

A Beauty With Multiple Masks Chapter 1321

Chapter 1321 Are You Unwell

Arielle shook her head as she did not know how long it would take to rescue her parents.

“I’ll be back as soon as I can, Mr. Sleight.” She was beginning to regret her participation in the movie as it had severely restricted her other obligations.

Despite his reluctance to grant her leave, Sam eventually gave in upon seeing Arielle’s desperation. “We’ll shoot your scenes toward the end. Take care of your personal matters quickly and come back soon, won’t you?”

“Thank you, Mr. Sleight.” After saying goodbye to Sam, Arielle left the studio with Sasha and Coco to the Nightshire residence. She exchanged contact information with Coco before having the chauffeur send the latter home. By the time she finally arrived home, Arielle did not have much of an appetite as a result of worrying about her parents. After a quick shower, she tucked herself into bed without having dinner.

I wouldn’t be here today if it weren’t for the sacrifices they made. How could I sleep knowing that they’d been kidnapped because of me? If only I didn’t have to worry about Vinson tagging along, I would have gone by now instead of enduring the torture of waiting in vain.

Vinson arrived home from the office at eight that night. Knowing that Arielle had gone to bed without dinner, he headed up to the bedroom with a frown, only to find it in pitch-black darkness. He was about to turn on the lights when the click of the

nightstand lamp switch preceded a dazzling brightness that temporarily blinded him.

“You’re back, Vin,” Arielle said as she poked her head out of the quilt.

“Why didn’t you have dinner before going to bed? Are you unwell?” Vinson demanded as he strode swiftly toward her and felt her forehead before she could react. “That’s strange. You’re not unusually warm.”

“I’m fine. I just don’t feel like eating,” Arielle replied as she pushed his hand aside. “What about you? I could cook you something if you like.”

“I’ve had dinner before coming home.” Vinson smiled, touched by her concern. “You, on the other hand, need to eat. You must be tired and hungry from shooting all afternoon. Give me a few minutes, and I’ll whip up some pasta for you.”

“You? Cook?” Surprised, Arielle gaped at Vinson, who appeared deeply offended. “What’s wrong with that?” he answered defensively.

“Nothing,” she said at once with a reconciliatory smile. “I can’t wait!” It’s rare enough that he volunteers to cook. I must remember not to tease him about it.

Vinson was aware that she was skeptical of his culinary skills. “Just you wait,” he promised as he stroked the tip of her nose playfully before disappearing down the stairs.

Twenty minutes later, he returned with a plate in his hands. Nudged into action by the smell, Arielle quickly got out of bed and sat down at the table.

“It looks delicious!” she remarked appreciatively before twirling some pasta with her fork without waiting for an invitation. Her eyes lit up the moment the pasta came into contact with her tongue. “It’s amazing,” she gushed with an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

“Told you so!”

“It really is. Well done, Vin!”

“Thank you, Darling,” Vinson replied, his eyes twinkling with content at the improvement of her mood.

Arielle did not originally intend to have dinner. However, the smell of Vinson’s cooking changed her mind. To her surprise, she suddenly found herself with a voracious appetite as she attacked the plate with a fork with Vinson watching her indulgently.

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Chapter 1322 Right Back At You

Vinson brought the bowl back downstairs when Arielle was done while she brushed her teeth. By the time he came back up, she was already slumped on the couch, browsing social media on her phone.

“Vinson, I’m going to Lightspring tomorrow for filming.”

Arielle had been plagued for a long time to come up with a valid reason to go abroad without drawing attention to her true motives. When Vinson came out of the shower, the words tumbled out of her lips. She was afraid that she might not have the courage to utter them again if she did not grab hold of the opportunity.

“Lightspring?” Vinson repeated with a frown. Not keen to be apart from her for an extended period of time, he began expounding on the social unrest in the city and how he feared for her safety. As much as he would like to tell her not to go, it was not Vinson’s place to stop her from doing her job. After a moment’s thought, he suggested, “Let me come with you. Since there is nothing to do at work of late, it can be a vacation for me.”

Arielle was astounded by his ability to change tacts at the speed of light.

The man explicitly said that I am not allowed to tell Vinson or anybody about this. How am I going to refuse his company without arousing suspicion?

“It may be a vacation for you,” Arielle said huffily in mock outrage, “but I take my job very seriously. How is it fair that you get to enjoy yourself while I work?”

Vinson walked up to her and wrapped his arms around her waist. “I’ll sit in the studio with you while you work. When you’re done, we can tour the city before coming back if you have time to spare.”

“Forget it,” Arielle said flatly. “I’m not going to be able to concentrate when I know you’re watching. Besides, what if something happens in the company that requires your attention? I’d better go myself.” Arielle was becoming increasingly panicked at his insistence to come along. What if the man sees Vinson and kills them on the spot? I can’t gamble with their lives.

“Are you keeping something from me, Sannie? Why can’t I come with you?” Vinson was under the impression that Arielle was only refusing to let him join her because she was worried that a company crisis that only he could solve would arise in his absence.

Arielle made a mental note to pace herself as she was dangerously close to arousing his suspicions. “All right,” she relented at last. “But on the condition that the two of us travel slightly apart from each other to avoid being photographed by the media.”

Vinson agreed reluctantly. Since Arielle is now an artist, the media would definitely have a slew of slanderous headlines ready if I am photographed next to her. As much as I’d like to sit next to her on the plane, I would bring her nothing but trouble by doing so.

As Arielle did not expect that Vinson would be coming with her, she had not packed his luggage. Disentangling herself from his strong arms, she proceeded to pack his things in a carry-on for him.

Vinson watched Arielle adoringly as the corners of his lips curled with contentment. It used to be my assistant who did these things for me. Now I have a wife who does it out of love. This kind of happiness is what some people spend a lifetime searching for but never finding.

Overwhelmed with gratitude, Vinson hugged her from behind and buried his face in the nape of her neck. “I appreciate your existence in my life, Darling.”

“Right back at you.” Arielle lay the last folded shirt carefully into the suitcase. After zipping the suitcase up, she turned around and placed her hands around his neck, reciprocating his smile. I used to face everything on my own, but having Vinson in my life means that I never have to do that anymore. He is so worried for my safety, even when I’m only shooting a scene, that he insists on coming along. This must be what being in love feels like.

Her smile made his heart skip a beat. Lifting her chin with a finger, he bent down and kissed her lips.

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Chapter 1323 Love And Be Loved

Arielle tiptoed to reciprocate his passionate kiss.

It feels good to love and be loved.

Vinson made to unbutton her top, but she stopped him.

“We can’t,” she gasped, recollecting herself with some difficulty from the sweet torment of his lips. “I have to be up early tomorrow.” Despite the wave of desire nearly consuming her, Arielle remembered that she was supposed to go to Lightspring tomorrow.

Vinson was at that point aroused beyond reason. “Just this once.”

“Are you sure?” Arielle asked meekly.

He affirmed, “Yes, I promise.”

Without another word, he lifted her up, placed her on the bed, and claimed the prize he had been denied.

Soon, Arielle submitted herself to the gentle sway of his powerful hips. The last thing she remembered before falling asleep was the indignant thought of how misleading his promise was for “just this once” to last twice as long as he usually did.

The room was still warm with the breath of the lovers when the first rays of sunlight streamed through the blinds the following morning.

Vinson was the one who awoke first. Content to just watch her, he gazed at her with adoration and felt his heart swell with happiness.

Meanwhile, Arielle smiled in her sleep. Unable to bear how lovely she looked, Vinson pressed his lips against hers and startled the latter awake with the threat of suffocation. With her eyes wide open, she found his handsome face so close to hers that their eyelashes fluttered against each other.

“Vinson, what time is it?” she whispered.

“It’s already eight o’clock,” he answered with a chuckle. “Our flight is at twenty past ten if you recall. We’re going to miss our flight if you don’t get a move on.”

The news acted as a stimulant for Arielle. Jumping out of bed, she made a dash for the bathroom. By the time she had finished washing up, Vinson was already dressed smartly. “Why didn’t you wake me up earlier? You know how anxious I get with flights.”

“We’re going to make it.” Vinson was charmed by her cheeks which were pink from exertion.

“We will if you hurry up! Remember, you have to stay away from me.” As Arielle reached for the suitcase, Vinson beat her to it. “My wife shouldn’t have to lift a finger,” he explained in response to her look of confusion.

“My husband is right.” Arielle grinned. “The lady of the house shouldn’t have to exert herself.”

For some reason, hearing Arielle call him her husband aroused Vinson to no end. With one arm toting the suitcase, he pushed Arielle against the wall with the other. “Call me that again.”

“What?” Arielle asked in feigned ignorance.

“What did you say?” Vinson gritted his teeth in mock irritation.

“I don’t know what you mean.” Arielle kept up her charade. I shouldn’t have said that! It’s just going to sound awkward now.

Vinson leaned in to exhale softly in her ear. “If you don’t, I will kiss you again.”

He knows that the back of my ears is my weak spot!

“Scoundrel!”

Vinson smirked at Arielle, who was breathless with anticipation. “I respectfully disagree. If you don’t do as I say, I can’t guarantee what will happen after I kiss you.”

He just wants to be called my husband, doesn’t he? Let’s just get this over with! Arielle cleared her throat and shouted continuously, “Husband, husband, husband! You’re my husband! Are you happy now?”

Gazing up at Vinson, she looked pleased with herself. “Don’t hold your breath waiting for a chance to kiss me!”

I won’t be fooled that easily!

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Chapter 1324 The Melancholic Glance

“Where are you guys headed?” Susanne got home quite late last night and had just gotten up not long ago.

She was curious to see the young couple trotting downstairs with luggage in their hands. Are they going on a vacation?

As that thought ran across her mind, her eyes lit up with anticipation.

Wonderful! I’m going to be a grandma soon! Susanne was over the moon at the thought of Arielle and Vinson making babies.

“Mom, I’m going to Lightspring for a shooting. Vinson’s worried about me, so he has decided to come along,” Arielle explained the reason for their departure while watching her steps. As she got to where Susanne was standing, she looked into the latter’s eyes and gently said, “Mom, thanks a lot for helping us out with company matters while we’re away.”

“Don’t mention it. You know what, have fun and enjoy yourselves after you’re done with the shooting. There’s no need to rush back since I’m here.” Having said that, Susanne bade them goodbye.

“Bye, Mom!” Arielle then hopped into the car with Vinson, and off to the airport they went.

“You’ll go first, and I’ll keep a distance from you.” Once they got to the airport, Arielle put on a face mask and took a few big steps back from Vinson so hastily that one would assume that he was a walking virus.

Vinson gave her an indignant stare before walking to the boarding gate while maintaining a distance of roughly eight feet from her.

While the pilots were still doing their final checks before taking off, Vinson sent Arielle a text: What a heartless woman you're, Sannie. I can't believe that you're so consistent with keeping the distance between us.

When Arielle saw the message, she started imagining Vinson pouting his mouth when he was typing it and giggled to herself. Haha, is it just me, or is he whining?

At that thought, she almost burst out laughing.

Arielle texted him: Oh, my poor husband. It must've been really tough for you. I'll treat you to something good when we get home, okay? Her mind was already cooking up recipes as she replied to him. She hadn't cooked much recently since she had been swamped with work.

Vinson raised both his eyebrows and grinned mischievously. Of course, he wanted her to treat him something more than just good. Last night, he was concerned that she might become tired this morning, so he didn't go all out in bed.

Vinson replied: Okay. It has to be out of this world. In his heart, he vowed to coerce her into sexually pleasuring him day and night after their return from Lightspring.

Arielle texted back: I promise! She put her phone into her bag immediately after replying as the plane was about to take off.

The flight time to Lightspring was about five hours, and Arielle spent the whole journey immersed in tormenting thoughts of whether the kidnapper had treated her parents kindly.

Meanwhile, the Wilhems were under captivity in Lightspring.

"Why did you have to make Sannie come over?" they asked.

The middle-aged couple wasn't allowed to have any electronic devices on them and was instructed to stay in the house.

"I have my reasons for that." The man standing in front of them knew very well how important they were to Arielle and untied them after calling her.

As Andrea looked at the man and then at her husband, she grew anxious. She was worried that the former would cause Arielle harm.

Similarly, Hubert was out of his wits. There was no way for him to contact Arielle since all their devices were confiscated, and they were entrapped in a confined space.

"Don't worry. I won't hurt you," the man uttered. He was tickled by how Arielle and her adoptive parents cared so much about each other.

"Daddy, is San gonna be in trouble?" a young lad with a height of five-foot-six whispered to Hubert.

He shook his head to indicate his uncertainty. However, he had a feeling that she would be safe after putting together everything that had happened in the past few days. After all, their kidnapper only held them captive and didn't hurt them.

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Chapter 1325 The Woman Of His Choice

While they were concerned about Arielle's safety, she was worried sick about their well-being too. She did not know who kidnapped them and why the kidnapper insisted that she come.

With her brows furrowed and smile lopsided, they landed in Lightspring.

“Where's the set? Are we going there straight, or are we going to the hotel first?” Vinson popped a question about their itinerary.

Oh dear, what should I tell him? Arielle knew that Vinson would never let her come to Lightspring on her own, and that was why she allowed him to travel with her. But now, she was stuck in a quandary!

How she wished she was already by her parents' side, but she was with Vinson now, and there was no way he would willingly go on a separate path. That person forbade me to let Vin know about the matter. What should I do now? Arielle was like a cat on a hot tin roof.

“Right, the director just texted me, saying that there's a change in the schedule. Let's have our luggage sent to the hotel so we can go shopping first!” Arielle chirped. Hmm, they say men don't really like shopping with women. Vinson's a man, isn't he? Since he's gonna say no, I can use this chance to look for my parents!

What an ingenious idea! Let's get ball rolling.

“Shopping?” Vinson raised an eyebrow and paused. “Well, why not? We've never shopped together, have we?”

“Huh?” Arielle was startled by his response. It didn’t go as she had planned.

“What’s so surprising about that? Come on. We’ll have our luggage delivered to the hotel, and I’ll go shopping with you.” Vinson took her hand and looked for the service staff.

After handing their luggage over and confirming their address, they went to Lightspring’s most bustling streets.

No... This isn’t supposed to happen. What should I do now?

“Is there anything you wanna buy?” It was Vinson’s first time shopping with another person, so it was a whole new experience for him. He felt that he wouldn’t mind doing this every day with Arielle, but he would definitely stomp off after a minute or two if that person were someone else.

Arielle was already at her wits’ end. After all, she was in no mood for shopping, to begin with. “I have nothing particular in my mind, to be honest. I just wanna window-shop with you, you know, like what couples usually do.

Vinson almost melted upon hearing her last sentence. Arielle always had a way of tickling his heart with her words.

Holding her hand in his, he strutted forward. She, on the other hand, was racking her brain to ditch him.

“Vinson, let’s check this boutique out!” She pointed firmly at the fashion boutique a few feet away from them.

Women are pretty indecisive, and that’s exactly the reason why men shudder at the thought of shopping with us! I’m not sure if this is gonna work, but I’ll have to keep trying on outfits till he gets tired of it.

Arielle then used her glimmering puppy eyes on Vinson. Utterly defeated, he gave in immediately, leading her into the shop. They walked around the shop for a

while, and by the time Arielle headed to the fitting room, the shop attendant had tens of garments in her hands.

“Vinson, wait for me here. I’ll be quick.” Arielle hooked her arm through Vinson’s and plopped him down onto a seat. After that, she executed her plan.

Vinson couldn’t understand why she needed to try them on since they were all her size. Is it necessary to try all of them on? She can just buy them all if that’s what she wants, and if she dislikes any of them afterward, she can just throw them away. Besides, she’ll definitely look good in all of the clothes. But since she’s willing to try them on, I’m all for it.

“Sure!” Vinson stroke her head gently.

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Chapter 1326 Raining Bullets

Arielle gave him the sweetest smile before walking into the fitting room with a dress. Five minutes later, Arielle came out, and Vinson was bewitched instantly by the slender figure in front of him.

“Nice dress,” he said.

After that, Arielle strutted her way into the fitting room with another outfit. This time, she came out looking sharp in an all-white suit with a high ponytail, like a capable businesswoman. Vinson excitedly gave her a thumbs-up, and she went back into the room with another outfit.

When the door opened again, a lady with a completely different style stood there, effusing a disparate aura. Arielle had a leather jacket over a black camisole paired with a hip-hugging leather skirt. The black stilettos she wore elevated the whole look, and Vinson couldn't keep his eyes off her.

He already knew how attractive Arielle was and that she could carry any look well. That didn't stop him from being impressed, though.

Arielle could tell that Vinson loved that particular look, so she gave a coy smile and went back into the fitting room.

She was almost at her twentieth fitting, yet every piece she wore managed to blow Vinson away.

Argh! It's not working on him! This is driving me crazy! Why is he still so calm and patient after so many rounds of fitting? This is not right. It can't be! What else can I do? Do I continue with the plan?

Arielle was utterly disheartened.

While she was still cracking her head to get to her parents' aid, Vinson bought everything she tried and requested to have them delivered to their hotel.

"Where else do you wanna go?" Vinson stood next to Arielle and wrapped his hand around her shoulder.

"I don't know. Let's just walk." Feeling dispirited, she cocked her head to one side and asked Vinson curiously, "Vinson, weren't you irritated when I was trying on the clothes?"

"Why would I be irritated?" With a raised brow, he looked back at her in puzzlement and added, "You didn't know it was quite a performance, did you? I was looking forward to your every look!"

He was so transfixed by every outfit Arielle wore that he wanted to keep her in his closet.

Geez... This plan isn't working. Arielle was frustrated.

After they were done shopping in that boutique, they wandered along the streets and were suddenly caught in a commotion. Bang! Not long after the yells and bawls, a gunshot silenced the crowd for a second.

"Sannie, find cover! Hurry!" Vinson grabbed Arielle's hand and tried to look for cover among the sea of people who were, too, panicking. Their entangled fingers were unraveled amid the bedlam.

"Sannie, Sannie!" Vinson's eyes darted from face to face as he shouted anxiously for Arielle.

However, Arielle was shoved away from Vinson by the crowd and was caught in a heart-rending moment. Despite that, she decided to head to where her parents were

using this opportunity. Bang! Bang! Bang! Gunshots peppered the air. She turned her head around to look for the source, but what she saw next shattered her heart.

She saw a young boy curled up in Vinson's embrace, and Vinson took a bullet for him.

"Vinson!" Arielle shrieked in agony and jostled as fast as she could through the crowd. Everything but Vinson was a blur to her.

"S-S-Sannie..." Arielle might not have heard him say her name, but she clearly saw him mouthing it with his trembling lips.

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Chapter 1327 Shot In The Chest

“Vinson, hang in there. Hang in there! I’m here, and you’ll be all right. We’ll get through this together!” Tears smeared her face as she cupped his head in her hands. “Vinson, I don’t know what to do. I don’t have a first aid kit with me.”

“Miss, don’t worry. I’ll get my father to save him,” the young boy offered his help in fluent Ustranasion.

After he finished his sentence, the raining bullets came to a stop. A troop of soldiers moved toward them, and a man got off a military car. “My apologies, Young Master. You must have been frightened,” the man bowed and spoke respectfully to the young boy.

“This man was shot when he was saving me. Quick, send him to the hospital,” the young boy briefly explained what had happened. Wasting no time, the butler got the soldiers to carry Vinson into the car, after which Arielle and the young boy followed them to the hospital.

“Sir Casper, he’s in a critical situation and requires surgery immediately.” The surgeon was scurrying into the operation room, wanting to start the surgery as soon as possible.

“Please, let me help with the operation.” Arielle was so concerned about Vinson that she wanted to participate in the operation.

“Miss, please stop this folly. We are trying to save a life here. Stop wasting our time with your impractical suggestion.” The surgeon furrowed his brows and scanned Arielle. What does this woman think she’s doing? Such balderdash!

Arielle understood the doctor's concern, but she had to do it. Luckily, an assistant recognized her as the Wilhelms' adoptive daughter and agreed to her request. Without further ado, Arielle put on a surgical gown and followed the assistant into the operation room.

Her heart wrenched in pain when she saw Vinson lying unconsciously on the operation table, but she had no time to wallow in misery. Determined to save his life, she snapped herself out of her troubled emotions.

"The bullet's in a tricky spot. It's quite hard to remove it," the surgeon concluded.

"What would you advise then? If we don't remove it, the patient would die."

Like what the surgeon had said, it was a high-risk operation. The slightest miscalculation would cause Vinson's heart to malfunction. Casper's father wasn't going to give up on Vinson since the latter had risked his life for Casper, so he made a call and had the best surgeons in town working on this impossible mission.

"I'll do it," Arielle calmly suggested as she squeezed her way into the room.

"You?"

"Yes. I'll take full responsibility for it." Having said that, she walked toward the position of the lead surgeon.

"The man's life is hanging on a thread now. Stop this nonsense!"

"He's my husband, and I would never fool around with his life!" she retorted. Her mind was already on the operation that was about to commence.

Impressed by her sangfroid, the group of surgeons let her take the helm. None of them were confident to save Vinson, anyway. Moreover, her confidence proved that she clearly knew what she was doing.

Meanwhile, news of the gunfight in Lightspring spread like wildfire on the internet. The media outlets, be it local or international, were all reporting the news, and Arielle became the trending topic.

Sann Group's Chairman Caught in a Gunfight.

The Lady Boss of Maureen's Kitchen Was Trapped in an Artillery Chaos.

The New Head of the Mills Was Hedged in a Gunfight.

Sann Group's Chairman Operating on a Patient at the Local Hospital.

Every entertainment page posted about the gunfight in Lightspring, causing a stir among netizens.

Oh my goodness! Is our goddess okay?

Oh Lord, I'll go vegetarian if my goddess is safe and sound!

Couldn't she just stay in the country? Why did she have to travel abroad and involve herself in such a mess?

This is absolutely worrying. I wonder if she's hurt...

This is too scary! It seems that staying in the country is the safest.

Comments were blowing up on the internet.

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Chapter 1328 The Surgery

Susanne was at the Nightshire Group.

She had switched off her phone. Ever since news of Arielle's mishap broke, her phone had been ringing off the hook with questions about the validity of the news. She was exhausted from fielding calls and had no time to check on Arielle's situation herself.

Her annoyance eventually peaked, and she switched off her phone in defiance. She used the phone on her office desk to contact Rayson and summon him to the office.

When he arrived, a concerned Susanne instructed, "Rayson, could you call Sannie or Vinson's phones? See if you can get in touch with either of them. We need to find out what's going on!" Videos of the incident which had been circulating on the web had disappeared before Susanne had a chance to look at them.

"I've been calling them since news of the incident broke, but I can't reach either of them," Rayson responded with a frown.

Susanne furrowed her brows in thought before suggesting, "Contact the people in Lightspring. See if they have any information for us. Inform me of any developments immediately." Her concern for Arielle and Vinson's safety was palpable.

How are they unlucky enough to get caught in the crossfire of a gun battle?

Likewise, Sam had seen the trending searches on the web regarding Arielle and Vinson's mishap. He had no idea why Arielle had taken leave to Lightspring, and he similarly failed to contact her.

Jason, who had also seen the news, asked Sam concernedly, “Has Arielle truly gone to Lightspring, Mr. Sleight?”

While Jason had decided to let go of his pursuit of Arielle, his heart had yet to catch up with his mind. Naturally, he was deathly worried over the news of Arielle’s trouble in Lightspring.

Sam stared at his anxious companion. Then, as though he suddenly remembered something, he explained, “I don’t know if she traveled to Lightspring, but she did take time off. We were supposed to shoot her scenes in the film after she returned from her leave.”

“Can you reach her?” Jason was almost a hundred percent certain that Arielle had gone to Lightspring.

Shaking his head, Sam answered, “I haven’t been able to get in touch with her.”

Jason expressed his wish of taking time off and traveling to Lightspring himself. Sam firmly refused his request and reprimanded, “Arielle’s gone. How will we make this film if you’re taking time off too? You’re the male lead, for God’s sake!”

Frankly, Jason knew that a trip to Lightspring was a long shot at locating Arielle. After all, he had no connections in the city who could help him with his search.

The employees of Sann Group and Maureen’s Kitchen were equally distraught over Arielle’s reported mishap. Everyone tried to call Arielle but to no avail. Unbeknownst to them, Arielle had already switched her phone to silent mode before entering the surgical theater.

Arielle was presently marking out an incision spot over Vinson’s heart with a surgical skin marker. She took a few steps back to retrieve a scalpel. To her surprise, someone placed it in her outstretched hand before she could grab the instrument. Arielle looked up, realizing that the scalpel came from the doctor who had attempted to stop her from entering the surgical theater earlier.

Their gazes met, and the doctor gave her an encouraging hand gesture to wish her luck.

Arielle did not gratify his encouragement with a change in her expression. Instead, she turned to face Vinson, who lay on the surgical table. She encouraged herself silently.

You can do this, Arielle Moore! Just hang on and wait for me, Vinson!

She took a deep breath and cleared her mind. Then, she lowered her head and began operating on Vinson. The surgical theater fell into silence as the medical staff bustled about their separate duties.

“Forceps!” The same doctor who had wished her luck before the surgery handed the instrument to her before she had barely finished her words.

The leading medical experts in the surgical theater were stunned to see the hospital’s lead physician assisting Arielle in the surgery. Their eyes widened comically in surprise. Arielle was hardly bothered by their opinions. Her entire focus was on completing the surgery.

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Chapter 1329 My Fault

Six hours later, Arielle finally completed the surgery on Vinson. She had single-handedly performed the operation.

Her eyes welled with tears as she pleaded, “You have to wake up, Vinson.”

She dared not let down her guard or surrender to her emotions during the six-hour-long surgery. Now that the nerve-wracking operation was over, the tears she had been suppressing streamed uncontrollably down her face.

After the surgery, Vinson was moved from the surgical theater to an intensive care unit. Arielle changed into her clothes after leaving the surgical theater. When she checked her phone, she saw a bunch of missed calls.

She decided to call Susanne first.

Once the line connected, Susanne asked worriedly, “Sannie! Are you and Vinson all right? I saw the trending news on the web. I was so worried.”

A fresh wave of tears assailed Arielle as she thought of Vinson lying in the intensive care unit. She pursed her lips, unsure of how to assuage Susanne’s concerns. If I didn’t come to Lightspring, Vinson wouldn’t be in this state right now. It’s all my fault.

Her prolonged silence merely fueled Susanne’s concern, and the older lady urged, “Why aren’t you saying anything, Sannie?”

“Mom, I’m fine. I didn’t answer my phone earlier because it ran out of battery.” Arielle settled for a white lie to prevent Susanne from wringing her hands over Vinson’s condition.

Susanne was relieved after Arielle's assurances. She said, "Do you have any idea how many articles on the web mentioned you getting caught in a gun battle? I was scared to death."

"I'm really sorry, Mom. I didn't mean to worry you," Arielle apologized.

Her apology brought a smile to Susanne, who reassured her, "Don't be sorry. I'm happy as long as the two of you are safe. Well, now that that's over, I've got to attend to other things now. So I'll hang up first."

"All right."

After ending her call with Susanne, Arielle hurriedly dialed Liza Sleight's number. She asked Liza to release an official statement on her behalf explaining that she was safe.

Liza carried out her orders immediately after their call.

Arielle's phone began ringing with another call after her conversation with Liza ended. She immediately answered it when she saw her adoptive mother's caller ID.

"Hello!"

A man's menacing voice drifted through the receiver. "Time's almost up, Ms. Moore. Do you not wish to see your parents again?"

Arielle froze in shock. She suddenly remembered that there was not much time left to her meeting with the kidnappers. Her gaze darted to the unconscious Vinson in the intensive care unit, and she realized she could not meet the kidnappers at the agreed-upon time.

"I'm in a tight situation right now. Could I go there later?" Arielle put on false airs of calmness and negotiated with the kidnappers. She wished to wait until Vinson was awake before leaving to meet them.

The kidnapper threatened, “Time waits for no one, Ms. Moore. If you refuse to come here now, don’t blame me for what happens next.”

Frightened that the kidnapper would make good on his threat and harm the Wilhelms, Arielle cried, “I’ll come! I’ll come over now! Don’t hurt them!”

“Good girl! I’m waiting for you. Don’t forget to come alone.”

Arielle’s fingers turned white from how fiercely she clenched her hand around her phone.

D*mn it! Once I find out who’s behind the Wilhelms’ kidnapping, they’re dead meat!

Just as Arielle stewed in distress and indecision, the little boy Vinson had saved earlier appeared. He asked, “Miss, he’ll be okay, right?”

Arielle stared at the boy, her face a mask of conflicting emotions.

Vinson wouldn’t be injured if he didn’t try to save this boy. Still, I can’t blame the little boy; it was entirely Vinson’s choice. In any case, I’m the only one to blame here. I should’ve rejected Vinson’s offer to accompany me. In fact, I shouldn’t have tried to go on some impromptu sightseeing excursion to Lightspring. All of this is my fault.

A Beauty With Multiple Masks Chapter 1330

Chapter 1330 Kidnapping

“Yes, he’ll be fine.” Right then, Arielle realized the boy must have had a unique identity. Regardless, her adoptive parents’ matter was more urgent, and Vinson would be fine after he made it past tonight.

With that thought in mind, she looked at the boy. “Can I ask you for a favor?”

Earlier, the boy followed her to the hospital and waited for a few hours when Vinson was in surgery. Knowing he was grateful for Vinson’s help, Arielle decided to entrust Vinson to him.

“Please go ahead,” the boy answered as he stared at her with a serious look. She’s pretty and speaks fluent Ustranasion.

“I need to attend to another matter, but I don’t know when I’ll be back. Can you please take care of Mr. Nightshire?”

“Is it dangerous? If it is, I can ask my father to assign someone to protect you,” the boy suggested as though he knew Arielle was going to a perilous place.

Arielle shook her head. If possible, she would bring her men along. Alas, her adoptive parents were in that man’s hands, and she dared not take the risk. “No need. I can head there myself.”

A look of disappointment flashed across the boy’s face when he heard she didn’t need his help. I really like her.

“All right. I’ll take good care of him, so don’t worry. We’ll be waiting for you here,” the boy looked up and promised solemnly.

Arielle patted his head before turning to leave. She headed to the Wilhelms' house alone. There was no time to imagine what would happen there.

“Wait up!” Before she could leave the hospital, a clear voice rang out to stop her. Arielle turned at her shoulder to see the boy dashing toward her.

“What’s wrong?” she demanded anxiously. “Did something happen to him?”

The boy shook his head hurriedly to dispel her anxiety. “This is my contact. You can reach me at this number. My name is Casper.”

He shoved a name card into Arielle’s palm and ran away before she could react.

Arielle glanced at the name card and memorized the number swiftly. She then ripped it into pieces and tossed it into the bin.

There was no telling what she would encounter at the Wilhelms' house. Hence, she couldn't allow the enemy to get the name card from her and do something unimaginable with horrible consequences.

Anyway, she had already memorized the content with her photographic memory.

Outside, Arielle hailed a taxi to head to the Wilhelms' house.

Throughout the journey, she was worried about Vinson and the Wilhelms. However, she knew that Vinson would be safe as long as he made it past that night.

She could tell that the young boy wasn't heartless, so he would definitely take care of Vinson sincerely. For now, she was plagued with dread over the Wilhelms' plight.

I wonder who their kidnapper is and what his goal is.

Meanwhile, at the Wilhelms' house, after knowing that Arielle would make her way here, the kidnapper tied the Wilhelms up before stuffing rags into their mouth to shut them up.

“Mm... Mm...” The three of them struggled after learning that Arielle was about to arrive. They didn't want her to see them in this state.

“Stop moving around. Don't worry, I won't hurt you.” Under their worried gazes, the man parted his lips to say, “I won't hurt Arielle, too.”