Chapter 1271 Do It The Hard Way

By then, Donovan had lost his rationale.

A passionate blaze burned in his eyes as he made his speech and went toward Arielle, who instinctively retreated.

"Donovan Baxter, are you crazy? Don't say I didn't warn you. Get lost, or I shall make sure you suffer from the consequences!"

Even if he was single, Arielle had nothing but contempt for him, let alone when he was already married to Queenie.

In truth, she had found out about Donovan's intentions a long time ago. However, she didn't expect that he would still feel the same way.

Ugh, how disgusting! I dislike Queenie, but she has sacrificed a lot for Donovan and even lost the ability to walk. She loves him dearly and is a considerate wife. But instead of protecting his wife, he is expressing his love to another woman!

As the recipient of his confession, Arielle felt utterly repulsed.

Donovan sensed her disdain and immediately went breathless with anger. "Arielle, Vinson doesn't love you anymore. Why do you still want to be with him?"

"He's my husband, so whether he loves me or not is none of your business. Why are you so nosy?" With that said, Arielle spun on her heels to leave.

Donovan's anger intensified as Arielle chose to ignore him. He strode forward and tugged Arielle's arm before pushing her to a tree.

"Ow!" Arielle gasped in pain as her back hit the tree trunk.

However, there was no time to complain about it. She raised her leg to kick Donovan, but he avoided her kick deftly.

"Arielle, Vinson fell out of love with you. I'm the only one who loves you now," Donovan declared as his eyes turned red.

Arielle might be mad, but he still found her gorgeous and couldn't tear his eyes away from her. Her red, luscious lips were too seductive.

An uncontrollable urge burned within his body, and he could barely hold himself back.

He pinned Arielle down with one hand and ripped her clothes apart with his other. His lips inched nearer to Arielle's lips greedily as he tried to kiss her.

Ew, this is revolting!

As Arielle whipped her head aside, she freed one arm and gave Donovan's eye a forceful punch. Not expecting that, Donovan staggered back.

He groaned in pain and slackened his grip on her.

Arielle was absolutely livid. Donovan must've gone nuts! How dare he do that to me?

Donovan was still covering his wounded eye, so Arielle grabbed the chance to beat him up. She was caught off guard earlier when he pushed her to the tree. However, she was no pushover and could protect herself against bad guys.

After she had beaten Donovan to a pulp, the man was full of bruises and wounds. He didn't even have the energy to stand up. "Donovan, I shall spare you this once. If you ever dare to lay a hand on me again, I shall make your life a living hell," Arielle warned.

Having said that, she left without looking back. In fact, she had spared him out of respect for the Mills.

After getting beaten up by Arielle, Donovan curled his body up in anguish. It took him a while to regain his senses. He then pulled his phone out and dialed a number. Enduring his pain, he spoke to the person on the other end of the line for about two minutes before concluding, "I want to see her dead by tonight!"

After that, he hung up and forced himself to get to his feet. Staring in the direction Arielle had left earlier, he cursed, "B*tch, you're making me do it the hard way."

Since I cannot have her, no one else will! I shall destroy her entirely!

Meanwhile, the other contestants were busy finding herbs. Queenie had also gathered quite a number of them.

The mountain was steep, but she had been there a few times and was familiar with the place, so she could push herself forward.

At the thought of Donovan following Arielle, she bit her lip in regret.

Chapter 1272 Assassination

She knew all too well about Donovan's feelings for Arielle.

Although Queenie lost both legs for Donovan and was now his wife, she couldn't stop herself from feeling insecure.

She wasn't sure if Donovan still loved Arielle.

Thus, she might have given him a chance when she told him to keep an eye on Arielle.

Queenie had no idea that Donovan indeed had a chance to get closer to Arielle but got beaten to a pulp by her.

"Donovan, if you betray me, I shall make you pay!" Queenie grabbed the handles of her wheelchair and vowed with her jaw clenched.

She could bear losing her legs but not Donovan.

If Donovan has the guts to cheat on me, I shall imprison him in my house forever. After all, his reputation is destroyed, and he can no longer become a teacher.

Queenie had to keep finding herbs as she wondered what happened between Arielle and Donovan. Because of that, her energy was soon spent.

Feeling frustrated, she suddenly heard footsteps heading in her direction. Looking up, she spotted Donovan limping toward her with bruises all over his body.

"Don, what happened?" she demanded.

Her eyes reddened in anguish at the sight of Donovan's battered body.

Donovan dared not reveal that he got beaten up after trying to force himself on Arielle, so he lied through his teeth, "You told me to follow Arielle, right? After discovering me, she assumed I was trying to harm her and proceeded to beat me up."

If it were something else, Queenie might have realized that something was off, but she was a total fool before Donovan.

Hearing that, she was about to explode with rage.

B*tch! How dare she beat my man up!

"I'm sorry, Darling. It was all my fault. I shouldn't have asked you to follow Arielle. That b*tch! Don't worry, I shall avenge you later," she promised.

She pulled out some herbs from her bag and concocted something before applying it to Donovan's face.

While she did that, Donovan stared at her. She might be a fool, but at least she loves me, unlike Arielle that b*tch. She's nothing but an insolent woman!

With that thought in mind, Donovan waited patiently as Queenie applied the ointment to his cheeks. He couldn't wait to see what would happen to Arielle.

The minutes slowly ticked by, and three hours passed.

Finally, Arielle entered the depths of the mountain.

Most contestants chose to stay on the outskirts, for there might be dangerous beasts in the deeper parts of the mountain.

However, Arielle decided to take a risk in order to get the best herbs.

There was no way she would let the opportunity slip.

Despite running into danger countless times, she managed to escape unscathed from the poisonous plants and dangerous animals.

She also successfully collected many precious herbs.

Soon, both bags Arielle brought along were full to the brim.

She looked at the sky and realized it was almost evening. As it was getting late, she decided to head back the way she had come. I believe I found the most herbs among the contestants.

Right when she was about to turn and leave, a rustling sound was heard not far away.

Arielle grew vigilant and dashed aside to conceal herself.

"Eh? Where is she? I saw her there a while ago. Why did she disappear all of a sudden? The client wants to see her dead body by tonight. I can't let her escape."

Chapter 1273 Fight

Arielle gazed in the direction of the voice and spotted a man in camouflage military uniform muttering to himself as he glanced around.

If I'm not mistaken, he's looking for me. I'm the only one around.

Frowning, she recalled the man's words as her mind raced to analyze the situation.

Who hired this man to take my life? Unfortunately for him, it isn't that easy to kill me.

Arching a brow, Arielle decided to take action.

The situation was in her favor as the enemy was in the open while she was in hiding. Thus, Arielle tiptoed silently to him and raised her arm to punch him. Alas, the man sensed her arrival as though he had eyes behind him and rolled away to dodge her attack.

"You're quite capable, huh?" Arielle sneered and continued attacking him.

The man got to his feet and finally saw Arielle's face. Her beautiful features entranced him for a second.

I haven't touched any woman for three years. I can't believe my first target after getting released from jail is a woman. A young, gorgeous, and wild one too. It's a great deal!

Chuckling, he approached her at once.

"Young lady, you're good at fighting. It's a pity you ran into me. You're no match for me."

"Ha! It might be the other way around," Arielle mocked.

She channeled all her strength to her fist and gave the man's belly a forceful punch.

The man flew backward instantly. Before he could react, Arielle proceeded to beat him up.

The man was deft enough to roll aside after Arielle punched him a few times. He then scrambled to his feet and whipped out his weapon to stab Arielle.

The knife was mere inches away from Arielle when she dodged aside swiftly and grabbed the knife from him. She then slashed the knife across his arm. A deep cut appeared, and blood gushed out from the wound.

Without giving the man any breathing space, Arielle flipped her arm and stabbed the knife into the man's calf. At once, the man collapsed to his knees before her.

With a kick from her, he toppled to the ground. Striding toward him, she pulled out the knife before stabbing him continuously over ten times.

The man bit back the pain when she first stabbed him, but the continuous attacks were too much for him to bear. His agonizing screams soon resonated around the mountain.

Afraid that he would retaliate, Arielle stabbed his body five more times, avoiding his vital parts.

"Tell me, who sent you after me?" she towered above him and posed that question icily.

Initially, the man planned to subdue Arielle and take advantage of her.

Now, he no longer had that thought.

The woman is fast and vicious. I'm no match for her. It's clear that I've underestimated her.

"No one sent me here!" he insisted as his gaze darkened.

The sky was getting dark, and Arielle would lose her way if she were to depart any later.

As she didn't want to run into danger later, she stopped questioning the man.

Someone must've given him the map. That's why he could enter Mount Blackcloud and locate me easily. I need to bring him back so that the Mills can give me an explanation.

By then, the man had fainted from pain, and he was a bloody mess. Arielle used the knife to chop off some rattan to tie the man up. She then dragged him back as though he were a dead fish.

Back in Silverbirch Hospital.

The contestants returned one by one.

Their energy spent, they handed in their herbs and went to get some rest. Arielle was the only one who was still out there.

Chapter 1274 The Return

Sasha and Cornelius grew worried as they waited for her by the door.

In one room, Queenie was tending to Donovan's wound as she complained, "Arielle might be late, but there's no need for Cor to wait for her so anxiously!"

"Cor has his reasons for doing that," came Donovan's calm reply.

Why is he waiting for Arielle? Obviously, he values her and is worried about her safety.

"Why isn't she back yet? Did something happen to her?"

Queenie grew excited at the thought that something had happened to Arielle.Similarly, Donovan couldn't stop himself from feeling thrilled, too.

How dare that b*tch insult me? She should feel lucky that I wanted her. Instead, she rejected my advances and mocked me. Clearly, she looks down on me. But didn't the man promise to revert to me before nightfall? Why hasn't he contacted me yet? Don't tell me something has happened to him...

Donovan felt anxious at the thought.

"Queenie, why don't you go to Cor and find out if there are any updates on Arielle's whereabouts," he suggested.

As he was seriously injured, he had to ask Queenie for help.

Hearing his words, Queenie scowled as she assumed Donovan was worried about Arielle.

"Donovan Baxter, why are you still concerned about that b*tch? Have you forgotten how she beat you up?" she demanded.

Donovan felt an incoming headache at the sight of the jealous Queenie, but he had to comfort her.

"You're reading too much into things! How could I possibly care about her when she had just beaten me up?"

Queenie pouted. "Then why are you asking me to pester Cor for information on her whereabouts?"

In response, Donovan tapped her forehead with his finger and answered adoringly, "It's all because of you, little fool. I got beaten up after following her, so I need you to get information on her whereabouts to prevent her from tattling about us to your brother. If Cor finds out about this, it will affect your chances to get selected as the head."

Realizing she had misunderstood Donovan, Queenie hurriedly apologized, "I'm sorry, Darling. I'll go to Cor now. If Arielle dares to tattle on us, I shall teach her a lesson!"

With that, she wheeled herself out of the room.

Sasha and Cornelius were still waiting outside. The latter frowned when he saw Queenie coming toward them.

"Why are you here?" he asked.

"Because of you. I heard that you're waiting for Arielle."

Queenie lifted her head and pouted as she continued, "Cor, just ignore her if she doesn't come back. Why would you wait for her? You're the host of the selection. There's no need to wait for her."

Cornelius knew his sister never liked Arielle. When Arielle showed up today, she even asked him to disqualify her.

She's too ignorant. Doesn't she know how dangerous Mount Blackcloud could be? What if Arielle ran into danger there?

"Don't you know how dangerous Mount Blackcloud is? Head upstairs if you have nothing else to say. I'll wait here alone," Cornelius replied nonchalantly before turning to look at the only path to descend from Mount Blackcloud.

Queenie's lips thinned as she lowered her head to look at her phone out of boredom.

Suddenly, the sound of a car accompanied by lights appeared before them.

Chapter 1275 Did Not Want Him To Worry

At once, Cornelius and Sasha stared ahead intently.

The car rolled to a stop, and Arielle got out with her bag coolly.

"Ms. Moore, are you all right? Why are you back late?"

Both Sasha and Cornelius went over to welcome her. While Sasha was busy scrutinizing Arielle to find out if she was hurt, Cornelius asked why she was late.

Meeting their concerned gazes, Arielle shook her head. "I'm fine. But I ran into someone who tried to kill me this afternoon in the mountains."

Her voice was calm, but both Sasha and Cornelius felt their hearts leap to their throats.

"Did you get hurt?"

"Who was it?"

They asked in unison. Despite asking different questions, they were evidently concerned about her.

"I'm fine," Arielle assured Sasha before turning to Cornelius. "Someone hired the man, and I don't know who he is. He's in the trunk. Find out how he got into Mount Blackcloud."

Cornelius gave a curt nod. He then asked someone to bring Arielle to her room so she could wash up and grab something to eat.

After the help led Arielle and Sasha away, Queenie told someone to push her back to her room.

When she arrived, Donovan immediately asked her about Arielle. She proceeded to reveal everything she had heard earlier.

Hearing that Arielle was back safe and sound, with the assassin in tow, Donovan fought a rising panic as he broke out in a cold sweat.

"Don? What's wrong?"

"I'm fine. I just need some rest, so please leave me alone."

With that, he shut his eyes.

Assuming he was tired, Queenie fell silent.

Meanwhile, the help brought Arielle and Sasha to their room. She used Sasha's phone to send a text to Vinson, telling him that she was back safely before heading to the bathroom to wash up.

After spending the entire day in the mountain, she was tired and covered in filth.

Half an hour later, Arielle emerged from the bathroom, fresh and clean. After she had dinner, she received a video call from Vinson.

"Sannie, I was in a meeting earlier. I saw the text you sent using Sasha's phone after the meeting and immediately gave you a call."

Vinson gazed at Arielle intently as an affectionate smile flitted across his lips.

They last met a few hours ago, but it felt like a decade to Arielle.

Resting her chin on her hand, Arielle flashed a smile and said, "You haven't had dinner, right? Go eat something now. Don't starve yourself."

"You're a feast for the eyes," Vinson replied as his eyes crinkled up happily.

Arielle was taken aback. "What?"

"I said, you're a feast for the eyes. I'm full just from looking at you, so there's no need to eat anything," Vinson explained with a grin.

They might have done the most intimate things like any other normal couple, but Arielle would still blush at Vinson's words.

Covering her burning cheeks, Arielle retorted, "Where did you learn to talk this way?"

"I'm telling the truth."

The sight of Arielle's flushed cheeks gave Vinson the urge to reach out through the phone to give her a hug and a kiss.

Arielle then reported everything that had happened today, including the test and what she encountered when she was picking herbs, to Vinson in detail.

The highest level of intimacy would be sharing everything with your loved one.

Thus, there were no secrets between her and Vinson.

However, she kept the matter of Donovan and the assassin a secret from him as she didn't want him to worry about her.

Chapter 1276 A Presumptuous Request

They wouldn't be meeting each other for three days. If he found out what happened to her, he would definitely rush here to take her away.

What was worse, he would forbid her from becoming the head of the Mill family and getting the medical manuscripts.

They chatted for almost one hour before cutting the line.

Right after she hung up, Sasha came to inform her that the head of the Mill family wanted to see her.

Arielle knew that they wanted to question the assassin.

"Ms. Moore, we shall start an investigation at once and give you an explanation," Abraham, the head of the Mill family, promised solemnly.

He was shocked to find out from Cornelius that someone had tried to kill Arielle back in Mount Blackcloud.

After all, Mount Blackcloud was the Mills' territory, and it was their decision to send the contestants there to gather herbs.

The matter would not have been so serious if the contestants were harmed by beasts or got injured due to other natural factors. However, things were different when a contestant was almost assassinated by someone. After all, not everyone could enter Mount Blackcloud. Without a map, those who did so wouldn't be able to leave the place alive.

"You'll just have to find how he got into Mount Blackcloud. As for the investigation, forget it. After the selection ends, I'll ask Vinson to question him. For now, keep him locked up so that he won't be able to escape," Arielle told Cornelius and Abraham.

Arielle knew Vinson was capable enough to get the information she wanted from the assassin.

"Let's do that, then. We'll find out how he got into Mount Blackcloud," Abraham replied.

Arielle nodded. The matter had come to an end, so she decided to get some rest to prepare for the next day. She had just taken a few steps when something occurred to her. Turning at her shoulder, she said, "Mr. Mill, I have a presumptuous request. I hope you'll say yes."

"What is it?"

"I'd like to buy all the herbs I picked today. Don't worry. I'll pay the highest price in the market for them," Arielle stated, for she was afraid Abraham would say no.

Oh, I thought it was something serious. This is fine by me. Abraham immediately agreed, "You don't have to buy the herbs. I'll give them to you as a form of compensation after what you went through today."

"Dad, why would you give her the herbs? She didn't get hurt at all!" Queenie huffed.

She happened to come downstairs and saw Cornelius sorting out the herbs Arielle brought back. Those herbs were of top quality, so they could gain a lot of money by selling them. Arielle threw her a calm look before turning to Abraham. "Thank you, Mr. Mill. But it's best for me to buy the herbs."

With that, she spun on her heels and left. Breathless with anger, Queenie demanded, "Dad, what did she mean?"

Abraham glanced at his beloved daughter whom he had spoilt since birth and sighed. "What else? She doesn't want to owe the Mills a favor."

"If she doesn't want to owe us a favor, she shouldn't buy the herbs," Queenie scorned.

The herbs are rarely seen in the market!

"You should be exhausted. Go rest in your room," Abraham told her.

If the conversation goes on any longer, I might pass out due to frustration.

Queenie snorted and wheeled herself away.

"Dad, is there no other way to treat Queenie's condition?"

Cornelius' heart ached as he watched Queenie leaving in her wheelchair. My sister should be leading a happy and blissful life, but alas, she encountered an accident.

Chapter 1277 The First

Abraham shook his head. "I asked many experts, but they said nothing could be done. Even the foreign medical experts had their hands tied," he said while exhaling sharply.

I have never done anything heinous before. In fact, I have always treated my friends and family with sincerity and kindness. I'm a good man, but why did God take my daughter's legs away from her? She's only in her twenties and has a long life ahead of her.

Cornelius hurriedly changed the topic as his father seemed upset. "Dad, should we tend to the assassin's wounds?"

Arielle had stabbed him so viciously that the man would be a cripple even if he managed to recover.

Fortunately for him, his wounds were superficial as Arielle had avoided all the vital parts.

If everything went well, he could recover without any complications.

But of course, that would only be possible if he was given a chance to recover.

Abraham nodded. "Tend to his wounds so there won't be any infection. Since Ms. Moore didn't kill him, it's apparent that she wants him alive."

After the discussion about the assassin ended, they chatted about the selection of the head. Including Queenie, there were thirty-eight contestants vying for the position. The results of the rest were out, and Arielle was the winner for gathering

the most herbs as well as herbs with the highest value. Abraham then told Cornelius to text all the contestants to inform them of the results.

Soon, Arielle received the text notifying her of the results. Her lips curved up when she read that she received the highest score for that day.

When the rest received the text, they were shocked to realize that Arielle had the highest score.

Who would've thought that Arielle is actually skilled in medicine? That sounds about right. If she weren't trained in medicine, she wouldn't be here for the selection. Since she's qualified to be here, she must be very skillful.

Nevertheless, the contestants felt stressed that Arielle was ranked first, especially those who were her peers. As experts in the medical industry, they assumed it would be pretty easy to get selected as the head of the Mill family. Thus, they never expected to be surpassed on the first day itself.

"Viggo, you know how important the medical manuscripts are to our family. Therefore, you must get selected as the head. You're two points short of her score and ranked second this time. However, the person ranked third is only one point away from you, so you mustn't let your guard down."

Viggo Laursen was listening to his father's instructions with a solemn expression.

"Father, I got it. I'll do my best!"

After hanging up, Viggo started searching for Arielle's name online.

However, the search results were mostly about her educational background and her current identity. There was a brief mention of her medical skills, but that was about it. He couldn't find any useful information about her.

His gaze turned dark. It looks like she's a worthy opponent. I can't let my guard down.

Queenie had also received the text. Realizing that Arielle had the highest score and was placed first while she barely got into the top ten, she nearly suffocated in her fury and tossed her phone to the bed.

"What's wrong?" Donovan asked.

"It's that b*tch, Arielle! I can't believe she got the highest score!" Queenie huffed. "She must've been really lucky to get the most herbs and also the most valuable ones."

Donovan was surprised to learn that, too. I have to admit that Arielle is a capable woman. Not only is she the CEO of Sann Group and the owner of Maureen's Kitchen, but she's also San in person. I wonder what she isn't capable of?

Chapter 1278 The Assassin

"She got lucky. I believe you'll do better than her tomorrow."

Right then, he suddenly recalled the assassin that Arielle brought back with her. Clenching his fists, he pretended to ask nonchalantly, "What about the assassin? How did Dad and Cor punish him?"

Queenie was delighted, for she assumed Donovan wanted to chat with her. They were married for a long while, but it was always her who initiated the conversation, and Donovan would usually answer her half-heartedly.

"My dad wants to start an investigation to find out how he entered Mount Blackcloud," she revealed honestly. "Mount Blackcloud is our territory, and Arielle nearly got murdered there. Thus, my dad has to give her an explanation. However, Arielle rejected his offer and told him to keep the assassin locked up for now. She wants my dad to find out how he got into Mount Blackcloud. After the selection ends, she would get Vinson to investigate the rest."

Donovan grew flustered when he heard that Vinson would be taking over the case soon. Abraham might not find anything, but I can't say the same for Vinson. If Vinson discovered that I was the one who hired the assassin to kill Arielle, things would not end well for me, even with the Mills' protection.

Regret crept up Donovan's heart at that thought. Why did I fail to hold myself back? She might've beaten me up and insulted me, but that's no big deal. Why did I contact the person recklessly? What should I do now?

After a while, Queenie realized Donovan wasn't responding and glanced in his direction. The man's expression was grim, and there was no telling what was on his mind.

"Don, what's wrong?" Queenie was afraid to see Donovan acting this way. As she loved him with a vengeance, she hated it when he ignored her. Every time Donovan fell silent, fear would grip her throat, for it reminded her of how they got married in the first place.

"Nothing. It's late, so you should sleep." Donovan snapped back to reality and tucked her in. He lay on the bed, rolled over, and shut his eyes. Queenie was his wife and loved him dearly, but he dared not reveal that he was the one who hired the assassin to kill Arielle.

Despite being a lovesick fool, Queenie could sense that something was off. However, she couldn't figure out what it was.

A brief silence later, Queenie said, "Don, I'm your wife. You can tell me everything instead of keeping your troubles to yourself." She turned and flung her arm around Donovan's waist. In return, Donovan responded, "Go to sleep."

I know Queenie and Arielle are on bad terms, and Queenie will definitely side with me, but there's no way I can tell her why I sent an assassin after Arielle. I can't lie because Queenie will make things hard for Arielle. If Arielle spills the truth, there's no telling how the Mills will react. If they give up on me, Vinson won't let me off so easily.

It was dark outside, and the moon had disappeared without a trace. A gentle and cool breeze rustled the leaves in the dark.

A figure appeared outside the room where the assassin was held in. Realizing the guard wasn't around, he opened the door and sneaked in to carry the assassin, who was lying on the bed, out of the room. Swiftly, the figure arrived at the backyard and opened the door. Another figure materialized and took the unconscious assassin from him.

Chapter 1279 Pretentious

The next morning, the help who was tasked to guard the assassin went in to tend to his wounds.

To his shock, the assassin was gone. He immediately ran to Salvador and reported the matter to him.

Salvador promptly reported the matter to Cornelius and Abraham.

At once, Cornelius rushed to the room the assassin was previously held in. After strolling around, he realized someone had saved the assassin. Without further delay, he relayed the piece of information to Abraham.

"Find out who saved him!" Abraham instructed as he slammed his palm on the table furiously.

The contestants who were all gathered in the hall heard Abraham's roar. Curious, they asked what happened, and Abraham proceeded to reveal how someone tried to kill Arielle.

As he spoke, he scanned the crowd surreptitiously to find out if anyone showed a guilty expression.

However, everyone seemed surprised to hear his words, and no one seemed to feel guilty. Is the culprit not among them?

"Mr. Mill, are there no surveillance cameras installed in that room?" Frustration crept up Arielle's heart when she heard that the assassin had escaped. I should've sent him to Vinson last night! He tried to kill me, but I was careless enough to leave him in Silverbirch Hospital!

Cornelius shook his head. "The surveillance cameras went out of order a few days ago, and we wanted to install new ones. However, I got busy with the selection and forgot all about it." He felt extremely apologetic as his carelessness allowed the assassin to escape from Silverbirch Hospital. He had assumed no one would be able to sneak out easily, but the truth proved otherwise.

The assassin was seriously injured, so there must have been a mole who saved him. I wonder who hired him to kill Arielle.

As the surveillance cameras were out of order, Arielle had to let the matter slip.

If the surveillance footage was gone, she could figure out a way to restore the content. However, they were already out of order for two days, so she couldn't do anything about it.

She had no choice but to swallow her indignation.

However, she vowed to be more vigilant next time and come up with more comprehensive solutions.

"Ms. Moore, it is our fault for not guarding him well," Abraham said apologetically.

Arielle shook her head. "It's fine. Forget it. Even though he has escaped, he must've left clues behind. Find out how he entered Mount Blackcloud. He wouldn't have found me without someone else's help."

There was nothing else she could do at that moment. The Mills will have to investigate the matter slowly. Hopefully, they are competent enough of finding an answer.

"Of course," Abraham gave his word. "Don't worry, Ms. Moore."

Queenie felt upset to see Cornelius and Abraham apologizing to Arielle. Who does Arielle think she is? Why did Dad and Cor apologize to her?

"Pretentious b*tch. The assassin didn't even hurt her, so it doesn't matter that he has escaped. There's no need to waste time to investigate the matter," she commented harshly.

"Shut up." Donovan threw her a glare, for he couldn't wait for the matter to blow over. She'd better stop stirring the pot.

Afraid that he would get mad at her, Queenie tamped down her displeasure and said nothing.

It was nine in the morning, so the second test was about to begin. Two contestants would have to partner up to treat patients suffering from rare diseases using ancient Chanaean medicine. They would be drawing lots to decide the pairings.

Chapter 1280 Partner Up

Cornelius placed the numbers he prepared earlier into a box, and the contestants came up one by one to get their numbers.

Arielle glanced around and decided she could partner up with anyone here.

After all, the ones gathered here were all elites from different families. Those who weren't confident with their skills wouldn't even show up.

That was what she thought, but Queenie didn't share her sentiments. The latter refused to partner up with Arielle, for they were at odds.

Hence, Queenie was desperately praying that they wouldn't end up on the same team.

Every time Cornelius announced a number, two contestants would stand up and go to him. When he announced number eighteen, Queenie immediately went up to him.

She came to a stop and glanced around to see who her partner was.

Her eyes widened in disbelief when she saw Arielle getting up nonchalantly before coming toward her.

What the heck? Is this a joke? Why did God not answer my prayer?

Arielle felt helpless at the sight of Queenie's displeased glare.

Never in her wildest dreams did she expect to get the same number as Queenie. As it was decided, she had to accept the fact.

Never mind if Queenie isn't as good as me. I can do everything as long as Queenie doesn't kick up a fuss and drag me down.

That was all Arielle needed from Queenie.

"Arielle, I shall work with you out of respect for my brother," Queenie declared. She knew Cornelius wouldn't agree to let her change her teammate no matter what she said since he was a stubborn person.

Arielle was amused. "Oh, I need to thank him, then," she replied half-heartedly.

"Hey!" Queenie was enraged at her attitude. She initially wanted to yell at her but swallowed her insults as they were still in public.

After the groups were decided, it was time to assign the patients. The Mill family had twenty patients suffering from rare diseases. The nineteen groups consisting of thirty-eight contestants in total each received one patient, and the remaining patient would be treated by the newly elected head after the selection ended.

Arielle's group received an old lady in her seventies. Their patient's symptoms were obvious compared to the other patients.

"Isn't it obvious? Do we even need to diagnose her?" Queenie expressed her dissatisfaction at the sight of their patient. How could Cor give us this patient? Is he trying to make a fool out of us?

One couldn't blame Queenie for being upset, for the patient had a huge belly. It is obvious that she is pregnant.

"You're a doctor, and a doctor's job is to save lives. In face of doubts, you shouldn't make a conclusion recklessly," Arielle responded.

Arielle knew the old lady wasn't pregnant. Otherwise, the Mills wouldn't have invited her here.

Queenie glowered at Arielle before she went to the old lady to take her pulse. Her displeasure heightened after she took the old lady's pulse.

"How dare you say I made a conclusion recklessly? Take her pulse and find out for yourself if she's pregnant," Queenie mocked. She then wheeled herself to the side so that Arielle could take the patient's pulse.

Arielle fell silent after she took the patient's pulse, for the latter was indeed pregnant. However, she was certain the old lady wasn't pregnant.

"Her pulse might suggest she's pregnant, but as doctors, we can't affirm that based on her pulse. If she's indeed pregnant, your brother wouldn't have asked her to come here."