

The Three Little Guardian Angels
Chapter 1271

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Tanner laughed, and his facial expression stiffened slightly. However, he did not say anything in return.

Helios looked at the horse rider on the racecourse and said, "We've known each other for quite a long time, and I know you're someone who wouldn't give up on a relationship that easily. Although I don't know what is happening between you and her, Mr. Santiago seems to be very worried about his daughter."

"Helios,"

Tanner smiled, "It's better for you to stay out of my business with Pearl."

"I don't plan to interfere," Helios replied as he sipped on his coffee.

"But here's some advice for you. Stop before it's too late." Tanner fell silent.

After a short while, Tanner left.

Helios looked at his figure and fell into contemplation.

Meanwhile, at Soul...

"Mr. Santiago asked Helios to persuade Tanner?"

Maisie looked at Barbara.

Sitting on the couch, Barbara sipped on her tea and smiled.

"Yeah. He came to the mansion the other day and asked my husband to persuade Tanner to leave his daughter alone."

After she finished speaking, she put the cup on the desk and turned her head around to look at Maisie, "Honestly, I don't know

why Tanner has to torture her like this. It was him who abandoned his fiancée at the wedding and ran away with his

lover. Ms. Santiago got the short end of the stick, and now, it's still her."

Maisie lowered her head, pressed her lips tightly, and did not say anything in return.

She learned from Pearl's assistant the reason for Tanner's "revenge" on her, but was this really about "revenge" only? After a

long while, Maisie said, "Can you get an appointment with Pearl for me? I want to see her."

Barbara was stunned.

"Why? You can just go to her house if you want to see her." Maisie sighed.

"I'm afraid she may not want to see me if I go to her house directly."

"Did something happen between you and Pearl?" Barbara asked.

"Yeah. We've had some conflicts in the past, and I was involved in that incident."

Barbara fell silent for a short while before nodding.

"I'll give it a try and see if I can ask her out."

Tanner came to the Santiago mansion to pick up Pearl.

As soon as Pearl got into his car, Tanner grabbed her neck and pulled her closer.

"Did you know that your father went to look for Helios?" Pearl was stunned.

He stroked her cheek with his fingers and continued.

"He wants me to let you go."

He chuckled, but the smile did not stay long on his face.

"Do you think it's possible?"

Pearl raised her head to look at him, but she did not say anything.
Tanner grazed her lips with his finger.
Suddenly, he withdrew his hand, and the cold expression returned to his face.
"I'll only let you go if Sandy comes back to life. But that's impossible, so don't even think about it. He started the engine. Setting her jaw tightly, Pearl asked, "Did you cherish her while she was alive?"
"Shut up!" he shouted.
His eyes turned bloodshot as if she had pushed his buttons.
Pearl gripped her fist tightly, and her nails stabbed into her finger.
"Actually, her death was your fault."
"I said, shut up!"
Tanner pulled her hair and dragged her in front of him.
The veins on the back of his hand bulged as he gritted his teeth.
"You just won't stop talking about it, right?"
Pearl couldn't feel the pain as she was numb to it.
She looked straight into his reddened eyes.
The slap he gave her last night had woken her up from her dream.
She let out a cold smirk and said, "I was right, wasn't it? Why didn't you pick up her calls when she called you at that time? Didn't you think I was dirty? Why did you not think so when you slept with me—"
Tanner raised his arms high in anger, and she closed her eyes when she saw his hand was coming down at her.
However, she waited for a long while, yet she did not feel any pain.
Tanner grabbed her chin and looked at her coldly.
"You're provoking me so that I'll kill you, right?"

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Pearl did not say anything in return.
Tanner let out a scoff, and his face turned even grimmer.
"Don't worry. I won't kill you."
He tightened his grip on her chin and continued.
"I won't let you die so easily. After all, there are many ways to torture you."
Her face turned pale slightly, and her breathing became heavy.
Tanner flung her back into her seat and quickly drove away.
Tanner dragged her into the bathroom when they were back in the apartment. He filled the bathtub with cold water and threw her into it without any hesitation.
The water soaked through her clothes and splashed all over him.
The biting cold water wrapped around her, and she was so cold that she shivered.
Before she could do anything, Tanner grabbed her hair and hissed.
"Why must you force me to do this? Do you really want to die so much?"
He pushed her head into the water, causing her to struggle with all her might. She gasped heavily for air when he scooped her

out of the water.

However, he pushed her into the water before she could recover.

Seeing that she did not struggle this time, he picked her up and looked at her.

She was panting and shivering, while her face was bloodless due to the coldness.

He clamped his hand on his cheek to force her to look into his eyes and snarled, "Do you still want to do that again?"

Pearl was cold, and her teeth were chattering.

Her eyes were bloodshot from the water, and they were filled with intense hatred.

"Why not?"

At that moment, Tanner felt a surge of powerlessness filling him whole.

The dull pain in his chest spread deep into his stomach pit.

He was equally soaked, and he couldn't feel the sting from the cold anymore.

Covering his face with his palm, he gradually calmed himself down. He rose to his feet and went out of the bathroom.

Pearl hugged herself tightly in the bathtub.

Perhaps she was already accustomed to the coldness, so the water felt warm to her. She lowered her head and cried silently.

Tanner did not come back in the next three days, while Pearl fell sick and coughed nonstop after the incident in the bathroom that day.

When the doorbell rang, she went to the kitchen to get herself a cup of warm water. She put the cup down and went to open the door.

When she saw the woman outside of the door, she was stunned.

"You are?"

Barbara raised her head and smiled.

"I'm Helios' wife. My name is Barbara Chase. Pleasure to meet you."

Pearl supported herself by grabbing the door and craning her neck to look outside.

"How did you get up here? Where are the bodyguards?"

"Bodyguards? I didn't see any bodyguards,"

Barbara said with a slightly confused voice.

After that, she smiled at Pearl and said, "I know that Mr. Hannigan lives here. I guessed you would be here, so I came to look for you."

She looked at Pearl and realized that her countenance was ashen-pale. It seemed to her that Pearl was sick, so she asked, "Are you alright, Ms. Santiago?"

"Yes, I'm alright," Pearl replied as she stifled a cough.

"I just caught a cold. Anyway, what do you want from Barbara lowered her head and licked her lips.

"I wonder if you're free to go out for a meal or something."

Pearl looked at her and said, "If you want something from me, then just say it. I...I can't leave here."

"Is Mr. Hannigan holding you captive?" Barbara noticed something and frowned.

"Ms. Santiago, your father came to my husband the other day. I know what's going on, so if you need my help—"

"I don't need your help. I'm sorry."

Just when Pearl wanted to close the door, Barbara stopped her.

"Wait!"

She paused for a few seconds before continuing.

"Alright, I'll be honest with you. Someone wants to see you."

"Who wants to see me?" Pearl asked.

Barbara pressed her lips and answered, "Maisie."

Maisie was waiting for Barbara in the coffee shop.

After a short while, Barbara appeared, and when she did not see Pearl, she knew she had rejected Barbara.

"I tried my best, but she refused to come with me."

Barbara took off her jacket and took her seat.

"So, I told her that you wanted to see her."

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Maisie nodded.

"Well, I expected this."

Barbara summoned the waiter and continued.

"She's living in Mr. Hannigan's apartment now, but I think he's holding her captive."

She ordered a cup of Blue Mountain coffee, and after the waiter had gone away, she asked, "Aren't you curious about what she

said when I told her that you wanted to see her?"

Maisie was holding a cup of coffee, and she was stunned for a moment.

After a short while, she took a sip from the coffee and asked, "What did she say?"

"She said she doesn't want to see you."

Seeing the crack on Maisie's face, Barbara giggled and added, "Alright, alright. I'll stop messing with you."

Maisie crossed her arms in front of her chest and looked at Barbara.

Barbara leaned forward and said with a smile on her face, "It's true that she didn't say she doesn't want to see you, but she didn't

say when either."

Maisie nodded.

"That means she doesn't want to see me. It's just that she doesn't want to say it out explicitly."

Barbara lifted her eyebrows.

"So, why do you want to see her? Do you want to resolve the feud between you and her?"

"Feud? I've long gotten over it. We don't have any feud anymore."

Maisie placed her hand on her forehead. She picked up the spoon and stirred her coffee.

"It's just that I feel a little sad for her."

Barbara seemed to have seen through Maisie's mind.

"You just can't bear seeing her in her current situation, right? Although it wasn't your fault in the first place, if she hadn't thought

of setting you up, she wouldn't have ended up in that situation.

However, if she refused to change and continued to harm you, things would've developed differently, and you wouldn't want to help her today.

"You now feel that you went too far when you took revenge on her, but if you think from another angle, if you didn't do that, the one who would have lost her reputation wouldn't be her but you. If she hadn't gone so far when doing that thing, it wouldn't have backfired on her. People in this world are unpredictable. Someone would hate you for no reason, while other people would let go of their hatred after some time."

In the past, she hated Katrina even though she was her older sister.

However, she let go of her hatred in the end.

As for Pearl, she used to hate Maisie, but did she still hate her now? Maisie picked up her coffee and said, "It seems like you've become even wiser after marrying Helios."

Barbara chuckled.

"Well, I learned it from you."

At that moment, Maisie's phone rang. It was Louis.

After Louis said something to her, she ended the call and picked up her purse.

"Ryleigh is giving birth today. Let's go to the hospital."

Both of them rushed to the hospital.

Outside of the delivery room...

Louis was sitting on the bench, his body leaning forward and his legs wide spread. He clasped his hands tightly.

The longer he waited, the more tormented he was.

Larissa was pacing in the corridor.

When she saw Maisie, she called out to her, "Maisie."

"Louis, Aunt Larissa."

She stopped for a moment to catch her breath.

"Ryleigh hasn't come out yet?"

"Not yet. It has been three hours."

Larissa was both anxious and worried.

At that moment, they heard a baby's cries in the delivery room.

Louis stood up and walked up to the delivery room.

The nurse opened the door and came out with a smile on her face as she said,

"Mrs. Lucas has given birth to a boy. Congratulations, Mr. Lucas."

Louis was stunned.

"It's a boy?"

'But I want a daughter!' While the nurse was dumbfounded, Larissa came over and pushed him.

"It doesn't matter if it's a son or a daughter. You should hurry up and go check on your wife."

It was only then Louis came around to his senses.

He rushed into the delivery room to check on his wife.

"Ryleigh!"

Ryleigh's face was pale, and she was extremely weak because she had just given birth. When Louis knelt beside the bed and grabbed her hand, she couldn't help but cry out, "I'll never give birth again."

"Alright, alright. We're not having any more babies."

Louis wiped the tears off her face and leaned forward to kiss her forehead.

"You've done a great job, Ryleigh."

After that, Ryleigh was pushed back into her ward.

Maisie and Barbara were happy for her since she had finally given birth to her baby.

The nurse and Larrisa brought the baby over and said.

"Come, take a look at your baby."

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Ryleigh carefully carried the baby in her arms. She was stunned when the baby grabbed her thumb with his little fingers.

"So, all babies are so tiny when they are born."

"That's right. Louis was this tiny as well when I gave birth to him. His skin was all wrinkled up, and he was ugly," Larrisa chimed in.

Louis was rendered speechless, and Ryleigh chuckled.

Louis sat at the side of the bed and took the baby over from Ryleigh.

The baby started crying as soon as he was in Louis' arms. He panicked and asked,

"Why is he crying?"

Maisie walked over.

"Come, let me carry him."

She took over the baby from Louis and held him in her arms. She patted the baby gently with practiced ease.

After a minute, the baby stopped crying.

Larrisa came over and laughed.

"It seems like he likes you very much, Maisie."

The nurse brought the baby back to the nursery.

Maisie and Barbara did not stay back since they knew Ryleigh needed to rest, so both of them left the hospital.

Late at night, Tanner stood at the bedroom door and hesitated to go in.

His cheeks puffed up, and he frowned deeply upon hearing the continuous coughing inside.

In the end, he turned the door handle and entered the room.

Pearl was lying on the bed.

An ashen hue overspread her face, and she looked sick.

Tanner walked over to the bed and put his hand on her forehead.

It seemed to him that she had a fever again.

He pulled the drawer open and took out the antipyretic medicine she didn't finish last time. He got a cup of warm water and sat by

the bed. He lifted her up in his arms and fed her the medicine.

Pearl's eyes rolled around in her socket as she slowly opened her eyes.
The bedside lamp was bright and stung her eyes.
As she slowly came around to her senses, she looked up from below, and Tanner's silhouette became clear in the light.
She lifted her hand slowly and smacked the cup away.
The cup fell to the floor and shattered just like her heart at that time.
The sudden noise shattered the silence, and the atmosphere in the room became more depressing.
She thought he would punish her again, but after a long while, Tanner just held her shoulders and helped her lie back down on the bed.
Pearl looked at him and asked, "Aren't you angry?"
Tanner was stunned and lifted his head to look at her.
There was a Sarcastic smile in her eyes as if she was laughing at his actions.
"You should be angry that I don't accept your kindness."
She got up from the bed and went closer to him.
"Just throw whatever tricks you have at me.If I can make it through, you can keep torturing me.If I can't make it through, then I'll die.It's not a big deal."
Tanner's face turned grim.
"Stop it.You have gone too far.I don't want to fight with you today."
"Is it me or you that has gone too far?"
Pearl looked at him intently, her gaze so sharp and cold that Tanner couldn't bear looking at her.He pushed her away and shouted, "Stop it, Pearl!"
Pearl let out a cold smile after she was pushed away by Tanner.
She lifted the covers and got out of bed.
"You keep showing me affection again and again, and you refuse to let me die.Could it be that you've fallen i n love with me?"
His chest was heaving up and down vigorously, and his expression changed.
"What the h*ll are you talking about?"
His steps faltered, but he forced himself to calm down.
"Do you think I would fall in love with a despicable and indecent woman like you?"
'Despicable? Indecent? So this is how he thinks about me"
She should have known that long ago, so why bother to ask for anything else? Tanner's heart clenched, and a pang shot through him upon capturing the disappointment in Pearl's eyes.
Had he fallen in love with Pearl? How could he fall in love with Pearl? Sandy wouldn't have lost all her hopes and killed herself if it weren't for her.
Therefore, he would never fall in love with Pearl.
Yes, never! He grabbed her shoulders tightly and said through gritted teeth, "Pearl Santiago, I warn you.Stop saying nonsense like this in front of me.I won't let you die because I want to torture you.I want you to live to pay for everything you did to her.I'll never, ever fall in love with you!"

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'I'll never, ever fall in love with you!' Pearl was stunned. She felt as if someone had stabbed her in her heart. Her shoulders trembled, and tears began to roll down from her eyes. "I didn't—"

Tanner clasped his hands on her cheeks and pulled her closer. Pearl bit into his shoulder so hard that he pushed her away reflexively in pain, causing her to fall on the glass shards on the floor. "Pearl!"

Tanner hurriedly ran over and scooped her up from the floor. His whole body trembled when he saw the scene in front of him. The glass shards had stabbed into Pearl's cheek. Tanner carried her in his arms and rushed her to the hospital. At the hospital...

Tanner sat against the wall of the emergency exit. The floor was littered with cigarette butts, and his palm and collar were dyed with her blood.

When he thought about the wounds on Pearl's cheek, Tanner covered his face with his palms in pain as a tear slid down in the darkness. He returned to the ward despondently and sat down on the chair next to the bed.

Pearl was lying on the bed with her right cheek covered in gauze. He held her cold hand tremblingly against his forehead.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry."

He did not mean it. He did not want to hurt her at all. His brain was blank, and he did not know what he should do right now.

Tanner placed her hand against his cheek and tightened his grip as he watched Pearl, who was still sleeping.

The next morning...

Tanner opened his eyes and woke up.

When he couldn't feel Pearl's hand, he jerked up from the chair.

However, the bed was empty, and Pearl was nowhere to be seen.

"Pearl!"

Tanner shouted.

He ran to the corridor and stopped a nurse.

"Where is the patient in this ward?"

The nurse was stunned.

"Is the patient not in the room?"

A bad feeling rose up from Tanner's stomach pit, and he shouted, "Quickly! I want to see the surveillance footage!"

"But unauthorized personnel aren't allowed to watch the surveillance footage—"

Before the nurse could finish her sentence, Tanner interrupted her forcefully and shouted, "Ask your director to come and see me if anything happens. Hurry up and get me the surveillance footage now. If something happens to her, I'll bring this hospital down!"

Pearl walked barefoot on the street in her hospital gown, and a jacket draped over her shoulder.

The wind was cold as it blew through her long hair and bit through her skin, but her heart was already dead.

Everyone on the street was looking at her, and an old woman selling potatoes on the street stopped her.

"Girl, why did you run out of the hospital and wear so little? Aren't you cold?"

Her eyes rolled around in the sockets as she parted her chapped lips open.

"No...I'm not cold."

The old woman handed a hot potato to her and said, "Here, take this and eat it to warm up yourself. You're still young, and you still have a long way to go. You shouldn't think too much. Hurry up and go back to the hospital."

Pearl looked at her, and her eyes turned red around the rims. She lowered her head to eat the potato.

Tears began to roll down her cheeks as she laughed in despair.

Meanwhile, Tanner was looking for her on the street in his car. He had made several calls in a row, and in the end, he called

Helios. Helios picked up his call and said, "Tanner?"

Tanner calmed himself down and said, "Helios, help me to find Pearl. She has run away from the hospital. I'm worried that she might..."

Helios fell silent for a moment before saying, "Okay. I'll get someone to look for her, and I'll get back to you when we find her."

Helios took a deep breath, and he gripped the steering wheel even tighter. He couldn't imagine if she really left him... He stamped on the accelerator.

The seawater beat against the rocks and the snow-white waves covered the moss in the cracks of the rocks.

Pearl stood under the ivory-colored lighthouse.

Her feet were frozen and filled with wounds after coming all the way here.

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