

A Cue for Love Chapter 1127

Chapter 1127 Like You More

Samuel was so domineering that he didn't allow Natalie to rebuff him. Before she could even react to the situation properly, she had already been placed on the couch by him. "You..." Gently biting her lip, she spoke softly as shyness reflected in her eyes. "Emma's still here, you know..."

"It doesn't matter if she's around or not. You only have yourself to blame for running around barefooted after waking up." Samuel placed her clean, fair feet on his thick and firm thighs. Glancing at her, he lectured, "If you feel embarrassed, that's a good thing because this means you'll remember not to repeat the same mistake!"

Natalie was speechless. What do I do? Why do I feel like I'm a child being taught a lesson? When she heard a soft chuckle coming from behind her, she turned around and saw Emma covering her mouth while watching the couple. "Emma, I—"

"No need to explain, Ms. Nichols. I know what's going on. You're just having a romantic moment with Mr. Bowers. Your slippers should still be upstairs. I'll bring them down for you right away," Emma replied with a grin.

Natalie was bereft of speech. Emma shifted her line of sight from Natalie's blushing face and headed upstairs to retrieve the younger woman's slippers. Natalie shot a glare at Samuel coyly. "It's your fault that Emma misunderstood me!"

"Misunderstood what?" His warm, coarse palm gently rubbed between her feet as he flashed her a half-smile. "Emma's right. We are having a romantic moment as a married couple."

"You—" She was momentarily rendered speechless by his words. "Why do I feel like you've gotten better at flirting after returning from the mountains?"

"Because, when I was tip-toeing on the edge of life and death..." Samuel stared at Natalie deeply. "I was thinking about the things I regretted in my life. I thought about many things, but, in the end, the thing I regretted the most was being unable to dote on you and make you happy. Thankfully, the heavens gave me another chance. So, of course I'm going to treasure our time even more and use all I have to dote on you."

His sweet words warmed her heart.

"Was it because you were afraid I would leave without saying anything again that you forgot to put on your slippers before you ran to my side?" he inquired in a deep, hoarse voice.

She nodded. "Idiot." He sighed. "I told you, I'm really not lying this time. The poison in my body is completely gone. I can keep staying by your side until you die."

Her eyes reddened as she nodded continuously. Seeing how in love she was with him made his heart ache terribly.

"I went way overboard with my lies in the past and hurt you too deeply." Samuel pulled her body into his embrace. "Don't worry. I swear I won't let you feel so afraid again!"

Placing her head on his chest, Natalie calmed down as she listened to his heartbeat. "Samuel..."

"Hmm?" "During your departure, I came to understand something." She spoke as if she was talking to herself. "I think I like you more than I realize. I don't really know how to describe it... During the day, I can pretend like I don't miss you at all. But during the middle of the night, I would miss you so badly that I thought I was going crazy..."

That was why she still felt uneasy, even though Samuel had safely returned to her.

"This is strange. I'm feeling happy, yet I'm also experiencing heartache." He left a kiss on her forehead. "Thank you for missing me. I, Samuel Bowers, won't let you down!"

When the children were halfway down the stairs, they saw their father kissing their mother's forehead. Their father was handsome, while their mother looked gorgeous, making them feel as though they were watching a romantic scene from a movie.

The children were afraid the sound of their footsteps would ruin that beautiful scene, so they leaned on the railing quietly. They beamed at their parents as they watched the scene unfold in secret with their eyes shining brightly.

A Cue for Love Chapter 1128

Chapter 1128 Background Of Yumi

After letting go of Natalie, Samuel returned to the kitchen to prepare breakfast. A short while later, he magically served a table full of food.

Although it was only the first meal of the day, he prepared a wide selection of dishes, and all the food looked delicious and smelled wonderful. Even Emma couldn't help but give him a heartfelt thumbs-up.

The five kids were elated to see their lavish breakfast. Not only did they get to enjoy a scrumptious meal, but they also had their father and mother to keep them company. That blissful moment was indeed a luxury beyond words.

The five children consumed their food at a faster rate than usual. Even Natalie had her head lowered and seemed to be inhaling her food.

Emma's culinary skills were actually not bad, but Natalie had grown accustomed to Samuel's cooking. When he wasn't around, she dearly missed the food that he made. Now that she could indulge in his cuisines again, she had to eat her fill. After they finished their meal, Emma cleared the table.

Since Zophie kidnaped Yumi, the kids had stopped attending their classes at the kindergarten. Natalie and Samuel had hired reliable tutors to give them lessons at home instead. Upon finishing their breakfast, the children went to the study on the second floor to wait for the arrival of their tutors.

At that moment, Natalie halted Yumi. "Yumi..." "Mommy?" The little girl turned around and regarded Natalie with her large, gleaming eyes.

"Yumi, I need to talk to you." Natalie walked up to Yumi and crouched down so that their lines of vision were leveled. "Why don't you accompany me to the garden? I think the lotus flowers in the garden should be blooming around this time of the year."

Sensing Natalie's desire to speak to Yumi alone, Samuel said to the other four kids, "Follow me upstairs, all of you. Let's have a chat. I want to know your study progress when I wasn't around."

The four kids were intelligent and perceptive. They figured Natalie must have something important to talk to Yumi, so they followed their father upstairs with alacrity.

Moments later, Natalie and Yumi arrived at the backyard garden.

Two white lotus flowers blossomed in the pond in the backyard, with glistening dew rolling off the green lotus leaves.

"Mommy, I have a lot of things to tell you." Now that she was alone with Natalie, Yumi abandoned all hesitation and took the initiative to speak. "Mommy, you nearly lost your life to rescue me this time. But I... I actually still have a lot of secrets I haven't let you know. If I had come clean to you earlier, perhaps those bad guys wouldn't have hurt you."

Yumi was caught in a dilemma previously about whether she should divulge her background to Natalie, as she feared the latter would ditch her because of how dangerous she was.

However, things changed after she witnessed the way Natalie had risked her life to save her.

Mommy truly loves me, just like she loves Franklin, Sophia, Xavian, and Clayton. For this reason, I must tell Mommy everything I know.

In fact, Natalie had already guessed Yumi's background for the most part. Still, she didn't interrupt the little girl and listened quietly to her account of her secret.

"My family name is Jankovich, and Yumi is not my real name. My real name is Xandra Jankovich. My father died before I was born, so I only have my mother to keep me company. Since I was little, I followed my mother and two aunts to guard the mausoleum. In the past, many men wanted to open the royal mausoleum, but all of them died, falling into the traps within. If someone wishes to avoid the traps, they must acquire the jade key belonging to the Jankovich family. We don't have to stay beside the royal mausoleum because what we guard is not the place itself but this jade key. Mother said there are heroic souls and heaps of treasure inside the royal mausoleum, so we cannot give the jade key to bad people. Otherwise, a lot of people will bleed and die. One day, a few nasty men in black barged into my home, captured my mother, and killed her."

Yumi's eyes reddened at that point as tears streamed down her cheeks.

"My aunts covered my mouth and brought me on a desperate run. We escaped from Loang to Chanaea. To protect me, my aunts were also killed by those bad people. In the end, I became an unwanted orphan and was sent to the orphanage. My mother and aunts died to safeguard me, yet I failed to preserve what they passed down to me."

Even though Yumi had experienced plenty of hardships and was more mature and sensible than her peers, she was undoubtedly still a child. She couldn't help but cry her eyes out.

The little girl didn't understand a thing about the treasure.

She only knew that all the people she loved the most had permanently left her one after the other because of the jade key.

"Yumi, who said you haven't protected the thing they handed to you well?" Natalie wiped the tears off the corner of Yumi's eyes. "You've tried very hard to protect the jade key this entire time, and you've done a splendid job thus far!"

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Chapter 1129 Smooth Sailing

Hearing that, Yumi looked up abruptly and gazed at Natalie in disbelief. "B-But I saw you give the jade key to that terrible woman." Yumi realized she might've structured her sentence in a way that Natalie might misunderstand that she was blaming her, so she swiftly explained, "Mommy, that's not what I meant."

I-I know you had no choice but to give the jade key to that person because you wanted to save me. Ultimately, everything happened because of my incompetence. I was too young and incapable of protecting my mother, aunts, and you, my mommy. If I had been able to fend for myself back then, you wouldn't have had to risk losing your life to rescue me." Yumi sobbed and wept uncontrollably as she spoke.

She had been keeping up a tough pretense whenever she was around Franklin, Sophia, Xavian, and Clayton, always acting as if she was fine and everything was well. She could only behave like an ordinary child when she was with Natalie, being able to cry and disclose all the pent-up troubles in her heart.

Natalie gently patted Yumi's back, allowing the little girl to cry to her heart's content. This child is carrying too much burden at such a young age. She's so mature and thoughtful that my heart aches for her.

After crying for a long while, Yumi slumped against Natalie's shoulder in exhaustion. "Yumi, I didn't give the jade key to that woman," Natalie said tenderly.

"How is that possible?" Yumi stared at Natalie with tear-stained eyes. "Mommy, I saw you handing the jade key to that woman." "That key was a replica."

"What?" "The jade key you saw was a fake. I asked someone to make a copy according to the real genuine jade key. This jade key is very significant to you and your family, so I will never hand it over to someone else without your permission. When you gave me the jade key in the past, I mentioned I would only help you keep it temporarily. When you're older and have the ability to protect yourself and the key, I'll return it to you."

Exhilaration and astonishment rose within Yumi's chest after she listened to Natalie's speech.

She was thrilled because the jade key didn't fall into the hands of evil people, and she was astounded because of the love and care Natalie had shown her.

She and Natalie weren't related by blood, but all the latter had done for her had deeply touched her.

Yumi was at a loss for words. In the end, she hugged Natalie while crying and laughing at the same time. "Mommy, thank you! Thank you so much! Thank you for saving me and helping me to secure the belonging my mother left behind for me. I will be good and grow up well. When I become powerful in the future, I'll protect and take care of you like how you treat me now."

Sensing Yumi's sincerity, Natalie beamed at her and nodded. "Sure. I'll wait for the day to arrive."

"Okay!"

Meanwhile, Bastien exited the royal mausoleum with a gash on his arm.

Seeing Bastien's arm that was covered in blood, Joseph hastily strode forward. "Why are you hurt?"

Ashen-faced, Bastien gripped his right arm, which was spewing out dark color blood, and uttered in an undertone, "Don't ask so many questions. I can't hold on any longer. Hurry up and summon the royal physician over to treat my injury."

With that, he passed out on the spot.

Joseph furrowed his brows. Not daring to dawdle, he quickly carried Bastien on his back and brought him to the temporary imperial residence nearby the royal mausoleum to get some rest.

After the royal physician came to detoxify and bandage Bastien's wound, he couldn't help but say with lingering fear in his chest, "Commander Wesley, luckily Prince Jonathan was able to receive immediate treatment. Otherwise, not only might his arm be crippled, but he might also lose his life."

Upon hearing that, Joseph shifted his gaze to the unconscious Bastien in bafflement. Prince Jonathan went into the royal mausoleum with the jade key. The journey should have been smooth sailing, so why did he come out of that place with such a grave injury?

A Cue for Love Chapter 1130

Chapter 1130 She Is Mine

Joseph took care of Bastien meticulously. In the evening, Bastien showed signs of waking up. With much effort, he opened his eyes and saw Joseph sitting by his bedside with a concerned look on his face. Bastien glanced at the layers of bandage on his arm and asked nervously, "Joseph, my arm..."

"Mr. Nine, we managed to get you to the hospital in time. Your arm is fine. You will make a complete recovery after a period of rest." Joseph paused and continued hesitantly, "I thought you had the jade key? How did you injure your arm so seriously?"

Bastien was leaning back against a cushion when a cold glint flashed across his gentle eyes as he replied, "That jade key is fake." "Fake?" A deep crease appeared between Joseph's brows.

"Even though the key fitted into the lock, it couldn't be used to open the secret room. As I used force, it activated the traps instead. This happened because I was too careless..." Bastien continued coldly, "Not only was Zophie deceived, but I have also been deceived. This jade key is an exact replica of the real thing. The only person in

Loang who is capable of replicating the jade key so well is Varre Appleby. However, he disappeared more than a decade ago...”

It was as if the man had suddenly fallen off the face of the Earth. The royal family had made attempts to find him but to no avail. No one had expected that Varre was still alive and had even created an exact replica of the jade key.

“Mr. Nine, so where’s the real key?” Joseph was confused. After a pause, he said hesitantly, “Could... Could Major General Sutton have switched it out when he was questioning Zophie? Maybe he’s thinking of keeping the key for himself?”

Bastien narrowed his eyes and shook his head. “It wasn’t Jerome. It was someone else who took the key.” “Who?”

“Natalie,” Bastien answered. “She’s probably the only person who could have deceived both Zophie and myself. Well, she has outsmarted me once again...”

“What?” Joseph exclaimed in shock. Both Joseph and Bastien fell into deep thought.

Even though Natalie hasn’t been here for long, she has a good relationship with the Sutton family. They are so close that Daniel even went against me because of her. On top of that, she also knows Varre, who has been missing for so long, and was able to get him to duplicate the jade key with such short notice...

What’s more intriguing is that she is such a master of stratagem and was able to calculate and execute every step so perfectly...

No matter who got their hands on the fake jade key, they would all end up suffering. Bastien could not help but wonder what would have happened if he had been more careless. He might have even lost his arm.

“That woman... She’s making me love and hate her at the same time...” The determination in Bastien’s eyes became increasingly intense as the man’s infatuation for Natalie grew deeper. Not only is she so wild and beautiful, but under her gorgeous appearance is also a cunning and ingenious mind.

“Natalie has caused you such misery...” Joseph wanted to ask further but stopped mid-sentence. Are you intending to just let the matter slide?

Bastien glanced at his injured arm and said placidly, “Joseph, spread the news that I got injured in the royal mausoleum around. Make it sound as serious as possible. Also, let Blaze know that the jade key in my possession is a counterfeit. In the coming days, I will focus on my recovery and see how the situation develops while waiting for Blaze to force Natalie to hand over the real jade key...”

Joseph understood that Bastien did not want to confront Natalie directly and wanted Blaze to do the dirty job instead.

The mantis, busy stalking the cicada, would not be aware of the bird behind.

Between Blaze and Natalie, regardless of who the mantis or cicada was, the bird would certainly be Bastien, watching the mantis' every move.

"How's the investigation going? Is the man behind Blaze that person?" Bastien asked nonchalantly.

Joseph nodded solemnly and replied, "It's just as you thought. King, the mastermind behind Blaze, is the person you had in mind."

Bastien pressed his lips together and let out a sigh. "No matter how much that person wants to be at the top, there can only be one king, and it would be me."

Of course, there was something else that the man omitted from his sentence.

Not only will I become the king, but I will also have Natalie as my queen!