Chapter 2169 Learn Her Lesson

Francesca was not an expert at coming up with strategies. The only thing she was good at was treating patients.

She felt that dealing with this matter was a strenuous task, and she did not even know what the right move was. Just then, she thought of Layla.

If Layla and Lincoln were there, they could teach and help Francesca analyze the situation. Unfortunately, they had gone deep into the mountains to live in seclusion

Francesca had no idea how they were doing now. Just like that, Francesca endured the flight that was over ten hours with her mind full of complicated thoughts.

The moment she got off the plane, she turned on her phone to check if Danrique had called her. Sadly, he had not called or texted.

Even Sean and Gordon had not called her. Francesca felt a little disappointed. Looks like Danrique is really mad this time. I don't think he'll talk to me anymore. Does this mean we've broken up?

Letting out a sigh, she was about to put away her phone when Anthony called. She answered right away. "Hey, Anthony." "Francesca, did you hear anything from Ms. Layla and Mr. Lincoln?"

"Huh? Didn't you say they were going to live in seclusion in the mountains? I checked with Gordon yesterday, and he told me their phones had been out of service. Maybe they went somewhere really remote—"

"They definitely talked about going to live in seclusion in the mountains, but I've just received news that they were being pursued by people from Riz Corporation. Mr. Lincoln has been captured, but Ms. Layla got away. No one knows where she is now."

"What? How did this happen?" Francesca was shocked.

Pausing momentarily, she murmured to herself, "Gordon didn't tell me about this. Did he not find out about it, or did he purposely hide it from me?"

Hearing her words, Anthony responded, "It could be the former. After all, Riz Corporation has tight security. It's almost impossible to get any information about them, so it's only normal that Gordon didn't find out about it. I have a few leads because I've always been in contact with them. Why don't you try asking Gordon again? Ask him if he can help us find Ms. Layla."

"Okay. I'll call him now—"

"Aren't you at Danrique's? Why do you need to make a call?" Anthony was puzzled.

"I—" Francesca was about to answer when a Danontese announcement rang out. Anthony immediately realized where she was. "Don't tell me you've gone to Danontand."

"I have." Francesca knew she could not keep it from him anymore.

"Oh my goodness. Have you lost your mind? You're not a god! You can't save everyone. It's already good enough that you can manage the orphanage well and help Ms. Layla and Mr. Lincoln. Why do you have to make yourself responsible for Prince William? Surely Ms. Layla has warned you about how complicated Prince William's matter is. It's not something you can simply interfere with. You shouldn't have treated him in the first place, nor should you have gone to Danontand after that. And now—"

Francesca cut him off, "All right. All right. That's enough. I know all that, but things have already progressed to this stage. I'm stuck in a very difficult position, you know. William and his people in the castle were poisoned. I can't just let them die."

Anthony was filled with panic. "You can't save them all. Go back to Danrique's now and stop getting involved in this matter."

"I'm already involved, and there's no backing out now. Anyway, I'm going to hang up. I'll give Gordon a call to ask about Ms. Layla's situation." Francesca sighed.

"Ugh, are you trying to make me worried sick—"

"Bye."

With that, Francesca ended the call. When she was about to call Gordon, she started to question herself. I broke up with Danrique. Isn't it a little inappropriate for me to call his subordinate?

However, since it was an urgent matter, Francesca could not be bothered to think so much.

She quickly dialed Gordon's number. It did not take long for the call to be connected.

Chapter 2170 Take Action Immediately

Francesca went straight to the point, asking Gordon about Layla and Lincoln's situation. Gordon hesitated for a moment before admitting, "I actually knew about it already, but I feared you'd get worried. That's why I didn't tell you."

Francesca was livid. "You... This isn't a small matter! How could you keep it from me?"

Gordon responded hurriedly, "Please don't panic. I actually informed Mr. Lindberg the second I found out about it, and he ordered me to send someone to rescue them. Anyway, I've already sent some men to Zarain. They should be able to rescue one of them soon. As for the other one, we're already negotiating with Riz Corporation."

Francesca let out a sigh of relief. "Really? That's good to know."

"Don't worry. I'm in charge of this. I promise to handle it well. Anyway, I've got to hang up. Mr. Lindberg is looking for me," Gordon said softly.

"Okay. Thank you." Francesca wanted to ask about Danrique, but Gordon had hung up before she could even open her mouth. Sighing, she put away her phone and rushed to the restroom to look for Monica.

Monica had trouble moving around due to her injury. Hence, she had to rely on a wheelchair.

After disguising themselves, Francesca pushed Monica out of the restroom and picked up their suitcases in a hurry. Soon, the latter's partner came to fetch them.

It was only after they got into the car and departed from the airport that they could finally heave a sigh of relief.

"I wasn't expecting things to go so smoothly. I thought they'd be stopping us at the airport." Monica patted her chest.

"It was a sudden decision to return to Danontand. Maybe they haven't heard about it yet. I bet the people from Erihal don't even know I'm gone," Francesca deduced.

Monica nodded vehemently. "Right. People typically wouldn't dare to spy on Mr. Lindberg's place, nor would they be able to. Since those animals don't know we've returned, we should seize the opportunity and take action as soon as possible."

Francesca bobbed her head. "You're right. First, we need to meet William. Do you guys know where he is?"

Monica's partner, Dominic Hoffman, answered, "We found him already. He's in the royal hospital. Security there is extremely strict, so I'm afraid we won't be able to sneak in easily."

"Do you have the building's blueprint?" Francesca asked urgently.

"Yes." Dominic pulled out the hospital's blueprint and explained, "I'm guessing Prince William was assigned to the orthopedic inpatient department. Apparently, he had a relapse and can't even sit up straight. He can only be treated in bed now."

"Those b*stards! It must be their doing," Monica spat furiously.

"Let's go to the hospital. I'll slip in to see William first," Francesca ordered promptly.

Monica offered, "I'll come with you. We can watch out for each other's backs."

Francesca did not refuse, for she knew Monica only wanted to help save lives. "All right. You'll disguise as the patient, and I'll disguise as the doctor."

"The necessary outfits and tools are in the car. Go ahead and get changed now. I'll be waiting outside if there's anything you need." Dominic had prepared everything they possibly needed.

"This dude is not bad." Francesca eyed him.

"Thank you, Dominic." Monica was beyond grateful.

Dominic flashed her a grin. "Don't mention it. We're partners, after all. You should take care of yourself. I can't believe you injured both legs when you've only left for a few days."

"I know. Don't worry."

With that, Francesca and Monica changed into their outfits in the car and successfully sneaked into the hospital.

Monica could speak Danontese. Since she was an Interpol agent, she was used to situations like that, which allowed her to put on a perfect act.

It was extremely helpful for their mission.

It did not take long for them to find the inpatient building William was at. However, there were many officers guarding the area. It was practically impossible for outsiders to enter it.

As the two women were feeling anxious, a senior officer stepped out and asked the guards if the doctor sent by Federico had arrived, to which the guards said no.

Just then, Francesca and Monica exchanged a look of understanding. Immediately, Monica swerved the wheels of her wheelchair to hide in the corner while Francesca grabbed a medical kit and walked over, introducing herself as the doctor sent by the king.

Chapter 2171 The Hope Of Life

Those officers asked her to show her identification document. Francesca said directly, "My identification document has been taken away by Mr. Faulkner. He said that His Highness has been suffering from heart-wrenching pain in his waist and now has a recurring high fever.

His Majesty is worried about His Highness, so I was asked to hurry over. Mr. Faulkner will arrive soon." "That's right. His Highness is indeed having those symptoms now," a senior officer hurriedly remarked.

After hearing Francesca mention Silas' name and correctly identifying the symptoms, those guards no longer stopped her and let her in.

As such, Francesca carried the medical kit with her and entered the place, followed by the senior officer.

On their way to their destination, the senior officer couldn't help but sigh. "Alas, how desolate for a dignified prince like him to suffer like this."

"When I checked on His Highness last time, he was still able to sit, and his waist was just fine. How did things turn out like this?" Francesca asked in a hushed tone.

"God knows." The senior officer shook his head and heaved a sigh again.
"Probably only they themselves know the hidden truth behind this." "Are you Mr. Faulkner's subordinate?"

Seeing that the senior officer was full of sympathy for William, Francesca figured that the officer was not a subordinate of William's cousins.

"Yes." The senior officer nodded. "Mr. Faulkner sent me here to take care of His Highness, but His Highness' condition has become increasingly serious since the onset of the disease. Now, His Highness is paralyzed in bed, and the doctors in the hospital can't do anything about it. Besides that, he refuses to eat or drink anything. It seems that he has lost confidence in life. His Majesty was afraid that something bad would happen to him, so His Majesty invited a doctor from outside to check on His Highness. Alas, I think you are too young, so you probably have little experience. I guess His Majesty's just putting on a show..."

The senior officer whispered that last sentence, afraid that somebody else might overhear it, but Francesca still heard it clearly.

No wonder... Even an old servant has his heart go out to William. William's current fate is indeed pitiful... I guess King Federico actually knows how William became like this, but he didn't protect William or even hold the culprit accountable. He merely sent people to bring William to the hospital to sustain his life. On the surface, it looks as though he still cares about William, but in fact, he just wants to leave a positive impression by acting loving and kind... The truth is, he doesn't care about William at all. William probably knows this as well, so he's lost all hope in life and given up on trying to survive. If I were to arrive a few days later, I'm afraid I really won't be able to see him anymore.

Francesca couldn't help but feel guilty as the thought crossed her mind.

The two walked through a tree-lined path and soon came to a small building.

There were soldiers guarding every inch of the place, making it appear to be heavily guarded. They might look as though they were protecting William, but in fact, they were actually monitoring him.

Francesca followed the senior officer to the outside of the ward and was about to enter when there was a loud bang, followed by William's weak voice yelling, "Get out!"

He didn't want to see anyone, nor did he intend to eat. He simply didn't want to live anymore as he had given up on himself.

The maid didn't persuade him either. She just packed up and left silently.

Sighing, the senior officer pushed open the door and went in. "Your Highness, you can't continue being like this. You're still young..."

"Get out. All of you get out..."

William was about to lose his temper, but when he saw Francesca, he was stunned.

"Your Highness, this is the doctor that His Majesty has hired for you. I heard that treating your condition with traditional medicine is very effective. Since His Majesty specifically asked for her to come, you must cooperate with the treatment..." the senior officer advised sincerely and earnestly.

"All right. All of you should leave the room. I want to give His Highness an acupuncture session."

Francesca came forward with a medical kit. She checked on William first, then started the acupuncture session for him.

William gazed at her as waves of emotions washed over him. At that very moment, Francesca was the only hope in his life...

Chapter 2172 In Danger

Seeing that William didn't resist the treatment this time and even cooperated very well, the senior officer couldn't help but feel very surprised. He quickly dismissed the other nurses and stood at the side to watch Francesca performing acupuncture on William.

About half an hour later, Francesca was done inserting the needles and turned back to speak to the senior officer. "I need His Highness' medical reports and some medications. Please help me to prepare those things."

"You can write the prescription, and I'll get someone else to prepare them right away." The senior officer was on cloud nine. "You seem to have some skills. I'll be sure to inform Mr. Faulkner for him to reward you handsomely."

"Thank you." Francesca simply wrote a prescription and handed it to the senior officer.

The senior officer took it to the door and told his subordinates to prepare it, but he had no intention of leaving.

Francesca exchanged a meaningful look with William.

William then opened his mouth and said, "Marcus, I'm hungry."

"Huh?" The senior officer, Marcus, was stunned for a moment, then couldn't help but be overjoyed. "Your Highness, are you finally willing to eat? That's great! I'll ask them to prepare the food right away."

"I want to eat food from outside." William's voice was weak and hoarse, with a hint of sadness. "The food in this hospital is inedible."

Marcus let out a sigh. "I'm sorry to hear that, Your Highness. I'll ask someone to buy food from outside."

"You should go and get it yourself to prevent those guards from knowing about this. It might bring unnecessary trouble," William pleaded. "I'm sorry to trouble you. If I can survive, I will definitely repay your kindness in the future!"

"Your Highness, don't say so..." Pity was written all over Marcus' face as he looked at William. "As a prince, you should have been living a life of abundance..." Halfway through his words, he sighed deeply and changed what he was about to say. "I'll go and prepare it for you."

As he spoke, he left in a hurry, but as he walked out of the room, he cautiously told the people outside, "Watch the surroundings carefully. Don't let anything happen."

"Understood!"

The door was closed, and only William and Francesca were left in the room.

She hurriedly locked the door and asked William in a low voice, "William, how did you become like this?"

"They poisoned me." After replying to her, William quickly inquired, "Francesca, did you come here alone? Or with L?"

"I came with Monica." Francesca felt a little ashamed. "I couldn't convince Danrique, and he refused to come..."

"I had expected that." William wore a bitter smile. Right after that, he continued urgently, "Since he won't come, you shouldn't be involved in this matter anymore. Hurry up and get away from this place. It's very dangerous here."

"No, I want to bring you out of here." Francesca helped William to get up.

"Don't be foolish." He quickly stopped her. "You can't save me. There are guards everywhere outside, and we can't get out at all. Even if we somehow escape the hospital, we won't be able to leave Danontand."

"What should we do then?" Francesca was getting anxious. "We can't just wait for our death here."

"Federico won't let me die for the time being." William sneered, "Danontand's finances are tight. My company's assets can help him a lot, so isn't he trying to save me now?"

"Uh..." It was only then comprehension dawned on her. "Federico is really saving you?"

"Of course." William chuckled self-deprecatingly. "Otherwise, why would he send me to the hospital? He doesn't want me to get better, but he doesn't want me to die either, so my current half-dead state is perfect for him."

"What now?" Francesca couldn't figure out the complicated situation and relationships between them. She asked, "Should I save Robin and the others first?"

"What happened to Robin and the others?" William asked, feeling concerned.

"You don't know yet?" Francesca was dumbfounded for a moment before sighing. "That's right. You've been locked up in here and lost contact with the outside world for a long time, so it's normal that you're unaware of what happened."

"So what happened?" he asked anxiously.

"William Castle has been sealed off, and no one can enter or leave the castle. Furthermore, no food and water is allowed to be delivered to the people inside, and their water and electricity have been cut off. The eighty-over people in your castle are currently in a very dangerous situation..."

Chapter 2173 Dignity

Hearing those words, William was in shock. "What did you say? How could that happen?"

"Maybe they sealed off the castle in the name of holding an investigation." Francesca said in a low voice, "I don't know the specifics either, as Monica was the one who got the news."

William was instantly riled up by the words. "It seems that His Majesty has entrusted the investigation to those b*stards. He knows that they want to kill me, yet he still put them in charge of this!"

"Now is not the time to talk about this. You need to make a decision now. Should I rescue you or not?" Francesca glanced at her watch. "I've been in here for more than forty minutes. If I delay any longer, I'm afraid that someone will find out..."

He quickly calmed down and replied, "I can't go out. If I do, they'll be in an even more dangerous situation."

"What should we do now?"

She glanced out the window and noticed several guards rushing over. Knowing they must have discovered something, she hurriedly urged, "Quick! They're coming."

"Frannie, go and find Robin with Monica. He knows what to do," William uttered immediately. "If you have to choose between me and them, save them first!"

"Okay." Without further ado, Francesca took the medical kit and leaped out of the window.

Just as she left, those guards kicked open the door to William's room in the next second, pointing their guns inside. Seeing that no one else was there, they swiftly began to search around.

With an emotionless expression, William lay on the bed in silence.

The guards didn't find the person they were looking for, so they went to the window to check again, but Francesca was long gone. They failed to notice any traces as well. Thus, they could only leave in a huff.

During the whole process, they didn't even spare William a glance. It was as though he was deceased.

At that moment, Marcus returned as well. After being informed that the doctor was a fake, he was startled and hurriedly pushed open the door to check, only to see William still lying on the bed intact. Marcus was relieved.

The guards told the senior officer a few words, then left.

Meanwhile, William lay on the hospital bed, staring at the ceiling with a cold, menacing look in his eyes.

Now even the guards don't take me seriously, and my dignity is not worth mentioning at all. The king knows that those people want to kill me, yet he still asked them to seal off my castle in the name of investigating the poisoning incident, completely disregarding the lives of the people inside the castle. As for myself, I'm forced to stay here in this pathetic state, all for the king's reputation.

William felt that he was too naive in the past, believing that Federico had a trace of affection for him and thinking that as long as he became more and more outstanding and had enough trump cards, he could bring those people down.

It was only now William understood that Federico stood on the same side as those people. There was no way the king would punish them for him, the discarded child.

But even if he doesn't punish them, he doesn't have to force me to the edge of the cliff, right? I'm also related to him by blood. Why does he have to be so cruel? I don't get it... I really don't.

Francesca successfully escaped and reunited with Monica.

When Monica saw that she had returned alone, the former asked, "What happened? Where is His Highness?"

"William didn't come with me. He asked us to find Robin," Francesca replied. "Get in the car first. Those guards have already sensed something wrong and are still looking for me."

"Why is His Highness refusing to leave? We came here to save him, after all," Monica questioned, pressing for an answer anxiously.

Francesca didn't say anything and pushed her into Dominic's car.

Only after the car began driving did Francesca answer. "If we save him now, the people in the castle will be doomed. Also, even if we can take him out of the hospital, it will be difficult for us to leave Danontand."

"But we can't leave him in the hospital either!" Anxiety filled Monica. "You should have rescued him first, and we'll figure out what to do later."

Francesca's brows furrowed. "Did you hear me or not? If he's rescued now, then Robin and those people in the castle will die! If those people die because of him, do you think William will still want to live?"

"I..." Monica was at a loss for words.