

Chapter 484 She Was Indeed Scared

Hearing this, Gabrielle's heart sank. So, it was up to Bain to convict someone whether they should receive punishment or not, and he didn't even need any evidence. This was the rule here.

It was just like those henchmen around those big shots who could do anything unscrupulously, without the law's judgment as long as they were heeding to those big shots.

Then, Rose was also Bain's confidant. She wouldn't be regarded as a traitor for such a trivial matter, would she?

Gabrielle had no choice but to comfort herself in this way at this time. She would be devastated if Rose was regarded as a traitor. She knew that the punishment must not be light.

"Gabrielle, it's their internal affairs anyway. Don't worry about it. Besides, it's not that she let you go, but I am the one who brought you out, remember? If Bain really looks into it, Rose should not be the one to be blamed, unless he is an unreasonable person who thinks he can convict people at will." Westley didn't know what to say to lighten the guilt in her heart, so he could only tell her what he guessed about the situation.

Gabrielle understood what Westley meant. Just like this words, it was indeed a matter between Bain and Rose. She couldn't do anything to help her if Bain thought that Rose had betrayed him. She could only pray that Bain wasn't a despicable man who lived in the air of unreasonable superiority.

Gabrielle really felt that it was so unfair for Rose to live a life like that. She had no freedom and what was more, there was a chance that she might be executed at any time.

"Gabrielle, I know what you are thinking, but it could be possible that Rose was not forced by Bain to come to the forest. It's her own choice to live there and she should have foreseen what the result would be like. She doesn't need others to think for her. Moreover, the people who have clean backgrounds in the forest are almost non-existent. Since Rose had decided to help you, I am sure that she was clear about the consequences and was ready for it." Westley knew how Gabrielle was like. She was used to considering other people's feelings and safety after all.

"Westley, I know what you mean. She just wanted to help me without wishing for any return, but I can't help feeling that I owe her. That's why I hope you can tell brother about this matter and ask him to take Rose and Doctor Maniac away from the forest. You also know that the two of them are really good people. They have helped us a lot. I don't want the two of them to continue staying under Bain's influence and be in danger all the time." Of course, Gabrielle knew that it was too much for her to

make such a request, but she had to do something for Rose to repay what she owed her.

After thinking for a while, Gabrielle felt that her request was ridiculous. She retracted her request as she said, "Never mind. If this is impossible, just forget it. I know it will put you in a difficult position." She knew what kind of situation they were facing right now.

In this case, it was too much for her to make such a request to Westley who was in the same situation with her.

"Gabrielle, it's not an unreasonable request. But you have to know that the people in the forest are all basically criminals who have committed major crimes more or less. Even if I ask Rose and Doctor Maniac to leave with us, this may not be what they wish." Westley had to remind Gabrielle about the real situation in here. He didn't think that those two would agree to comply even if he tried to save them.

"You are right. Anyway, let's drop this topic. How far have we gone? No one is following us, right?" While asking, Gabrielle took a look at the environment on both sides of the river. However, she could barely see anything as it was so dark that even the moonlight couldn't shine through. There were the sounds of the insects, rustled leaves, and the howling beasts, but she couldn't tell what kind of creatures they were at all.

Indeed, all kinds of danger hid in the forest.

Therefore, people said that if a person got lost in the forest, there was the possibility that the person would not only get caught by Bain's men but also be eaten alive by those beasts.

"By now, we've drifted down for nearly twenty minutes. We still have half an hour to get to the waterfall. When we get there, we have to get off the kayak and walk onwards because the waterfall is a little high," Westley calmly explained to her the time and their route plan.

When he meant by half an hour, everything would have to go well in order to arrive by that time. Then, they would have to walk for about twenty minutes to get out of the forest. After that, they would arrive at a farm.

"I hope we can arrive at the waterfall safely just like this. We will be surely safe once we arrive at the waterfall, right?" Gabrielle asked expectantly.

"Gabrielle, I also hope that we can reach the waterfall safely. As for whether we will be completely safe or not after that, we will have to see." Saying this, Westley continued to row forward.

'Bang!' That was when kayak bumped into a rock. Gabrielle's body was forced backwards by the impact. Fortunately, she managed to grasp the ropes tightly on both sides, or else she would have been thrown down, seeing how great the impact

was.

"What just happened, Westley?" Gabrielle asked anxiously. She had never experienced something like this, so she was naturally afraid.

"It's fine. The kayak just bumped into a small stone. How are you? Did you get injured somewhere?" Westley turned his head and asked worriedly. It was inconvenient for him to see her since she was sitting behind him.

"No, I didn't. I just felt the impact all of a sudden. It's a relief that nothing serious happens." Gabrielle breathed out a sigh of relief.

Nonetheless, this incident instilled a newfound fear into her heart. She looked up at the dense treetops which were obstructing her view of the sky, and then looked at the endless river in front of her. She didn't dare to look behind them as she felt that there was a gloomy devil from hell waving to them from behind. It was as if when they were not careful, they would be torn and devoured. Her imagination got the best of her, simultaneously making her feel cold.

"Gabrielle, are you scared?" asked Westley softly.

He understood that she wasn't in her best state of mind right now with these unfamiliar surroundings and events happening to her. Never in a million would she have thought that she would have to escape the forest in the middle of the night.

"To be honest, I'm a little scared, but with you here, I feel relieved somehow because I know you won't let anything happen to me, right?" Gabrielle answered firmly, an expectant meaning evident in her tone.

It had to be said that she trusted and relied on Westley almost by instinct now.

Westley nodded firmly, confirming her statement. "Well, I won't let anything happen to you. Now, we are going to enter the sharp bends area soon. You have to hold tightly and the most important thing is not to let yourself fall into the water. I'm not clear about the situation in the water, and it's easy for things to go out of control if you fall." He had to warn her what they were going to face in advance.

Gabrielle kept it in mind and held the ropes on the sides of the kayak more tightly, not daring to relax at all.

After all, if she fell into the water by accident, not only would she be in danger but also Westley would be implicated by her. She absolutely couldn't let such a thing happen.

"Westley, I understand. I will hold tightly so that I won't fall down," Gabrielle reassured firmly.

She already felt bad that she couldn't be of much help to him. There was no way she could cause any more trouble for him. If she fell into the water, Westley would undoubtedly jump into it to save her. Then, both of them would be in danger.

Thinking of this, Gabrielle felt more and more uneasy and the foreboding feeling in her heart grew stronger.

She somehow felt that something big was going to happen.



Chapter 485 The Troubled Couple

Gabrielle's hunch was completely correct because they found themselves at shallows full of twists after turning a corner.

This place had not only twists and turns but also rocks and whirlpools. In short, this section of the river was a very dangerous place. Westley naturally had confidence in crossing it, as long as Gabrielle wasn't so scared.

"Gabrielle, we've got to pass a bit long turns later, and if you're afraid, you can just close your eyes." Concerned that Gabrielle would panic, Westley informed her ahead of time and comforted her.

Let alone Gabrielle, even Westley himself felt a little nervous. Especially at the thought of Gabrielle being behind him, he felt worried even more.

No matter how unbreakable his armor was, there always had a weak point. And that weakness of his was Gabrielle.

"I'm not afraid, Westley." Sensing the concern in Westley's tone, Gabrielle gave him a firm answer.

And what she said wasn't just a white lie to make Westley feel better. With Westley in front of her to protect her, she really felt a lot less concerned.

Westley was the man she could totally count on. As long as he was with her, she would no longer be afraid of any dangerous situation.

It was also what a husband and wife were meant to do, sharing bliss and misfortune together.

"I'm sure." Gabrielle gave out another reassurance. At the same time, she tried her best to keep her eyes open and scanned the situation around her.

What she hoped for right now was to be the one who could help Westley with something, although the view here was really not good at all.

Although Gabrielle tried hard to look around, she couldn't discover or hear very much. So, she just threw her arms around Westley tightly, leaned her head on his back, and closed her eyes to feel the surrounding situation. ●

The sound of water gurgling, wind blowing, trees rustling, and animals growling around filled her ears.

And what Gabrielle needed to do now was to find out whether there were any other sounds, such as human voices or footsteps, from these messy voices.

"Why did you loosen the rope, Gabrielle?" Westley asked as he was frightened by Gabrielle's move.

In this case, it would be safer for Gabrielle to grab the rope than to hug and hold onto him. After all, she might be forced to lose her grip under the impact of the water, and she could be flung at any time.

"Westley, don't speak. I will hold you tightly, and I won't let go. Now I want to hear if anyone is coming," Gabrielle said seriously.

Since they had been away for so long, and the people from Campbell Family had already arrived at the village, Bain would definitely find out that she had run away soon.

Although she wasn't the enemy of Bain, she did have the connection with his implacable foe, after all. So she could be counted as his enemy indirectly.

After all, Bain could use her identity to negotiate terms with Campbell Family or even to threaten them.

But now, she had escaped.

So Gabrielle knew for sure that Bain would send his people to chase them as soon as he found out, no matter what it took. And even if he couldn't catch them alive, he would find a way to kill them. In short, he would definitely not let her go, and Westley would also be included. At the thought of this, Gabrielle's heart trembled with fear. ❁

"Westley, all you need to do is just take me out of here as soon as possible. Don't worry about anything else. We won't be separated so easily," Gabrielle said firmly. ❁

"If you say so, Gabrielle. Then hang on tight and never let go!" Under the faint moonlight, Westley began to search his way forward with a big stick to avoid bumping into the stones in front of him.

However, it was not easy to cross because of the rushing current and numerous large stones. They had been stalled there for over ten minutes and had bumped against the stones nearly three times.

Once Gabrielle was almost flung away, but luckily, Westley reacted quickly and grabbed her hand immediately. Otherwise, she would totally be flushed into the river.

"Are you alright, Gabrielle? There are only two more turns left to pass through this area." Westley really got startled by the incident, and even the stick in his hand slipped off and fell into the water. The stick was supposed to be used as a rudder for the path they were taking. But now that the stick was gone, they had no choice but to count on the kayak to go through the rest of the journey.

No matter what, for Westley, it was worth the risk. He would never hesitate to risk the stick or anything else if it was for Gabrielle's safety. Given the rushing current, if she did fall into the river and he could not save her in time, she would most likely be drowned or hit a stone.

"Yeah, I'm alright. It was so close, but you caught me in time. Otherwise..." Gabrielle was terrified when she thought of the scene just now.

Indeed, it was just too horrible.

Westley grabbed her in time when she was almost about to be knocked down. If not, she would have really fallen.

Only if the shoal was even and not too rapid would she be able to swim to the shore, and she wouldn't have to worry about her safety.

But the thing was that now the current was not even and full of turns, as well as stones. So, one would definitely not be able to survive after falling into it.

Even if those who fell in the river still had breath, it was just for a moment. They would die sooner or later.

"We'll be fine, Gabrielle. Don't worry. I'm here." Westley was actually taken aback too. He didn't feel any better than Gabrielle or even more nervous and scared than her.

"Well, I believe you. Nothing will happen to us. Will it be better after we pass this area?" Gabrielle felt a little relieved after hearing what Westley said and questioned him with a serious expression.

She was silently praying in her heart to not encounter any horrible things on the next trip. At the very least, she wanted to be safe and sound.

She had no idea of what would happen in the following, but they indeed had got scared many times while crossing the river.

"It's going to be better, I guess. The water won't be so rapid and frightening, and there will be fewer stones, too." Westley comforted Gabrielle. In his mind, he sought to recall what the riverbed looked like based on his rough memory of when he first came here.

"We'll make it through, successful and unharmed. Do you think we're kind of like a troubled couple after having such a life-and-death experience, Westley?" Gabrielle cracked a joke to brighten the situation.

But when the words came out of her mouth, it didn't sound like a joke at all.

"You're right, Gabrielle. We are now a couple who have gone through difficulties together. Our lives have been bound, and no one can separate us, not even life or death!" Westley thought so too. His eyes were fixed on the stones in front of him. Without the stick, he could only kick them away with his legs to avoid bumping into those obstacles.

In this regard, Westley did a good job.

They didn't hit the stones ever after again.

"Yes, no one can separate us. We won't be apart again any longer." Gabrielle wholeheartedly agreed with Westley's statement.

After all the things they had gone through, no other people, not even life and death, could separate them.

"Westley, I think I've heard the sound of a motorcycle," Gabrielle said as she heard the roar of the motorcycle's motor.

The sound was quite loud, roaring from far and near.

She immediately thought of a possibility that the sound came from the motorcycles of the people Bain had sent over. After all, all of those sounds were coming from the direction of the village.

"Westley, did you hear that?" Gabrielle closed her eyes and listened carefully several times. She got scared after confirming that the roar was indeed from the motorcycles.

"I did, yes. It's true. The motorcycles. It's getting closer to us." Westley also heard the sounds.

A thought immediately flashed across his mind. 'It must be Bain's people.'

Chapter 486 Couldn't Blame Him

From the moment they fled, they knew it wouldn't be easy. At the back of their minds, they were convinced that at some point, someone would find them.

So when Bain's men started chasing after them, they weren't exactly surprised. But the thing was, they caught up with them so quickly. As Bain's men closed the gap, it became more and more frightening.

They did have the advantage over Westley and Gabrielle because they had off-road motorcycles. These weren't ordinary bikes; they were built to withstand the harshest conditions in the mountain or rough terrains. It didn't matter how many obstacles were in their way, the bikes rolled over them like it was no big deal.

As for Westley and Gabrielle, they were sitting in a small kayak that wasn't made for speed. Even if they drifted along the water, it wouldn't be as fast as the motorbikes. They couldn't move faster no matter what they did.

When she looked behind them, she saw faint lights peeking through the woods. Bain's men were getting closer and closer, so much so that she could hear the roar of their engines.

"Westley, they're almost here. What are we going to do now?" Gabrielle was drowning in fear, but she tried her best to calm herself down. She didn't want to show how scared she was because it might affect Westley. If Westley found out she was terrified, he might not be able to think straight.

Gabrielle tamped down her terror and panic to avoid further worrying Westley. She slowly breathed in and out to slow her pounding heart.

"Gabrielle, it's not possible to go back to shore now. Our kayak can't drift down as fast as their motorbikes, so I have to go into the water. If we can reach the waterfall, they won't be able to catch up. There are high cliffs around it, so they cannot follow us." Westley jumped into the water, drew out a long rope, and tied it to his waist and the kayak. He was moving with a purpose.

"Westley, it's too dangerous. What if you get hit by stones?" Gabrielle kept on glancing around them. She was so worried about him, and she didn't want him to get hurt.

If they were both in the kayak, it could protect them in case there were stones with sharp edges. They wouldn't sustain serious injuries. But now that Westley was in the water, he was in a vulnerable spot. He could get hit directly.

"It's okay. These stones have been soaked in water for decades, so they're blunt. Even if I step on them, it will only hurt for a little while. Either way, it won't matter that much. You have to lie down and don't sit up. Hold the rope tightly with both

hands, okay? I'll pull the boat as fast as I can." Westley had to remind Gabrielle. With every minute that passed, their situation only became more dangerous.

Gabrielle didn't say anything and lay down obediently. The kayak concealed her petite body perfectly. It was also in color black, so the watercraft was camouflaged by the pitch black night.

"Westley, there are many hazards in the water, especially since you can't see clearly. You have to be careful." Gabrielle's voice almost broke as she reminded him. She trembled slightly as she thought of Westley traversing along the water.

She recalled what Rose told her—that there might be snakes, crocodiles, and other dangerous aquatic creatures. What if they encountered any of those things and Westley was harmed?

"Gabrielle, don't worry. My clothes are still intact; I have enough protection. Now lie down and don't move. I'm going to speed up." Westley took a deep breath. He pulled the kayak and swam down quickly.

He struggled against the current and the big rocks along the way. He bumped his shoulder into a couple of them. It hurt him, but he had to push through.

He had to take Gabrielle as far away from this place as possible, so he had to endure every little pain. If he submitted to each bruise or wound, they would never escape.

Lying prone on the kayak, Gabrielle peeked at Westley. She wasn't allowed to sit up, but she helped him in other ways—by paying attention to their surroundings, especially those he might not notice.

Gabrielle gasped as she heard the sound of motorbikes again. She knew they weren't too far behind.

"Gabrielle, hold on. We're almost by the waterfall." Westley could hear the sounds too, but he had to focus. He also knew Gabrielle was getting increasingly nervous, so he comforted her.

"I know. Are you tired?" She lay on the kayak comfortably. If it weren't for the men chasing them ruthlessly, she would have enjoyed the view as she watched the blanket of stars. But while she was cozy and secure, Westley was doing all the hard work. Gabrielle knew he might be bone-tired already.

Westley bit the inside of his cheek. A stone hit his leg, and each step was painful. He gritted his teeth as he felt his lower extremities starting to weaken.

"I'm not tired. We'll be safe once we arrive by the waterfall," Westley said calmly. He still spoke as though nothing was amiss.

There were members of the Campbell Family waiting outside the forest. Once they went ashore through the waterfall, they would be safe, and they would have reinforcements. Westley kept on telling himself to take one more step.

This was Westley's plan when he decided to go into the forest. He didn't bring anyone with him, for fear of alerting Bain. He brought a backpack and went alone. He told the others to stay outside the forest and wait for him to come to them.

"Stop talking so that you can keep your strength!" Judging by his voice, Gabrielle sensed that something was wrong. His tone was off. Maybe he was too tired, and he was just pushing himself too hard.

"Okay. But if you're afraid, then talk to me." Westley nodded even if Gabrielle couldn't see it. He was exhausted and in pain. He was aware that he was almost dragging himself through the water.

"They're here!" The motorbikes soon arrived by the river, the headlights shining on them. Gabrielle looked behind her and found that two of the motorcycles were just a hundred meters away from them. The men held crossbows and were starting to aim at them.

Gabrielle had seen Rose shooting pheasants with a crossbow before. She marveled at the way Rose made it look so easy to hit a target no less than a hundred meters away. It wasn't just any other makeshift crossbow. It was a top-of-the-line weapon, with an impressive shooting range and improved accuracy.

These men weren't strangers to using crossbows. Besides, Gabrielle and Westley were much bigger than pheasants, so it would be easier for the men to aim their arrows at the pair.

"Westley, they've caught up with us. We've been found," Gabrielle said with a heavy sigh. She felt her stomach drop at the sight of the men.

"Yes, I see them. Gabrielle, get down in the water." Westley underestimated their pursuers. He thought they had enough time to arrive at the waterfall, but it was too late for them.

He could already hear the sound of the waterfall, but he knew it was still far away. They wouldn't even make it halfway at this rate.

Without any hesitation, Gabrielle quickly got into the water. She gasped as the cold soaked her clothes. Just a second after she got down, she heard an arrow whiz past her.

"Shoot! Catch them!"

With one hand holding Gabrielle, Westley held the rope of the kayak with the other hand. He asked Gabrielle to grasp the rope too. They would make use of the kayak as their shield.

"Gabrielle, try your best to stay behind the kayak. If they continue shooting, they will hit the kayak instead. The fiberglass will stop the arrows from reaching us." Westley pulled out a crossbow from his backpack.

"Westley, let's hurry up." Gabrielle's teeth chattered. Her entire body shivered from the cold. They were almost submerged in spring water. Although temperature in the mountains was more than thirty degrees at daytime, it dropped at night.

Her knees were shaking badly, and she struggled with each step. Her breath plumed in the air, and she wanted to rub her arms just to warm herself even a little bit. Gabrielle thought of Westley, who was in the water longer. He might be freezing too.

"Gabrielle, if there's any chance to go ashore and hide..."

"No way, Westley. I want to be with you! How are you even suggesting such a thing? We're married! And couples face problems together. We live together and die together. Besides, the reason why you're here in the first place is because you came to save me. How dare you think I want to escape alone and save only myself?" Gabrielle interrupted him, cutting off his words. He shouldn't even consider it. How could he let her run away while he faced their enemies? ①

"Okay, then. We won't be apart." Westley didn't push Gabrielle away anymore, although he really wanted to do so. The only thing on his mind was her safety.

They were both in danger. That was why he wanted to make sure she was safe first. But, by now, Westley already understood Gabrielle's stubbornness. There was no winning against her.

His wife really loved him. Even with their lives on the line, this simple thought made Westley smile. 'Okay, then. We're leaving together,' he thought. ②

"Gabrielle, hold the rope tightly. Use all your strength to protect yourself. Don't move away from the kayak. I'm going to fight back." Westley pushed Gabrielle and the kayak forward. He jumped onto the nearest big stone and aimed at the people on the motorbikes with the crossbow. He crouched low and steadied his hands.

Westley took advantage of their headlights because it made it easier for him to aim. He could shoot the arrow precisely. He didn't plan on injuring anyone when he set out on a mission to save Gabrielle. He only needed to bring her to safety.

But Bain's men forced his hand as they kept on shooting arrows that might wound Gabrielle. When it came to protecting his wife, Westley became vicious and merciless. ③

Chapter 487 They Survived

"Gabrielle, I know you're awake. You can hear me, right?"

Everything's fine now, Gabrielle. We made it out alive with only a few injuries.

I know you're exhausted and you want to sleep longer, so I'll wait for you."

Gabrielle was in deep sleep. She kept hearing voices inside her head, but couldn't tell clearly. In her heart, she knew who it was.

'Westley... you promised you wouldn't abandon me...So please don't...

"Gabrielle, we swore not to abandon each other forever. We're both safe now, it's going to be okay.

We're finally outside the forest now. When you wake up, let's go back to Antawood immediately, okay?"

You'll love the scenery here, Gabrielle. It's so beautiful."

Both of them got carried away by the strong current after jumping down the waterfall. Luckily, they were discovered by the men of the Campbell Family who had been waiting outside. They were rescued and taken to the farm. Their people had already guarded the entire area, so it would be safe for both of them.

Even if the farm was close to the forest, Bain's men wouldn't dare to come out and mess with them.

Gabrielle finally woke up after a few days. She blinked slowly and looked around. The walls were strange and the room seemed old.

"Hmm..."

"Gabrielle, you're finally awake!" Westley had just come out of the bathroom and was shocked to see Gabrielle regain her consciousness. He had been staying by her side all the time.

"Westley...it's you. Where am I?" Gabrielle asked, her voice hoarse.

"We got out safely. How are you feeling?" Westley sat on the edge of the bed and placed his hand on top of hers.

She tried to move but felt pain all over her body.

After all, her wounds did not fully heal yet.

Gabrielle was injured shortly after jumping into the rapids. She felt numb in the icy cold water that when she was struggling in the water that she couldn't feel a thing.

But now, it wore off. People would mostly feel the pain from the injuries after waking up.

"We... we escaped. We didn't die. We're still alive... I'm so relieved..." Ow! It hurts... "

Gabrielle yelped, feeling a sharp pain.

As long as the two of them were alive, everything was worth it. The bleeding and injuries were nothing because they had freedom now. A new life was waiting for them.

"I know it hurts, but hang in there, sweetheart." Westley wiped her forehead. "Remy, come quickly! Gabrielle's awake." ③

A few moments later, Remy came in. Westley had made things difficult for him because of her, but he felt relieved after seeing Gabrielle had woken up.

"Gabrielle, you're finally awake. If you didn't wake up soon, Westley would have tortured me to death." Remy approached them, cracking a joke.

"Re...Remy..."

"Don't push yourself too hard, Gabrielle. You just woke up. Try not to exert yourself too much. Your wounds might open again." Remy reminded her. ④

"Westley, get some warm water for Gabrielle. It'll make her feel better," Remy suggested.

"Right." Westley poured some water onto the cup and helped Gabrielle take a sip.

He had already prepared it yesterday just in case she woke up.

"Does your whole body ache, Gabrielle?" Remy asked.

"Yes."

"It's normal. You've been battered a lot. You also got some serious injury at the back of your head and your waist. Even though the water cushioned your fall, you still got hit by rocks and stones. Luckily, you survived all that. Do you remember?" Remy gently talked about Gabrielle's condition so she could feel more at ease.

"Yes, I remember."

"Great, your memory's intact. After a day or two, we can go to a hospital in Bangkok for a thorough check-up, and then return to Antawood," Remy explained.

"Gabrielle's having a hard time. Can you prescribe some painkillers for her? I don't want to see her suffering like this." Westley couldn't ignore it. Gabrielle's brows were twisting and her face was full of discomfort. Westley felt so sorry for her.

"I'll give her some painkillers, but they'll only help for a short while. She needs to go through the normal healing process, which will take time. Of course, we also have to

clean her wounds regularly and apply medication. I admit it can be uncomfortable at times." Remy had to tell them first.

"It's okay. It's just for a short while..." Westley knew that the process of natural healing was painful and long and he didn't want Gabrielle to bear with it.

"I'll go get the medicine first. Let Gabrielle rest," Remy replied.

The painkillers would make her feel better. Westley wouldn't be able to bear seeing Gabrielle in pain.

She was such a healthy girl, but now she was lying in bed, covered in bruises. Westley thought he might be a curse to her. After marrying him, Gabrielle would always end up in trouble.

"Then, hurry up and get the painkillers," Westley urged.

Remy rushed to get the medicine and came back fast. He handed the pills to Westley and let him help Gabrielle take it.

Thankfully, her pain decreased over the last ten minutes. Although she could still feel the ache, it was better than before.

"Gabrielle, how do you feel now?" Westley asked in a concerned tone.

"Much better. But your wounds... Are you okay? Is it serious?" Gabrielle felt uneasy after seeing the wounds on Westley's face and body. He was covered in bandages around the head, shoulders, and abdomen. It was clear he was hurt pretty bad.

"Don't worry about me, they're all scratches. My injuries are less serious than yours. I was able to wake up the day we escaped but you slept for three days and four nights. I was scared to death that you weren't going to wake up. But here we are, still alive and safe from harm." Westley looked at her and smiled.

When he jumped down the waterfall with Gabrielle in his arms, he had already thought about the worst outcome in his mind. He knew there was a possibility they could die.

However, if those were their last moments together and they ended up dying, he would not regret a thing.

But fate had other plans for them. They survived what happened and were given a second chance at life. Now, Westley could only think about being with Gabrielle, and that was enough for him.

Gabrielle felt bittersweet.

He was right, they were still alive.

Surviving with only several injuries was something to be thankful for.

"I'm glad you're okay. I'm happy that we lived because this means we can still be together. But I'm really concerned about your wounds..." She scanned Westley from head to toe. She had a feeling he had lied to her about his condition. The wounds looked more serious than he claimed.

"This is nothing. I've been guarding you for the past three days. I wouldn't be able to do that if I was seriously injured, would I? If you don't believe me, you can ask Remy. He's a doctor." Gabrielle could be really stubborn and Westley knew she wouldn't believe him.

He intended to hide his wounds and cover up so Gabrielle wouldn't see them. He didn't want to make her worry.

Westley never thought Gabrielle would suddenly wake up so he couldn't cover up anymore. Now, she saw all his injuries.

She couldn't help but feel worried.

"Well... if you say it like that then... it's good to hear that you're fine. One more thing, um... Is it safe here?" Gabrielle spoke softly. After all, they had almost lost their lives. She was thinking of their safety the most.

"We are safe. The people of the Campbell Family are guarding this area. We're currently staying in the two most remote houses at the far back, surrounded by their men. Nothing bad will happen. You can put yourself at ease." Westley held her hand, assuring her.

"Thank you, that calms me down." Gabrielle breathed a sigh of relief.

"Just rest for a while, I'll be here to protect you." Westley caressed her hair gently.

The escape might have taken a huge toll on Gabrielle. She wouldn't be able to forget something traumatic like that so easily. The darkness of that night would remain in her heart for a long time.

After everything that happened inside the forest, she had a reason to worry, especially if they were still being pursued by Bain's men.

"Okay." Gabrielle didn't want to think too much anymore.

"By the way, Lance and the others..."

"They can deal with their problems by themselves. We shouldn't get involved," Westley replied.

Lance and Bain's brotherhood would prevent them from fighting horribly.

People like Bain valued loyalty and merit. If he deemed someone useless, then he wouldn't waste his time.

Bain owed Lance, so he had an exemption card. He was safe in Bain's territory for

now. He could also leave if he wanted to.

There was no need for them to worry about it.

If Lance wasn't confident in his ability, he wouldn't boldly come to the forest unannounced. If he didn't have any plans up his sleeve, he only put himself at risk.

"How are they going to escape there, Westley?" It was impossible for Gabrielle not to care.

"Gabrielle, you don't seem to know how influential Lance is in Thailand. You shouldn't underestimate him. Trust me, he's completely safe without you," Westley calmly explained to her.

"Really?" Gabrielle was still anxious. Lance was her cousin, after all. Bain wanted to kill her. She thought he might come for him because she had escaped.

"Of course, Gabrielle. I would never lie to you. Lance is more capable than you think," Westley said in a serious tone.

"When have you ever told me the truth?" Gabrielle's eyes squinted as she stared at him.

"I can tell you about what happened between me and Bryce." Westley already knew what Gabrielle wanted to know. It would be about Bryce's injuries and that he locked Bryce up.

"Tell me everything." Gabrielle felt the banging in her chest. It was getting louder and faster.

"I will explain everything to you, just not now. I'll wait until you recover a little. It would be better to not exert yourself and control your emotions. We don't want your wounds to open up." Westley held her hand tightly.

He was right. She shouldn't be too emotional or else it would just worsen her injuries.

"Westley, I hope you won't lie to me anymore," Gabrielle pleaded.

"I won't lie to you, I promise. I will tell you everything you want to know, but you have to get plenty of rest for now, okay? When you've rested enough, then we'll talk." Westley looked serious.

"Where's my phone?" Gabrielle asked.

"It's broken. I'll buy you a new one when we get home. You can use mine for the time being." Westley handed her the phone.

When the two of them jumped down from the waterfall, all the things in their backpacks had been soaked in water. Sticks and stones underneath did further damage.

Westley's phone was brand new. He asked his men to get him a new one and sent it to him after they settled in the village.

"Please help me contact Jason and tell him about my current situation. The training class will begin in a few days and I don't want to miss it." Gabrielle didn't borrow the phone for entertainment, she wanted to reach out to Jason.

She had never contacted him at least once after she arrived in Bangkok. She could easily ask the company for a leave, but she didn't want to miss the training class.

"I have contacted him for you in advance. No matter how much I dislike the guy, he's still your boss. I already informed him about what happened to you in Bangkok and he said he'll help you out regarding the training class. You just need to get your strength back and go home with me." Westley knew how important the training class was for Gabrielle. The lecturer was one of the most famous designers she admired. It was a once-in-a-lifetime chance for her, so she wanted to grab the opportunity.

"Has the class started?" Gabrielle asked anxiously.

"No. It hasn't been decided yet. Jason will contact me right away once they got a date." Gabrielle looked forward to the training class and Westley knew how important it was for her. He went and begged Jason for an extension.

"Did you talk to Jason personally?" Gabrielle was stressing over it. After all, the training class was a big event for her. She wished she could go back to Antawood right now.

Chapter 488 Share Weal And Woe

With all the doubts that Gabrielle had in their relationship, Westley couldn't help but think that they had serious trust issues between them.

Bryce could be part of the reason that made Gabrielle start to doubt him.

This had upset Westley to a considerable extent. Mostly, he was deeply concerned about this.

There were a number of reasons for marital breakdown. Couples growing apart, communication problems, money disagreements, and the most common, betrayal in mutual trust.

Relationships started to suffer when couples struggled with trust issues. It would be difficult for them to see the good in each other because they didn't believe the words and gestures of each other were genuine. The union would turn toxic, and in the end, break down.

Of course, Westley wouldn't want things between them to go that way. Especially now when they had finally become closer. He would not let any crisis come out of their marriage.

"Yeah. That was what Jason said," Westley replied in a relaxed tone.

"Okay," Gabrielle answered in a tone that was light, but her expression showed that she was not happy at all.

"So, have you set the time for the class?" Westley asked, now sounding and looking unhappy after noticing Gabrielle's expression.

He tried to shift the topics into what he thought would make her feel better.

Gabrielle nonchalantly shook her head. "They still haven't decided. Definitely, any time after New Year's Day. They'll let us know when it's settled."

"Well, you don't have to worry then. As soon as Jason calls me, I'll let you know, okay? You've just woken up. Stop thinking about it. What you need is more rest, and that includes relaxing your mind from stressful thoughts." Westley looked at her. His eyebrows furrowed with worry.

"I'll get in touch with him tomorrow. Just let me do the talking. And if there's time, it would be better to go back home. I can manage, I don't feel that awful ... really." Gabrielle wanted to sound reassuring but her tone was soft and weak.

It was not really up to her to decide on what they had to do. It was the doctor's and she should listen to what he would say.

Goodness gracious, she was taking painkillers to ease the pain she was feeling all

over her body! How could she say that it was not serious?

She had been fooling herself into thinking she was okay.

"You can call Jason tomorrow, but from now on, don't worry or think too much. Have a good rest. I'm here with you till you get better. And then, we'll go home," Westley said in an authoritative voice.

"Fine," said Gabrielle. By the tone of his voice, she knew it would be best to heed what he said. Also, it was easy for her to listen up to Westley. She wanted to recover from the accident as soon as possible.

It seemed to be the best option. The sooner she got better, the earlier they could return to Antawood.

"Now, have a good rest. Is there anything that you want to eat?" Westley then gently pulled up the blanket over her.

"You've been injured, too, Westley. Why don't you rest as well? Stay here with me. I'm not hungry anyway. Lie beside me. We can eat later." Gabrielle was distraught seeing Westley also had wounds all over his body.

Westley, on the other hand, became excited hearing Gabrielle's invitation. He wanted more than just to lie down with her.

But Gabrielle was aching because of her injuries. He would just stay beside her.

"Being here beside you is more than okay for me. I won't touch you. I'm afraid I might hurt you unintentionally." So Westley lay still next to Gabrielle.

"Don't worry. My injuries are not really that bad. And, I'm definitely not delicate that you can't lay a finger on me." Gabrielle instinctively moved closer to Westley.

"Please, baby, I don't want to hurt you." Seeing that Gabrielle moved closer to Westley he admonished her about her condition.

Feeling she had no choice, Gabrielle obeyed. She and Westley lay side by side on the bed.

Lying next to each other was more than enough for them.

Gabrielle could still remember that fateful night when they nearly lost their lives. They were crossing the river of forest in the middle of the night. How could she forget it! The horrible scene played over and over in her mind.

She survived. True, she came out of it badly. But still, she had been fortunate to be alive. It was more than she could ask for.

Thinking about this made Gabrielle reach out to clutch Westley's hand. There were ups and downs, but mostly downs, in their relationship before that night when they almost died.