Chapter 2273 Leave Now

A crisp sound rang out as a gunshot hit Layla's calf. Layla fell to the ground as blood flowed out of her leg. Sloan put himself in front of her. "Layla!"

The two supported each other as they tried to pick up their gun to fire back. Yet, there were dozens of guns and lasers aimed at their heads. There was no way for them to escape now.

"Stop! Stop!" Francesca hit on the cell's metal door agitatedly. She wanted to stop the soldiers from continuing their rampage.

The military officer sneered as he pretended to speak politely, "Since Ms. Felch has asked us to stop, we will listen to her."

Then, he took out Francesca's phone and dialed a number. "Ms. Felch, you've been here for so long. I'm sure you missed Mr. Lindberg dearly. Why don't you give him a call?"

Francesca stared at the phone. She wanted to know whether she could reach Danrique now.

As the phone was put on loudspeaker, the mechanical voice rang out then. "The number you've dialed is currently unavailable. Please try again later."

"It seems like Mr. Lindberg doesn't care about you." The military officer frowned. "If that's the case, these two people are worthless to us."

He gestured for his subordinate to drag Layla and Sloan away.

"Let them go! Release them now!" Francesca hit on the metal door anxiously. However, nobody bothered to look at her.

The soldiers didn't pay any attention to Layla and Sloan's wounds as they forced them away. They slammed their guns on Sloan's head when he tried to break free from their grasp.

Instantly, blood oozed out of Sloan's head. Layla wanted to protect him, and that in turn, caused her to be the next target of their beating.

Francesca couldn't suppress her anger anymore. She immediately used the summoning spell.

Sam rapidly flew in from the outside and coiled herself around the military officer's neck. The military officer wanted to pull her away, but his attempt ended with a bite in his hand.

The man was so frightened he turned pale. He immediately screamed for others' help.

Two soldiers came to his aid. They, too, got bitten by Sam when they tried to pull her away.

At the same time, a group of police canines rushed in. The soldiers thought these dogs were sent by their people, so they instructed them to catch Sam. Little did they expect the police canine to throw themselves at them.

The soldiers were toppled to the ground in a blink of an eye as chaos ensued at the scene.

The soldiers stationed in the surveillance room wanted to use their laser guns to end Layla and Sloan, but they stopped themselves for fear of hurting their comrades.

Meanwhile, a soldier fell to the ground near Francesca's cell. She grabbed his gun and fired a few shots at the lock on her door.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The door was finally unlocked. Francesca ran over immediately to help Layla and Sloan up before the trio escaped hurriedly from the scene.

"Seize them!" The military officer commanded before falling to the ground with foam coming out of his mouth.

The remaining soldiers wanted to go after Francesca and the rest, but the police canines stopped them from doing so. The soldiers couldn't help but wonder.

What? We own these police canines! Why are they protecting Francesca? These dogs are risking their lives now to ensure Francesca's escape!

Francesca supported Layla and Sloan as they escaped, but it wasn't long before she ran out of energy. She had been starving for the past few days. Plus, she had to help support the weight of the two casualties. It was only normal for her to feel weak quickly.

Sloan noticed the soldiers were catching up to them. He pushed Layla and Francesca forward and said anxiously, "Leave now, Ms. Felch."

"No. I can't leave you behind," Francesca retorted as she tried to grab Sloan.

However, he pushed her away. "Leave! Run! If not, nobody gets to leave this place today. I'm Mr. Lindberg's man. They won't dare to do anything to me."

"Sloan..." Francesca wanted to say something.

Layla interrupted, "Please don't forget that you're a pregnant woman. The most important thing now is for you to leave this place safely."

With that, Layla dragged her away.

Chapter 2274 Live Well

Francesca turned her head to look at Sloan as she ran away. Sloan gave her a charming smile before sliding down onto the ground with his back against the wall. Then, he aimed his guns in the direction of the pursuing soldiers.

Bang! Bang! Bang! After a round of gunshots, Sloan sacrificed himself to slow down the chasing soldiers. The young man's life ended instantly in the place that held Francesca captive.

"Sloan!" Francesca's screams were full of anguish. She wanted to return to save Sloan, but Layla refused to let go of her grip on her. "Listen to me, Francesca. We've got to go." Anxious, Layla pushed her forward. "Sam will lead you out of here."

"Ms. Layla, we will leave together." "I can't walk. I will only slow you down if I tag along." "But..."

"No buts," Layla stopped her anxiously. "Zolt, Morty, and Sloan all sacrificed themselves for you. If you cannot leave this place in one piece, all of our efforts will go to waste. Run!"

"I would rather die with you than watch something happen to you before my eyes!" Guilt had eaten up Francesca when she watched Sloan die before her. She couldn't bear to see anything bad happen to Layla now.

"You're not alone. You are with child, so you've got to think about your baby!" Angered by Francesca, Layla pushed her forward forcefully. "Run!"

"Ms. Layla..." Francesca continued. Layla responded by slapping her. "Go now!"

Francesca's body trembled as she cried, but she listened to Layla and left.

"Francesca!" Layla shouted behind her. "Live well!"

Tears streamed down Francesca's face as she ran forward with all her might.

Layla finally heaved a sigh of relief after Francesca left. She had difficulty standing up as her leg was wounded. Knowing fairly well that she could not escape, the woman took a bomb out as she waited for the soldiers to catch up to her.

Francesca quickly found the way out, with Sam leading the way. After she passed through the long corridor, the woman finally arrived at the other end of the dungeon.

There's light in front of the tunnel. I will be safe the moment I step out of this dark tunnel.

Suddenly, there was a loud explosion behind her.

A shudder ran through Francesca. She turned and saw the collapsing tunnel behind her. There was thick smoke everywhere.

Francesca froze, knowing that Layla was gone. Tears began flowing down her face as her heart shattered into many pieces.

I've never fallen into such despair before. My life has been smooth sailing all this while because I have extraordinary medical skills and the ability to summon animals. Even if I encounter any challenging situations, I can always solve them in the end. It seems like I've never faced any loss in the process. But now, those people who had always protected me—Sloan and Layla—had given up their lives in order to save me.

Intense pain took over Francesca's body. Anger and hatred filled her heart.

I don't understand. Why do they have to kill the innocent? I don't understand why these people have to go after others' assets when they already have so much power. I don't understand why the world is like this. This is eating me! I'm just a regular doctor. How did I end up in this conflict and cost the life of my beloved Ms. Layla? What did I do wrong?

Francesca's weak body wavered and almost fell to the ground. At that moment, she saw no hope in this world.

The woman was so caught up in her mind that she didn't even notice the footsteps getting louder behind her.

"I've already told you that you won't be able to escape, so why did you even bother to try?" mocked a female voice.

A female military officer caught up to Francesca with a group of soldiers behind her. They proceeded to point their guns at Francesca.

Francesca heard Layla's familiar voice telling her, "Francesca, live well!"

Chapter 2275 Missing

Francesca supported herself by holding on to the stone wall next to her. She slightly lifted her head, and a dark and cold glint flashed across her narrowed eyes. Then, she muttered in a low voice, as if she was speaking to herself. "You killed Sloan and Ms. Layla..."

"Whoever trespassed the dungeon shall die!" The female military officer was the first lady's trusted subordinate. At that moment, she was walking toward Francesca slowly with a gun in her hand.

"You killed Sloan and Ms. Layla..." Francesca repeated the same sentence and added, "You must pay with your life!"

"What?" The female military officer burst out laughing. "Are you kidding me? How can you make us pay with your current capability? Are you going to do so just by using that little green snake?"

Francesca merely stared at the sky with her eyes narrowed while staying quiet.

"Take her down!" Right after the female military officer demanded, a few soldiers strode forward to capture Francesca.

Just when the soldiers were about to reach Francesca's shoulders, a black figure suddenly appeared and dashed toward them like a sharp arrow.

An agonized shriek sounded behind Francesca. The next moment, blood splattered onto Francesca's body.

Francesca's eyes were filled with murderous intent when she opened them again.

Layla and Sloan's death had already awakened something in her. She wouldn't be as kind and merciful as she was before anymore, as it would only drag those around her down. I must become merciless and determined! I will spare no one who tries to hurt me anymore!

"It's an eagle!" A soldier shouted.

The other soldiers regained their senses and started shooting at the eagle desperately.

At this moment, someone screamed in horror, "Oh my gosh!"

Upon hearing that, the female military officer turned around. She was dumbfounded when she saw what was happening.

In the sky, a cloud of dark creatures was rushing toward them. Not only that but there was also a hoard of wild beasts filled with murderous intent storming toward them.

Francesca stood still with her arms spread open as if she was a god who could summon every animal in the universe.

The birds and beasts lunged at the female military officers and the soldiers ferociously, tearing them apart and devouring them before they could even open fire.

Instantly, Francesca was covered in blood. She walked forward emotionlessly. However, she passed out and collapsed on the ground after only a few steps.

Ten minutes later, Gordon had just arrived at the site with his men. He was stunned when he witnessed the scene and exclaimed, "Ms. Felch!"

There was blood everywhere, and bodies were scattered all over the ground.

Mylo and the rest looked for Francesca and Sloan in an agitated manner but to no avail. At that point, they were all anxious.

Gordon said, "The animals were probably summoned by Ms. Felch, so she should be fine. Let's head inside and search for her."

"Yes, sir."

With that, the group barged into the jail. Soon, they found Layla's belongings and Sloan's body inside the tunnel.

Perturbed by the discoveries, Mylo and the rest let out furious roars while calling out Sloan's name with red-rimmed eyes.

Unfortunately, Sloan would never respond to them again.

Later, they found Zolt and Morty's bodies in the dungeon.

Currently, they had already confirmed the deaths of Layla, Sloan, Zolt, and Morty. As for Francesca, she was still missing.

Gordon instructed his men to carry their bodies and belongings away before leading a group of men to search for Francesca nearby.

Yet, they failed to find her even until late at night.

Just when Gordon was about to assign his men to continue searching, Sean called to ask about Francesca's situation.

Gordon stuttered as he informed Sean that Francesca had gone missing.

Utterly shocked, Sean covered the phone and asked softly, "How did that happen?"

"It's a long story..." Gordon then explained the entire situation to Sean.

Sean panicked after hearing Gordon's statement. "How can this be?"

"I regret this as well. Thinking back on this, I should've communicated with Sloan before this. I didn't expect them to be so impatient. They didn't even wait for me to return before rushing over to save Ms. Felch alongside Ms. Layla." Gordon was filled with remorse. "I'm still searching for Ms. Felch around this area. I hope she's fine."

"You must find her. If not, when Mr. Lindberg wakes up..."

"I know."

Chapter 2276 The Identity Of Her Lover

Gordon was still leading his men to look for Francesca outside. Meanwhile, Monica was racked with guilt and regret when she heard that Layla and Sloan were dead, while Francesca went missing. She was stunned by the news and felt regretful for not being able to help.

When Monica and Francesca were in Danontand back then, they went through life-and-death situations together. Regardless of whatever situations they were in, Francesca never left Monica's side. However, now that Francesca was in danger, Monica couldn't do anything to help.

Later, Monica broke the news to William and Hazel. William's expression changed drastically as he heard that. He immediately lowered his head as if he was pondering something. Meanwhile, Hazel remained quiet with a grim look on her face.

Hazel thought she would be overjoyed when her love rival, Francesca, finally died. Yet, she didn't feel happy at all. She felt disappointed instead.

Actually, Francesca was a simple lady who knew nothing about deception or scheming. Moreover, she didn't understand how to fight for power. Hence, she was destined to be sacrificed.

From a sentimental point of view, it was a pity for a young lady to suffer such a cruel outcome. From a rational point of view, however, even Francesca—who was Danrique's fiancée—had encountered such a horrible fate, there was no way the others would be able to escape.

Hazel was worried sick and felt lost regarding her own future. "Your Highness, shouldn't we do something?" Monica sobbed. "After all, Ms. Felch did everything to rescue us back then—"

"She's going to be fine." William interrupted Monica. "I'm sure she will be all right!" He seemed utterly calm, and there was almost no emotion on his face at all. Besides, he seemed to be comforting Monica and himself with those words.

"Although her current situation had nothing to do with you, she still risked her life to save you back then. Aren't you a little heartless right now?" Hazel stared at William deeply.

Yet, William ignored Hazel's question and simply instructed Monica, "Head over to Danrique Castle and see if there's anything you can do to help."

"Yes, Your Highness." Monica nodded sorrowfully. "Gordon is still searching for Ms. Felch out there. Now that Ms. Layla and Sloan are dead, there must be a lack of manpower at Danrique Castle." "Go." William urged. "Report to me immediately if something happened."

"Yes." With that, Monica departed to Danrique Castle immediately. Hazel couldn't fathom what was going on in William's head at all. He seemed unconcerned, yet he assigned Monica to help at Danrique Castle. Hazel didn't know what he was up to.

However, the more he acted like that, the more curious Hazel felt. She couldn't help but want to know what was in his mind. Meanwhile, Monica arrived at Danrique Castle swiftly.

A melancholic atmosphere enveloped the place. First, Danrique's life and death were still unknown. Then, Francesca went missing, while Layla and Sloan died.

Everyone was heartbroken.

Norah and a few old maids cried until their eyes were red and swollen. When they saw Monica, they no longer greet her with a cheerful smile and merely inquired about her purpose of visit with their hoarse voices.

Monica didn't know how to console them and only told them she was there to help.

As soon as Norah started speaking, she began sobbing. Tears flowed down her cheeks as she muttered, "Ms. Layla was such a kind soul. How did she... Moreover, Sloan, Zolt, and Morty were only in their twenties, and their lives had just begun. Yet, they died just like that."

Monica felt sad after hearing Norah's words.

Norah wiped her tears off and told Monica that she had to get back to work. There wasn't much to do around the house. The phone in Layla's room kept ringing, and her computer remained on, but nobody dared to touch those items.

Monica went upstairs to help out. Layla's phone and the computer had switched off as they ran out of battery. However, Monica dared not move them around. Suddenly, the documents on the desk were swept to the floor by the wind and scattered around.

Feeling dejected, Monica bent over to pick up the documents one by one. She froze like a statue when she abruptly noticed a document written in Ustranasion.

The document contained Avery's information. Not only did Avery's ex-husband was recorded in it, but also her lover's identity.

Upon discovering the true identity of Avery's lover, Monica widened her eyes in shock and called William quickly.

Chapter 2277 Look At What You Have Done

"Your Highness, Ms. Layla has discovered who Avery's lover and ex-husband are." "The ex-husband is not important. Who is the current one?" questioned William.

"Chrono," replied Monica agitatedly. "Who would've thought she'd end up with him? Did she frame Ms. Felch just to avenge him?" "Is there any other intel? Did they have a child together?"

"Huh? Not only are they lovers, they actually have a child together?"

Shocked by William's question, Monica hurriedly flipped through Avery's data, reading it carefully. Eventually, she found some information regarding the latter's past pregnancy, yet there was no detailed explanation about the child. Monica then informed William about her findings.

"She was pregnant before, but the child's whereabouts is unknown. There are only two possibilities regarding this—she either had a miscarriage or Chrono took the child with him," speculated William.

Monica's face drained of all color. "Could Candice be... Chrono and Avery's child?" "It doesn't matter. What matters now is that we have a good chance to strike back," stated William in a deep voice. "Bring the data back here at once."

"Yes." After tidying up the papers and bidding Norah goodbye, Monica hastily returned to the castle. William scrutinized the data once before contacting the Gold family.

Soon, the person on the other end casually responded, "Your Highness, nothing good will come with offending the president. I'm risking my life to help you here, so maybe you should increase my pay."

With a tight frown, William retorted, "We've discussed this three days ago, Mr. Gold. You're doing this on purpose." Increasing the pay? I might as well give him my entire assets.

"If this issue causes a stir, not even Mr. Lindberg could do anything. Mr. President is not one to mess with. Using the company's resources to spread scandals on them is like making enemies with some people. Even money couldn't cover such a big risk."

"Mr. Gold, Mr. Lindberg will definitely be on our side. Making this move will be like helping him. He'll certainly return the favor."

"How will he return the favor when he's not even able to take care of himself? Are you trying to make empty promises to me? I won't fall for that trick." "Mr. Gold..."

"Forget it. Since you're not willing to pay the price, then I'll not take the risk. Let's not invite trouble and end things here."

When Jesse was about to hang up, William hurriedly said, "Wait. Okay, I'll increase the price and transfer it to you right now. However, you have to make sure the issue lasts longer in the public's eye, so you need to help me through this until the end."

"How long, though? Surely there's a time frame?" "One month. No matter how Erihal pressures you, you must not delete them for one month. Instead, you have to post the info consistently according to the data I'll provide you."

"I gained seventy percent of your assets for just a month's work? Well, it's a deal!" William had transferred his assets to Jesse in exchange for the latter's help.

Soon, the major media in the world spread the scandal regarding Erihal's president and his family: The President Married His Daughter Off To Rope In The Nobles Of Dartan. However, His Daughter Refused To Comply And Had An Affair With A Killer, Which Resulted In Them Having A Daughter Together.

The scandal caused an uproar as soon as it came out. After all, there was evidence provided to support the claims.

In an instant, the public gossiped about it and reposted the scandal. A considerable amount of Erihal's netizens were furious about the issue. To them, Avery had ruined their country's reputation. Some even dug out Avery's past controversies to add to the attack.

When Mrs. President saw the news, her face turned ashen, and she wasted no time ordering her people to suppress the news. By the time the president returned home, he slapped her across the face. "Look at what you've done!"