

N Destiny 2121

Chapter 2121

The light shone on Willow's long hair that tumbled down her shoulder and coiled around her face. She looked as lively as a fairy fluttering around in the warm midsummer. She was vivacious, naive, and sometimes silly, but her smile brightened up the world. Captivated by her smile, Jasper couldn't move his eyes away.

Noticing his stare, Willow smiled sheepishly. and quickly buried her face in the blanket. Jasper snapped out of it. Nervous, he stood up. Tll check things out. You get to sleep."

"Sure, but come back soon," said Willow. It was the dead of the night when Jasper came back. Willow had fallen asleep, and her leg was peeking out of the blanket. Jasper was amused, then he tucked her in and nudged her leg into the blanket.

Nothing happened that night. Morning came, and everyone got ready for the expedition. Aside from the designated team, everyone else. stayed behind to guard the ship. Willow was on the expedition team, and she had four bodyguards with her.

"Can you help me with my back, Jasper? | can't reach it." Willow approached Jasper holding a tub of sunscreen. She was only wearing a black camisole, revealing her arms and beautiful back.

Jasper almost stopped breathing for a moment, but he took the sunscreen and helped her rub it across her back. Her skin was soft and smooth to the touch.

Willow tilted her head so he could rub the sunscreen all over the places she couldn't reach. Unbeknownst to her, Jasper was tall enough to notice the skin under her shirt when she was in this position. Willow grew perfectly, her body a lot more mature than her face would suggest.

As he rubbed the sunscreen across her back, Jasper found himself perspiring a little. "Done," he said huskily. Willow took the sunscreen back and smiled. "Thanks." She opened up her closet and took a black windbreaker out. She then tied her hair into a ponytail so that it was easier for her to work.

The team set off. They got into three off-road vehicles and drove off according to the guide's instructions. The cave was only thirty minutes away, and they arrived at their destination not too long

later. It was a natural cave with a small entrance. Only a single person could pass through it at one time, and there were a lot of passages inside. The ship was embedded under a stone wall. Thanks to the cave's shelter, it was preserved nicely.

Jasper followed Willow closely. When they came to the ship, what the team saw shocked them. The excited archeologists quickly whipped out their gear to start their investigation. Willow was equally excited as well. They split into smaller teams and entered the ship in batches. The vessel was gigantic—almost a hundred feet from forward to stern. The deck was about thirty feet wide. Shipbuilding was already decent enough even back in the day.

“There'll be two to three layers of cabin in this ship. Maybe we'll find something.” They split their team based on the work they would do. Willow's team would stay on the deck to investigate. She whipped out her magnifying glass to take a closer look, but then the board under her creaked. Even though she wasn't heavy, this ship was already more than a thousand years old, and the board underneath the deck was starting to give way.

“Careful.” Jasper pulled Willow back to his side. The place she stood on earlier had shattered and fallen. Jasper held the steel pole with one hand and clasped Willow with his other arm, keeping her from falling.

Willow was shocked too, and she gave Jasper a pane mea onl she chec ed-quetheh e curiously. ‘Oh there's a hidden chamber down there. We can check it out.’”

“Watch out for snakes. I'll clear the path. Wait for me.” Jasper leggaaiint the hole Qnog hte Wwas'stire the chahiber was Safe, he said, “Jump. I'll catch you.”

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The chamber was about eight feet tall, but Willow jumped anyway. Jasper caught her, and they clung to each other. With her arms wrapped around his neck, Willow felt safe in his embrace.

Jasper held up a lamp for Willow while she checked things out. A moment later, she found a metal box and opened it, revealing a few pieces of yellowing paper within. Even though it was probably a thousand years old, she could still make out the words. Some of the papers had broken down, however. Willow quickly took a few photos and made sure she didn't make any noise. Once she was done, the papers started rotting as they had been exposed to the humidity in the air, and they turned into dust.

Willow heaved a sigh. Good thing I took the photos in time, She swiveled around, but someone covered her eyes and darkness overwhelmed her. "What's wrong?"

"There are a few skeletons there. Are you scared of them?" Jasper asked, in case she got spooked if she saw the remains. "If they're just skeletons, then no," said Willow.

Jasper pulled his hand back, and Willow shone her flashlight on the skeletons. She then crouched down and checked the items around them, and she noticed one of the skeletons holding a metal box. Hmm, the artifacts the islanders found must have been sold for money.

They haven't found this chamber yet, so I can keep a few things. She picked up her backpack and unfurled a stretch of cloth. Carefully, she placed the metal box in the cloth and tied it up.

Jasper watched her as she worked. He said nothing, only keeping an eye on them. They stayed on the ship for three hours, and they gained a lot from the investigation. The team had lunch and went for another round to clean up things, then they could leave. It was then an explosion broke out at the cave's entrance, shocking everyone.

"Quickly find out what happened," said the leader. Part of the team quickly checked things out and came back a moment later. "Someone blasted the entrance. The exit's blocked by a boulder."

"Must be the locals. What are they trying to do?" someone barked. "They want to take all our stuff for themselves. You know how lawless this place is. They own the island. They can take everything we have and live a rich life for years."

"Damn it, and we just got everything we needed. to. All we had to do was get out and leave." Willow looked at Jasper. Jasper gave her a look of assurance. No matter what, he would lead them to safety. "Everyone split up and see if there are any more exits. Three hours left before sundown, so make haste."

Everyone split up to search the cave for another exit, but an hour later, everyone came back and said they found no more exits. "So, we'll have to stay the night in a cave?"

"There's an exit there.' Jasper pointed up. Everyone looked at the top of the cave, agape. He's talking about the exit on the roof? But we don't have any climbing gear. How can we even get up there?"

"That's too high up. How can we even get up there?" Willow held Jasper's sleeve in worry. "No. We can wait. The other guys will come for us if we are missing for too long."

"I can climb my way up there and smash the hole open. We can get out before sundown." Jasper didn't want Willow to stay the night here. The temperature difference between night and day was big, so she could fall ill.

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"Very well. We'll be counting on you, then. That's our only way out." Willow gave Jasper a worried look. She knew he was a capable man, but she couldn't just calm down while he was going to take a risk. "Be careful. Don't push yourself, alright?" she said.

"Trust me," answered Jasper. He would never make empty promises. Anything he said he could do, he would do it. Jasper took off his coat, revealing a tight shirt. Everyone was surprised when they saw his muscles. They didn't take Jasper as a muscular man.

Then, he started climbing the walls bare-handed. Even the places everyone thought couldn't be scaled, he scaled them. "What was his job before he became an archeologist? That's unbelievable."

The walls were about twenty feet tall, and Jasper had scaled half of it, but the closer he got to the exit, the harder it was to climb. Willow's heart was beating fast, and her neck was getting sore, but she kept her eyes firmly on Jasper, her heart racing. "You can do it, Jasper," Willow encouraged.

Jasper finally reached the opening, but then someone out there slammed a boulder down on his hand. Most people would reflexively pull their hand back when they were assaulted out of the blue, which would cause them to fall to their deaths.

Jasper didn't. He knew he would be attacked, so he endured the pain and slithered out of the opening. As expected, he saw a panicked man outside, the very same man who tried to sneak into Willow's room. Jasper's face fell, and murder filled his eyes.

Realizing the incoming danger, the man took two steps back, but Jasper slammed his foot into the man's belly and grabbed him by the collar, then he smashed his fist against the man's face. Quickly, the lad slid down a slide and disappeared into the woods. He was a local, so he knew this place very well. Jasper gave up going after him and shouted, "I'm out."

The team members applauded him, and someone said, "Miss Presgrave, you have a great boyfriend." Willow smiled. She wanted to say they weren't a couple, but there was no need for that, so she would just let them think that they were indeed a couple. "Yeah, he is." There was a hint of worship in her voice.

The boulder at the entrance was cleared out soon enough, courtesy of Jasper. Everyone was delighted to see the light outside and their despair melted away.

They got into their cars and left in a hurry. At the same time, they made up their minds to leave this island. Jasper's hand was bruised from the boulder slam, but he hid it so Willow wouldn't notice.

Once they arrived at the pier, Winston led everyone onto the ship. Everyone engaged in a small discussion and decided to say goodbye to the clan leader and leave. Then, they would decide on their next course of action once they were safely out at sea.

Just then, a female team member said in a panic, "I left my laptop at my abode back on the island. All my important files are in there." Willow quickly assured, "It's all right. We can go back for it."

"I'll go back for it," Jasper said. "It's not safe on the island. The guide just said one of our team members beat up the clan leader's son and they are demanding an explanation."

"When did that happen?" Willow asked.

"The guide's not sure." Jasper

stepped up. "I did

Willow quickly held his hand. "Are you alright?" she asked, concerned. Jasper hid his meet that qnirhade Willow more concerned. She grabbed his hand to look at it, and sure enough, there was a bruise.

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"That's too far! First, they blast the exit and trap us in the cave, and then they attack Jasper?" Willow snapped. She really wanted to send her bodyguards to teach those people a lesson.

"We need that laptop. All our important files are in there," said Winston. Even though it was the team member's mistake, they had to get that laptop back. "I'll do it," said Jasper.

"No. My bodyguards will get it. Just rest up." Willow didn't want him to go. "This is all my fault. I left in too much of a hurry and didn't notice my missing laptop. I'm really sorry. The laptop's under the bed of the last room in the corridor. I hid it just in case it got stolen." The team member almost cried.

Willow turned around and assured her, "It's alright. Something like this was bound to happen. Just get some rest. We'll deal with the matter." Soothed, the team member left. When Willow turned back, Jasper was already gone. "Where is he?" she quickly asked Winston.

"He left. Probably went to get the laptop." "He wouldn't listen to me, huh?" Willow complained as she quickly ran out to the deck. She saw Jasper driving toward the house on the island. "Be careful, Jasper!" she shouted.

Her bodyguards were guarding the first floor. The guide told the archeologists to leave as soon as possible, or the locals might come after them.

Jasper charged into the yard they stayed in before and stormed to the last room in the house. He kicked the door down and grabbed the laptop bag from under the bed. The laptop was intact, but when he came back out, a group of locals were standing around his car, armed with machetes and steel bats. Obviously, they weren't going to let Jasper go unscathed.

One of the men was the one he beat up. He angrily pointed at Jasper and talked in the local tongue. His comrades were riled up, and they glared at Jasper.

Jasper saddled the backpack and coldly stared at the locals, especially the one who tried to trap them in the cave. From the moment he tried to harm Willow, he already had a death warrant out for him.

“Attack!” the lad roared, and he charged ahead with his machete raised up high. Everyone thought Jasper was just an archeologist, but little did they know that Jasper was actually a professional killer.

A few blows later, the locals realized something was wrong. Jasper easily took them out and didn’t even break a sweat. He did not hesitate with the attacks as well. Even though they were armed, none could even fend off the impact of his punches. At this moment, Jasper slammed his foot down on the chest of the lad who tried to hurt Willow and broke a few of his ribs.

The lad screamed, but Jasper didn’t care. He quickly climbed into his car and left. The clan leader was told of the battle, and the news of his son getting his ribs broken enraged him. He led his men on a chase. Jasper had emerged from the housing area, but a few rickety off- road vehicles were hot on his tail. The clan elder was in one of those cars, loudly swearing vengeance on Jasper.

Winston was on the deck of the ship, looking through a telescope, and what he saw shocked him. “Mr. Wyatt’s back, but an angry mob is hot on his tail.”

Willow charged onto the deck. “Let me see.” She saw a big group of armed locals Gasper-Some stones and knives at him. “What happened? Why are they chasing him?” Willow panicked.

Just as Jasper was about to reach the pier, two more cars showed up and got in his way Ne) Willow. Came down to the first floor and ordered her bodyguards, ‘All of you, | need you to save Jasper right now! Bring him back to me!’

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Four of the bodyguards stayed, while the other four quickly went to Jasper’s rescue. Since Jasper couldn’t pass, he got out of the car, and already he was surrounded by two dozen angry male locals who were young and lean. They were roaring angrily and hurling stones at him. Jasper defended himself as murder flared in his eyes.

The air of bloodlust that surrounded him squeezed the locals by their throats, and their roars quickly became whimpers, then whispers, then... nothing. The clan leader got out of the car and pointed at Jasper. He said something in the local tongue that whipped his lackeys into action.

It was perhaps the enticement of great reward, so a couple of men with bats stepped ahead, but Jasper snatched their weapons away and easily beat them down. Everyone else quickly charged at him. At the same time, Willow's bodyguards arrived, and they quickly formed a protective circle around Jasper.

"We'll cut a way through," said Jasper.

"Yes, sir." The bodyguards saw no other way out. The battle began. Jasper and the bodyguards were outnumbered at least four to one. Everyone was on the deck, watching the battle through telescopes. Worry took over their minds, and their hearts raced.

It was then they realized that Jasper was actually more skilled than he looked. Not even Willow's bodyguards could fight as well as he could. He was fast, precise, and deadly. In just a moment, a few locals were already rolling on the ground and howling in pain.

Jasper's attacks were lethal. In just fifteen minutes, all the locals were already on the ground, out of commission. Scared out of his wits, the clan leader quickly got back into his car and drove away.

Jasper got into his car and took the bodyguards back to the ship. Everyone welcomed them with a round of applause. Willow dashed forward and threw her arms around Jasper even when everyone was watching.

Everyone smiled. When Willow realized what she was doing, she blushed and held Jasper's arm. "Let's go to our room. I'll need to see if you're hurt."

"I'm not, Jasper muttered. "Just let me check. You didn't even tell me when you were hurt," Willow grumbled. He had hidden his bruised hand from her earlier.

Willow dragged him away just like that, and Winston told the captain to steer the boat away in case the locals came back with more vitriol. Ten minutes later, the boat had left the pier and made its way to the

open sea. That was their next destination. Once they went back to the room, Willow closed the door and ordered, "Take off your clothes."

Jasper couldn't say no, so he took off his shirt right in front of her, revealing his beautiful muscles, perfectly chiseled torso, and taut rear.. He looked like a sculpture. At the same time, Willow noticed a few red marks on his back. He fought bare handed, so the locals got some hits in.

"Oh, your back's hurt. I need to put some salve on it." Willow observed him seriously, staring at his half-naked body without a care. She was genuinely checking on him and nothing else.

However, Jasper was starting to feel his heart squeezing up from all the touching Willow was doing, and he tensed up. She does know she's making life hard for me, right? After the checkup, Willow said, "Get showered. I'll deal with the injuries in a bit, and then it's time to sleep."

Jasper took a shower while Willow told her bodyguard to get her some salve. When she went outside to get the meds, everyone's told her about Jasper's situation. They were treating her as if she was his girlfriend. She was a little delighted. Even though they weren't a couple just yet, things might change in the future.

Sounds of flowing water meandered across the air, and Willow was imagining Jasper taking a shower! More specifically she was imagining his stark naked body, and her cheeks burned. Quickly, she went out to the balcony for some fresh air.

When she came back, Jasper was only wearing a pair of long cash pants.

Chapter 2126

"I'll do it myself," said Jasper. He couldn't let her do it, or something in him might snap. That was why he took a cold shower: so he could keep his fire in check. He didn't want her stoking it again.

"No. I'll do it," Willow protested. There was no way he could reach his back easily. Jasper couldn't win, so he let her do whatever she wanted. Willow skipped the Q-tip and poured the salve over her hand. She rubbed her hands together to warm the salve up and massaged Jasper's bruises.

The moment her hand touched his back, Jasper tensed up. All he could think of was her hand against his skin. "Tell me if it hurts. The captain said I have to do this for the salve to work. Hold it in, alright?" said Willow.

There was no need to hold in any pain. Willow's strength was too minor to cause any pain. It was then Willow realized that Jasper had a big back, and his muscles were really taut. They were hard to the touch and a little bumpy.

Once she was done, Jasper had a film of sweat glistening on his forehead. Willow had just stoked his flame of desire, and it was burning hot. "Done? I'll get some fresh air." Jasper stood up and left the room.

Willow put the salve away for the next day. The team leader summoned her for a meeting to sort out the leads they found so they could locate the artifact's location. She came to the conference room, and Winston asked her to take the main spot, which she humbly gave back to him.

She sat beside him, and an excited Winston said, "Good news, Willow. We just went through the leads we found, and there's a map in this box you collected. They indicate where the leads are scattered around in this zone."

"Really? That's great news! So, can we find more clues now?" Willow said in delight. So that fall was a blessing in disguise. "Yes. We can start our investigation, and through GPS, pinpoint the area where the ship sank."

Willow was excited. She came all the way with her team to find something, so there was no way she would want to return empty-handed. She wanted to do something for her nation's efforts to reclaim their artifacts.

"Time to begin our research." Winston scanned the map and uploaded it into his computer, then he projected it onto the screen for everyone to see. While everyone was staring at the map, the member at the end of the table surreptitiously took a photo of it with their phone.

Jasper came in as well, and the member beside Willow gave up their seat for him. Willow turned around and smiled at him, then she went back to Winston's explanation.

Jasper figured out the goal for this trip after he went through Willow's notes. He was every bit as knowledgeable as everyone around the table now. Moreover, he was a smart man with a photographic memory.

Once the meeting was over, everyone retired for the night. The member who took a photo of the map went back to his room and took out his laptop. He then logged into a private account of some website and sent the photo of the map to his correspondent.

'Good. You will be paid handsomely for this, the correspondent texted. 'I can work for you guys, but you must give me a million and a half once we find the artifact, texted the member. 'Of course. One and a half million is but pocket change for us. Keep us updated about all progress on your side so we can find the artifact faster.'

'Understood.' This spy was a man named Yosemite

Chapter 2127

"It's late. You should stop, or it's going to hurt your eyes," said Jasper. It was already eleven. Willow's eyes were getting sore. She took out a bottle of eye drops and handed it to Jasper. "Can you help me with this, Jasper?"

Jasper got up and sat on the edge of her bed. She was in a set of pink cotton pajamas. For some reason, her skin shone with a healthy sheen when she was wearing pink. She looked so delectable.

Willow had a pair of big, beautiful eyes that were clean and innocent like an infant's. Jasper dropped a few eye drops into her eyes, and Willow quickly snapped her peepers shut. She had an animated look on her face, and her lips were shut tightly.

Jasper stared at her lustrous lips. They smelled so sweet and inviting. When Willow snapped her eyes open, Jasper quickly looked away, his breathing laborious. "Do you want a few drops of this? It's good."

"No." "Aw, come on. Just lie down." Willow pushed him down on the bed and tried to drop some eye drops into his eye. Jasper couldn't bear to dampen her enthusiasm, so he lay down. Willow was inches away, staring at him. "You have beautiful eyes." She then dropped some eye drops into his eyes.

While his eyes were closed, Willow kept staring at his face. He then opened his eyes, but Willow already had her fill. She then looked at his Adam's apple and touched it.

Jasper's eyes went wide. What is she doing? "Don't touch it," he said. "I've never touched a guy's Adam's apple before. I want to know how it feels." Willow was observing him curiously like he was a work of art.

"Don't touch anyone else's throat, got it?" Jasper stood up. "I don't like touching anyone else's throat. Only yours," said Willow before she got back to her bed. "Just sleep. You must be tired."

There was no way he could sleep. Jasper pulled the blanket over to cover up his crotch. She has no idea how much she just riled me up.

Morning came, and Willow woke up. She looked at Jasper's bed, but he was not around. She then looked outside the window and saw a few islands on the horizon. They were finally at their next destination.

She left her room, and a bodyguard approached her. "Do you need anything, miss?" "It's alright. I'm looking for someone. Have you seen Mr. Wyatt?"

"He went to the islands an hour ago."

"Alone?" Willow was shocked, and then she got worried. "With your team leader. They're on a recon mission, assured the bodyguards. Even so, Willow still looked at the islands in worry, hoping that Jasper would come back soon.

Because of Winston's orders, the ship was not allowed to approach the islands until he and Jasper came back with enough intelligence. Barely anyone had explored these islands before, so they had to make sure they were safe, not to mention there could be pirates around, so they had to check their surroundings for any dangers.

Willow couldn't stay still, so she kept visiting the control room. Finally, at three in the afternoon, they established contact with Winston. "Are you there, captain? What's the situation?" a member asked.

“Yeah. We need to check around for a couple more hours, but tell everyone there’s nothing to worry about. We’ll be back in a flash.” Willow quickly took the pager. “Is Jasper there, captain?”

“Ah, hello, Willow. Yeah, he’s a me.”

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The seas were slightly turbulent at night, so the ship was not the best place to rest. Willow packed her things up and turned around only to almost crash into the guy behind her, but she was delighted.

“You’re back! “Yeah. I’m here to help you with your luggage.”

Jasper looked at her gently. Willow felt a surge of warmth in her heart. She loved that he cared about her so much. Jasper took all her luggage aside from her little backpack. They set up camp at a spot that was clean and where the walls of the mountain would block out any winds.

The team members and bodyguards were setting up their tents as well. Johanna came over and asked, “Miss, it can be dangerous at night. Should | stay in the same tent as you?”

Willow blinked. She knew Johanna well, but when it came to sleep, Willow had a habit of not sharing a bed unless she acknowledged them enough to even hug them without any reservations. Aside from her family, there was only one person who fit the bill right now. She turned her sights to Jasper, who was helping out, and her face turned red. She said, “I’d like to stay with Mr. Wyatt, Johanna.”

Johanna was surprised. The head of the Presgrave Family did allow them to be in the same room, but not in a tent. That was a lot smaller than a room. “I don’t think that’s a good idea, miss. The tent’s a bit small.”

“| don’t mind.” Willow stared at Jasper, wondering how she could convince him into sharing a tent with her. Johanna looked at the young lady. It was obvious Willow only had eyes for Jasper, and she sighed. He’s so lucky. This is the first time I’ve seen her have so much affection for a man. “Then I’ll-

Willow stopped her. "No. Don't tell Dad about it. Do not notify him about my plan, and keep this a secret," said Willow imperiously. If her father were to know of this, he would stop her at all costs. "But..."

"No buts. You're with me now, so you're going to listen to me," said Willow. "And Jasper's a gentleman. He won't do anything to me.' The other way around, however... She did it before. back then-she hugged him all she wanted. He was the only one she was willing to share a tent with. Johanna nodded. I'll have to make sure a few of us get a tent beside them. If Jasper tries. anything funny, we'll kill him.

Twelve tents were set up a while later, and then the members started talking about who would get which tent. The ladies would share tents, while the men would talk about tent-sharing with other guys they got along with. It was then Winston realized Willow was still quiet. Given her special status, he knew she wouldn't share a tent with anyone. He pointed at a tent. "That one's yours, Willow. You can take it all for yourself."

"But | don't want to stay by myself. I'd be scared. | need someone to share a tent with," she said. "Hm, so who do you have in mind?" Winston asked curiously. Must be a lady or her bodyguard.

"Him." Willow pointed at Jasper. Shocked, Winston looked around, but there were no ladies around Jasper. So that means she wants Jasper to stay with her? "That can't do, Willow. Mr. Wyatt is a guy. It'll make things awkward, Winston said..

Chapter 2129

Jasper frowned and peered at Willow. "I can take the tent beside yours." Hah, so he's bothered. | knew it. Willow frowned. "No. I'm scared of the dark. What if there are snakes? Who's going to save me if I'm alone?"

Winston coughed. "Willow, the tents are anti- snake, so the snakes won't be a bother." "No. We're right out here in the wilds. What if there are ghosts?" Willow made up another excuse. Fortunately, all the other members had gone away, so only the bodyguards and a few people remained.

"Take the biggest tent, then. It should be easier to sleep in." Winston finally realized that Willow would not stop until she could share a tent with Jasper. There was no way to stop her now. Jasper heaved a sigh and nodded in silence. Only then did Willow smile. When Winston walked past Jasper, he whispered, "Take care of her, Mr. Wyatt." He's so lucky.

Speechless, the bodyguards quickly exchanged tents with the other team members who had chosen tents near Willow so they could be as near to Willow as possible. It was as if they didn't trust Jasper. Either way, their only job for this trip was to make sure Willow was safe.

The days were long on this island. Even though it was already eight, the sky hadn't fully darkened yet. Everyone had their dinner and happily chatted. Some even strolled around and took a few photos.

Willow too was captivated by the island's scenery. Holding Jasper's arm, she asked, "Care to stroll with me?" Jasper pulled his hand back, much to Willow's surprise. He doesn't want me holding his arm?

Then, he held her hand. He wanted to hold hands, and that realization doused Willow's consternation. She and Jasper made their way to the beach. There wasn't anyone there, so silence was their company. Stars shone in the sky, the moon smiling gently at the sands. The sea was peaceful as well. All seemed right.

Willow was at peace too. Nothing needed to be said. An exchange of silent looks was enough to tell them what they were feeling. Then, Willow noticed a shooting star hurtling through the sky. "Is that a shooting star?" She let go of Jasper's hand.

Surprised, Jasper looked back and saw Willow holding her hands together in prayer as she made her wish. Her chin was resting on the tip of her fingers, and silvery moonlight shone on her face. Her hair tumbled down to her waist. She looked like a devout believer praying to the goddess of the moon. Jasper's heart was captivated.

Willow quickly made a silent wish and opened her eyes. She looked at the disappearing shooting star and turned to Jasper, then she laughed. Jasper narrowed his eyes. "So, what kind of wish did you make?"

"Can't say it, or it won't come true." Willow arched her eyebrow. She could tell anyone else about the wish, but not Jasper. The wish she made was about him, after all. She wished for a life of peace, health, and serenity for him. He was in a dangerous line of work, so that was the wish she made the moment she closed her eyes.

"Oh, the tide's rising. Time to go back." Jasper held her hand and went

Chapter 2130

They too wanted to become a man like Jasper. He was a powerful man, and none would try to even woo the woman he wanted, or he might just beat them up. Thanks to that, the lads were always polite to Willow. The ladies liked Jasper, but they didn't show it. With Willow around, he would never pay attention to anyone else.

This was the perfect romance, they thought. They had feelings for each other. The team members thought Willow was here for the romance, while work was second fiddle.

Willow came back to the tent. It was a military-grade tent, so there was no need to worry about snakes or mice sneaking in. However, when Jasper came in, the tent felt a lot smaller. Willow pursed her lips, but she couldn't hold back her excitement. Unbeknownst to Jasper, Willow's bodyguards were outside, wide awake.

They were watching the silhouettes projected by the light of the lamp. The two had some distance between them, but then they noticed one of the silhouettes slowly moving toward the other, and it was Willow herself. Because of that, the bodyguards looked away and stood sentry.

The temperature difference between day and night was a gulf. It was about ninety degrees in the morning but only about sixty at night. That night in particular was freezing. It was about fifty degrees out there, and a lot of the team members slept in each other's arms.

Willow had thick layers of clothes on, but even so, she still felt cold, and the chill was slithering into her clothing. 'Let's get some sleep,' she told Jasper.

"You first." Jasper turned the lights off. He knew the people outside could see what they were doing through the silhouettes' movements.

Darkness swallowed the tent, and a hint of mischief flashed in Willow's eyes. She leaped into Jasper's arms and quickly pushed him down. Caught by surprise, Jasper fell down, and he hoarsely said, "Don't do this, Willow."

"I won't, but only if you sleep with me," Willow whispered.

"I'm a guy, and you're a lass." "Gender means nothing in your line of work, does it? You'd stay in the same hotel room with your partner even if she was a woman, wouldn't you?" Willow grumbled. She hadn't forgotten about that at all.

"It was a suite." "Well, what if you were forced to stay in a single room with her? How would you two sleep?" Willow continued to grumble.. Jasper couldn't believe she would be hung up on this matter, and he was speechless.

"Just think of me as your partner. Don't be shy" Willow chuckled and slid away from his embrace. She pulled the blanket up and covered themselves with it, then wrapped her arm around his waist and put her leg on top of his. Human pillow.

Jasper tensed up. She gets really friendly with me, doesn't she? "This is how I sleep. I have a big teddy bear at home too." Willow adjusted her position a little and whispered, "Honestly, your muscles are too hard. Bit bumpy."

Hey, you're using me as a pillow, and you're complaining?

"But you feel warmer," she praised. "Then sleep and say nothing," said Jasper. "Sure, you close your eyes and sleep too." Willow closed her eyes.

The girl was a late bloomer, so romance in the physical sense was a vague concept for her. She liked Jasper but she hadn't developed any urge to devour him just yet.

That was bad news for Jasper. Willow was millimeters away from him, and the air smelled like her! Even when his eyes were closed, Jasper could still smell her. His breathing quickened, and he almost hyperventilated.

Willow was a carefree girl, so she fell asleep quickly even when she was holding Jasper. She held her breath about him the whole day, and now that they were safe, the tension melted away to exhaustion and she soon dozed off.