressure! After all, the six-year old had won several times now.

“Jared, haven’t you figured out your next move yet?” Francis asked with a smile.

“Hang on, Grandpa. I’ve almost figured it out.” Jared looked up. His handsome face looked more and more like his father’s every day.

Jared made his move and Francis couldn’t help but exclaim in surprise at how much of an expert he was at chess already. His move had been the best one possible.

“Your turn, Grandpa!” Jared grinned. “My, my. You’re nearly as good as me now. Let me think.” Francis studied the chessboard as if he had finally met his match.

Jared rested his head on his hands to wait. He looked like a proper little gentleman in his black sweater. When he heard the sounds outside, he smiled and said, “My father’s home.”

Francis nodded. “Yeah! Just in time for Christmas Eve dinner.”

“Mommy needs to go to the hospital once we’re done with dinner. I’ll get to see my sister in a few days,” Jared enthused. “That’s right! We’ll have a new member of the family soon.” Francis was just as excited about it. In his old age, nothing felt more meaningful than spending time with his family.

Against the backdrop of the evening sky, Elliot stepped out of the car and speed walked to the house. When he saw the woman who was waiting at the door, he reached out to hold her and asked, “Why are you standing at the door when it’s so cold?”

"I'm waiting for you, of course!" Anastasia tilted her head up to look at him. The light highlighted her refined features and the warmth of her beauty shone. Even though she was a pregnant woman, she was still as attractive as ever.

Chapter 1237

Elliot put his hand on her belly gently. "Did the baby kick you today? Is she playing nice?"

"Not bad. I'd be worried if she's too nice." Anastasia held his hand. "Let's go. We're going to the hospital after we have dinner with Dad and Jared."

"Sure." Elliot kissed her forehead and led her into the living room. Francis heaved a sigh. "Yep, I'm getting old. Even a six-year-old kid is beating me."

Anastasia heard everything, and she came in, smiling. "Did you lose again, Dad?"

"Yeah. Jared's really smart. I can't win no matter what I do," Francis admitted defeat. The boy encouraged his grandfather, "Do your best, Grandpa."

"I'll get back to you after dinner." Francis smiled. The child started picking up the chess pieces and tucking them away. The child was young, but he was smart, and Francis felt grateful. Unlike other kids, he would clean up after himself instead of making a mess.

It was nine when they finished dinner. Four black cars escorted Anastasia as she went to the Presgraves' personal hospital. Everyone was prepared for Anastasia's labor.

It was a merry day at Scarlet's house as well. Three families were celebrating Christmas there. It was rowdy to say the least.

Charlotte was looking at Ruka happily. She couldn't take her eyes off the girl ever since she showed up. Ruka was helping her mother and Scarlet make Christmas dinner.

Harold, Walter, and Robert were enjoying their tea as they talked about current issues. "Come, Ruka." Charlotte beckoned to Ruka when she was serving a dish.

Ruka approached her shyly. Charlotte held her hand. She was just delighted to see the girl. Ruka was a likable lady to begin with, and her looks just checked every box Charlotte had on the list.

“Come, talk with me. We have a lot to talk about.” Charlotte took Ruka away stubbornly.

Ruka supported Charlotte, and they went into a quiet side chamber. After taking a seat, Charlotte said, “If Ren tries to do anything stupid to you, you come to me. I’ll wallop him.”

Ruka chuckled. He might be a VP, but he’s still a son at home. His mother will whip him into shape. “It’s alright, Charlotte. He’s nice to me. Never said anything bad to me either,” she said seriously.

“Good. But well, he’s older, so | guess he knows how to love a lady.” Charlotte defended her son. It would be frustrating if Ruka complained about his age. “He loves me.” She nodded. Charlotte remembered something. She left for the living room and came back holding a wooden box. Then, she opened it,

revealing a jade bracelet in it. The bracelet was gleaming gorgeously under the light.

“This is a family heirloom that’s been passed down for two centuries. It’s invaluable, and now it’s yours.” She gently placed the box in Ruka’s hand.

Ruka was petrified. This is much too valuable! | can’t take it. “Charlotte-” “Don’t say no. | got it appraised, and it’s worth about this much.” She raised a single finger.

Ten million. It’s worth ten million. Not ten thousand or a hundred thousand. Her heart skipped a beat. It’s far too valuable for me to accept. “I... | can’t take this.” She handed it back to Charlotte. “You should keep it, Charlotte.”

“You silly girl. What’s ours is yours. If you won’t take it, nobody will.” She patted the girl’s head happily. “I’ll make sure Ren marries you. I’m not going to accept any other woman as his wife.”

Chapter 1238

Ruka felt sheepish, but also moved. “Thank you, Charlotte. Really. This means a lot.” Charlotte handed the box over to her. “This is gonna come in handy when you attend important events with Ren.”

Ruka nodded. "Of course. I'll treasure it." She then noticed the light of a car's headlamps shining through the window, and delight filled her. Is that him?

She saw a silhouette coming from the garden. Her heart thumped furiously and she said, "I'll take my leave now, Charlotte."

She left through the side door to welcome Ren. Ruka wasn't exactly being subtle, so Ren saw her as well. He smiled and stopped walking just for her. She leapt into his embrace and hugged him tight.

It had only been two days since she saw him, but she was already missing him..

Ren wrapped his arm around her shoulder and kissed her hair, then he looked at the living room for a moment before taking her into the bamboo forest. She followed him sheepishly.

They had just gotten into the shadows, and he was already kissing her. He had missed her as well. The excitement kept Ruka tense. She let him kiss her, though her face was beet red. "It's time for dinner."

"Let's go." Ren ran his fingers through her hair. His eyes glinted with desire under the lights, and he felt as if he was a beast trying to escape its cage. Ruka was too alluring. "How many days has it been?" He suddenly huddled closer.

She answered shyly, "Three."

He patted the back of her head happily and pulled her closer. I just want to ravage her now. Eventually, dinner went underway, and Ruka was seated beside Ren for obvious reasons. Fortunately, Harold was so engrossed in his wine that he didn't realize Ren and Ruka's sweet interactions.

Ruka didn't mind. Everyone else ignored the fact that Ren kept filling Ruka's plate with food and looking at her lovingly. They didn't want to pressure the new couple.

The couple finished their food earlier than everyone and went out for a walk. The garden was chilly, but their intertwined hands felt warm.

Scarlet was a nostalgic person, so she barely renovated anything from the first day the house was built. Aside from the new plants, everything else looked the same as they were twenty years ago.

As Ren looked at the flowers, pond, and field, he was reminded of how cheeky Ruka used to be. He chuckled. She looked at him. "Why are you laughing?"

"I was just reminded of the time when you were a kid. You were really cheeky," he said. Ruka didn't remember things from way back then. Still, she smugly asked, "Really? Was I that cheeky?"

"Yeah. Scarlet wouldn't discipline you.. You were spoiled rotten. You'd take anything I have whenever you felt like it." Ren had to give everything nice to her back then. She said sheepishly. "Well, now I'm going to marry you, so we're even now?"

He pulled her into his embrace and smiled at her. "Yep." She hugged him as well. He wasn't the only one who wanted to ravage her; she wanted to do the same to him as well. He was hot, and she was very much willing to sleep with him.

She fluttered her eyelashes and asked timidly, "Can I stay at your place?"

"Tonight?"

She nodded. "Yes."

He tightened his arms around her. "I'm a bit busy the next couple of days, so I'll have to stay back in the office. But I promise I'll pick you up once I'm done with work, okay?"

He didn't want to refuse her, but work was heavy. It would be rude if he took her with him just to ignore her. After work was done, he would take a break to spend time with her.

Ruka was an understanding person. "Sure, I'll wait."

Chapter 1239

He had just kissed her forehead when his phone rang. Ren picked it up and gave it a glance. "I have to go."

She pushed him. "Go. Work's important." Ren smiled. She can't wait for me to leave? He turned around and was about to leave, but then Ruka said, "A second."

Ren turned back again to see Ruka sprinting toward him. She wrapped her arms around his neck and leaped up to peck his lips. She then took a step back and looked at him happily. "Done. Go."

The flames of desire lit up in his eyes. He pulled her into his embrace and whispered, "I won't hold back the next time we meet." Ruka blushed as knew what he was implying. She closed her eyes and nodded. "I won't run away anymore either." He patted her head. "Good."

He left. She saw him off, but she didn't. feel lonely. She knew he would miss her every minute he wasn't working Night descended upon the city. An air of celebration permeated the air. Fireworks exploded in the sky, and booms rippled throughout the city. At Presgrave Hospital.

Half an hour after they arrived at the hospital, Anastasia's water broke, and it was time for the operation. Since she went with a C-section the first time, Anastasia went with the same thing the second time. Ten months of pregnancy. Ten torturous months. It's finally time to unload.

The girl was born on a nice night. She came to this world on the night of Christmas. Fifteen minutes after Anastasia was taken into the operating room, the baby came out crying.

Her face was red, and she weighed 6.94 pounds. This was Elliot's daughter. Anastasia was still in the operating room. A nurse took the baby to Elliot after she was washed clean.

Elliot looked at his daughter, tears of joy welling in his eyes. This was his second child. He missed his son's birth, making this moment all the more precious.

The medical staff were taking care of Anastasia. Eventually the anesthetic wore off, and she woke up on the bed. Her wound still throbbed, but she was relieved to hear that her daughter was safely delivered. She would do anything for her.

She was taken back to the ward. A nurse was wiping her sweat off with a towel gently while congratulating her. Anastasia decided to close her eyes and get some sleep.

Vaguely, she felt someone kiss her forehead. Anastasia opened her eyes and was met with Elliot's face. "Good work, honey." "Who does she look like more?" Anastasia asked raspily.

"You, of course." He held her hand. She still looks sleepy. He cooed, "Get some sleep. I'm not leaving."

When Anastasia woke up again, she saw him crouched by her bed and staring at the bed beside her. To be precise, he was staring at the little one with the pink shirt under the white blanket. The baby had lustrous hair, and her face was the size of a fist. Her features were tiny, but she could see that the baby was beautiful.

"She looks like you, doesn't she?" Elliot chuckled.

The wound was still throbbing, but just looking at the baby filled Anastasia with joy. She actually wanted to get pregnant once more.

Still, she was exhausted. My job's done. "You look after her. I'm getting some sleep."

"Sure." Elliot looked at her gently. The baby's fists were closed. She was so delicate, he wouldn't even breathe loudly in case she was spooked.

The nurse was in awe. She's the young miss of the Presgraves, huh? | bet she'll grow up into a gorgeous lady. Her parents are beautiful, and so is her brother. The kids are gonna grow up to be drop-dead gorgeous.

Chapter 1240

Silence had fallen upon the ward. Elliot was holding a sleeping baby in his arms. He just couldn't take his eyes off her. She's my second child.

It was four in the morning, so the sky was dark. Six black cars were traveling through the street. A man in the backseat of one car was resting his eyes. His assistant, on the other hand, was going through the

files despite how exhausted he was. The few international cases were forcing them to stay awake and making them feel tense.

All of a sudden, a blanket of fog appeared out of nowhere, covering the whole street. The bodyguards slowed down in response. This fog was too thick to be a natural occurrence. Someone or something was waiting in the shadows for them. "We got a situation here. Stay alert," the head bodyguard said.

The car came to a sudden halt, waking the man in the backseat. He opened his eyes. The bodyguard was telling him what happened. This sudden fog was no ordinary phenomenon. The whole street was clear just now, and there shouldn't be any fog at night in this weather.

Just then, a blinding flash of light assailed them. Something crashed into the car in front of them, and a great explosion happened. "It's a rocket launcher! Protect the VP!" Elijah shouted.

The bodyguard got out of the car. Elijah and Ren followed a moment later. They were escorted away with the bodyguard shielding them. Less than ten seconds after they were gone, a rocket launcher sent the car behind them flying up into the air. It fell back down and rolled a few times on the road.

Right at the moment of explosion, one bodyguard came to Ren's rescue. He kept Ren underneath him and took the full force of the shockwave himself. The shockwave rippled through the street, and everyone felt blood rushing up their heads.

Elijah knocked his forehead on something, and it drew blood. His ears were buzzing, but still he went and searched for Ren. "Sir!"

The bodyguard protecting Ren was hurt by the shockwave. He turned around, and Ren held the wobbling man. He told Elijah, "Come here and help me!"

Elijah couldn't hear a thing, but still he went and held the bodyguard up. The other men formed a semicircle in front of the three of them and retreated backward while protecting them.

The fog was still too thick for them to see anything. The bodyguards had nothing but their hearing to help them discern where danger was coming from, and then silence fell. The fog was like a maze. The only thing visible was the burning car. The air was filled with the stench of ash.

Just then, they heard the cries of a girl coming out of nowhere. She was running toward them, calling out to her father.. “Daddy? Daddy, where are you?”

It was a three-year-old girl. She was frantically running on the street. Ren’s heart went out for her.

“There’s a girl! Save her!” Elijah shouted. “This could be a trap.” The bodyguards pointed their guns at the girl.

Ren ordered, “Do not hurt her.”

The bodyguards let go of the trigger. It was then the girl saw them, and she came right up to them. “Help me, mister. You gotta help me.”

One of the bodyguards darted ahead and held the girl. He checked up on her and shouted, ‘She’s fine!’

“Bring her here,” Ren ordered. The bodyguard brought the girl to Ren. Elijah tried to hold her, but the sight of his bloodstained face made her bawl even louder. Ren spread his arms. “Here, let me hold you.”

The girl finally let Ren hold her. His bodyguards were still looking around them. They knew this girl was nothing but a pawn of the enemy. This was not the time to let their guard down.

Ren took the girl over from his bodyguard. He then saw a red mark flashing on her back. It was the mark that a sniper was aiming straight at her.

“Look out! We got a sniper!” Ren roared. He swiveled around with the kid in his arms the next second. The red dot that was pointing at the girl was now aimed at his shoulder. Just a moment later, a bullet flew through the fog and pierced Ren’s shoulder. He staggered forward due to the impact, but still he didn’t let the child go.

Elijah quickly came to him. “The VP's hit!”