Chapter 1281 Pregnant Elderly

The patients that the Mills brought in were all people that had complicated diseases. As such, she couldn't believe that they would make such a blunder in assigning a pregnant lady as their patient.

Despite Queenie's dissatisfaction with Arielle, she thought that what Arielle said was logical.

How can Cor make such an amateur mistake in assigning us a pregnant patient given the importance of the selection in running for the head of the Mills?

She put away her restless thoughts and stared at the elderly lady intently, checking her in a variety of ways. Two hours passed, and her forehead was drenched in sweat, yet there was still no progress.

"Arielle, this woman is indeed pregnant. We have already conducted a two-hour examination, and she is, without a doubt, a pregnant and completely healthy woman."

Queenie wiped the sweat from her brow, irritated by the situation.

Arielle could tell that Queen was irritated. After all, all of the tests showed that the elderly lady was simply pregnant, but she was still insisting that something was wrong.

"Let's double-check it; there must be something wrong." Arielle continued examining the elderly lady as she spoke.

Queenie was exasperated by Arielle's behavior.

What else is left to examine? The process has been going on for such a long time! Every single test result indicates that she's pregnant. So why are we still performing all these unnecessary examinations?

"She is expecting. What else is there to examine? Were we not thorough enough? Is there a test result that shows that she is not pregnant?" Queenie huffed, furious.

"But I still think that something's off. There's simply no way she's pregnant. After all, have we ever seen a pregnant woman so old?"

"Arielle, don't you think you're being too full of yourself here? Although we may not have seen a pregnant woman of this age, that doesn't mean that such a condition will never occur. There are many wonders in the world. We may not have encountered it before, but that doesn't mean that it's impossible."

"What you think is your business, and what I do is mine. I still think that she's not pregnant, so maybe you should refrain from bickering with me anymore." Arielle sympathized with the elderly lady. Putting aside her advanced age, the fact that she is now walking around with a baby bump after the demise of her partner more than a decade ago must have attracted a slew of unwarranted criticisms. She must have gone through a lot.

"Do you really think that I would have cared so much if the two of us hadn't been assigned to the same group?"

The elderly lady, who was already in a bad mood because of her inflated belly, could no longer stand the incessant squabbling between the two women.

She stared at them both and reprimanded them harshly, "Can you please stop arguing? Get out of here if you two still insist on disrupting my peace! My head is spinning because of you two! If you're not qualified to treat me, then go back to med school!"

Arielle took note of the lady's frustration and realized the inappropriateness of their behaviors. Feeling guilty, she wanted to apologize immediately.

However, just before she could utter anything, Queenie blurted, "What we're doing is none of your business! How dare you accuse us of being unqualified? Let me remind you that you're pregnant despite your advanced age! Don't you have any self-respect? Even worse, you claim to be sick? I bet you're just embarrassed to own up to it, that's why you said you're sick!"

"Queenie!" chided Arielle angrily.

How can she say this!

"What's wrong? I'm just saying the truth!" Queenie saw nothing wrong with her statement, and she glared at Arielle for trying to stop her.

Chapter 1282 Leave Now

Queenie's statement made the elderly lady tremble with rage. After all, she was there to seek treatment, not to be insulted. The next second, she got out of the hospital bed shakily, put on her shoes, and was set to leave.

"Ma'am, we're not done here. Where are you going?" Arielle ignored Queenie at this point. When she saw that the elderly lady was going to leave, she dashed forward to stop her.

Expectedly, the elderly lady had a temper as well.

She slapped Arielle's hand away forcefully, pointed at Queenie, and yelled angrily, "I'm not here to be insulted; I'm here to seek treatment. I don't need doctors like the two of you. I don't care if I don't get treatment, even if it meant that I will die. At least, I can preserve my dignity."

She begin heading out again after her speech.

Queenie rolled her eyes at the elderly lady and murmured, "Hurry up and leave then. I have no desire to entertain patients like you. After all, there's nothing to treat! Just go home and wait to deliver the baby."

Deep down, she was enraptured.

It's a good thing the elderly lady is leaving. Cor can get me another patient anytime, just like how he found twenty over patients previously.

There's another patient left and it would be perfect for us!

"Queenie, just keep your mouth shut if you have nothing good to say!" Arielle glared at Queenie with her piercing eyes. She's way out of line!

Queenie, however, was not the least scared of her. She pointed at the elderly lady and snarled, "Aren't you leaving? We'll get another patient after you, so hurry up and leave! Stop hogging the spot!"

The elderly lady was all riled up because of Queenie. Before this, she had always been confident in the medical services provided by Silverbirch Hospital. Otherwise, she would not have preferred traditional Chanaean medicine over modern medicine. But this time, the elderly lady was on the brink of collapsing from her overwhelming anger.

"I'm leaving now," said the elderly lady.

No matter how hard Arielle tried to stop her, she was adamant about leaving. Even Cornelius rushed over to stop her when he found out about it, but to no avail. It was pointless. The elderly lady was determined to leave as she did not want to be insulted by anyone here.

Arielle was uneased as she stared at the elderly lady leaving. She turned to Cornelius and said, "I'm concerned about the elderly lady, so I'll send her off personally. Since Queenie doesn't want to treat her, you can get another patient to replace the elderly lady."

With that, Arielle turned and started walking away. Initially, Cornelius wanted to tag along with her, but he could not leave the pending matters unattended. Hence, he could only watch her go. "Call me if there's anything."

Arielle nodded and trotted off in the direction the old elderly lady had left.

When Cornelius returned to the hospital, he assigned Queenie another patient.

"Cor, where's Arielle?" Queenie asked upon seeing Cornelius with the new patient.

"She has other matters to attend to." Cornelius had already witnessed how Queenie treated the elderly lady and was displeased. "You must be patient with your patients, no pun intended. Don't delay their treatments just because of your blunders."

Queenie initially didn't understand the message behind Cornelius' statement, but it didn't take long before she realized that Cornelius was aware of what happened moments ago. "Did that b*tch Arielle snitch on me? I knew it!"

Queenie blinked her eyes and stared at Cornelius, displeasure evident in her gaze. "I'm your sister, Cor. You shouldn't trust what others say about me. I'm a doctor, and just like you, I was raised by Grandpa and Father. I know how to handle the patients!"

Chapter 1283 Forfeit

Cornelius glanced at Queenie helplessly. He would have trusted his sister in the past, but his experiences throughout this period have taught him that even his sister was not trustworthy at times. Nonetheless, he wanted to avoid antagonizing her.

Since she wants to compete for the position as the head of the Mills, I must avoid distracting her from her goal.

"I know. Anyway, good luck, and whenever something happens, try to think it through first before jumping to conclusions." Cornelius brushed his fingers through Queenie's smooth, silky hair before leaving.

His gentle act elevated Queenie's mood. She was happy that her brother still loved and cared for her.

"Don, bring me that stethoscope..." While instructing Donovan, Queenie pushed the wheelchair over to the patient.

Since Arielle was away at the moment, Cornelius got Donovan to assist Queenie.

With Arielle gone, Queenie appeared to be more relaxed. She examined the patient in front of her thoroughly and with all seriousness.

Meanwhile, Arielle was being chased away by the elderly lady.

"Why are you following me? Aren't you supposed to go back to Silverbirch Hospital!"

"Ma'am, I'm a doctor, and you're a patient. It's only natural that I'm here to help you!" Putting on her brightest smile, Arielle ignored the obviously disgruntled elderly lady and held her arm.

"I've already left the hospital. So leave me alone! Hurry back to serve the other patients. Don't waste your time on me!"

The patients in Silverbirch Hospital arrived many days in advance. Knowing the purpose of their visit, the elderly lady didn't want to get in the way of Arielle's candidacy.

"Even if you have left the hospital, that does not mean that you are no longer my patient. Stop worrying about irrelevant matters, Ma'am. Have faith in me and I guarantee that I will diagnose your illness and cure it."

Naturally, the elderly lady did not want to appear in public with an inflated belly, but it all happened abruptly and without warning.

The way others looked at her made her feel embarrassed and angry.

Her original plan was to return to her hometown and live alone. However, her children disagreed with it and insisted that she consult a doctor.

To avoid upsetting her kids, she agreed to their proposal eventually.

The elderly lady didn't know the emotion that she was feeling, but her eyes shimmered with hope upon hearing Arielle's words. "Since you insist, I can only oblige."

Arielle pursed her lips upon seeing the elderly lady's snobbish response. While they were on their way, she found that the elderly woman's children were the ones that had sent her to Silverbirch Hospital, and they promised to pick her up in a week.

As the elderly lady left Silverbirch Hospital abruptly and refused to go back, Arielle had to look for a neighboring hotel for accommodation.

After everything was settled, Arielle contacted Sasha to bring her backpack.

Being a bodyguard, Sasha was not allowed to follow Arielle around when the latter was treating the patients. Hence, she was waiting in the room the entire time and did not even realize that Arielle was gone.

After receiving Arielle's call, Sasha headed to where Queenie was to collect Ariell's backpack. After packing Arielle's belongings, Sasha swiftly left the place.

Seeing that Sasha was leaving with Arielle's belongings, Queenie figured that Arielle would not be coming back. Almost immediately, she chuckled in response.

Chapter 1284 Return

"Don, seems like Arielle is leaving. I'm sure she's forfeiting," Queenie said softly, her tone filled with delight.

She was under a lot of pressure the entire time because Cornelius regarded Arielle highly. As a result, Queenie started to doubt her own abilities and even felt that Arielle was better than her.

"Her problems have nothing to do with us. Just focus on your patient and aim for the highest score possible." Donovan could not afford to pay any more attention to Arielle. He was terrified of exposing himself if he continued doing so. After all, the whole situation about the assassination had yet to settle down. Should he end up exposing himself, he would be in deep trouble.

Queenie had no idea what Donovan was thinking. Instead, she genuinely thought that the latter was concerned about her. Hence, after hearing what he said, she nodded and channeled her attention to the patient, determined to secure her candidacy.

Meanwhile, Sasha delivered Arielle's backpack to Arielle's location. Upon noticing the elderly woman in the room, Sasha immediately recognized her as Arielle's patient.

While Sasha was oblivious to the reason behind Arielle's decision to treat the elderly woman there, she sensed that something must have happened.

"Do you require my assistance?" Sasha asked.

"Yes, you can be my assistant. Just pass me what I ask from you," said Arielle softly before turning on her laptop to do some research.

It was Arielle's first time seeing the elderly lady's condition. Nonetheless, Arielle figured she could take on the challenge and heal the elderly lady at the same time.

However, she soon realized that she could not figure out the illness even as the day wore on.

She had no time to spare, and because of the constant pressure from Sasha and the elderly lady, she barely had time to eat. After shoving a few mouthfuls of food, she continued diving into the sea of information before her.

The next day, at eight in the morning, the contenders were eagerly waiting in the hall for Cornelius to announce the results in Silverbirch Hospital.

When Cornelius scanned the surroundings, he noticed that Arielle was not present.

One of the elders who initially had a good impression of Arielle inquired about the whereabouts of the patient he brought in. Only then did he find out what had transpired the day before, that Arielle had gone out with the patient and had not returned.

The elder couldn't help but feel a pang of regret. Arielle, in his view, was considered to have forfeited.

Queenie was overjoyed at this point because she had already cured her patient.

Viggo felt the same way.

He, too, was successful in curing his patient. However, when he overheard the conversation concerning Arielle's forfeiture, mixed feelings of relief and regret surged within him.

After all, he always felt pressured with Arielle around.

Because the scores were determined according to the severity of the patients' condition and the extent of their improvements, the process took slightly longer than usual.

At the moment, the first and the third rankings were taken by two elders, while Queenie and Viggo were ranked second and fourth respectively.

Just as Cornelius was ready to announce the score, Arielle arrived with the elderly lady in the nick of time.

Queenie wasn't really surprised by Arielle's timely appearance, but the sight of the elderly lady from yesterday left her utterly dumbfounded.

"This..." Queenie was astounded by what she was seeing. The old lady was just pregnant yesterday! Where has her belly gone? Could it be that Arielle took her to get an abortion?

That must be the case. After all, I'm certain that I was right when I said that she was pregnant! If not, her protruding belly would not have vanished from thin air overnight.

"Arielle, how dare you risk operating on the elderly lady? She could have died on the operating table because of her advanced age!"

Chapter 1285 Cause Of Disease

Queenie glowered at Arielle, her gaze oozing distaste. I thought Arielle had a heart of gold. Who would have known that she would disregard others' safety for her own benefit?

"Did you forget to brush your teeth this morning?" the elderly lady snapped with thinly-veiled anger. "Take my advice and brush your teeth before talking to me."

"What?" Queenie was flabbergasted. "But I've already brushed my teeth!"

"Then why is your mouth so foul? You might as well not brush it!" the elderly lady scoffed.

Queenie's face flushed scarlet as she belatedly understood the insult. The fact that she, the precious daughter of the Mills, had been publicly ridiculed by an old hag was mortifying.

"Am I wrong? Your belly was protruding when you arrived yesterday, and all the rounds of screening showed that you're pregnant. Now, your belly is gone after a night. The only logical explanation is that you got an abortion!"

Trying her best to maintain her composure, Queenie reasoned with the elderly lady, "I know that my words may not be pleasing to your ears, but they come from a good place. You're not that young anymore, so the risk of going through an abortion is incredibly high. Arielle is only encouraging you to go for the surgery so that she can get a good grade. She doesn't care for your health or safety because she's trying to achieve higher marks!"

Rage bubbled up within the elderly patient as she listened to Quennie ramble on about pregnancy and abortion. She had the itch to slap Queenie across the face.

"Didn't the young lady tell you yesterday that I'm not pregnant? Which part of that sentence do you not understand?"

The old woman stared at Queenie with contempt. This lady must be rotten to the core! Why else is she slandering the girl who's trying to treat me? Heaving a sigh, the elderly lady admonished, "There will be diseases that you don't know how to treat, and there will be people who are able to treat them. You can't be mad about that! You should know that there's always someone better than you out there. The only reason you aren't able to cure this illness is that your medical expertise isn't as good as hers."

The corners of Arielle's lips quirked up in a smirk as she listened to the elderly lady berate Queenie. This old woman is way too amusing. But, Queenie is dumber than I thought. If the old woman really underwent an abortion, a woman her age would need to be hospitalized for at least eight to ten days and recuperate at home after. How would she have the energy to follow me to Silverbirch Hospital?

"Since you insist that it's not pregnancy, enlighten me on what disease it is then. How did you get rid of all the signs in the span of a night?" Queenie spluttered, severely offended that the elderly lady thought her to be less skilled than Arielle.

However, the more aggravated Queenie got, the more gleeful Arielle became. After all, it was gratifying to see her opponent upset.

"It's true that she isn't pregnant. Queenie, didn't I tell you yesterday that we shouldn't take things at surface value? Why can't you remember that?"

"Stop spouting nonsense and just tell me what happened to the old woman's belly." Queenie refused to believe that the elderly lady was sick. She had performed multiple check-ups on her yesterday, and each screening showed that the elderly lady was indeed pregnant.

"Ms. Moore, we would like to know what illness the old lady had as well and how you healed her." Viggo had grasped the situation and was also curious as to how Arielle had figured out the cause of the disease and its cure.

"This patient here was not pregnant. She was infected by a very rare parasite. Once infected by this parasite, the host might lose his or her life in half a year if the cause is not found. Conversely, if the root cause is identified in time and dealt with adequately, then the patient will be fine." Arielle's face grew grim as she spoke.

Chapter 1286 Parasite

Arielle could not fathom who would commit such a heinous crime against an old woman, and she scathingly thought that whoever had done it deserved to burn in hell.

"What? A parasite?"

"Ms. Moore, you know how to eliminate parasites?"

"Is that what happened? Ms. Moore, could you go into detail for us?"

Everyone present was part of the medical field, so it was only natural that they would want to discuss a patient case that was beyond their understanding.

Arielle had nothing to hide, so she breezily agreed, "If everyone is interested to know more, I'd be happy to go into detail after the competition."

The crowd respected Arielle's willingness to share. After all, there were tons of people who would gatekeep their knowledge and refuse to disclose such precious information.

Viggo was in awe of Arielle. Before, he had been impressed by her medical expertise, but now, he admired her character.

Queenie stood to the side with a scowl on her face. She still had trouble accepting the fact that Arielle had identified the cause of the disease and treated the elderly lady.

Donovan could tell from Queenie's dark expression that she was in a foul mood. He could empathize with her; he imagined that anyone would feel upset if someone they thought to be below them had overtaken them.

At the same time, Donovan was dismayed by how an intelligent and capable woman like Arielle would rather stay with a two-timing man like Vinson than be in a relationship with him. The fact that Arielle always looked down upon him only added insult to injury.

Just then, the Mills' butler started to announce the results under Cornelius' instructions.

Arielle was still the top scorer this time around.

A murmur of assent rose from the crowd. Although the contestants were experts as well, at times like this, there was no choice but to admit that there would always be someone more brilliant out there.

"Why did she get the highest mark again?" Queenie huffed in indignance.

Her pretty eyes turned ugly with jealousy.

Queenie tossed Arielle a disgusted glance and turned to grill Cornelius. "All she did was heal an old woman; what's so impressive about that? The majority of people seated here have healed the patients you assigned them. Why does she deserve the highest mark?"

Although Arielle had gained many admirers, her achievements also brought about skeptics. After hearing Queenie's accusations, a man nearing his forties asked with feigned curiosity, "She's right, Mr. Mill. Why did Arielle score the highest mark? Didn't we all cure our patients?"

The look Abraham gave Queenie could only be described as one of disappointment. However, he only gave her a split second of attention before his gaze settled on the man. The man had left a strong impression on Abraham. Had it

not been for Arielle, the man would have been the top scorer for both attempts, so Abraham could understand the man's doubts.

"About Arielle's results, every mark was allocated according to the rules. She is phenomenal at what she does. On the first day, she not only found the most medicinal herbs, but the herbs she found were also of the highest value."

"On the second day, which was yesterday, all of you were assigned a patient. I'm sure you have seen for yourselves how she managed to find the cause of the old lady's illness and cure her in such a short time. That alone is enough to speak for her exceptional ability."

"As for the third day, who amongst you has the confidence that you'll be able to cure the disease if you were the one who had encountered it?"

As Abraham spoke, his eyes scanned the crowd, scrutinizing their expressions. The man remained silent. Although he was stressed about Arielle's high marks, he knew that with his skill level, he might not have been able to treat Arielle's patient yesterday.

Queenie felt resigned after hearing her father's reply. Her marks for all three days were nowhere near as high as Arielle's, which meant there was no chance of her being the head of the Mill family.

At the thought of that, Queenie shot a glare at Arielle. If I can't have it, then I'll make sure Arielle doesn't get it too!

Chapter 1287 Do Not Dream Of Getting It

"Due to the intensity of yesterday's competition, many of you did not get enough rest. Take the day off, and we'll continue the third round of competition tomorrow," Abraham announced.

Many of the contestants had stayed up all night to treat their patients. They had to be in tip-top condition for the competition, so everyone agreed with Abraham's suggestion.

After saying their goodbyes to Abraham, the contestants returned to their respective rooms.

Arielle instructed Sasha to escort the elderly lady off before strolling back to her room. Queenie's gaze riveted on Arielle's retreating figure, her eyes taking on a menacing glint as Donovan nudged her back to their room.

"Donovan, if things progress as is, Arielle will become the head of the Mill family," Queenie whispered to Donovan once they were inside the room. Her tone carried a hint of urgency. To Queenie, it did not matter to her who got the title as long as it was not Arielle.

She could not bear to imagine her rival winning that coveted title.

"Well, it is what it is."

Despite his perfunctory reply, Donovan was all too familiar with the taste of resentment that came with losing to Arielle. Still, there was nothing they could do to change the situation. Arielle's outstanding abilities were plain to see, and both Abraham and Cornelius valued integrity. It was impossible to sabotage Arielle.

"I still don't want Arielle to become the head of the Mills family." Queenie gnashed her teeth at the thought of it. "Before, I convinced myself that if she really becomes the head of the family, I would chalk it up to fate and accept it. However, I can't get over how she treated you after she found out that you were stalking her. Her behavior was a slap to your face and an insult to me! How can we let someone like her take the Mill family medical manuscripts?"

Queenie could care less about the position, but her anger toward Arielle blazed because of Donovan. She could quietly endure the shame of not being as good as Arielle and even come to accept Arielle as the head of the Mills, but she refused to let bygones be bygones when it came to how Arielle had treated Donovan. To Queenie, Donovan was more important than life itself.

Unbeknownst to Queenie, Donovan was reluctant to revisit the memory of being beaten up by Arielle, and the way Queenie brought up the incident time and time again kindled his rage. It was humiliating for a man to be thrashed right in front of his wife, and his dignity had been crushed.

Donovan's emotions got the better of him. "Can you stop talking about how Arielle beat me up?" he growled.

It was his first time losing his temper at Queenie since they had gotten married. Stunned, Queenie stared at him wordlessly.

After seeing Queenie's terrified expression, Donovan realized that he had gone overboard. He understood that although it was annoying how Queenie kept reminding him of how he lost in a fight with a girl, she had said it out of concern for him.

"Queenie, I didn't mean to yell or get mad at you," Donovan quickly rectified. Tousling his hair, he continued in a low voice, "It's just that every time you mention that incident, I feel useless for not being able to win against a woman."

Although it was the truth, Donovan did not like showing Queenie his weak side.

"I'm sorry, I didn't realize that bringing that incident up would upset you." Queenie's heart ached as she took in Donovan's miserable state. She wrapped her arms around her husband and apologized profusely, "I'll never talk about it again. Never."

Queenie's eyes reddened with emotion. Go to hell, Arielle! It's all your fault. How could you treat my husband like this?

"Donovan, I can't let you endure this humiliation in silence. We must take our revenge!" Queenie's voice dripped with malice.

"It's not that I don't want to seek revenge, but we can't even beat her. How are we supposed to do it?" Donovan had even gone as far as hiring a hitman to murder Arielle, yet nothing had worked out.

Chapter 1288 Allow Me To Visit

"Let's do this..." A wide grin spread across Queenie's face as a wicked idea popped up in her mind. She leaned in close to whisper her plan into Donovan's ear.

Donovan's eyes gleamed with unbridled glee when he heard her ingenious idea. This plan is wonderful! I can almost taste the sweet revenge. Arielle is just a woman that was cast aside by Vinson. I'm sure Vinson wouldn't conduct a search party to look for her if she mysteriously disappears.

Meanwhile, Arielle had just entered her room. Her phone was flooded with messages from Vinson that read: How are things going? Did you eat all your meals? When will the competition end? When can you come back? Let me know when it's all over, and I'll pick you up. It's been three days since I last saw you; I miss you so much.

Arielle could imagine Vinson's caring expression as she read his text messages. The man's love for her filled her with warmth, and she reveled in the wonderful feeling of being coddled.

Unfortunately, the competition that was meant to last for only three days had been extended. The three days away from Vinson filled Arielle with longing for the man. She buried those feelings of yearning at the bottom of her heart. She dared not address those emotions for now because she was aware that once she allowed herself to miss him, the feeling would only magnify and engulf her wholly.

She picked up her phone and instead of replying with a text message, she video-called Vinson.

On the other end, Vinson was busying himself with work. With Arielle away from home, he had no reason to return to his mansion and preferred to spend his nights

at the company. At this moment, his eyes lit up with delight when he saw the incoming call from Arielle, and he quickly picked up.

Greeted by Vinson's excited grin, Arielle teased, "Are you glad that I'm not around?"

Vinson was not in the mood to play along. His eyes darted around the phone screen to capture every detail of Arielle's face. His eyes filled with worry as he asked, "Why do you look so haggard? Did you have trouble sleeping last night?"

"I didn't get a wink of sleep last night," Arielle replied with a smile as she rubbed her face. She recounted the events of yesterday to fill Vinson in. She was happy to share all the parts of her life that Vinson was absent from.

"I've always known that you're the best." Vinson's eyes glimmered with pride as he gazed at the young woman on his phone screen. "You've had a long day. You should get some rest; you have another competition tomorrow. You need all the rest you can get to be in the best condition for it."

Although their reunion had to be delayed, the joy Arielle radiated was contagious, and Vinson was contented to see his wife do what she loved.

"All right, then. I'll go get some sleep. You should get back to work too." As she spoke, Arielle moved closer to her phone and gave Vinson a sweet kiss before quickly hanging up.

Although she was fast, Vinson noticed that the tips of her ears were tinged red from shyness, and he marveled over how Arielle always had a hold on him.

With that thought in mind, Vinson sent Arielle a text. It read: Darling, you're too mean. You're making me thirsty without giving me a way to quench the thirst. Would you allow me to visit you?

Arielle's face was already burning from her bold show of affection, but her cheeks turned redder after reading Vinson's suggestive text. It was just a small kiss! There's no need for him to come all the way here.

Fearing that the man would already be on his way if she waited a minute too long, Arielle quickly sent a reply to him that read: You're forbidden to come! Don't distract me!

All right, then. You'll have to make up for it when you come home! Adoration for Arielle surged through Vinson when he imagined Arielle's expression on the other end.

Arielle's face flushed crimson when she saw the words "make up for it." Knowing that he would demand more than just a kiss, she answered: We'll discuss this later.

Go to sleep. I'll be waiting for your victorious return.

Chapter 1289 Pursuing The Culprit

Arielle's lips curved into a smile when she read Vinson's message. After placing her phone down, she went into the bathroom and took a shower.

When she came out, there was a cup of warm milk on her bedside table. Placing the cup against her lips, she was about to drink it when she noticed something amiss.

Arielle sniffed the milk before taking a cotton bud from her bag and placing it inside the milk. Then, she placed the cotton bud into a container.

Half an hour later, she brought the results of the test and the cup of milk to Cornelius.

"Thank you, Ms. Moore, but I don't drink milk." When Cornelius saw Arielle walking over with a cup of milk, he thought that it was for him. He took the cup and thanked her profusely.

"What are you thinking about?" Arielle passed the results to him. "Look at this."

Confused, Cornelius took the paper that Arielle had passed him. When he read the content, his expression changed drastically.

"This result is from the cup of milk. If I had drank this cup of milk unknowingly, you can imagine how I'll end up, right?" Arielle sounded puzzled. Who did I provoke this time? Why is there someone constantly wanting to kill me?

"Ms. Moore, I'll definitely give you an explanation about this," promised Cornelius after taking a deep breath.

Someone has been trying to kill Arielle multiple times in the Mills' territory. If she hadn't been careful, murder would have happened on these grounds.

"I hope that we can quickly find the mastermind. It's uncomfortable to keep living so fearfully."

Actually, Arielle did not want to make things difficult for Cornelius. However, since this concerned her personal safety, she could not make herself act courteously to him.

Regardless, she knew that this probably did not have anything to do with him. After all, he did not know that someone would target her.

Cornelius felt guilty toward Arielle. She had only stayed at Silverbirch Hospital for three days, but her life had already been endangered twice.

"You should go and rest first. I'll investigate this issue and give you an explanation as soon as I can," promised Cornelius as he looked at Arielle apologetically.

Arielle nodded and returned to her room. Once she left, Cornelius immediately summoned his subordinates over to investigate the matter.

"Mr. Mill, we've already checked the surveillance cameras, but we found no clues," reported Salvador as he stood beside Cornelius.

A solemn expression crossed Cornelius' face. He figured that since the surveillance cameras did not reveal anything, the culprit definitely knew Silverbirch Hospital well.

Who is the one who kept attacking Arielle? First, it happened at Mount Blackcloud. Then, it happened at Silverbirch Hospital. Is there someone in the hospital who is secretly Arielle's enemy?

But this doesn't make sense. Other than the older ones, the people working for the Mills have been here for at least five years. How can they have a grudge against Arielle?

Could it be a contestant? But how would they know that Arielle will get the top score on the first day?

Cornelius had many questions in his mind, but he could not find any answers to them.

"Salvador, check every room. If any room has medicine similar to this, note it down directly." Cornelius passed the test results to his butler, who immediately went to carry out his instructions.

Salvador had been working for Cornelius' grandfather since young. His grandfather had always treated Salvador like his son instead of a mere servant.

When he was teaching Abraham medicine, he also taught Salvador. Although Salvador was not as talented as Abraham, he was not too bad either.

If he had left Silverbirch Hospital, his fate would definitely be different.

However, he was unwilling to leave the Mills out of gratitude. Instead, he was willing to stay with the Mills and take over his father's role as the butler.

Following Cornelius' instructions, Salvador began searching every room.

Chapter 1290 Investigation

To avoid alerting anyone unnecessarily, Salvador did not say that he was trying to find the poison in the milk. Instead, he acted concerned about how everyone was doing there. He told them that if there was anything that they were not used to, they should bring it up to him.

His actions won the favor of the contestants, who thought that the Mills were very hospitable.

Salvador checked every room, but could not find any problems with them. He reported the results of the investigation to Cornelius.

"Where else haven't you searched in the Mill Residence?" asked Cornelius after mulling over it.

"Other than your and Mr. Mill's room, there's only Ms. Queenie's room left," replied Salvador.

Since Cornelius and his father would definitely not harm Arielle, the only suspect was Queenie.

He took a deep breath, not believing that his sister would do something so vicious.

"Salvador, pass this medicine to Queenie and tell her that I've specially prescribed this to her. Tell her to put it on her leg for an hour once in the morning and once at night." Cornelius clenched his fists. "If you find something weird, don't cover up for her."

He knew that Salvador had always doted on him and Queenie like they were his children. If Queenie was the culprit who sabotaged Arielle, he was afraid that Salvador would feel sorry for Queenie and cover up for her.

Salvador nodded, knowing the severity of this issue. If Queenie was really the culprit, he definitely would not side with evil and protect her.

Holding the medicine, Salvador knocked on Queenie's door. Donovan opened the door and invited him in.

Queenie stared at Salvador in confusion when he entered. After all, he rarely entered their rooms.

"Ms. Queenie, Mr. Cornelius has specially prepared this medicine for you. He says that you should apply it once in the morning and once at night." Ignoring Queenie's puzzled stare, Salvador placed the medicine on a table nearby.

When Queenie heard that Cornelius had prepared the medicine for her leg, she glanced down at her legs. "Thank Cor for me, Salvador."

After seeking help from so many experts, her legs still could not be cured. Although she had already given up, Cornelius was still trying so hard for her sake. Tears welled up in her eyes as gratitude toward Cornelius filled Queenie.

"You don't need to thank Mr. Cornelius. As long as he can cure your legs, he'll be very happy," said Salvador.

As he spoke, he kept observing the room and trying to see if there were any odd smells.

"I'll definitely cooperate with Cor and make my legs better." If there was a chance to stand up again, anyone would be willing to try.

Salvador's heart ached when he saw how dejected Queenie looked. He walked forward to check on her legs. However, before he reached her, an almost

indiscernible smell drifted into his nose, causing him to freeze. This smells the same as the poison that Mr. Cornelius asked me to check for.

"Salvador?"

Seeing how Salvador was rooted to his spot in a daze, Queenie called out to him.

Salvador immediately returned to his senses when he heard her. Pretending that he had not discovered anything, he explained with a smile, "I suddenly remembered that I haven't done something that Mr. Cornelius asked me to do. I have to attend to it now. Do remember to put the medicine on your legs."

Before Queenie could react, he spun around and left. Donovan had left when he opened the door for Salvador. When he returned, Salvador was already gone.

"Mr. Cornelius, there's the smell of that medicine in Ms. Queenie's room." Salvador did not dare to conceal the information. After leaving Queenie's room, he went straight to Cornelius and told him what he had discovered.