

## Chapter 741

“Dahlia, what happened?” Dustin frowned.

“Yesterday, I went to Glenstead to visit the Nicholsons and check in on Grandpa Regulus. I was on my way home this morning when someone ambushed me. Fortunately, a general was passing by and saved us,” Dahlia explained.

“Why didn’t you tell me you were going to Glenstead? I would have sent someone to protect you.” Dustin demanded, displeased.

“I brought my own bodyguards. I just didn’t expect something like this to happen,” Dahlia replied helplessly.

If it had just been a regular fight, her bodyguards could have dealt with it easily. However, they were no match for someone who wanted her dead.

“Do you have any idea who’s planned the attack?” Dustin asked.

“Not yet.” Dahlia shook her head.

“You were attacked as soon as you visited Sir Regulus. It’s too much of a coincidence. If my guess is right, your family must have something to do with this.” Dustin narrowed his eyes.

“Our family? That can’t be right.” Dahlia’s brows furrowed.

“You’re the largest shareholder of Nicholson Corp. now. Sir Regulus even appointed you as the heir, so everyone’s aiming for your position. Considering all this, it’s not impossible for someone to resort to something like this,” analyzed Dustin.

Dahlia’s current position was bound to attract envy from some people who knew that if something were to happen to her, other family members would have a chance of taking over her position.

To rich families like theirs, nothing mattered more than money and power. Familial bonds were useless to them.

“He’s right. They must be behind this!” Julie exclaimed angrily. “Those assholes! How dare they hurt my daughter! I’ll get revenge on them!” Florence roared.

“We don’t have proof, so we shouldn’t make assumptions. Others might use this opportunity to cause trouble,” Dahlia stated thoughtfully.

Although she had her suspicions, that was all they were. Without solid evidence, nothing could be proven.

“I’ll start digging and get to the bottom of this as soon as possible,” Dustin promised.

“There’s no hurry for that. I have something more important to deal with.” Dahlia was serious.

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She explained, “I hired a doctor to check on Grandpa Regulus yesterday, and he said that we need to find a Panax root and use it to make a medicine that could wake Grandpa up again.”

“A Panax root? It’ll be difficult to find one.” Dustin thought about it.

“Dustin, you have one, don’t you? Can you-” Dustin cut her off before she could finish her

sentence. “No! ”

“What?” Dustin’s response shocked her. She had only seen Dustin try to fulfill all her requests, so she didn’t understand why he was acting like this now.

“What do you mean by that, Rhys? It’s just a Panax root. Why are you being so stingy?” Florence snapped.

“Dustin, if you give it to us and we manage to cure Sir Regulus, Dahlia will officially get promoted. You’ll get recognized too!” Julie tried to convince Dustin with words.

“I can agree to anything but this,” Dustin responded firmly.

That 500-year-old Panax root was an important ingredient for the nine-fold Longevitum. So there was no way he could give it away.

“It’s just a Panax root. What’s the problem?” Florence glared at him.

“Exactly! You’re not using it right now anyway, so you might as well give it to Dahlia and earn her favor.” Julie echoed.

“Dustin, the Panax root is incredibly important to me. Grandpa Regulus won’t wake up without it. I know this sounds demanding, but I hope you can give it to me,” Dahlia asked again.

“

I’m sorry, but it’s just as important to me, so I can’t give it to you.” Dustin refused once more.

Dahlia frowned. “If it’s a loss to you, I don’t mind buying it from you.”

“It has nothing to do with money.” Dustin shook his head. “I won’t sell it no matter how much you offer me.”

“Then, what do you want? Is a Panax root more important than me?” Dahlia’s face hardened as her temper rose.

She wasn’t angry because of the Panax root. Rather, it was because Dustin didn’t seem to care about her.

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## Chapter 742

"Stop throwing a tantrum, Dahlia." Dustin frowned.

Dustin said, "I wouldn't mind giving you anything else, even if it costs millions. But I just can't give you my Panax root."

"You're right. I am throwing a tantrum! If you don't want to give it to me, I'll think of something else!" Dahlia turned her head away furiously.

In the past, Dustin would get it done no matter what request she made. Now, all she was asking for was a Panax root, yet he turned her down firmly.

He obviously didn't care about her anymore. It seemed like she wasn't that important to him anymore after he got a new girlfriend.

"Dahlia is giving you a chance to prove yourself, Rhys! You better not ignore her kindness!" Florence exclaimed.

"Exactly! With Dahlia's looks and influence, many other men would be clambering to gift her Panax roots! You better appreciate this chance!" Julie jeered.

"If you need a Panax root, I can use my connections to help you get one. However, I can't give you the one I have because I need to use it to save someone," Dustin answered thoughtfully.

"Fine! You said you're going to use it to save someone. So tell me, who's the person that's more important than Grandpa Regulus?" Dahlia demanded.

"You know this person. It's Gregory."

"Mr. Jones?" Dahlia frowned, her temper cooling slightly. Then, she asked, "What happened to him? Is he sick again?"

In her memories, Gregory was either drinking or sleeping. She rarely saw him sober. And because he was a heavy drinker, his health wasn't the best.

"He's fine for now, but that doesn't mean he'll stay that way. I need to gather more herbs to treat him," Dustin answered truthfully.

"Since he's fine right now, you can lend us the Panax root. Once Sir Regulus gets better, we'll return another one to you. How about that?" Florence persuaded.

"She's right. Time is running out. Sir Regulus' life is in danger right now, so you should prioritize us first!" Julie insisted.

To them, Regulus' life would directly impact Dahlia's future and her position, so it was far more important than Gregory's life.

"My Panax root is too rare. It'll be extremely difficult for you to find another as mature as mine. So I'm sorry. I can't risk Gregory's life." Dustin shook his head again.

A wild 500-year-old Panax root was incredibly rare, so Dustin couldn't afford to take any chances.

"Geez! Why do you have to be so stubborn? We're trying to talk to you nicely, but if you're still going to be so stubborn, don't think about meeting my daughter again!" Florence snapped.

"Do you even care about Dahlia? She's just trying to borrow your Panax root, and it isn't as though she won't return it. What's the issue?" Julie was pissed.

"Alright, alright. That's enough." Dahlia frowned.

"Dustin has plans of his own, so we shouldn't force him."

Though she understood his actions,

she was still irritated. Dustin should know how to prioritize matters better.

Since Gregory didn't need to use it immediately, why couldn't he lend it to her temporarily so that she could treat her grandfather?

"Ms. Nicholson..." Just then, a tall, handsome young man in military uniform entered the room. It was easy to see that he was

not a regular commander.

"Mr. Killian? What are you doing here?" When she saw the man, Julie lit up and rushed over with a bright smile.

"Mr. Killian?" Florence and Victoria exchanged glances before leaping up to welcome the new arrival, full of smiles.

This was the first time they met a real general since they'd only ever seen them on television, so the two ladies were excited and nervous.

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#### Chapter 743

"I had just finished reporting back to the military base, so I decided to drop by." Gavin Killian smiled.

"Greetings, Mr. Killian." Dahlia tried to stand up.

"No need for formalities." Gavin placed a hand on her shoulder to keep her seated. "You need to rest, Ms. Nicholson. You're hurt."

"It's nothing." Dahlia smiled.

"And this is?" Dustin looked at Gavin, puzzled.

He could tell from the badge on Gavin's arm that he was a major general. For someone to be a general in his thirties, he must either be from an influential family or be incredibly talented.

"This is Mr. Killian. He was the one who saved me this morning," Dahlia introduced.

This morning's incident was still fresh in her mind. Without Gavin's help, she'd be dead by now.

"I see Thank you, Mr. Killian." Dustin thanked.

"It was nothing," Gavin answered with a smile. "And you are?"

"Oh, he's my friend, Dustin Rhys." Dahlia blurted.

"Friend?" Dustin frowned, unhappy with her answer. Still, he regained his composure after a few seconds.

"Nice to meet you, Mr. Rhys. I'm Gavin Killian." Gavin extended a hand. Although his expression looked kind, his eyes showed an arrogant glint.

"Nice to meet you." Dustin shook Gavin's hand knowingly.

Killian wasn't a common surname. He ran into Miranda Killian two days ago, and now, he was meeting another Killian, so he couldn't help but wonder if the two were related.

"Ms. Nicholson, I heard that you urgently need a Panax root. Is that true?" Gavin suddenly switched the topic.

Dahlia nodded. "That's right. My grandfather is sick, and we need a Panax root to make his medicine. Unfortunately, finding one is quite hard, so I doubt I'll get my hands on one soon."

"You don't have to search anymore, Ms. Nicholson. I happened to have a 300-year-old Panax root. If you'd like, you can have it."

Gavin's words shocked them.

"What? You're giving it to me?" Dahlia was taken aback. She didn't expect him to have a Panax root and for him to gift it to her so casually.

"Are you serious, Mr. Killian? Are you going to give us a Panax root?" Julie asked with disbelief in her eyes.

"Of course. I always keep my word." Gavin puffed out his chest.

"Gosh, thank you so much!" Julie was overjoyed.

"You're such a kind man, Mr. Killian!" Florence and Victoria were happy as well.

Just moments ago, they were thinking hard, trying to find a way to obtain a Panax root. They never thought they'd get one so soon.

Unlike Dustin, who was stubborn and stingy, Gavin seemed much more generous and honorable.

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"Thank you for the offer, Mr. Killian, but I can't accept such a precious gift." Dahlia got over her surprise and became upset again. She hadn't even repaid Gavin for his earlier kindness, so how could she accept his Panax root?

"Ms. Nicholson, a Panax root is meant to cure sic kness anyway. I don't need it for now. So you might as well use it to save someone's life. Think of it as an act of kindness." Gavin smiled.

"But-"

Florence cut Dahlia off before she could refuse again. "Dahlia, you should accept it. You can always repay the favor later."

Florence kept/looking at Gavin eagerly.

"She's right, Dahlia. Saving a life is much more important. Without this Panax root, what are we going to do about Sir Regulus?" Julie advised.

"But..." Dahlia was at a loss for words. It would be difficult to repay the favor, but she had no choice but to accept the gift since Regulus' life was at stake.

"Ms. Nicholson, if you want to thank me, I do have a favor to ask," Gavin suddenly said.

"What is it?" Dahlia raised an eyebrow.



"I'll be hosting a banquet at Viridian Hotel tonight, so I'd like to invite you," Gavin answered with a small smile.

"A banquet?" Dahlia hesitated before nodding in agreement. "It'd be my pleasure."

Gavin had helped her a lot, so she couldn't refuse him.

"Great. See you tonight." Gavin smiled and left after chatting for a moment.

"What do you think of Mr. Killian, Dahlia?" Julie blurted out as soon as Gavin was gone.

"He's a general despite his young age, so he's definitely an excellent person," Dahlia responded casually.

"Not just that. I think he likes you." Julie grinned teasingly.

"Nonsense!" Dahlia glared at Julie. "We've just met. How can he like me?"

"Why would he give you a Panax root if he didn't like you? He even invited you to his banquet. Isn't it obvious enough?" Julie pressed.

"But..." Dahlia was speechless. She glanced at Dustin and let out a breath of relief when she realized he didn't seem bothered.

"Dahlia, Mr. Killian is young but accomplished. He's an excellent man that's hard to come by. Why don't you try and flirt with him a little? Who knows what might happen." Florence had an eager expression.

If Dahlia were to marry a general, they'd also gain fame. It would be more fame than what they'd get if she married an aristocratic family. After all, being powerful was more important than being wealthy.

"Mom, you're doing it again!" Dahlia grumbled.

"Haven't you gotten over Rhys yet?" Florence glared at Dustin

disdainfully. "He knows that you need a Panax root, but he won't give it to you. What's the point of keeping a man like him?"

"Exactly!" Julie nodded. "You saw how that guy refused despite how we begged him, yet Mr. Killian, whom we barely know, was willing to help us. Can't you see who's the better choice?"

Dahlia frowned when she heard this. After comparing the two men, she realized that Dustin seemed much more selfish than Gavin.

"Are you going to believe him when you've only met him once?" Dustin suddenly asked.

"Are we supposed to believe you, then? What makes you think you're trustworthy?" Florence snapped.

"She's right. Mr. Killian not only saved Dahlia, but he also helped us in times of need. What about you? What have you done?" Julie sneered.

"First, he saved you. Now, he's gifting you a Panax root. Don't you think this is too much of a coincidence?" Dustin asked.

"What do you mean?" Dahlia raised an eyebrow.

"You don't know who that man is or his intentions, so you shouldn't trust him so easily," Dustin warned.

"Hmph! I bet you're just jealous." Julie jeered. "You're jealous that he's better and more powerful than you!"

"It's bad enough that you're useless, but how dare you insult Mr. Killian! You're despicable!" Florence yelled

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"I'm just stating the truth. It's always better to be careful," Dustin replied calmly.

"Dustin, Mr. Killian isn't that kind of person," Dahlia retorted firmly, unhappy to hear Dustin talking bad about her savior.

"Do you really know him well enough? Besides his name, what else do you know about him?"

Dustin asked back.

"I-" Dahlia was taken aback.

When she came to her senses, she immediately declared.

"Anyway, Mr. Killian isn't a bad person. You better not judge him with a petty mindset!"

"Petty?" Dustin chuckled unhumorously.

"You're right. I am petty. And since you seem to believe him so much, this petty man will take his leave now. Goodbye." Dustin turned around.

"Dustin, stop right-" He left before Dahlia could stop him.

"Let him leave! What the hell is wrong with him? We just said a few words!" Florence scoffed.

"Yeah. Mr. Killian is a thousand times better than a petty man like him!" Julie snorted.

"That's enough! He's gone now, so stop talking about this!" Dahlia frowned, agitated.

Her relationship with Dustin had only begun to improve, and she didn't want problems to arise again.

Out of the hospital doors, Dustin sighed.

Although he didn't care about Florence and Julie's words, he was unhappy about Dahlia's distrust of him.

"Dustin Rhys..." A black sedan pulled over, and the windows were lowered, revealing Gavin's face.

"Mr. Killian, how may I help you?" Dustin replied.

Gavin had obviously been waiting for him.

"I will only say this once, so you better listen closely." Gavin's expression was cold as he said, "Dahlia Nicholson is mine, so you better stay away from her from now on."

"And why should I?" Dustin narrowed his eyes. He didn't expect Gavin to show his true colors so soon.

"Because I'm from the Killian family of Oakvale and a major general. And because I'm stronger than you. Is this answer good enough?" Gavin sneered arrogantly.

"Those labels mean nothing to me. Here's some advice. Don't piss me off," Dustin retorted, unfazed.

"Hmm... Interesting." Gavin grinned.

"A loser dares to challenge me? Fine. Let's see what you've got."

With a snap of his fingers, his car drove off and out of sight.

Right after that, several other cars pulled over in front of Dustin, and several law enforcers wearing distinctive uniforms stepped out, their faces stern.

"Are you Dustin Rhys?" The leader asked.

"I am." Dustin nodded. "How may I help you?"

"Someone reported you for killing Hank Hoffman, so you're under arrest!" The man yelled.

"Someone reported me? Who?" Dustin was shocked.

"Me!" Another person stepped out of the car. It was Julian!

"I witnessed you murdering my friend, so I reported you!" Julian cried out.

"So you're up to no good again." Dustin narrowed his eyes.  
"You killed an innocent man, and plenty of evidence proves that.  
Take him away!", The leading enforcer signaled his men to  
handcuff Dustin and haul him into the car.  
Julian watched the cars drive away, sneering, "You're dead meat  
this time!"

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