

## **N Destiny 2161**

### Chapter 2161

Willow tightly held his wrist as she added, "Be careful. As important as the ancient artifacts are, your life is more important." At that, Jasper reassured her. "I'll be careful. I promise."

At this moment, in a camp more than a mile away, Jett sat beside his technical staff and urged, "Hurry up. We must obtain information from the other side. I need to know their next move."

"Boss, they have a skilled computer expert who set up a network firewall that we can't breach." The person operating the computer was sweating profusely.

"Aren't you a top-notch hacker? Yet you can't even break into their network?" Jett was angry. "Their skills are obviously better than mine. I did my best, and I feel they are using an independent satellite network, making it impossible to hack into."

"You're useless!" Jett growled and he went to his office. He had assembled a team of professional archaeologists, and they were all analyzing the data they had..

"What's the result? Have you found out where those treasures are hidden?" he asked impatiently. "We haven't found anything yet." He picked up his phone and called his team's surveillance personnel who were monitoring Willow's group. "What's going on? Are they making any moves?"

"We haven't seen any action yet. Their people are all in the activity area and haven't left." After Jett hung up the phone, his eyes flickered with strong ambition. He must obtain these treasures. He had invested so much this time and he couldn't afford to lose.

Moreover, he had promised the country that they could buy back the treasures at a high price, which would make him extremely wealthy. He was determined to obtain this batch of treasures at all costs. In his eyes, Willow was just a little girl. How could she compete with him?

Other than her family background, he didn't care about her at all. In the ship's room, Willow slept restlessly. When she woke up, she saw that the bed next to her was empty.

“Jasper?” She hurriedly sat up, pushed the door, and ran out to the corridor. Johanna hurriedly came over. “Miss Presgrave, what’s wrong? Did you have a nightmare?”

“Where is he?” Willow’s eyes were filled with anxiety and worry. “Mr. Wyatt has already gone underwater. Ricky and two colleagues are with him. Don’t worry!” Willow’s heart was still tense when she heard this. Now, she worried about Jasper whenever he went on a mission.

“I’ll make breakfast for you. You can go back to your room and rest!” Johanna suggested. Willow nodded and returned to her room. She went out to the balcony and looked at the vast sea, her heart heavy with worry.

The whole morning, Willow couldn’t eat or drink. She just stared at the sea. As they were not expecting to go diving, they didn’t have enough equipment and communication devices.

Willow had contacted her family last night to send the equipment over, but it would take about a week to arrive. Jasper was worried that Jett might also discover this information, so he took the risk and went diving.

Finally, at around 12.00PM, four people came swimming back to the surface. Willow heard the news and rushed over to see the four of them safe and sound, and she finally let go of the anxiety in her heart..

At the same time, she felt embarrassed and avoided looking at the man taking off his diving. suit and showing his upper body. “You guys better go take a shower!” Willow said as her gaze lingered on Jasper’s face.

Meanwhile, Jasper couldn’t care about showering and said, “Come with me to see Winston. We made a discovery down there.” In Winston’s office were photos they took in the afternoon, showing several ghost ships.

“Those fleets sank into the sea, and they only had time to evacuate the crew. All the artifacts remained in the sunken ship’s cargo hold. Now, the wooden planks have disappeared, and all the artifacts are at the bottom of the sea.”

Willow's eyes widened as she exclaimed in excitement, "This is fantastic! We finally found it, Winston. We've finally made a breakthrough." Winston, who was equally thrilled, gave a firm nod in return. "Yes! We didn't just achieve something spectacular as it's also a great achievement for our country."

"My parents' salvage team is on their way, but it will take them about five days to arrive. We'll have to keep this a secret from Jett for now. They have definitely come prepared with all the necessary equipment in order to start salvaging immediately."

"Since this is international waters, we can't restrict their actions. We will need to act as quickly as possible," Winston reminded, growing tense.

Jasper nodded in agreement. After he returned to his room, he took a shower and started working on his computer. Johanna then brought him a cup of coffee, and Willow handed the cup to him.

"Have some coffee to stay alert!" Willow said to him. Jasper obediently took a few sips of coffee. Just as he was about to put the cup down, Willow held onto the cup and started drinking from the same cup.

Jasper's heart skipped a beat as he worked on his computer and swiftly noticed several hacker accounts attempting to breach his defenses. A faint smirk appeared on his lips; it was a smile of contempt.

Willow placed the cup of coffee down as she looked at his broad back and reached out tentatively. Even though she couldn't understand the complex programs on his computer, she still wanted to be near him as she wrapped her arms around his neck and pressed her chin against his shoulder.

He turned his face to the side in response. She couldn't help but giggle as their cheeks pressed against the others' before she planted two quick kisses on his cheek.

His composure wavered slightly, and a faint smile crept onto his lips as he was unable to resist the sweet gesture. It was clear that she was also basking in the moment as she simply nestled into his shoulder.

In the afternoon, the two of them enjoyed the subtle atmosphere in the room, which was even more exhilarating than being in a real romantic relationship. "What are you doing?" Willow asked.

“Building a firewall, Jasper replied absentmindedly while his fingers typed away complex code that seemed to flow effortlessly under his hands. She shot him a look of admiration. “You’re amazing.”

Although he had heard similar praises in the past, it was different when it fell from her lips.

At this moment, the atmosphere in Jett’s team was tense and restless. His subordinates were all brainstorming for ideas when one of them blurted, “Why don’t we check underwater? Perhaps the ship sank here all those years. ago?”

“You’re right! We haven’t found anything on the island yet, but there might be clues underwater.” Jett started contemplating the plausibility of this option; even though it might be a waste of resources, it was still worth a try.

His subordinates, feeling the pressure and fearing criticism, decided to take the plunge into the sea to see if they could find any clues.

Willow arranged for her family’s bodyguards to spy on their movements. When evening fell, they reported some crucial information. Willow, Winston, and Jasper discussed the situation in the meeting room.

Willow was understandably anxious since the shipwreck was nearby. There was a high chance the others might very well stumble upon it if they went underwater.

“We can’t let them find it before we do; otherwise, they’ll take everything for themselves, she muttered anxiously. She was growing increasingly agitated because this operation meant a lot to her.

Jasper put his hand on her shoulder reassuringly. “Don’t worry. I won’t let them get their hands on it until we do.”

Winston sighed wearily. “Mr. Wyatt, based on my observations last time, Jett Jefferson has brought over a dozen muscles with him. We do have our men, but things might get out of control the instant we’re in conflict. The artifacts are important, but so are our lives, especially Sweetie here.”

She was the baby of the Presgrave Family. Since they couldn't decide on what to do for now, Willow stepped outside to catch some fresh air. She had asked around and discovered that her family's salvage team would take at least three days to make it here.

Jasper leaned against the railing and tenderly gazed at her stressed figure. At that moment, he desperately wanted to ease her emotions. He couldn't help but feel his heart ache at her anxious expression whenever he laid his eyes on her.

Chapter 2163

Willow forced herself to ease up a bit as she smiled at Jasper. 'Don't worry about me. I'm just a bit nervous. I'll be fine.'

Jasper reached out to tidy her bangs, which had been blown into an utter mess by the sea breeze. "Don't worry. I won't let anyone take away what is yours."

Unfortunately, she was unaware that her nervousness only exacerbated the anxiety dwelling within the man's heart; he just didn't show it. She leaned into his embrace and hugged his sturdy body. "I know. I feel much more at ease with you here."

Yet, Jasper wanted her to be absolutely worry-free. The little wrinkle between her brows only tugged at his heartstrings.

That night, the bodyguards sent back a message that Jett's team was preparing to go underwater early the next morning.

The intense emotions overwhelmed Willow, causing her to have trouble sleeping that night. Now that they had found the treasure, she had to watch helplessly as someone else took it away before they could lay their claim on it. It was truly distressing for her.

This was international waters where Jett had the authority to do anything without facing any consequences.

Later, Willow heard some speed boats had set off. So, she dashed to Winston's office but couldn't find Jasper anywhere. "Where is he?"

“Mr. Wyatt just went out to sea. He said he had something to take care of.”

“What is he doing out there?” “I’m afraid I don’t know as he didn’t say why. He always acts so mysteriously, and it’s not like I can ask him just like that, Winston explained.

Johanna comforted her, “Miss, don’t worry! Mr. Wyatt is probably just doing what needs to be done.” “I just hope he doesn’t encounter any danger.”

Willow’s worries intensified as time passed. Where had Jasper gone? He had gone to the pirate ship which had become something like a ghost ship. There was an advanced fishing net here, and he used his computer to operate the ship’s fishing equipment.

An hour later, the automatic fishing equipment brought nearly 1000 pounds of fish. He had a rather simple plan for these fish; he wanted to attract the rulers of the sea-sharks.

He had researched the area and found that past researchers had detected the presence of numerous sharks in this area of international waters. Fortunately, the sharks mostly dwelled in the deep sea and rarely approached the coastal waters. However, if there was a significant amount of fish blood in the area, it could attract them to swarm the area.

Sharks were not particularly interested in human blood, but they had a strong attraction to fish blood. As long as there was blood around the area, the sharks would be attracted to swim out of their dwellings. It also definitely helped that they had an extremely sensitive sense of smell when it came to their prey.

That was precisely what Jasper was trying to do-attract the sharks. He knew that the only way to stop Jett’s actions was to make them fear going underwater and prevent them from diving. All he needed to do was buy a few more days for their own salvage team to arrive.

Nearly a hundred fish were chopped up and thrown into the sea, spreading the smell of blood around the boat. Once Jasper was done, he stood on the deck, observing the surroundings using a telescope..

This task required absolute patience, and it just so happened it was something he excelled at.

Sleep continued to elude Willow as she remained on the boat, unable to contact him. She had no idea what he was planning.

Around 4.00AM, the full moon in the sky glowed brighter. Suddenly, the boat he was on shook slightly when something bumped into it. from below.

Jasper instinctively picked up a flare and threw it into the water. Several dorsal fins emerged on the surface of the water, indicating that his 'summoning' had succeeded.

Chapter 2164

Other team members immediately gathered. around as some of them picked up binoculars and looked at the dorsal fins on the water before they exclaimed in panic, "What's going on?! Why are there sharks here?"

"What should we do? We can't dive if there's a risk of shark attacks. It would be disastrous." Although they were hired for the job, their lives were always their top priority.

"Hurry! Contact Jett and report the situation here." After Jett received the call and a few photos soon after, he immediately cursed in frustration, "Sh\*t."

"Boss, we can't dive today. We can't take the risk now that there are sharks lurking in the area." Jett had no choice but to give up upon hearing those words. So, he ordered them to return and wait until the sharks were gone before deciding on a new diving date.

Willow also soon received a report from the bodyguards that Jett's crew had returned. "Why did they turn around?" Willow asked in surprise.

"We are not sure what is going on, but none of them have gone underwater. Even their equipment was unloaded from the ship."

Regardless of the reason, Willow couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief. Just then, she heard someone outside greeting Jasper. So, she rushed out in excitement and threw herself into his arms. "Good news! Jett's men didn't dive."

Jasper gently pushed her away from his embrace. "I know." She blinked, a bit puzzled that he had been absent all night. To make matters even stranger, he was even rejecting her physical affections.

"Why won't you let me hug you?" Willow murmured, feeling wronged. "It's not that. I smell of blood; I need to take a shower first."

She hurriedly inquired, "Where were you last night?" "I attracted some sharks nearby. That's why Jett's men turned back." He didn't see the point in hiding anything from her.

"Oho!" Willow was astonished. Even Winston was shocked. It turned out there truly was nothing Jasper couldn't do in this world. He actually managed to do something like this!

Nonetheless, Willow still rushed into his arms. and hugged his waist. "I don't mind if you're dirty. You're not allowed to push me away." Jasper smiled helplessly. "Alright, alright."

Winston, who accidentally witnessed their intimate moment, quickly fled the scene. Jasper returned to where Willow was after taking a nice refreshing shower. On the other hand, Willow had prepared breakfast for him. Then, they spent a romantic time together as they sat in the cabin's lounge, enjoying the sea view.

She propped her chin and looked at him with her big eyes that possessed the mysterious ability to say everything she was thinking, making him a bit embarrassed.

'Don't stare at me,' he complained affectionately in a gentle tone. She blinked. "But... I like looking at you. Is that a crime, Mr. Wyatt?"

This statement carried a hint of flirtation, paired with Willow's smug smile... Well, it left the man. somewhat speechless..

"It's your fault for having a face so handsome. In fact, it should be a crime to look this good. Don't blame me for looking at you!" Willow teasingly pushed the responsibility back to him.



The man couldn't help but choke slightly at her brazen words, his handsome face and ears turning pink. It seemed that he was still weak to teasing.

"Alright, enjoy your breakfast. I'll go back to my room to rest for a bit. I didn't sleep well last night when you were away." Willow didn't disturb him any longer.

"Okay!" Jasper nodded. She felt relieved after learning about what happened with Jett's team. They had decided not to dive and were now changing their focus to search for clues in the mountains.

Since Jett and his team didn't dare to take their chances underwater, she could delay their actions until her salvage team arrived. Moreover, in order to preserve the artifacts, a team of national archaeologists, along with 20 bodyguards from the Presgrave Family were sent.

They were all working together to safeguard her cause. Three days had passed in the blink of an eye.. As Jett stood on his ship with a pair of binoculars in his hands to watch Willow's team, he was suddenly filled with worry. Why aren't her people doing anything? Did she already discover something?

Lately, he had also been filled with anxiety as this expedition had cost him a considerable amount of money. He feared he would go bankrupt if they returned empty-handed. His fortune relied on the valuable artifacts which were supposed to be a surefire source of wealth.

Chapter 2165

Jett had never once thought he was a good person; he had to figure out Willow's secret. To do that, he needed to kidnap the person closest to her.

Soon, a pile of photos was placed on Jett's desk. The photos showed a young and handsome man who stayed with Willow day and night. He was someone closest to her.

"Who is he?" "We haven't figured out his identity yet, but he's the person closest to Willow Presgrave. They have meals and live together. If Willow has any secrets, he'd be the one who knows them best," reported one of Jett's subordinates.

He nodded in satisfaction and pointed to the photo. Then, he will do. Find a chance to bring him to me. I want to ask him some questions."

Jett couldn't help but admit that the man in the pictures was charming. I wouldn't be surprised if he turns out to be Willow's boyfriend. Thus, Jett's phone found the chance to start monitoring Jasper.

Meanwhile, Jasper was bringing some things to the shore on behalf of Willow. The team members here were now more relaxed as they hadn't received any specific orders. They were simply working for their wages.

After he placed the things down, he noticed someone behind the rocks using binoculars to spy on him. Thus, he feigned ignorance as he deliberately walked to a nearby path, away from the team.

At the same time, Jett's men immediately gathered their team and took the opportunity to kidnap Jasper. Jasper walked about a kilometer away, fully aware that someone was following him.

"Hey, you there! Our boss wants to see you. Come with us!" a man threatened in English. "What if I refuse to cooperate?" Jasper turned around and asked.

"Then, don't blame us for not holding back. The man took out a gun and pointed it at Jasper. "You'd better listen to us obediently. I can't be sure where I might aim my gun next."

Jasper immediately surrendered by raising his hands and following the group who then took him into Jett's territory.

Jett was overjoyed that they had easily captured the person closest to Willow. Therefore, he quickly came over just to interrogate Jasper personally.

Jasper was already tied to a chair at this moment. Soon, the interrogation began with only two of Jett's subordinates present. "What is your name?"

"You're not worthy of asking me that," Jasper replied coldly. "You should know that cooperating with me now is in your best interest. I'm not a patient man, so answer my question." He added, "What is your relationship with Willow?"

Still, Jasper only quirked his eyebrow and retorted, "You have no right to know."

“I-I’m telling you, no one will ever find you if I kill you here and toss your body on another island,” Jett threatened. Unbeknownst to him, the person that he was threatening was someone who excelled in assassination.

“Fine, let’s switch gears. Did you guys make any recent discoveries? Have you found that batch of relics? Just tell me! I can make it worth your while.” Jett decided to entice Jasper. Jasper stated icily, “I suggest you leave this place and not get in Willow’s way.”

“See here. You are in my hands now. It’s not your turn to threaten me. I’m the one interrogating you,” Jett was so angry he almost went crazy. Jasper was a surprisingly tough opponent! Alas, there was only a wave of calmness in Jasper’s eyes instead of fear.

“I truly admire your courage. But... if you don’t cooperate with me, I’ll have no choice but to kidnap Miss Presgrave and force something out of her mouth.”

Jasper’s aura seemed to explode out of his body right then and there. “Try laying a finger on her and see what happens,” he snarled..

Jett couldn’t help but step back in fear. When he realized what happened, he quickly coughed to cover his embarrassment. What was he afraid of? This man in front of him was literally bound by a rope and had his hands tied behind his back.

“If you cooperate and tell me what I want to know, I won’t touch Willow Presgrave. It all depends on whether you would work with us,” Jett mentioned as he started another round of questions.

Chapter 2166

“Have you found those cultural relics? Why are your team members playing around all relaxed and carefree if you haven’t?”

“I’ll say it again: take your men and get out of here, or else. Frankly, you should be worried about your life.”

Jett unconsciously frowned as his patience ran thin. “I see you prefer to do this the hard way. Boy, give him a good beating; I’m sure he’ll confess after that.”

As Jett's henchmen raised their fists to strike Jasper's face, the man who had been bound to the chair reached out, blocked the blows, and quickly grabbed the chair. Jett's henchmen were knocked down one after another with a fierce swing. Jasper exuded a dangerous aura, and it was one filled with killing intent.

Jett's eyes widened in disbelief as he desperately tried to flee. Unfortunately, Jasper kicked him from behind, sending him crashing into the wall before Jasper pressed him firmly against the wall.

"Spare me! Please, spare me!" Jett begged in fear as he never imagined that the man constantly by Willow would be so skilled.

"I promise you. I will chase you to the ends of the earth if you dare lay a finger on Willow." Jasper's warning that pierced Jett's ears sounded like they were the words spoken by the God of Death himself.

Regardless, Jasper still knocked Jett unconscious with a single punch. He had initially wanted to see why Jett had kidnapped him, but now it seemed like Jett was just trying to threaten him..

When Jett finally woke up from his impromptu nap, he kicked the door in frustration when he found that Jasper was already long gone.

In the evening, a massive ship appeared on the horizon in the sun set. Willow picked up her binoculars and exclaimed joyfully, "Our people have arrived." As she turned her head, she noticed that the man next to her had returned. So, she asked curiously, "Why did you take so long? Nothing happened, right?"

"Right." Jasper shook his head. She didn't dwell on it as she happily gazed into the distance with her binoculars. Her spirits soared at the thought that her mission would soon be completed.

He couldn't help but feel happy as his gaze landed on her joyous face. On the other hand, not only did Jett not get anything out of the interrogation, but he soon received a message from his subordinates that another large ship had arrived at Willow's location. This made him extremely anxious. It seemed like Willow had found the cultural relics..

Then again, where exactly are the relics?

On the mountains?

Or did they hide the relics? After an hour of sailing, the massive ship finally arrived at its destination, precisely where the cultural relics were located. This made the salvage work far more convenient.

As Willow boarded the ship, she was greeted by a neat row of bodyguards, who respectfully called out, "Miss!"

"Thank you all for your hard work," Willow replied with a smile, exuding the air of a wealthy young lady.

Winston also gathered his subordinates on board and briefed them on their discovery. All the crew members were delighted. Then, Winston also explained the reasons behind their secrecy. After the incident with Morgan, they knew that the less they knew, the safer they would be.

Next, they discussed the salvage plan. The sharks that Jasper had previously attracted to the area had already left. This was because the location was not a place where sharks typically lingered for long periods of time. They were not likely to return now that there was no food to lure them here.

Since the cultural relics had been underwater for quite some time, any disturbance required extreme caution. Thus, the work had to be carried out by professional divers, and Willow, who had experience in relic collection, decided to join the diving team.

This worried a certain man. So, once the meeting adjourned, he took her back to their room and sternly insisted, "You are not allowed to go underwater."

"Why not? We have a large team and complete equipment. Why can't I go?" Willow wanted to see the relics for herself. Plus, she wasn't as delicate as he seemed to think. She even had a diving certificate to prove it. Hence, she was perfectly capable of pulling this off!

"There's no reason. You simply can't," Jasper growled. He was being overbearing, hoping she would stay on the ship. There were too many unpredictable factors underwater. He couldn't help but worry about any potential risks.

## Chapter 2167

Willow knew that he was just concerned about her. So, she reached out and hugged his waist while looking at him with a pitiful expression. "Please, just let me go underwater! I promise I will be careful, Jasper." After that, she held his hand and swung it around, as if he was the decision-maker for this project whereas she was just his employee. In reality, Willow was the one who called the shots here!

"You will have to stay close to me and not leave my sight." The man sighed. He was only willing to compromise if she agreed to his terms.

Willow immediately hugged his neck happily as she tiptoed and kissed him on the lips. "Got it! I will definitely stay by your side."

Jasper let out a soft sigh. "You'll be the death of me." However, she was grinning from ear to ear. His words merely meant that she had the ability to control him!

To her, this was definitely not a bad thing! She now had the upper hand on him and could keep him in the palm of her hand forever.

No other woman was allowed to get close to him except for her. In fact, she could already feel a wave of jealousy wash over her at just the thought of this.

Such an intense feeling of possessiveness was something she had never felt toward anyone else before.

After they decided on the time to dive, everyone started to prepare their equipment. None of them dawdled as they wasted no time in getting underwater. The seabed was clear, and as it was a shallow sea, these relics had been quietly resting here for a thousand years. Some metals still emitted a sparkling glow under the sunlight.

Willow wore a diving suit and followed closely beside Jasper. Frankly, they looked like a lovely merman and mermaid swimming together as they donned tight-fitting suits.

Jasper would frequently turn around to look at her, and she would swiftly respond by giving him a thumbs-up gesture, indicating that she was doing fine.

The salvaging work soon began. She cleaned the relics and placed them on the salvage equipment nearby as he stayed beside her like a dutiful sentinel. Sometimes, he would help her take the larger items from her.

The first day of salvage was a great success. According to the list, they had salvaged two hundred relics on the first day. It was incredibly exciting for them.

At the same time, Jett was constantly observing the island, not knowing what Willow was up to. A person wearing a diving suit entered his sight right then.

He instantly understood what was happening, and angrily flung the binoculars aside. "The relics are in the sea, and Willow Presgrave is salvaging them. Damn it!"

Once he said that, he started scolding the people who had refused to go underwater a few days ago. "You people have ruined my grand plan."

"But... we really saw several sharks swimming in the sea that day." "I don't care. I don't care if there are sharks or not. Prepare the diving suits and go underwater immediately. I want to know if the relics are in the sea! We have to grab some for ourselves before they are done salvaging."

Jett's subordinates didn't dare to tarry a second longer. Since Willow's people were already underwater, they were fine with making the same trip. Thus, they hastily put on the diving equipment and were ready to dive toward Willow's cruise ship.

Meanwhile, Willow also received some news. "What? Jett's people have also gone underwater? How many of them are there?"

"There are over a dozen of them. They've already gotten into the water. Miss, please notify Ricky and stop them."

Willow immediately called for a meeting, instructing Ricky to take 20 bodyguards and stop these divers from approaching the salvage site.

"I'm going too, Jasper suggested. Willow couldn't help but look at him with worry upon hearing his words. It was such a turn of events as it was now her turn to worry. She wasn't just worried about the safety of her bodyguards, but also about his safety.

After the meeting, she publicly held his hand. She sounded stiff when she muttered, "Come with me." This surprised some onlookers. Why is Miss holding this man? What is their relationship?

She paid no mind to their astonished gazes as she all but dragged him into the room and pressed him against the wall. "You can't go, Jasper."

Chapter 2168

"Do you think I'm actually weaker than your bodyguard? Jasper asked in a knowing tone.

"It's not about that. I-I just can't bear the thought of you in danger, Willow replied, her cheeks blushing slightly. 'You mean a lot to me. Of course, I would worry about your safety."

Jasper's heartstrings were tugged by her honest confession. Nonetheless, she had never been one to hold back her feelings.

"Don't worry, I'll come back safe and sound," Jasper assured her..

However, she couldn't shake her concerns. After all, Jett's people were not to be taken lightly as they were highly trained mercenaries.

"I just "Willow began to protest, but he gently held her face and kissed her tenderly. Her beautiful eyes widened in surprise. Was that his tactic?

Well, it worked! She couldn't resist and was definitely falling for it. His kiss was gentle and intoxicating. Once she finally regained her senses, she noticed his hazy gaze, and he seemed slightly out of breath.

"I promise I'll come back. Wait for me here," Jasper said, gently pressing her onto the couch before leaving.



“Jasper!” Willow sighed, feeling compelled to go out and check on him. When she reached him, he was already donning his diving gear. So, she hurriedly ran over to perform various checks on him and made sure he had the necessary self-defense equipment.

“Ricky, please ensure his safety,” she requested. Ricky was amused, but he still assured her, “Understood, Miss Presgrave. Don’t worry!”

Deep down, he couldn’t shake the thought of who was truly taking care of whom. After they had faced countless challenges together, Ricky had come to realize that even though all of them were highly trained individuals, they could never hope to match Jasper’s abilities.

Hence, Jasper’s decision to go underwater actually brought them a sense of security.

Willow watched them all jump into the sea from the deck, and her heart tightened with worry. Ricky immediately handed her a bottle of water as he comforted, “Miss Presgrave, don’t worry. Have a sip of water.”

Willow used binoculars to scan the sea’s surface after taking a sip to calm her nerves. Although she couldn’t see anything, it still helped somewhat to keep an eye out just in case.

Meanwhile, beneath the waves, Jett personally led the team to search for the treasure. They hoped to inspect the seabed discreetly and without drawing any attention.

To their surprise, a line of figures suddenly appeared before them. They were initially scared out of their wits, but they soon recognized the people before them were none other than Willow’s bodyguard team.

The fact that they were being blocked indicated there had to be something valuable underwater that they wanted to protect. Jett didn’t need further confirmation as he was convinced that the relics they were seeking were definitely hidden beneath the sea.

Jett hastily signaled to his men behind him and instructed them to handle the group in front while he personally ventured to the relics' location. His men swiftly swam over and engaged in a fierce duel with Ricky's team in the sea.

While the two groups were locked in the underwater fight, Jett surreptitiously slipped away to the side. Unbeknownst to him, a pair of eyes had already fixed their gaze on him.

Jett believed he had successfully eluded everyone as he swam about a hundred meters away from the fight. He continued onward, covering another two hundred meters until he finally laid eyes on the dazzling artifacts resting on the seabed. The sight left him awestruck; there were so many treasures!

The mere thought of possessing even half of those artifacts sent his heart racing with excitement. It would undoubtedly be a massive fortune!

Just as Jett was about to draw nearer to the artifacts, an unexpected figure suddenly descended from above and blocked his path. When he realized that this intruder was not one of his allies, he reacted instinctively and threw a punch, hoping to gain the upper hand.

Alas, the man swiftly grabbed him and skillfully removed his oxygen tank. Jett's eyes widened in terror as his face mask was taken off. He felt an overwhelming pressure crushing him, and he began to drown.

Chapter 2169

Remnants of the killing desire inside Jasper's eyes terrified Jett, making him retreat backward, afraid the other would throw him into the shark-infested waters.

At that moment, Willow arrived with the others, and Jett immediately pleaded to her, saying, "Miss Presgrave, please save me."

Willow did not expect Jasper to bring Jett over here, and she snorted. "Jett, how bold of you to take something that's mine."

"Miss Presgrave, it's all a misunderstanding. I'm just an avid scuba diver." "I was going to surrender those artifacts to the country, so you'd better not have any ideas. about them."

Then, Jasper spoke up. "Lock him up for a few days and release him once we're finished here." "Do you even have the authority to do so? I will sue you all!" Jett bellowed as he refused to get locked up.

"That's a good idea. We're in no man's land anyway, so let's do it!" Willow had the same idea, but she was even happier that Jasper had. returned safe and sound.

Eventually, Jett was locked up while his men returned to his base. Though confused at what had happened, those men did not take any action.

Their salvage work went smoothly for the next two days, and Willow dived with them. This line of work was very meaningful to her.

Meanwhile, Jasper stayed with her all the while, and after a week's worth of salvaging and searching, they finally retrieved all the artifacts from the sunken ship. There were over seven thousand items found, which was an immense number.

Once those artifacts were retrieved, they had to be brought back to be preserved and repaired. That meant today would be Willow's last day here, so they released Jett that afternoon and left with the boat.

Unconvinced that Willow had brought everything away, Jett dived back down to double-check. When he saw the three empty sunken ships, he was so angry that he almost fainted. Needless to say, those two had taken everything away.

After almost two months, Willow returned with a rewarding experience. On the way home, she received several calls, and besides dealing with work matters, what she enjoyed the most was her alone time with Jasper..

This time, the place they were staying at was even more luxurious. They even had a chef, so they could eat five-Michelin star dishes every day. However, Willow was not a hedonist. She had been enjoying such a lifestyle since birth, so it was nothing special to her. After all, her father was dying to spoil her.

However, there was one thing she dared not ask. Would Jasper stay around after they returned home? Would he stay with her? Would he leave? After having spent so much time with him, she was used to his

presence, so she did not want him to leave. "Miss Presgrave, we're one day away from the mainland," reported the captain as he approached them.

"Okay." Willow smiled, but at the same time, she became even more tense. There were some things she needed to ask Jasper by tonight. She was afraid she might not see him again once they left the ship. Later, Willow brought a card with her as she knocked on the man's door.

"Come in, Jasper responded. Sitting across from him, she propped her chin. to look at the man. "Jasper, you've worked hard. I might not have finished this task without your help."

"Well, I did these things for you willingly," her replied in all seriousness.

"Here. This is for you." As she spoke, she placed a credit card on the table and pushed it toward him. "There's 15 million inside. It's my compensation for your hard work." Willow was indeed the daughter of a wealthy family; even a small reward was millions of bucks.

When Jasper saw the card, he was stunned for a few seconds before he shook his head. "I won't take your money."

Surprised, Willow asked, "Why don't you want it? Is it because you think of me as your family?"

The man was silent. She then asked, "You'd only reject repayment from those you're close with! So, do you consider me your family?"

However, the man had no chance of replying, for Willow pushed the card forward again and puffed her cheeks. "Regardless, you should take the money!"

After having seen through her tricks, Jasper shook his head while smiling. "I won't take your money."

Chapter 2170

"If you don't take my money, then I'll think of you as my man. However, I'll only see you as a friend if you do take my money. Make your choice," Willow said, confident that he would not take her money.

“Willow,” Jasper gently called. Upon hearing his gentle voice, Willow choked up, thinking he was about to inform her of his departure. She covered her ears and said, “I don’t want to hear it. I don’t want to hear you say that you’re leaving me. If you plan on saying that, then don’t say a word. After we arrive at the harbor, you can leave when I’m not looking.”

While looking at her, Jasper suddenly felt his heart thumping. Leaving was something inevitable, and leaving Willow after staying with her and spending time together would only make his departure more painful for the both of them.

He could not guarantee her a good future, so he could not promise her anything. Though he was not afraid of the consequences of his promises, he was afraid of hurting the woman he loved.

When Willow turned around, she had tears running down her cheeks as she stared at the man before her. She put down her hands and stubbornly pursed her lips. “Are you really going to leave me?”

“Do you need me to help you with anything else?” he asked. “Yes. I need you to stay with me. You are not allowed to leave.” Willow looked at him with teary eyes.

“Miss Presgrave, I don’t need any reward, for I did all this willingly. Once we get off the boat, we won’t be seeing each other anymore.” After he said so, he got up and left.

Suddenly, he heard Willow’s cries coming from behind him, and he immediately stopped walking. Though he had turned his head to the side, he did not look back at her. In the end, he left.

With pursed lips, Willow looked at the man she tried to keep but failed, feeling hopeless and powerless.

That night, Willow did not appear at dinner. Meanwhile, Jasper was sitting beside the window as he also had no appetite. Johanna approached him with a plate and said, ‘Mr. Wyatt, Miss Presgrave did not come down for dinner. Do you mind bringing this to her?’

Jasper shook his head and said, “You should go instead!” “From what I see, she might be hoping that you’ll do it.”

“Her mood would only become worse after seeing me, Jasper remarked sensibly.

Left with no choice, Johanna could only bring the food upstairs herself. As expected, Willow was standing before the floor-to-ceiling window with her arms crossed before her, thinking of something. “Miss Presgrave, please have something to eat!”

“I don’t have an appetite.” Willow was telling the truth. She did not turn around because her eyes were red from crying, and she refused to let anyone see her in such a state.

Having guessed Willow might have gotten into a fight or was at loggerheads with Jasper, Johanna could only bring the food downstairs. In the meantime, Jasper looked over and felt his heart tightening. Is she not planning on eating anything?

It was the middle of the night again, and everyone else was asleep. It had been a tough expedition, so everyone was tired.

Jasper was packing his bags when he heard someone knocking. Even though he knew who it was, he still hurried over to open the door, revealing Willow standing outside.

“Since we’re about to go on our separate paths, why don’t we have a talk?” Willow suggested, seemingly calmer now.

After Jasper moved aside to let her in, she sat on the couch and looked at the bright moon in the sky through the window. “Where will you be going after this?”

“Back to work, Jasper replied. He still had two months of leave, but once Willow returned to Averno, she would return to being the daughter of the Presgrave Family, and he had no reason to stay by her side.

“In that case, I’ll ask you one more question. You must answer me truthfully.” Willow raised her teary eyes to look at him, making her seem even more pitiful. Jasper looked at her and felt slightly distressed. He nodded. “Go ahead.”

“Do you like me?” Willow asked. Having guessed that question, Jasper had previously thought about it too. He nodded. ‘I did.’

“What do you mean?” Willow pushed for an answer. “I’m an incredibly rational person who’ll never let anyone disturb my work. Do you understand?” Jasper replied in a low voice.