

Unbreakable 1991

Chapter 1991

Meanwhile, a black SUV was leaving the park.

The sound of the engine starting was quite loud, making Raegan instinctively turn her head to look, but the dark tint on the windows blocked her view. Yet, she couldnt rid herself of the nagging sensation that something wasnt quite right, as if a set of eyes had been observing her.

Raegan? Stefan called out twice to recapture her attention.

ihat? Raegan responded.

Stefan smiled. What were you thinking about?

Nothing.

The air was getting colder, and Raegan rubbed her arms. Stefan, lets head back.

In Raegans eyes, Stefan was like a big brother. She addressed him as naturally as she would her brother. Thus, the word lets came out effortlessly.

A soft smile appeared in Stefans eyes as he gently suggested, Okay, lets go home.

In the black SUV, Mitchels handsome face was expressionless, as cold as ice.

The driver in the front seat sensed the cold atmosphere and cautiously asked, Mr. Dixon, where to now?

Back to the hotel, Mitchel replied curtly.

The driver breathed a sigh of relief, glad that the day of tension was over.

The driver had been working for Mitchel for a week. His assignment was to specifically monitor the entrance of the Clifford familys manor from morning to evening, with someone else taking over at night.

Today, they had ventured out, tailing Stefans car to the park for a walk.

The driver was puzzled over why Mitchel insisted on watching the young couples romance, yet appeared so irritated by it. Why bother to follow them in the first place?

On the way back, Raegan fell asleep. Likely due to the advanced stage of her pregnancy, she often felt exceptionally drowsy.

Upon reaching their destination, Stefan carefully parked the car.

Not wanting to disturb her, he observed the sleeping Raegan. He softly adjusted her seat back, tugged the blanket up a bit higher over her lap, and turned down the air conditioning to ensure she could sleep as comfortable as possible.

Once everything was set, he sat back and quietly admired her peaceful expression.

Raegan slept soundly, her cheeks rosy from the cozy air, presenting a lovely sight.

Watching her with a smile, Stefan felt a soothing sense of peace wash over him, simply being in her presence. He suddenly grasped what family could mean. Though their situation was all for a show, at that moment, he genuinely wished they were an actual family.

Raegan continued to sleep soundly for over four hours, from dusk till the stars faded into night.

As she stretched out of habit, her hand reached down, only to encounter emptiness, which startled her awake. That was when she realized she was still inside the car.

Chapter 1992

Are you awake? Stefan, who had stayed awake beside her the entire time, asked.

Raegan was slightly disoriented. Where am I?

Amused by her charming confusion, Stefan gently answered, You're in the car.

I've been in the car all this time? Raegan was a bit astonished.

From when I came back until now?

Yes, you fell asleep, Stefan explained.

How long have I been asleep? Raegan asked.

Over four hours.

Raegan was surprised! More than four hours? She had actually slept for that long.

Stefan, why didn't you wake me? Raegan felt a bit embarrassed.

Stefan smiled. Victor mentioned you have difficulty sleeping in unfamiliar places, but you seemed to sleep so soundly after our walk that I decided to let you rest longer.

Raegan was moved by Stefan's patience and kindness, realizing he had sat there for over four hours just to let her sleep comfortably. He was truly considerate.

She softly said, Stefan, you don't need to go to such lengths for me next time. I'm quite embarrassed by all this.

Erick had always advised Raegan to treat Stefan as her brother.

Erick and Stefan were sworn brothers, and Stefan had been treating Raegan nicely.

However, Raegan didn't want to just play along with the pretense and genuinely saw Stefan as an elder brother, often directing him as such.

Stefan smiled warmly. I wasn't being considerate. I actually owe you thank you.

Thank me? For what? Raegan asked, looking at him curiously.

Stefan explained, I've been buried in work lately, staying up late in my study and going to bed exhausted. But tonight, because you fell asleep, I noticed how beautifully round and bright the moon has become.

Raegan turned her gaze toward the window, observing the stunning, jade-like full moon lighting up the quiet night. It truly was mesmerizing.

Stefan's soothing voice continued, Thank you for giving me the chance to appreciate such a splendid moon tonight.

Stefan was always gentle, his words carrying both sophistication and charm.

Inspired by the radiant moonlight, Raegan's mood improved. Lately, the worry over her mother's whereabouts had left her restless, disrupting her sleep and causing her to toss and turn until nearly morning each night.

Raegan knew that staying up late was harmful, especially during pregnancy, but anxiety only made sleep more unreachable. The walk they had taken allowed her to sleep profoundly.

Chapter 1993

After leaving the car, they walked back to the villa.

Before heading upstairs, Stefan paused. Raegan, right now your primary concern should be the baby. Leave the search for your mother to Erick and me. Don't worry. You're in good hands.

Furthermore, if your mother knew you were losing sleep over her, she would feel sad. The best gift you can give her is to take care of yourself.

Stefan's advice resonated deeply, and Raegan nodded. I understand. I'll try to manage my emotions better.

Stefan offered a reassuring smile. Tomorrow, once I finish work, let's go for another walk, but this time, make sure you don't fall asleep in the car. Get a proper night's sleep on your bed.

Raegan agreed. The walk seemed to have a beneficial effect, as she now felt an urge to take a bath and head straight to bed.

Raegan headed upstairs, took a bath, and climbed into bed.

Just as she was settling down to sleep, her phone began to ring.

Raegan glanced at her phone as it rang and saw Bryce's name flash on the screen. Answering the call, she began, Hello, Bryce

Before she could continue, Bryce interrupted with an anxious tone, Raegan, where are you? It's about Mitchel. His voice was disjointed and filled with desperation.

Raegan's heart raced at the mention of Mitchel. Mitchel still hadn't come back to Ardlens? Stay calm and tell me what's wrong with him, she urged soothingly.

He collapsed in the hotel, and Ive called an ambulance, but they said itll take twenty minutes to arrive. Im really scared

Raegan was shocked. How could Mitchel just collapse suddenly?

Which hotel are you at? Raegan inquired.

Bryce responded, At the Hilpton Yacht Hotel.

Thinking for a while, Raegan realized it was just a few miles from her location. She was surprised to discover a seven-star hotel so close by during her last visit.

Its not far from me, Raegan said, springing into action. Stay calm and listen to my instructions for first aid. Im coming over with Stefan right now.

Quickly grabbing a jacket, Raegan continued to guide Bryce over the phone as she rushed to Stefans room downstairs.

Reaching downstairs, Raegan just hung up the phone. Her legs trembled as she approached the door of Stefans room.

Fortunately, she didnt need to knock. Stefan, hearing the commotion, opened the door himself.

Noticing Raegans distressed state, Stefans usually calm demeanor shifted. Raegan, whats wrong?

Mitchel Mitchel has collapsed. Stefan, can you call a doctor to save him? Raegan stammered, her breath uneven.

Stefan immediately reassured her, Dont worry. Im on it right now.

Stefan then quickly dialed on his phone, speaking rapidly in the Aurora dialect. He then comforted her, Relax. Ive contacted the best doctor in Aurora.

They hurried to hotel and arrived within five minutes, just in time to meet Stefans doctor.

Chapter 1994

They rushed to the suite upstairs, finding the door already wide open.

Raegan entered the room and immediately saw Mitchel lying on the bed, his face alarmingly pale.

Raegan, youre here! Bryce exclaimed, his eyes reddened as he approached her.

How could this happen Raegan was overwhelmed with questions, unsure where to begin.

Bryce quickly filled her in. When I returned, I smelled alcohol. It seems Mitchel had been drinking, then slipped and fell in the bathroom, and thats when he passed out.

Raegan observed his pallor, a wave of anxiety washing over her.

Normally, a healthy man wouldnt faint from just a fall. There must be some underlying condition that hadnt been addressed properly.

This man

The attending doctor quickly examined Mitchel and administered a dose of specialized medication.

Almost miraculously, Mitchels complexion began to look less deathly within moments.

As the ambulance pulled up, the attending doctor turned to Stefan and explained, Ive made a preliminary diagnosis. It appears theres an infection in his knee implant, but well need further tests at the hospital to confirm.

At this, Raegan felt as if she was in the midst of a surreal story, her head spinning slightly from the revelation.

Thankfully, Stefan was there to support her.

The paramedics loaded Mitchel onto the stretcher and hastened to the hospital.

Collecting herself, Raegan looked at Stefan and began, Stefan, I

Before she could finish, Stefan cut in, Lets go together.

Raegan nodded emphatically.

At the hospital, while waiting outside the examination room, Raegans thoughts wandered. She had assumed that after the wedding day, Mitchel would have left. Yet, he had lingered in Aurora for over a week, staying at the hotel so close to the Clifford familys manor.

Why was he still here?

Raegan struggled with her thoughts, reluctant to delve into the nature of their relationship. It felt almost as if Katies curse was manifesting once more. If not for Bryces timely intervention tonight, Mitchel might have just been another forgotten casualty in some hotel room.

Seeing Raegans distressed expression, Stefan felt a twinge of pain in his heart. He gently said, Raegan, I had told him the other day that I could ensure his safe departure, but he chose to stay.

Raegan hesitated, her thoughts tangled. He

As Raegan fell silent, Stefan continued, Theres something else. Today, when we were at the park, I noticed a black SUV following us. I had it checked out. Mr. Dixon was inside. It seems he might have misunderstood something and turned to alcohol to cope.

Stefan was always candid. He believed Mitchels behavior was tied to Raegan, and he felt it was her right to know the truth.

Chapter 1995

Raegan was taken aback. So, it was Mitchel in the black SUV today

This explained the uneasy feeling she had when she spotted the vehicle.

Observing her silence, Stefan ventured, Raegan, how do you want to handle Mr. Dixons situation?

Asking this made Stefan somewhat nervous. He could tell that Raegan still harbored deep feelings for Mitchel, evident from their past in Ardlens. Despite their tumultuous relationship, their affection seemed enduring.

Recently, Stefan learned that Mitchel had been attempting to resolve some issues for Raegan, albeit clumsily, which only resulted in more pain and misunderstanding between them. This had led Raegan to distance herself from Mitchel, even during her pregnancy.

Ideally, this conversation would have been Ericks to initiate, not his. But driven by his emotions today, Stefan needed to understand Raegans intentions.

Regardless of Raegans decision, Stefan resolved to respect it. Even if it meant that she still loved Mitchel and chose to return to him

Stefan would conceal his own feelings and wish them happiness.

Meeting Stefans earnest gaze, Raegan murmured, I dont know yet, but I want to wait until he wakes up.

Stefan responded softly, Okay, dont worry. The doctors here are very professional.

After a thorough examination, Mitchel had an IV needle in his wrist.

The doctor explained that the implant in his knee had been displaced due to carelessness. Once displaced, it could cause severe inflammation, which the doctor noted was quite painful.

It was astonishing how Mitchel had managed to endure the pain and remain in Aurora for several days without seeking medical attention.

The recommended treatment involved replacing the knee implant and requiring Mitchel to avoid using his leg for two months to ensure proper healing. This meant Mitchel would need to remain bedridden for the next two months.

Considering the urgency, Raegan, despite the late hour, called Luis, a medical expert.

Luis was shocked by the situation and repeatedly referred to Mitchel as a lunatic for his negligence.

Luis was aware that Mitchel had attended Raegans wedding but was unaware that he had stayed behind in Aurora while letting Matteo return alone.

The cold, humid climate of Aurora was detrimental to recovery, exacerbating Mitchels leg condition.

With the added complication of inflammation, managing surgery in Aurora was feasible, but the post-operative recovery would be challenging in such an unsuitable climate.

Luis then suggested that it would be wiser for Mitchel to return to Ardlens for the surgery, where conditions were more favorable for a quick recovery. He added, Knowing that the cold and damp are bad for his leg and still choosing not to return, it seems he doesnt care about his leg anymore

Raegan was taken aback, realizing the gravity of the situation, and asked in a worried tone, Luis, why is his condition so severe?

Raegan assumed Mitchel had been resting for almost two months. How could it worsen?

Luis hesitated. Its actually not too bad

Raegan was skeptical. Seeing Mitchels pale face and the way the Aurora doctors had shaken their heads, she suspected the situation was dire.

Chapter 1996

Luis, I need to know the real condition of his leg. Can you be honest with me? she asked, her lips pursed in concern. I could find out myself if I really wanted to, but Id prefer to get the most objective assessment from you.

Luis sighed deeply and confessed, Raegan, Ill be honest. He hasnt truly rested even for a day in the past two months. They recommend a two-month recovery, but his condition is worse than what some patients achieve in just a week. Hes suffering from severe insomnia, hardly sleeping at night and getting only three to four hours of rest during the day. The rest of the time, hes working. Think about it, how could his recovery possibly go well?

His tendon recovery is insufficient Luis continued with a lot of medical jargon that Raegan couldnt fully grasp.

In essence, if Mitchel refused to return to Ardlens for surgery and insisted on staying in Aurora, the prognosis was not promising.

As for how dire the situation could be, Luis was vague. He used many technical terms, but skirted around the most critical issues.

What does not too good mean? Raegan pressed. How bad is it, really?

Luis cleared his throat before replying softly, In cases like this, amputation has sometimes been considered

Raegan was stunned into silence, her mind reeling for a full minute.

For a moment, she wondered if Luis was overstating the situation. How could it possibly lead to amputation?

The thought of Mitchel, once so admired, potentially facing such a drastic measure was overwhelming. What would become of him if it came to that? The gravity of the situation weighed heavily on Raegan.

Although she found it hard to believe, Mitchels unnaturally pale complexion made Raegan consider that Luis might not be exaggerating after all. Mitchel had been unconscious in the hospital for several days before. If his recovery continued poorly, amputation seemed a frightening but real possibility.

Raegans fingers clenched tightly, her voice barely above a whisper.

Ill convince him to return.

Luis let out a deep sigh. Its going to be tough. You two really

Luis sighed again, his words trailing off into silence.

Matters of the heart were indeed too complicated. No one was to blame. Fate was cruel, both binding and separating

After ending the call, Raegan stood silently for a long while, lost in thought.

Stefan observed her pale face, the shadows from her eyelashes casting a melancholic look. Unable to bear seeing her this distressed, he urged her to rest. Raegan, listen to me, you need to rest for the baby.

Stefan Raegan suddenly spoke up, her voice resolute. I need to bring him back for treatment.

She looked up at Stefan, her decision clear in her eyes. You need to help me.

Stefan felt a wave of relief mixed with resignation wash over him.

He had debated whether to tell Raegan that Mitchel had been following them this afternoon. Part of him hadnt wanted to disclose it, realizing he wasnt ready to let go of the person he loved.

Declaring he would support her decision, even if it meant blessing her reunion with Mitchel, was contrary to his own desires.

His voice raspy with emotion, Stefan responded, Raegan, its good that youve made your decision. Ill support you, whatever you need.

Chapter 1997

The next day, Mitchel finally regained consciousness. As his eyes fluttered open and he saw the woman sitting beside his bed, he thought he was still caught in a dream. He hesitated to reach out his hand, fearing that the dream would shatter with just a touch.

Raegan had just arrived. She had tried to sleep the previous night but had not rested well, tormented by nightmares that Mitchel had died, her mind a whirlwind of distress.

This restless night left her eyes swollen in the morning, though a few cold compresses had somewhat alleviated the puffiness.

Seeing Mitchel awake and staring at her without moving, Raegan spoke softly. Youre awake. Ill have the caregiver come and help you wash up.

As she turned to call the caregiver, Mitchel reached out and grabbed her hand, his voice breaking slightly, Is this not a dream?

His question was laced with vulnerability, his grip seeking confirmation of reality. The warm touch of her hand reassured him that he was indeed awake.

These days, Mitchels sleep had been fitful, caught between dreaming and waking, a liminal state where reality seemed elusive.

He didnt want to wake up fully, unable to face the reality that Raegan might truly be married to someone else. It felt surreal, and despite his efforts, he found no evidence to prove otherwise. But whether he accepted it or not, it seemed to be the truth.

Raegan, he whispered her name.

Raegan responded without turning, I didnt leave. Go ahead and wash up, then have something to eat.

Mitchel surprisingly complied, allowing the caregiver to help him wash and even managing to eat some breakfast.

After he finished, Raegan returned to sit by his bedside.

Only then did Mitchel notice that she was wearing a black wool coat that was far too large for her, hanging loosely on her frame, clearly not her own.

The item was unmistakably mens clothing. Mitchel had noticed Stefan wearing it at the park earlier.

At once, Mitchels face took on a displeased look.

Raegan had left in a rush the previous night, dressed only in light clothing, and Stefan had drped his coat over her shoulders.

Later, Victor arrived with a warmer piece of clothing, yet Raegan decided to don Stefans coat instead.

Raegan looked at Mitchel and asked gently, How are you feeling?

Mitchel looked tired but tried not to show it and said, Im alright.

Raegans eyes welled up, and she whispered, How can you say youre alright?

Witnessing her teary eyes, Mitchel felt a pang of sadness. His hand twitched at his side, but he halted just a breath away from the bed, as if an unseen barrier held him back. He could ignore his reputation, but considering Raegan might stay in Aurora long-term, he had to be cautious

Im sorry, he said. Did I frighten you?

No. Raegans voice was strained. Im not that easily scared.

Raegan knew she was the cause of his knee injury. Had he not been determined to deal with Lorenzos threat to protect her before he died, he wouldnt have sustained such a serious injury.

Chapter 1998

Mitchels gaze fell to her stomach, unfocused. How are you then? Are the babies alright?

It had been quite a while since they had a peaceful talk like this, where they both shared the conversation.

Raegan fought back her sadness. Were fine. The babies are quite calm and dont kick much.

Kick you? Mitchel showed interest. Really? When Raegan was pregnant, he hadn't been around, so he was unaware of the babies' movements.

Yes, they can be quite naughty at times, Raegan commented. Just then, her belly nudged outward slightly.

Mitchel watched, fascinated. Are the babies kicking you?

Yes. Raegan noticed Mitchel's eyes sparkle and gently asked, Would you like to feel them?

Mitchel's deep black eyes lit up noticeably. May I?

Of course, you're the father, Raegan replied.

Upon hearing this, Mitchel felt an unexpected sadness rather than joy, sensing that Raegan was drifting further away from him. Her casual mention of the children hinted that she had already decided.

His deep, ink-black eyes shifted to a softer gray, and his hands moved instinctively to tenderly touch Raegan's stomach.

The babies responded by firmly kicking his hand.

Mitchel was taken aback. This was his first encounter with the miracle of life. It was truly incredible! Their lineage would live on in this little belly, connecting him and Raegan.

Raegan, let me stay. I want to be here to see our children born, he implored softly. I won't disturb you. Please don't send me away.

Raegan closed her eyes, her heart heavy with pain. She couldn't knowingly let Mitchel risk amputation, knowing he still had so much life ahead of him.

She gazed at him, saying, Mitchel, you're the father, no doubt about that, but

Mitchel braced for the painful words that would follow that but.

Raegan continued, I'm married now. I have my own life. If you stay, it will lead to misunderstandings with my husband. I don't want my love to get the wrong idea.

Raegan pulled the coat around her, seeking comfort in its warmth. Her way of addressing Stefan had shifted from first name to my love.

It echoed how she once affectionately called Mitchel. She conveyed that everything had shifted, and there was no returning to how things used to be.

Raegan added, The memories we created together seem to span a lifetime, but since it's not suitable, parting is the right choice. Now, I seek a simple life with Stefan. Can you grasp that?

Mitchel's lips tightened, and the sparkle in his eyes gradually faded.

Raegan understood that he grasped the meaning of her words. He would come to terms with it eventually.

I hope you can see my point. She stood, her gaze falling on the sunlight filtering through the window, and then looked down. When the celebration of our babies 100th day comes, I will invite you. Mitchel, return to the Ardlens for your treatment. The climate there will be better for you.

Chapter 1999

With these words, Raegan stepped toward the door.

Raegan, please dont leave Mitchel called her from behind, the glow in his dark eyes fading.

He tiredly murmured, Just hear me out. I wont cause trouble. I just want to be there for the birth. I missed it when Janey was born, and I dont want to miss the birth again.

The man who once stood tall was now pleading.

Raegan hesitated in her steps but remained silent. Luis warning echoed in her mind. She never wanted amputations to enter the picture.

For such a dignified man like Mitchel, losing a limb would devastate his life!

With her eyes shut, Raegan said firmly, Mitchel, our paths have ended, but you are still the father. Ill allow you to see the children in the future, but if you act out of line again, Ill cut off your access. They need a stable father more than anything.

This statement struck Mitchel hard, silencing him immediately. Their children were his vulnerability. Without access to his children, his life would lack purpose.

Raegan, are you serious? Mitchel was known for his strong will. He had never been mild-tempered, but he had kept his composure for Raegans sake.

He argued, You once promised that once we were free, wed live as a family, yet you turned around and married another. You broke your promise!

Mitchel vividly recalled that moment in the banquet hall, where Raegan had stood by him and made those promises. She had spoken those words herself, and now she was contradicting them.

He had watched the surveillance footage too, and Raegan, whom everyone believed to be cold-hearted, would visit his ward late at night, simply checking from outside without stepping in. Her slumped shoulders and the action of wiping tears were heart-wrenching. Didnt these actions show she still cared for him?

Mitchel was baffled as to why she would offer him hope only to cast him back into despair.

Raegan, you know I love you, and thats why youre so harsh with me.

Mitchel said with a heavy heart. Youre harsh only toward me, which seems so unjust.

Raegan struggled to defend herself, unsure of what to say. She was sure of her own feelings; it wasn't that she didn't love him, but she was scared to love him at that moment. The love stakes were too high. She simply couldn't bear them anymore!

At that moment, the door opened.

Stefan entered with a warm demeanor. Have you finished talking?

Mitchel's face tensed. So Stefan had been outside all along. Did Raegan decide to talk with him after getting advice from Stefan?

Mitchel found this difficult to accept. The truth stared him in the face, but he couldn't accept it.

Stefan took Raegan's hand and addressed Mitchel, Mr. Dixon, it would be best for you to return to the Ardlen's for your treatment. You are welcome to visit when the children are 100 days old.

Next to Stefan's generosity, Mitchel's selfishness and stubbornness were highlighted.

At this moment, Mitchel felt like a brazen homewrecker, meddling in someone else's marriage. His fist clenched, his posture rigid.

Stefan regarded Mitchel calmly, showing no reaction to his silence and discourtesy.

Chapter 2000

Stefan then looked down at Raegan and suggested gently, Let's go home.

Mm-hmm. Raegan agreed. Her simple affirmation carried a hint of reliance.

Raegan was deeply reliant on Stefan, much like any loving couple.

Stefan's grasp shifted to interlacing their fingers, and they exited side by side.

For a moment, Mitchel felt a surge of desire to leap from the bed and separate them, to disrupt their unity. Raegan had once vowed to stay with him forever. Yet now, she was clasping another man's hand and walking away without hesitation.

Mitchel attempted to rise, but his legs were numb and unresponsive.

Now, he was unable to chase them.

Bang! The bedside lamp crashed to the floor.

This sharp noise reached Raegan's ears. She recognized that this truly marked the end of their relationship.

She wanted to be courageous, but the cost of courage was often more than she could handle. She was just an ordinary person. Sometimes, one must accept the role of fate.

The threats that surrounded her and Mitchel hadn't ended with Katie's death and continued to lurk and intensify in the shadows.

Raegan had to brace for the worst, ensuring that if she couldn't escape, at least their children would have their father. Parents played an invaluable role. At the very least, Mitchel would be there for their children. If fate dictated they couldn't be together, her biggest hope was Mitchel's safety and well-being.

As they walked, Raegan was unaware that tears had begun to stream down her face.

Stefan stopped in front of the car, placing his hands on Raegan's shoulders, and drew her close into his embrace. If you need to cry, go ahead, he murmured, looking down at her hair. No one is watching.

Raegan's shoulders trembled as she finally let her guard down, crying freely.

Stefan felt saddened to see her cry so much. He gently ran his fingers through her hair, whispering, Why do you always have to be so strong? You don't have to fight battles alone.

He was typically composed and dignified, seldom engaging in such light-hearted banter.

Raegan found her spirits lifted slightly upon hearing his words.

Stefan reassured, Don't fret. I'll make sure to check on his treatment progress.

Stefan felt like he fell short, not as courageous as Mitchel. Mitchel dared to chase after what he loved, while he hesitated to express his feelings. He feared that voicing his feelings for Raegan might cause her to distance herself from him, leaving him in a worse state than now.

Raegan, having cried into his sweater, felt embarrassed. I'll have Victor pick up a new one for you.

Stefan thought if she were the one who bought it, he would cherish it. He smiled and said, No need. It's just a sweater.

Let's head home. He opened the car door for Raegan to enter.

As Stefan's car pulled away, the silhouette at the ward window remained.