

Chapter 446 Going To Thailand

'Something has happened to Bryce?

What could have happened?'

Lance had said it in such a serious and worried tone, surely it couldn't be a joke.

The manner in which he had spoken, anyone would worry about Bryce and would want to know if he was in some trouble!

"Lance, are you serious? What are you talking about? What happened to him? Didn't you tell me that your people had lost track of him and couldn't find him? What is this now?" Gabrielle was apprehensive. She just couldn't believe it.

"Listen to me, Gabrielle. My men found Bryce this noon. He was in a bad state, all covered in blood. It seems like he had escaped from somewhere. After my men took him to a safe place, they reached
seriously injured." Lance didn't want



Gabrielle to worry about Bryce anymore. But he couldn't hide the fact from her that Bryce was severely injured. She had every right to know about his condition.

"Tell me, where did your men find him? From where do you think he escaped? How could he end up with blood all over his body? You're telling me that he is seriously injured. How serious is his condition?" Gabrielle was anxious. "Tell me!" she shouted.

Whatever had happened between them was a different thing. Bryce had been her brother for many years. Though he disliked and hated her, he was her nominal brother. She regarded him as her sibling, even if he didn't. ①

She had often thought that he would be punished for all that he had done. But she didn't expect that it would be such a serious punishment.

"Honestly, he is very badly injured. Fortunately, he's still alive. Don't worry, I've hired the best doctor for him. But I'll need to go to Bangkok to see him personally. Only then, I can tell you about his condition." Lance was actually telling the truth. He had not seen Bryce



himself so he couldn't tell exactly about him.

Only after seeing Bryce in person, he would be in a position to tell about the specific situation.

As a matter of fact, Lance wasn't even sure that there would be news about Bryce so soon. He had never thought that they would end up getting a bad news.

And that news came unexpectedly, when it was at Christmas.

"Seriously injured? He's alive now? If you're saying like that, then it must be really serious. You haven't set out yet, right? Where are you now? I want to come with you to Bangkok." Saying that, Gabrielle quickly hailed a taxi and got in.

"In that case, come to my place. There is no flight to go there now. So, we will have to take a private plane." Lance didn't want to take her along with him. But he knew he wouldn't be able to convince her to stay back.

He was confused. On one hand, Bryce was in serious danger and he was afraid that Gabrielle might not be able to take it.

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On the other hand, she was so worried and anxious about Bryce, he felt it would be wrong to leave her. She had every right to be there.

Gabrielle urged the driver to increase the speed all the way. Finally she arrived at Lance's villa in the shortest time.

"Lance, tell me everything now. Please!" As soon as she got off the car, she ran inside to meet Lance. Once she got hold of him, she just couldn't stop her questions. ①

Earlier, whenever she asked Lance about Bryce, he always told her there was no news about Bryce. And now, suddenly there was this terrible news.

It was horrible to even imagine the trauma he was in.

"Gabrielle! First thing you need to do is calm down. I can't take you with me, if you don't calm down. Bryce is injured and is in a coma. We won't know what happened to him until he wakes up. But before he fainted, he blurted a name. I think it was the name of the person who imprisoned him." Lance stopped abruptly and stared at Gabrielle.

"What's the name, Lance?" Gabrielle was eager to know who it was. But at the same time, she was scared of whose name would come up.

She was apprehensive because she already had made a guess. There was already a name in her mind.

"Gabrielle, you are well aware and close to that man now." Lance looked at her calmly as he spoke. He was anxious because he didn't know how to tell her the truth.

"I'm aware and close to him?" Suddenly, it looked like a secret had revealed itself upon Gabrielle.

She took a deep breath and said, "Lance, just tell me the name." She didn't want him to speak in riddles. She just wanted him to tell her the name said by Bryce before he fainted.

She didn't care about anything or anybody now. She just wanted to know the name of the person, who had imprisoned Bryce in Thailand.

"It was.....He said the name..... Westley!"
Lance said softly.



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Hearing Westley's name made Gabrielle go dizzy. She was shocked.

When Lance said that she was aware and close to that man, Westley's face had flashed through her mind. But for some reason, she didn't want to believe it.

As a matter of fact, Bryce had taken away Westley's fiancée. It was natural for him to hate Bryce.

But that was not a valid reason to imprison Bryce and beat him so badly. Gabrielle still didn't want to believe that Westley was behind the whole thing.

"Lance, are you sure? I can't believe it. Did Bryce really say it himself?" Gabrielle tried hard to calm herself down. She looked at Lance and asked in a serious and distraught manner. She didn't want to believe that Westley could do such a thing.

They had known each other for such a long time. She felt that she knew him well enough. She always believed that he just looked cold on the surface. And Gabrielle always felt that he knew what he should do and what he shouldn't do.

She never doubted about that.

"Gabrielle, I know that Westley is your husband now. And I can understand that you are unable to believe that it's him. I won't say anything more now. It's your wish. You can decide whether you want to believe it or not, only after you see Bryce." Lance didn't want to force her into believing it. He wanted Gabrielle to come to the decision on her own.

After all, she just needed to see it herself. Naturally, she wouldn't believe Lance unless she saw Bryce's condition with her own eyes.

"Listen, Gabrielle. If you aren't ready for it, you don't have to come with me. I'll deal with it in my way. I always felt that what happened between you and Bryce should have settled long ago." Lance was willing to do anything for Gabrielle because he cared about her. ①

If it weren't for Gabrielle, he wouldn't have cared about Bryce. It did not matter to him, even if he had died in Thailand. But he was concerned about what it would do to Gabrielle.

"Of course, I'm coming with you. I have to go there. I want to see Bryce with my

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own eyes." Though she put on a strong face, Gabrielle was struggling inside with her thoughts. There were so many questions lurking in her mind.

She had mixed feelings about the whole thing. She just couldn't describe what it was! ①

While he tried to comfort Gabrielle, he saw the package in her hand. "Gabrielle, did you buy this cake to celebrate Christmas with Westley?" Lance asked in a calm manner.

He knew that it was Christmas today, and like everyone she had made some plans. She must have got the cake for celebrating Christmas with Westley.

And he had called her to give her the bad news. Gabrielle had never thought that Lance would call her on Christmas day and give this disturbing news.

"Yes. We were going to celebrate Christmas tonight. This is our first Christmas after our marriage." But it seemed that it wasn't destined to happen that way. She had to go to Thailand and see Bryce.

She thought it wouldn't be a big problem.

Surely they would have so many chances to celebrate Christmas in the future. ④

"Gabrielle, if you don't want to go to Thailand, you can go back and celebrate Christmas with Westley now." Lance was trying to force her to decide and stay back.

Indeed, he didn't want her to travel with him. He felt that she wouldn't be much of a help anyway. Moreover, she might be frightened and make it more difficult.

"No! I told you that I'll go to Thailand with you. It's okay, we can celebrate Christmas together, next year." Gabrielle had made up her mind to go to Bangkok. And no one could make her change her mind. ①

"In that case, I'll have to ask you to turn off your phone. We can't let Westley know that you went to Thailand with me. If it was really him who had imprisoned Bryce, he would have got the information by now." A faint smile appeared on Lance's face.

"That's not a problem. Can you please ask someone to send this cake to Half Moon Bay? I made it for Westley myself." Gabrielle took out her phone and



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wondered if she should send a message to Westley. In the end, she didn't do so and just turned it off.

She was afraid that he would change her decision. And she also knew that she would be in trouble for being so impulsive and deciding to travel to Bangkok without informing Westley. ①

Lance signaled one of the bodyguards to come closer. "Send this cake to Westley's place in Half Moon Bay. Drop it half an hour after we leave. Do you understand?" ②

"Yes, sir!" the bodyguard replied, taking the package from Lance.

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Gabrielle was silent through the long flight. She was evidently caught in a somber mood.

She felt deep remorse after she hopped on the plane to Thailand to be with Lance. She should have bid goodbye to Westley, at least. ⁵

'Will Westley be upset if he found out?' ²

I think he would be happy when he gets the cake I baked for him.' ⁵

"Gabrielle, are you feeling under the weather?" Lance asked as he handed her a glass of warm water. ¹

Gabrielle reached for it and took a sip. The lubrication in her throat seemed to have made her feel more comfortable.

"Thank you. I'm fine. It's probably just because I haven't been on a plane for quite some time," she explained.

Lance was an intelligent man. He could

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tell that there was something on her mind. If it had only been because of the plane, she wouldn't have reacted that way.

"Gabrielle, it's going to take a while. You should get some sleep. I'll wake you up when we get there," Lance said as he handed her a blanket.

Gabrielle put her glass down and cozied up under the blanket. She wanted to sleep for a bit to stop herself from making more speculations.

"Lance, can we bring Bryce with us? It's a private plane after all," Gabrielle asked.

"It depends. We haven't even found Nellie yet." Lance was worried about the situation.

They weren't sure if Westley was on their side. Even though he was Gabrielle's husband, they were still wary of him.

"Alright, then. I'm going to go get some rest." Gabrielle turned on her side so she could take a nap.

She wasn't sleepy at all. Gabrielle just did not want to talk to him for fear of

saying the wrong things.

Despite that, she dozed off anyway. Either her exhaustion or the comfortable seat drew her to the world of sleep.

They had already landed when Lance called her. It was dark outside.

"Gabrielle... We're here. If you want to get some more rest, you can sleep at the hotel." Lance didn't expect that Gabrielle would finally fall asleep.

Initially, he knew that she wanted to sleep because she didn't want to talk to him.

She had a frown on her face as she slept. Lance was worried that she felt terrible.

When the plane landed, Lance received a call from the housekeeper. The cake had been sent to Westley. He seemed irate over Gabrielle's absence and asked where she had gone. ①

Lance did not utter a word about it.

Eventually, Westley would find out that Gabrielle had gone to Thailand. Lance just did not want him to find out too soon.

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He should worry a little more about Gabrielle.

"Oh... We're here. Are you waiting for me?" Gabrielle sat up. She looked out the window to gaze at the sky.

It looked quite late. The plane had landed at a private airport. A bright luminescence for a number of lamps surrounded them.

Gabrielle felt like she was treading on an unfamiliar land.

"We just arrived. You were fast asleep. I didn't want to disturb your slumber. Did you sleep well?" Lance asked in a gentle voice.

"I feel great. Should we go see Bryce now?" Impatience filled Gabrielle's insides.

She had a nightmare about Bryce. There was blood all over his body. He didn't look back no matter how loud she called out.

In her dream, Wendy was hysterically crying.

It was nothing but a dream. However, it

was enough to upset Gabrielle.

The important thing was that Bryce was still alive. That was what mattered the most.

She wanted to see him as soon as possible.

"He's not awake yet. We should go have dinner at the hotel first. You should rest as well. I will take you to him first thing in the morning. How does that sound?" Lance suggested.

With his words, Gabrielle felt at ease. As long as she knew that Bryce was alive. It was alright for her to see him a day later.

"Alright. Let's go to the hotel." She proceeded to walk out of the plane.

There was a car waiting for them. From the airport, they travelled for over thirty minutes to get to the hotel.

Gabrielle couldn't bring herself to enjoy the majestic scenery.

"I know you want to see Bryce as soon as possible but I don't think you should. You are not doing well mentally. I can't afford to stress you out even more.

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Especially when you get to see him tomorrow." Lance voiced out his concerns.

"Lance, I...

Okay. I see. Thank you for always looking after me. I should listen to you." Lance was the only person she knew in this foreign country. There was nobody else she could rely on.

When they arrived, Lance led Gabrielle to her room. He had asked someone to prepare everything she possibly needed. Even if she came here empty handed, Gabrielle had nothing to worry about.

"Go take a shower and get some more sleep. If you need anything else, I'll have someone fetch it for you,"

Lance said.

"Thank you, Lance." Lance's actions filled Gabrielle's heart with warmth.

He had always been so nice and accommodating.

"Feel at home. I'll have someone prepare dinner." With those final words, Lance left the room.

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Once Gabrielle had finished cleaning herself up, she went out to the balcony. She took a deep breath as she gazed into the night sky.

'Was coming here the right thing to do? I should be at Half Moon Bay, celebrating Christmas and Westley's birthday with him. ③

Westley... I'm so sorry. I'm sorry that I couldn't be there for your birthday.

I hope the cake I baked makes you happy, ' Gabrielle whispered in her heart.

'Would the cake be enough to replace my presence?' she asked herself. Gabrielle had perfect knowledge that it wasn't. But she had no other option. She had to leave. ②

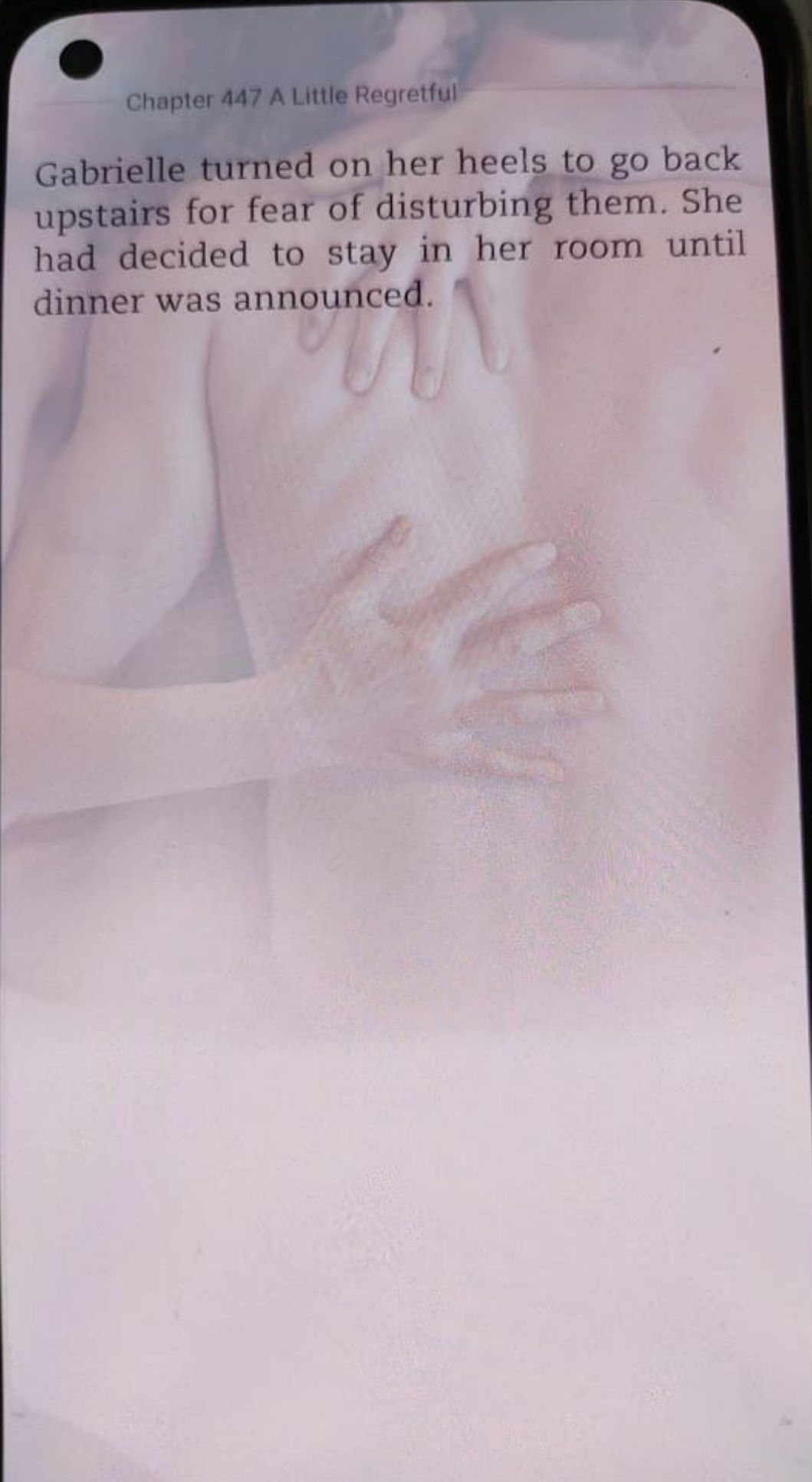
She couldn't go back to sleep so Gabrielle decided to head downstairs.

As she stood by the stairs, Gabrielle caught a glimpse of Lance whispering to several men in the living room. They were speaking in Thai so she had no idea what they were talking about.

It was new found knowledge to her that Lance knew how to speak Thai.

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Gabrielle turned on her heels to go back upstairs for fear of disturbing them. She had decided to stay in her room until dinner was announced.



Chapter 448 She Didn't Believe He Was So Bad

Gabrielle sat on the balcony, bored out of her mind. She was in front of a beautiful but strange scenery, yet her mind was on something else. She wasn't in the mood to appreciate the scenery because she still felt uneasy.

She doubted if she made the right choice to come to Thailand on such short notice, and she didn't even tell Westley about it. Gabrielle could only imagine how angry he was right now. She promised him that they would spend Christmas together and celebrate his birthday party. ¹

Gabrielle sighed. She was in Bangkok instead of home, and she and Westley are in two different countries when they should have been together.

She was about to turn on her phone but realized that it might be better if she didn't. She was already in Bangkok, and it was way too late to try to explain to Westley. It would only make him angrier. Gabrielle sighed. It was easier to



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apologize later. ①

Moreover, her cousin told her that Westley imprisoned Bryce before—something which she found unbelievable at first. But if it was true and it was actually Westley who did it, she didn't know how to face him, let alone ask him questions. ①

Would she hate him?

Would she even want to divorce him?

Gabrielle closed her eyes and rubbed her eyebrows almost aggressively. She wanted to get rid of the dangerous thoughts crossing her mind. She couldn't face Bryce this way, and she should stop filling her head with nonsense. More importantly, she should withhold putting the blame on Westley, especially since she didn't have a solid evidence yet.

"Gabrielle, are you enjoying the night view?" Lance went upstairs to ask Gabrielle to have dinner. When he saw the door open, he came in and saw her lounging around.

"Well, the view is breathtaking." Gabrielle turned around and glanced at Lance, smiling. But it didn't reach her

eyes.

He clearly interrupted something. Gabrielle was lost in her own thoughts.

"Gabrielle, do you have something on your mind or are you not feeling well? You don't look too good." Lance gave her an assessing look, taking note of her pale face and the dark shadows under her eyes.

She looked bone-tired, as if she could topple any minute. It was as if she aged in just a few hours. Lance frowned. He was worried about her.

It was her first time coming here. Lance understood if she didn't like the environmental conditions and felt uncomfortable. It would take a while to adjust.

But looking closely at her, Lance couldn't help but fret about her. He feared that this place didn't suit her at all.

"I'm fine, I promise. I'm just feeling sorry for Westley. I promised to spend Christmas with him tonight. It's our first time celebrating it. I've already prepared everything, yet I'm here with you. I just..."

"With a choked sob, Gabrielle covered

her mouth as tears spilled on her cheeks. She stared at the panoramic view in front of her through blurred eyes. She was racked with guilt and sadness. ①

A few hours ago, she was happily preparing a birthday cake for Westley in Antawood, looking forward to their first Christmas. She was excited to spend time with him.

But now, she was at a hotel in Bangkok, far away from Westley. Gabrielle had never felt so alone.

"Gabrielle, I know it's too much for you to come with me. If you miss him, you can call him and video chat with him." Lance couldn't bear to see her so sad and in pain. When she cried, a part of him broke too.

He was too anxious to come here, so he rushed Gabrielle. What he didn't expect was how important Westley was to her. She had prepared so much for their first Christmas together, and now, she felt heartbroken because she couldn't spend it with him. ①

Lance clearly underestimated Westley's importance to her. Truth be told, Lance didn't like how she looked so miserable



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to be away from him. ①

Lance was taken aback, and he wondered how Westley managed to make her fall head over heels in love with him.

"Lance, may I call Wilson?" Gabrielle hesitated before glancing at Lance.

Then, she caught herself and shook her head. "Forget it. I want to see Bryce as soon as possible and deal with the matter here. Then I'll go back to Antawood and explain it to Westley."

Gabrielle was so conflicted. She wanted to call Westley, but if she didn't, she would be able to deal with things more rationally. Westley was bound to be angry, and Gabrielle needed to keep it together.

Even if she didn't tell him, if Westley wanted to know her exact location, he could easily find it out. In truth, Gabrielle couldn't really avoid him. Westley had enough power and influence to reach her.

The only thing left for her to do was wait for Westley to come to her.

If he was willing to come.



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Gabrielle was not sure how Westley would react if he knew that she came to Bangkok to see Bryce. Bryce was a sore subject, so Westley's fury was warranted.

She couldn't even dare to think about Westley's reaction.

"Gabrielle, what are you going to do if Westley really did it?" Lance walked closer to her and asked her seriously.

Gabrielle was stunned at that moment and didn't know how to respond. She opened her mouth to say something but thought better of it.

What if it was really Westley who imprisoned and mistreated Bryce? How would that make her feel?

Gabrielle knew she was going down a rabbit hole but couldn't find it in herself to stop.

"I..."

She just spoke one word and clamped her mouth shut.

Gabrielle ran her fingers through her hair and hung her head low. She couldn't answer his question; she just couldn't. It

was too difficult for her.

"Gabrielle, you don't have to answer me. I know you're conflicted and very uneasy now. Don't feel bad if you want to side with Westley. You don't want to believe that it was him who did it." Lance put his hand lightly on her shoulder. He totally understood especially when he saw the embarrassed look on her face.

Gabrielle was in a difficult position. She was stuck in the middle of two men who not only hated each other but had so much animosity between them.

Both men were enemies, and Gabrielle was thrust into their fight.

"Lance, no matter what happens, I need to see Bryce first. I want him to tell me in person whether it was Westley or not. I need to see it for myself." Gabrielle wiped her tears and collected herself. Her voice was steady, and her eyes cleared.

She hadn't seen Bryce with her own eyes, and she didn't know what he looked like. She couldn't easily believe everything Lance said without proof.

Lance was right. Gabrielle tended to side with Westley subconsciously because



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deep inside of her, she didn't and couldn't believe that he would do something so vicious and cruel.

"Well, Gabrielle, don't mention it anymore. Let's go downstairs to eat. Dinner is ready." Lance turned around to head to the dining room. He saw Gabrielle get up and follow him.

Gabrielle didn't realize she was hungry until Lance mentioned food. She couldn't remember the last time she ate.

She was startled when she saw men in black suits standing outside the living room. They all looked like they were from the special forces—big, well-muscled, and threatening.

This surprised Gabrielle. Her jaw dropped, and she gazed sharply at Lance.

"Lance, do we really need so many bodyguards?" Gabrielle asked. Her eyes darted around the men and the weapons holstered around their waists.

She was genuinely curious, but she also understood that she needed to survive in a strange country—an unfamiliar territory for her. Their presence made her uncomfortable, but she didn't have a



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choice.

She knew they weren't ordinary bodyguards. Their gazes were intense, and they looked way too serious when they talked to Lance in the living room moments ago. It was as if any small move could cost her her life.

Gabrielle had seen the chaos in Southeast Asia on the news, so she understood why Lance was so careful. She couldn't blame him.

She had to be cautious herself. She came here with Lance and didn't want to cause him any trouble.

"Well, the place we're going to is rather tumultuous and disorganized. Let's have dinner first, and I'll explain it to you later." Lance led her to the dining room. Gabrielle walked with unsure steps.

The table was already filled with a mix of Western and Thai dishes. It was a diverse array of foods that would make any foodie happy.

However, Gabrielle was not interested in eating now. In another time, maybe her mouth would have watered at the sight. But all she thought of at the moment

was filling her stomach. She didn't even want to waste time eating. She had to see Bryce as soon as possible.

"Gabrielle, I'm afraid you are not used to Thailand cuisine. That's why I also ordered Western food for you. Let's eat." Lance pulled out a chair for her and let her sit down. She continued to look around the dining area.

"Thank you, Lance." Gabrielle knew that Lance had always been very careful. That was just who he was.

"Gabrielle, Merry Christmas!" Lance beamed, took out a gift box, and handed it to her. ②

Love You In My Heart

Chapter 449 As If We Are Running For Life

As soon as Gabrielle saw the shoe-sized gift box, she wanted to refuse.

Gabrielle had already stood Westley up and followed Lance to Thailand. If she would accept his present, she'd feel even more guilty for disobeying her husband.

"Lance, I..."

"Just think about it first. You can open it later when you're alone and see for yourself. I think this is going to be useful for you." Lance was quick to cut Gabrielle off because he knew she would probably refuse him.

Gabrielle gave him a hesitant look, even as she took the box from him.

"T-Thanks... I'm sorry I didn't prepare a gift for you." Gabrielle apologized.

"Well, you're having dinner with me now. I think this is the best Christmas gift I can get." Lance smiled. "And let's go see Bryce after you get changed."

"Huh?"

Gabrielle looked up, eyes wide.

"Lance, what did you say? Are you taking me to see Bryce after dinner?" 'Hadn't he decided to meet him tomorrow? Why the sudden change?' Gabrielle suddenly felt uneasy.

She knew Lance was a perfectionist when it came to meetings and schedules. He wouldn't move fixed dates just for something minor. There had to be a big emergency.

"Aren't you eager to see him? You've been in a good mood this whole time, so I figured we can go meet him today. So, eat up because we'll be on the road for more than three hours." Lance instructed. "I'm afraid you'd be tired on the way."

Gabrielle heaved a sigh of relief. The sooner she met Bryce, the sooner she could go back home and apologize to Westley.

It was all in her favor.

"I'll be fine, Lance. A three or four-hour drive isn't going to hurt." Gabrielle

assured him.

She would meet Bryce and solve the problem as fast as she could. After that, she'd go home and explain everything to Westley.

Rather than feeling tired, she was looking forward to it.

"Alright, but let's not keep the food waiting." Lance placed different kinds of dishes on Gabrielle's plate.

Anticipating her reunion with Bryce, she worked up an appetite.

After dinner, Lance handed her a black bag.

"There are clothes and shoes in here. Go get dressed, and don't forget to unwrap my gift." Lance looked at her expectantly.

Even he couldn't control what kind of situation warranted the sudden change in their plans. In such a short time, all Lance could do was prepare tighter security and strengthen his defense. Protecting Gabrielle was the most important thing to him.

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"Lance, what's wrong? Why are you being so serious?" Gabrielle was a bit naive, but she could sense something was wrong. It felt like they were running away from something.

Did they offend anyone? ⓘ

Lance ruefully smiled at her question. He knew she had always been smart and sensitive.

It seemed like he was making things obvious. No wonder Gabrielle thought something was off.

"Everything's fine, Gabrielle. I just want you to be comfortable in your clothes. You know how it's like in Southeast Asia."
"Lance patted her head.

Hearing his words made Gabrielle relieved a little bit.

"Alright, then, I'll go get changed." Pushing the doubts away, she went back to her room with the bag in hand.

When she opened it, she found a set of camouflage clothing, a bulletproof vest, military boots and a mask... It was a complete get-up for a special operative.

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Gabrielle was frozen in shock, the uneasiness she felt earlier creeping back. She only hoped to see Bryce again, but what was all of this?

Tensed, she opened the gift box. At first glance, it looked like a normal set of jewelry, but as she picked a piece up, she found out the truth. She knew by then that it was a mini tracker.

She carefully removed the middle compartment and saw a small silver pistol with twenty special bullets.

Gabrielle was speechless. The situation was quite clear now.

It was not only for self-defense, but a definitive fight was brewing.

How could Gabrielle know anything about shooting a gun? Lance overestimated her.

Gabrielle hurriedly stuffed all the things back inside the box and thought to ask Lance about the whole situation. She didn't expect this could be dangerous.

'Did Lance bring me here to see Bryce? Or did he have another motive?'

When she opened the door, Lance was standing outside curiously playing with a sharp Swiss Army knife.

"...Lance, what..." Gabrielle was taken aback by what she'd seen.

"I was supposed to give this to you." Lance said.

"Wait, I have a question. What are we doing here exactly? Why did you prepare all these things for me? Why would I need such things just to meet Bryce? This is insane!" Gabrielle roughly shoved the box into his stomach.

Lance swiftly caught the box in his hands and pulled Gabrielle into her room.

"Gabrielle, listen. The jewelry is equipped with a satellite tracker. No matter where you are, I will always find you. There's also a satellite phone. It's important that you keep it with you at all times." As Lance spoke, he took out the gun. "And most of all, I'll have to teach you how to shoot." ②

Time was running out, so he had to teach Gabrielle quickly. Having a gun always came in handy in dangerous situations.

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They had about two hours and that was hopefully enough.

"Lance, you're not answering my questions! Please stop scaring me. Let's go back. I don't want to see Bryce anymore." Fear had taken over Gabrielle. She was at a loss what to do. ①

She only came to Thailand for the chance to see Bryce again, but who knew things would turn out this way? 'Who's the enemy? Why do I have to fight?' Gabrielle had never felt so terrified in her whole life.

Chapter 450 Imminent Danger

Lance stared at Gabrielle for a while. He could understand her uneasiness and fear completely.

He hadn't told her the truth earlier, because he didn't want her to be too scared. ③

The fact was that he had earned the wrath of a notorious gang in Thailand after ruining their business. As he had been in Antawood all this time, the gang didn't dare to create trouble for him directly.

But now that he was in Thailand, he was their target. Although he came there in his private plane, he was being watched closely. And they had tracked him down in a short time. ①

Lance had planned to stay there for the night, but he changed his mind because of this unprecedented trouble that had risen.

"Gabrielle, listen to me carefully. Take

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these things with you. You'll need them for self-defense. It's not a bad idea for you to be prepared. Honestly, it's in a mess here. One can't afford a single mishap." Lance didn't tell her anything directly, but he loaded the gun with bullets.

"Lance, what are you talking about? Do you think I'm an idiot? There are countless tourists coming to Thailand every year. Not every one of them needs to wear bullet proof clothing, carry guns and knives to protect themselves. If you don't tell me the truth, I won't come with you tonight." Gabrielle was not convinced by Lance's words. She didn't want to be confused and unaware of the things that were happening around them. ②

If she had known it would be so dangerous to come to Thailand with Lance, she would have stayed with Westley.

"Okay! I'll tell you the truth. The thing is, I destroyed the big business of a gang in Thailand, accidentally. They have been waiting for an opportunity to take revenge. I hadn't been in Thailand all this while, so they didn't have the



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chance to do anything to me. And keeping it in mind, I came here on a private plane. I was sure that I'd be able to land unnoticed by their spies. But looks like they have found me. So I need to leave from here tonight." Lance narrated everything in the briefest manner. Then, he put the gun in Gabrielle's hand.

"Gabrielle, do you understand what I'm telling you? Now, try to take aim and shoot. Don't worry. This gun has a silencer to it. There will be no sound made by it. Considering that you are using it for probably first time and the recoil is not very strong, don't be nervous. Come on now. Shoot at the pillow." Lance pointed at the pillow on the sofa and urged her to shoot at it. He had to equip her for her own sake.

Gabrielle took a deep breath, but her heartbeat kept racing. She had never expected that Lance would be in such grave trouble. He was being hunted down for a mistake he did.

Suddenly, a thought struck her. Could she leave Thailand alive?

"Lance, will we be able to go back home

alive?" Gabrielle couldn't help asking. Her hands were shaking with nervousness.

"Gabrielle, don't be so scared. And don't let such silly thoughts come into your mind." Lance tried to stay strong but even he was worried and couldn't deny that he too was worried about the same thing.

Why was he having such a thought? Although those people came looking for Lance, he knew he could get away from them. He had a way to deal with it. But having Gabrielle by his side, he was not so relaxed and certain. ¹

It didn't matter to him if he got hurt, but he didn't want Gabrielle to get hurt in all this.

"Lance, I... I'm just worried!" she muttered. She felt uneasy to be caught in such a situation. And it was understandable for her to be so worried.

"Gabrielle, please don't worry. I will solve everything. What you need to do now is to learn to shoot as soon as possible! Have a try. Focus, aim and pull the trigger. Don't be afraid. I know you can do it!" Lance coaxed her. He wanted her

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to be able to use the gun.

Gabrielle calmed down slowly and tried to take steady breaths. She kept her eyes fixed on the pillow, trying to focus on it.

There was hardly anything else to do. Now that she had got a weapon in her hand, the only thing to do was to learn to use it well and protect herself. If there was an emergency and Lance was too distracted to protect her, she would be easily harmed. And if he tried to focus on her, he would be injured easily.

Gabrielle tried hard to calm down. She concentrated keenly on the pillow and shot.

There was no sound of gunshot, but she did feel a force push her a bit. She was surprised when she realized that she had hit her target!

"That's good, Gabrielle. See, I told you that you can do it. Did you see it? You hit it. It's great." Lance applauded excitedly. He was glad her aiming ability was good.

"Lance, did I really do that? I can't believe it myself." Gabrielle was surprised at the accuracy of her shot.



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She wondered if she was really born to do this!

"Now Gabrielle, load the gun with the bullet again. Let me see if you can do it." Lance handed a bullet to Gabrielle and asked her to load the gun again.

This was the only way for him to know for sure whether Gabrielle would be able to make it or not.

After all, it was related to life and death.

And death was not something you could make fun of.

"Gabrielle, do it again. I'll keep an eye on it. If there's anything wrong, we'll do it again. We'll be ready to leave only after you've completely learnt," Lance said with a serious tone and expression.

"Lance, I will try hard." Gabrielle became serious now. She had to be careful and protect herself.

She realized that now she had come to a point from where there was no way to retreat. She had to accept it. The process of learning would be helpful not only for herself but also for Lance. She did not want to be a burden on him.



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"Well, I believe you can do it. Let's try two more times and make sure it can be finished." Lance was doing all this to protect Gabrielle from danger which was lurking around them. There couldn't be any mistake.

Gabrielle was proving to be really good at it. She could operate the gun in a short time. So there was no need for Lance to be worried.

"Gabrielle, that's impressive. You've learned it very fast and you're good at it too. Now remember, if you're in any danger, just repeat what you've learned and done here. I believe you can do it!" Lance was really glad by Gabrielle's ability to learn it so quickly.

On being praised, Gabrielle was a little happy. But it did not last too long. Suddenly her face became serious again.

"Lance, we'll do this, right? We'll really be able to come out of this, isn't it?" Lance realized that though Gabrielle was rising to the occasion, it was normal for her to be so worried.

"I promise you, Gabrielle, we'll be fine. Just change your clothes. I'll go out first.

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We'll set out in two hours. You can have rest till then." Saying that, Lance left quickly. ①

After changing her clothes, Gabrielle decided to lie down on the bed. But as time passed, she felt more and more restless.

The thought whirling in her mind was, 'Will I be able to go back home alive? Can I leave Thailand safely?'

Though it did strike her a few times, she didn't dare to call or send a message to Westley.

Two hours later, Lance knocked the door of Gabrielle's room. ①

"Gabrielle! Are you ready? The car is here. We need to leave now!" Lance called out to her.

When Gabrielle got up and opened the door, she saw that Lance was also dressed in a camouflaging dress. It was quite similar to what he had given her. The way he had geared himself, it looked like it was very unsafe for them to go out tonight.

One glance at him and her anxiety

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returned. The more worried she was, the more uneasy she felt.

"Okay, Lance! Let's go downstairs. I'm ready." Gabrielle went inside and brought her backpack. She started to follow Lance and they moved downstairs.

"Lance, do you think Bryce is safe there?"

'If it is not safe for us here, will Bryce be safe in such a place?' Gabrielle wondered.

If Gabrielle and Lance went to look for Bryce now, things could get complicated. And being seriously injured, Bryce wasn't even in a condition to protect himself.

"Don't worry about him. He's safe in the depths of a dense forest on the border. People can't find him easily. And that place doesn't belong to this gang, so they can't enter the area." Lance had already pondered long on it and had selected a safe place for Bryce. He wasn't going to leave Bryce in danger.

"Well, that's good! That is really thoughtful of you!" Gabrielle heaved a sigh of relief on knowing that Bryce was safe. She was really glad that Lance was so concerned and considerate about

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Bryce's safety.



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