# Chapter 2139 Persistence

"Oh, is that so?" said Danrique. He became even angrier after hearing what she said. "So you won't marry me unless I save him, huh? Does that mean you have only agreed to marry me for his sake? You came back to me for his sake, so did you also sleep with me to help him?"

"You!" She was stunned for a second there, but she soon became so angry that she turned into a shade of red. "Danrique Lindberg, you a\*shole. Go to hell!"

After yelling all that, she grabbed a pen from the desk and threw it at him before leaving in a puff.

Danrique glared at her back. He was just as angry and was fuming.

"What's wrong, Mr. Lindberg? Did you two get into a fight?" asked Sean cautiously as he opened the door and entered the room.

"Isn't that freaking obvious?" said Danrique angrily.

"Right," replied Sean. He quickly explained himself. "I saw Ms. Felch leaving earlier in a puff. She was so angry that she didn't even notice me greeting her."

"That stupid woman," grumbled Danrique. The mere mention of her got him fuming again.

"Isn't everything fine just earlier? How did the two of you get into another fight?" asked Sean who simply didn't understand what was going on.

"I honestly don't know what goes on in that mind of her. There are times when she is so sweet and cute, and the way she behaved suggested that her love for me is

real. Yet, the moment everything is good, she starts talking nonstop about William. All she thinks about is how to rescue him," complained Danrique while fuming. "She destroyed whatever romance there was in the air."

"Ms. Felch is a doctor and takes others' wellbeing seriously," said Sean carefully to calm Danrique down. "I think her feelings for Prince William are platonic. I bet she just wants to save him because she is kind and wants to keep her promise."

Danrique didn't reply. He simply narrowed his eyes and put on a face that suggested that he was thinking about something.

"You know, I think Prince William is taking advantage of those qualities of hers. He knows how kind she is, and that is why he asked her to come to Xendale to seek your help," said Sean. "Still, that decision is yours to make, Mr. Lindberg. What do you think? Should we help him?"

"That is not the freaking point," replied Danrique in a hostile tone. "The issue at hand is the mysterious person who went to the king and told him to keep Francesca there in Danontand. Who is the person? Why doesn't he want her to spend time with me?"

"Huh? I didn't even know something like that happened," replied Sean in a surprised tone. "Could the Atkinson family be the culprit?"

"That is not possible," replied Danrique firmly. "I met the king before. That old man is old-fashion and takes social status very seriously. As far as he is concerned, only those he deemed as equal have the right to negotiate with him. The Atkinson family definitely doesn't have what it takes to do that."

"Are you suggesting...?"

"I have a suspect in mind, but I can't be certain just yet," replied Danrique calmly. "There is no need to figure that out for now, though. The culprit will show up eventually."

"Understood," replied Sean. He received the implicit message right away. "Still, Prince William shared such an important secret with Ms. Felch and confessed that he was conning her. He even sent her back to Xendale. What do you think he is planning?"

"Obviously, he is trying to get me on his side," replied Danrique before he scoffed. "He had Francesca send me a message and ask for my help. If I were to aid him in the time of need, he will bow down to me and be my subordinate."

Danrique paused for a moment before waving his arms in exasperation. "And he did a freaking good job at it."

"Huh? Oh!" said Sean. He finally got what was going on. "Prince William deliberately lowered his stance and sent Ms. Felch back to Xendale in person to show you his loyalty and desire to be a part of your empire. He even shared a secret that important as a sign of loyalty."

"You caught up quickly. Guess you're not a total idiot," commended Danrique as he glanced approvingly. A moment later, he sneered. "That prince is willing to give up the woman he loves to save himself. He truly is a man of ambition."

"That's true. He definitely has the persistence and the determination to make it big," agreed Sean as he nodded.

## Chapter 2140 Humanity

"He's smart and persistent, and I admire that. However, a capable man would fight his battle on his own. What kind of man would try to con others like this?"

At the end of the day, Danrique was still furious about that and looked down on William for pulling that stunt.

"He is also manipulative and sly," said Sean before he shook his head and grinned. "Do you notice that Ms. Felch isn't mad at him even though he lied to her? My guess is that he knew that his secret was about to be exposed, so he confessed before that could happen. He also pretended to be doing everything for Ms. Felch's sake and sent her away to keep her safe."

"Everything he does comes with an ulterior motive. Only that idiot would buy his lies. How stupid can she be?" commented Danrique while shaking his head in exasperation.

"Well, what do you think?" asked Sean cautiously. "Ms. Felch firmly believes him and has shouldered the responsibility of helping him. Will you save him?"

"What do you think?" asked Danrique.

"Well, given the current situation, it's impossible to abandon them," replied Sean while sharing his analysis. "Ms. Felch has witnessed Prince William and over eighty of his servants being poisoned. As far as she is concerned, she is one of them. Therefore, it is her duty to save them.

"If you refuse to help them at a time like this, she will likely develop a distaste for you, and that will, in turn, cause a rift in your relationship with her. Moreover, Prince William already set up a trap for you."

"Are you referring to the mysterious man who is trying to get between Francesca and me?" asked Danrique. His eyes glowed a little differently when he murmured, "I have a pretty good idea who that is."

"However, you need to go to Danontand to gather some evidence, right?" said Sean. He had already discovered the truth. "Prince William shared that secret with Ms. Felch because he wanted to leave things hanging. That man has a mean and scheming little mind."

"That's true," replied Danrique while nodding. "That doesn't matter, though. There are countless other ways to investigate the matter. That person tried to get between us once and will try again since the first attempt failed."

"That's true. That means that Prince William is gambling with his life here," said Sean. It seemed he had seen through all of William's tricks. "He is banking on Ms. Felch's sense of justice and your love for her."

Everyone knew that Francesca would not abandon the eighty-over lives in the castle. That meant that if Danrique actually ignore them and his decision resulted in the death of William and everyone else in that castle... His relationship with Francesca would definitely come to an end.

Danrique was well aware of that, and that was why he hesitated.

"It's not that bad to rescue him, anyway," said Sean while trying to convince Danrique. "The king is probably waiting for you to decide as well. If you do, it's possible that Prince William will actually turn the table."

"Of course," replied Danrique. He sneered and pointed out, "None of his useless heirs have what it takes to be associated with someone as powerful as I am. If William actually manages to get me on his side, he will definitely become the best choice as the next in line to the throne."

"That's true. If you get involved, then the poison will be meaningless and the rescue will be inevitable. That is why Prince William is counting on you to turn the situation around."

It seemed Sean was rather excited and eager to learn what Danrique would do.

Similar to William and Federico, Sean was also holding his breath and waiting.

"It's actually okay to save him, right?" asked Sean. He could tell that Danrique was swaying. "I mean... if William becomes the king in the future, we will have a strong ally on our side."

"That is unlikely," replied Danrique before he sneered. "He is weak and in trouble now, so it's only natural that he behaves. That weakness will fade away once he is king, and there's a good chance he won't even thank us for our help when he is in power.

"He has been bullied his entire life. Men like that will go through drastic changes once they reach the top. It is highly possible that the first thing they do after they gain power is to eliminate all those who had seen his darker side. He would also kill everyone who had witnessed his weaker side."

"That..." said Sean. Before he could stop himself, he said, "No way! That won't happen, right? I mean, you didn't turn out that way..."

As soon as he finished speaking, he lowered his head apologetically and said, "Sorry. I shouldn't have said that."

## Chapter 2141 Decision

"There's only one Danrique Lindberg in this world," Danrique questioned, "When I was at rock bottom, I bowed to no one. I did not resort to lying, betraying, or exploiting anyone..."

"Fair enough." Sean gave the matter a thought, and he grew solemn. "I'm afraid Prince William is not the same. He knows he cannot turn the tides all by himself, so he's trying all he can to get near Ms. Felch, hoping that he can butter up with you in this way to achieve his goals."

"Which is why he's beyond saving." Danrique narrowed his eyes and concluded. "What about Ms. Felch?"

"She's my woman. She should put herself in my shoes and think from my point of view." Chagrin swamped Danrique. "She's being unreasonable when she asked me to save William. There are many things that I would happily oblige if she wanted, but not this. This is unjust and wrong."

"But..."

"That's enough." Danrique shut down the opinions of the others as soon as he made up his mind. "If she truly loves me, she should know I have my reasons. If she left me because I didn't save William, it means that her love for me does not come from the bottom of her heart. I don't need that kind of love!"

Those words coming from him were steely, yet he could still feel his heart skip a beat when the words rolled off his tongue.

In fact, he had never thought of breaking up with Francesca, but fury consumed him whenever he thought of Francesca's determination to save William.

On the other hand, Sean dared not speak anymore upon seeing Danrique determined attitude. Hence, he tentatively suggested, "Mr. Lindberg, I think you should communicate with Ms. Felch properly to avoid any misunderstanding."

"Okay." Danrique hummed. "Her orphanage is looking for a foundation, right? I want you to gather some information regarding that."

"Yes, sir. It will be on your table by tomorrow."

Danrique gave the matter some thought. Francesca cared deeply for the orphanage. If I got rid of the problem faced by the orphanage, she wouldn't get angry at me for not helping William, would she?"

Though he had never liked noisy chattering kids and hypocritic charitable acts, he would still do it because of her.

I hope she understand my reasons.

"Mr. Lindberg, are you not going to rest?" Sean filled up Danrique's cup with more tea.

"She's still angry, so I'll wait until she calms herself down. I don't need another fight with her." Danrique continued going through the files.

"Okay." Sean noticed the changes in Danrique almost immediately. After all, from his point of view, Danrique was no longer the prideful and indifferent man he used to be. He learned how to take the initiative to communicate and put himself in others' shoes. In fact, he had changed a lot.

Unfortunately, Francesca was unaware of all that.

She was back in the room, angry and frustrated.

That piece of sh\*t! How dare he accuse me of marrying him and having s\*x with him for William's sake! He jumped at me like a beast. I didn't resist and gave him

all of me because I love him. How could he think of me in such a filthy way? Da\*n it! Why is he not trying to save those people? Didn't he say he wouldn't be in any loss even if he saved William? That's eighty over lives we're talking about! Are they nothing at all to him?

Needless to say, Francesca was perplexed.

At that moment, her phone started vibrating. She quickly found her phone on the couch and answered the call, "Monica."

"I'm sorry, Ms. Felch. I hope I'm not disturbing you."

"That's all right. It's just me alone in the room right now."

"I wanted to visit, but they said I shouldn't be bothering you, especially when I'm still injured, so..."

Though Monica's way of conveying her message was rather implicit, she was trying to tell Francesca that the Lindberg family didn't want her to meet Francesca.

"You should rest well, and not run around as you please." Francesca was not bothered by the message. "What about your injuries? Is the doctor good?"

"I'm fine. I'm just worried about His Highness."

#### Chapter 2142 Burning

"I've already talked to Danrique about this, and we got into a shouting match." Francesca sounded a little depressed and crestfallen. "He's perfect in every aspect, except for his stubbornness. I think I may need more time to communicate and explain the situation to him."

"Yes. We should do that." Monica hurriedly agreed. "We mustn't push too hard. We should take it slow so we wouldn't anger Mr. Lindberg. I was inconsiderate when I urged you back then."

"That was not your fault. I was in a hurry too." Francesca consoled.

"Yes. We need to find another way. We should be patient." Monica resorted to another method. "You shouldn't talk to him about this for the moment. Instead, you should spend more time with him after being separated from him for too long. Please don't let this matter spoil your mood."

"What do you mean?" Francesca failed to comprehend the sudden changes in Monica's attitude.

"Please listen to me. There's no need to push too hard. Please don't get into a heated argument again because of this matter," Monica said, "Spend more time with Mr. Lindberg. Ms. Felch, you could bring it up with him again once he's in a good mood. I'll guide you on what to say by then."

Hearing that, a moment of realization hit Francesca. She realized that there were more reasons why Monica escorted her back. Aside from keeping her safe, Monica was also trying to keep an eye on her and guide her into asking for help from Danrique.

Francesca did not know whose idea this was. Either way, she felt rather annoyed.

On second thought, Francesca reckoned that it was normal. After all, William was on the brink of losing his life, which made it reasonable that he did what he did. As for Monica, it was no surprise that she was in such a hurry when she was someone William trained and nurtured.

Francesca just didn't like the method they used.

"Ms. Felch?" Monica hurriedly called, "Are you all right?"

"I'm fine." Francesca snapped out of it and replied, "Rest well. I'll visit you tomorrow."

"I'll be fine. Don't worry about me. Just spend more time with Mr. Lindberg."

"Okay. I'll see you tomorrow." With that, Francesca hung up the phone.

She held herself responsible for Monica's injuries. Hence, she decided to have a look at Monica's injuries for herself tomorrow, fearing that the doctors were not capable enough to treat her well.

At the same time, Francesca hated to be spied on.

For that reason, she felt that there was a need for her to make things clear with Monica.

It was only at that moment did Francesca feel the pressure on her shoulders. For the first time, she realized that she needed more than just knowledge and medical skills to save lives.

If she were powerful and influential enough, she could save them all by herself without having to go through all the trouble.

Now, if she wanted to save William and those in his castle, she would've to ask for Danrique's help.

Unfortunately, Danrique was a tough nut to crack.

"Are you still angry?" A familiar voice came through. Francesca jolted back to her senses upon hearing the voice and saw Danrique walking into the room.

He was making his way toward Francesca. As he strode toward her, he slowly unbuttoned his shirt. There was lust filling his gaze.

"What are you doing?" Francesca hurriedly got up from the bed and glared at him while huffing in frustration. "Don't you do anything stupid! I'm telling you! You already had me a couple of times today. H-Hey..." Before she could finish, Danrique had already pressed himself on her.

He pressed himself on her like a beast, restricting her movements while reaching his hand into her skirt.

"D\*mn you-" Before she had finished speaking, Danrique had already captured her lips.

The fiery hot kisses came charging like a raging typhoon, catching Francesca off guard.

She put up a fight, but slowly gave up and succumbed to the man's fiery hot body.

The silhouettes of the two clinging to each other on the bed could be seen on the walls. It was a wild and passionate night.

The temperature in the room began rising as if there was a blazing fireball burning within the room.

## Chapter 2143 Only Him

After the wild and passionate night, Danrique held Francesca in his arms as he slept soundly. Francesca curled up her body against him like a kitten while shooting him a glare.

He's so annoying! How could he fall asleep just after having s\*x with me? Jeez!

His weight on her started growing unbearable. She turned around immediately, and just as she was about to get away from Danrique, she was pulled back into his embrace before he locked his arms and leg on her, restricting her movements.

She couldn't move anymore. With no choices left, she lay down helplessly on the bed and stared at the beautiful snowy scene outside the window in exasperation.

Yet, the snoring coming from Danrique seemed to possess some magical effect that had her drifting into the dreamland shortly after.

That night, they both had a good sleep.

Francesca woke up in the morning the following day. She heard the water running in the bathroom. She immediately knew Danrique was taking a shower, so she didn't pay much attention. Instead, she turned around and wrapped her arms around a pillow before sleeping again.

Danrique got out shortly after. He wrapped a towel around his body and rubbed his hair with a towel. "Come. Have breakfast with me."

Francesca stretched a little with the pillow still in her arms before pouting and glaring at Danrique. "Apologize!"

"Hmmm?" Danrique was taken back by surprise. "What?"

"Apologize for all the mean words you hurled at me." Francesca rubbed her beautiful legs against Danrique's.

"What did I say?" Danrique, however, did not remember anything at all.

"You..." Francesca sprang up from the bed and went into a frenzied state. "You said I married you for William's sake and accused me of having s\*x with you because I'm doing it all for him. Do you know how insulting those words were?"

"Oh." It all came back to Danrique. "Are you?"

"Of course not!" Francesca stood on the bed with her hands on her hips as she bellowed, "I, Francesca Felch, am not shaken by poverty, nor will I be subdued by force! What's that called again? Bah! Anyway, I will never do something I hate to reach my goals, let alone something important like marriage and relationship!"

"Oh!" Danrique hummed and headed straight toward the wardrobe without paying much attention to her reply.

Yet, the corners of Danrique's lips quirked up as he turned around.

He was satisfied and happy with the answer he received.

"Hey! Did you hear me?" Francesca roared furiously.

Danrique did not budge, and he continued changing his clothes.

Seeing this, Francesca's anger burned even stronger, leading to her charging into the wardrobe and yelling, "Hey, rogue! Talk to me!"

"I heard you," Danrique replied indifferently, "Go and clean yourself up. I'm waiting for you to have breakfast."

"Hmph!" Francesca was furious. It felt like she was throwing punches into the air. She tried her best to reason with him, but his reply was cold and unresponsive.

She was aggrieved. That feeling was awful.

"Okay. That's enough." Danrique found her pouting face rather funny. He carried her up and placed her on the rack so that she could look him straight in the eyes on the same level. "From now onwards, your heart, mind, and body belong only to me and me alone. Understood?"

"What? Why does it sound so perverted..." Francesca's cheeks flushed instantly in response.

"Just tell me that you know." Danrique grasped her chin and made her look him in the eyes.

"I know." Just as the words rolled off her tongue, she hurriedly added, "Wait a minute. What about the kids in the orphanage? There's also Anthony, Ms. Layla, and Mr. Lincoln..."

"Okay, okay." Danrique interrupted. "That's enough."

"Fine." Francesca pouted. "What about you? Are your heart, mind, and body also mine and mine alone?"

"Of course. It had always been that way." Danrique captured her lips again. "I kind of want to have a taste of you again. What should we do? Hmmm?"