

## Always Been Yours Chapter 976-980

### Chapter 976 Fetal Movement

Richelle sneered, obviously not believing a single word that dripped from Susan's poisonous lips. On the other hand, Susan dropped the entire topic even though her eyes showed slight traces of frustration. Since this woman misunderstood me for being jealous of Tessa, so be it. As for me, I'm likely to expose myself if I continue this topic.

"Fine, then. I won't say anything anymore since you aren't bothered by this. I hope you can make it to the top and shine bright in the orchestra soon."

When Richelle heard that Susan sounded somewhat sincere, she thought Susan had given up on provoking her into acting rashly toward Tessa. Then, she kindly advised Susan, saying, "You should cheer up too. Stop being hostile toward Tessa."

Although Susan maintained a polite smile on the surface, indicating she understood where Richelle was coming from, deep down, she actually felt utter disdain for the other woman. What a foolish woman. Unlike you, who gets afraid after failing just once, I always strive for what I want. Also, only an idiotic woman like you will be willing to forfeit the chance to become more than ordinary. On the contrary, I will do everything in my power to become extraordinary.

On this day, Remus had called for the Sawyer Family to gather for a meal when he remembered that they hadn't had a meal together even though Nicholas had returned for so long.

During the meal, Stefania nagged Nicholas, "Why didn't you bring Greg back with you when you returned to Xerthania?"

"Greg has classes, so Tessa said she'll bring him back to see you all when it's the holiday season."

Nicholas relayed Tessa's regards.

Although the elders of the Sawyers spoke nothing of it outwardly, inwardly, they were all pleased with Tessa's consideration.

Suddenly, Remus said, "She's been pregnant for five months or so now, right? What's the matter? Is she not planning to return to Xerthania during her pregnancy?"

Stefania was also hit with a sudden realization when she heard this, and she inquired with a frown, "Does she have plans to give birth in Xerthania?"

"It's still far too early to discuss this matter. The baby is only five months old. So there's no rush."

Although Nicholas was aware of their thoughts, he also knew now was a crucial moment for Tessa. He didn't want to hold her up for the baby's sake.

Unfortunately, Stefania didn't know what the hold-up was.

Hence, she felt very dissatisfied after she heard Nicholas' words. "How is it not a rush? Could it be that you plan to only let her return to Xerthania when she's seven or eight months pregnant?"

"It's not a big deal whether she's seven or eight months pregnant. I'll make proper arrangements for everything. I won't let any mishaps happen to her and the baby," Nicholas said with great confidence. After all, he was genuinely convinced that he would be able to handle anything, come hell or high water.

When they saw that Nicholas had made such bold proclamations, Stefania and Remus couldn't voice their dissatisfaction, no matter how badly they wished.

Meanwhile, Tessa had no clue about what was happening in the Sawyer Residence.

She was so swamped with the release of her new album, training, and taking care of Gregory that she was as busy as a bee.

Now that she had almost completed her compositions, another daily task added to her usual musical training: practicing those new songs.

In addition, perhaps due to the baby growing in her belly, she became easily fatigued despite only working for a full day.

After dinner, Gregory was distraught when he saw Tessa sitting on the couch tiredly.

"Mommy, let me give you a massage. You won't feel tired after the massage."

As he spoke, he knelt on the couch and helped Tessa to massage her arm.

When she regarded the severe look on the little guy's face, she felt highly gratified and touched to have such an attentive son.

"You are such a kind child, sweetheart. You even know how to care for me now."

She didn't stop him. Instead, she praised the little guy greatly for his loving gesture.

Gregory's face blushed when he heard Tessa's compliment, looking adorable.

Then, he looked happily at Tessa and asked, "Mommy, do you feel better?"

"I'm feeling much better. Thank you, Greg," Tessa replied. Then, suddenly, her facial expression stiffened—an inconceivable look flashed in her eyes as if she was amazed by something.

Gregory was far from blind, so he immediately asked in confusion, "What's wrong, Mommy?"

"Greg, the baby moved just now."

When Tessa came back to her senses, she excitedly shared the happy news with the little guy.

However, Gregory didn't understand what Tessa's words meant. So, the befuddlement in his eyes only grew stronger as he pressed for answers, "The baby moved? What does that mean, Mommy?"

The moment she laid her eyes on his clearly bewildered ones, she realized she didn't know how to explain this phenomenon to him.

Coincidentally, at this moment, she once again felt the baby move. Thus, she instantly grabbed Gregory's hand and placed it on her belly.

Gregory's eyes widened in surprise as he felt the movement against his palm.

"Mommy, y-your belly is kicking my hand," he stammered with excitement.

At once, Tessa burst into laughter as she looked at Gregory's dumbfounded state. "It's not my belly that's kicking your hand. That's your baby sister saying hello to you."

"Baby sister?"

Gregory was stunned for a moment. Then, finally, as if he had an epiphany, he chirped happily, "Baby sister, are you saying hello to me because you know that I'm your brother?"

### **Chapter 977 Nicholas Gets Emotional**

Gregory nattered on happily to the healthy baby growing within Tessa's belly.

Meanwhile, Tessa didn't interrupt Gregory's evident enthusiasm as she gazed at him fondly, wholly enraptured by his curiosity toward the new life she was nurturing.

Suddenly, the phone she had placed aside rang loudly, somewhat shattering the peaceful atmosphere between mother and son. However, when she checked the notification, her eyes lit up with delight when she saw that it was a video call request from Nicholas.

"What are you two doing?"

Nicholas' gentle voice came from the phone.

When Tessa was about to tell Nicholas the good news, she was preempted by the excited Gregory.

"Daddy! My baby sister moved just now. She even knew that I was her brother and said hello to me!"

Nicholas was momentarily stunned when he heard Gregory's words. But, then, his astonishment was instantly followed by slight envy and disappointment when he realized that he couldn't be there with his family and experience that joy with them.

As for Gregory, he didn't notice the strange look on Nicholas' face at all and was still happily bragging about it, "Daddy, my baby sister must like me!"

Nicholas' mood took a turn for the worse when he heard that.

So, he decided to ignore Gregory as he looked toward his wife and pretty much demanded impatiently, "Let me see your belly."

Judging by the tone of his voice, it was only natural for her to sense his jealousy toward his own son, no less. Therefore, she shifted the camera to her belly as she giggled in amusement.

Any tinge of displeasure or envy instantly vanished from Nicholas' eyes as a soft, adoring look replaced them while he looked at Tessa's bulging belly.

"Baby, it's me, Daddy," said Nicholas in a highly gentle voice.

Perhaps, as they say, 'blood is thicker than water', Tessa felt the baby in her belly move slightly after his words.

At this moment, a great sense of tenderness and contentment flowed in her heart.

Alas, before she could fully immerse herself in the joy of having a wonderful family, Nicholas' slightly anxious voice rang in her ears. "Honey, do you feel any movement from the baby?"

"Yes. She heard you when you called her just now."

Tessa stroked her belly while beaming, all the while exuding a maternal aura due to her pregnancy.

He could barely hold onto his composure due to his apparent joy. Yet he still thought that she might just be coaxing him as he inquired, "Did the baby really move? Why didn't I see it?"

Earlier, to avoid missing the chance to witness such a momentous occasion, he had been staring at the video screen unblinkingly. Not only that, he even slowed down the pace of his breathing.

Even so, he didn't see any apparent changes.

As she regarded the man, who was a little blunder, she snorted and said, "Since the baby is still small now, the fetal movement won't be so obvious. That's why it's hard to tell just by looking at it with naked eyes. You can ask Greg if you don't believe it. He should've felt it too just now."

"Daddy, baby sister really moved just now." Gregory hurriedly spoke up and testified to Tessa's statement with a firm nod.

When Nicholas heard that, he was thrilled. "It seems that the baby also knows that I'm her Daddy. That was why she greeted me."

Sure enough, as someone who knew Nicholas well, how could Tessa have no idea that he was bragging after she heard the arrogant tone in his voice?

Therefore, she chuckled with amusement as she turned the camera back to show her face. "Yeah. You've been gone for so many days, so she must be missing you."

"I miss her as well as the both of you too."

Nicholas expressed his longing, revealing his rare emotional side.

The smile on Tessa's face became more tender after she heard his words. "I miss you too."

"Daddy, although you always snatch Mommy away from me, I still miss you. Daddy, when will you return home?" Gregory moved closer to the phone and squeezed near Tessa while doing so.

His direct yet earnest remarks were so honest that it made the couple huff in amusement at one point.

Just like that, although they weren't together in person, the three still managed to have a great time together.

Later in the evening, Nicholas urged Tessa and Gregory to rest when he saw that it was far past their bedtime, "Rest early. If I'm not mistaken, both of you have musical training bright and early tomorrow."

With that said, Tessa and Gregory reluctantly bid goodbye to Nicholas. When that was done, the mother and son retired for the night.

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Meanwhile, in Xerthania, Nicholas sat in Sawyer Group's president's office.

Although Nicholas had hung up the phone, deep down, he couldn't wait to return to his family.

Thus, with that in mind, he called Edward into his office and asked, "What else do I need to attend to personally?"

Despite not knowing why Nicholas asked him such a question, he still picked up the file and reported accordingly.

After he listened intently to Edward's account of which affairs needed a few personal touches here and there, he coldly instructed, "Inform the employees that we'll be working overtime for a few days. I want all these affairs completed within a week."

Edward nodded affirmatively and hastily darted out to make the appropriate arrangements once he received such an order.

At this moment, Edward already had a vague guess in his heart. Considering President Sawyer is behaving so impatiently, he's most definitely in a rush to return to his lovely wife.

The reality was not far from Edward's guess. Nicholas had indeed begun to work like the hellhounds were chasing after him because he desperately wanted to be rid of any obstacle that would prevent him from reuniting with his family as soon as possible.

As a result, his high efficiency with close to no regard for his personal health also caused his employees to get into gear as they rushed their respective deadlines.

### **Chapter 978 Eunice's Instigation**

Meanwhile, Eunice felt dejected for a whole two days after she learned that Nicholas had returned to Xerthania.

On the contrary, Tessa was full of passion as she trained. When Eunice saw such a drastic difference, especially when she considered Tessa her love rival, she couldn't help but feel that Tessa's presence was an eyesore.

So, she figured she needed to do something to turn the tables. Therefore, she planned to find Wanda to gather information about Nicholas' whereabouts. However, she didn't expect Wanda wasn't in the hotel.

Hence, she instantly whisked out her phone and called Wanda, "Where are you now? Why did you check out of the hotel?"

On the other end of the phone, Wanda frowned at Eunice's demanding tone. It was only natural for her to feel displeased to be ordered about by someone she didn't even know that well. So, she retorted, "I have gone back to Xerthania, so naturally, I have to check out."

"You've left?"

Eunice was momentarily stunned by Wanda's odd behavior. Still, she was an intelligent woman, so it didn't take her long for her to figure out what had happened. Unfortunately, the conclusion she arrived

at was rather shocking, so she blurted out the truth, "Mr. Sawyer just left, and you went back shortly after. So you're chasing after him, aren't you?"

Even though Eunice hit the nail on the head with her exclamation, Wanda didn't intend to discuss this matter with her.

"What is it that you want? If there's nothing else, I'm hanging up."

Due to the time difference, it was already midnight in Xerthania.

Likewise, Eunice could sense Wanda's impatience, and she couldn't help but feel snubbed. Thus, when she replied, her voice became a tad colder.

"Miss Muller, considering we have reached an alliance, I'm not pleased with your attitude."

Wanda pulled the corners of her mouth into a sneer. Ridiculous! How can I agree to reach an alliance with a woman who covets my future husband? Of course, I merely said that to her because she was still valuable. I didn't expect her to really take herself as more than a mere pawn in my hand.

Even though she despised Eunice, Wanda didn't let her distaste for the woman show through her tone.

Instead, she restrained her temper and asked with slightly more patience, "What is it that you want from me exactly?"

Eunice only felt satisfied and started spilling her intentions after hearing Wanda's attitude change.

"I'm here to relay a message to you, of course. I didn't know you would actually return to Xerthania."

"Get straight to the point. I'm exhausted, and I don't have all night."

Wanda immediately cut Eunice off as she didn't want to waste time listening to her nonsense.

Eunice pouted before finally cutting to the chase as she suggested, "Tessa is going to release an album here in Vienna. She'll have both reputation and status if she succeeds. I think you probably don't want to see her become famous, right?"

Frankly, Wanda truly didn't want to see Tessa reaching better heights, for that would only shave down her chances to compete for a place in Nicholas' heart.

Even so, Eunice failed to instigate her. Wanda chuckled lightly and refuted, "I think it's not just me who doesn't want to see Tessa succeed. You probably don't want to see it, too, right?"

"You're right. I don't want to either." Eunice admitted.

Wanda snorted at that before she added, "Speak your mind. What is it that you want to do?"

"I think this is a good chance for us to act. After all, reputation works both ways. If she succeeds, it can bring infinite glory to her career. But, on the contrary, if there's a scandal, it will drag her reputation down to the mud. Think about it, will the Sawyers, a notable family, accept a young lady with a tainted image?" Eunice said, trying to enthrall Wanda into doing her bidding.

Wanda naturally sensed the hidden meaning behind Eunice's words. In an instant, her facial expression turned frigid. The audacity of this woman to come up with such a 'well-thought' plan. She thinks I have no idea that she wants to provoke me to scheme against Tessa and reap all the benefits. It's too bad that I'm not going to grant her wish. Now, all I want to do is plot against her. Besides, she's also a competitor for Nicholas' heart, and I don't necessarily need to scheme against Tessa to prune off the competition, as it were.

"Your idea is pretty good, but I'm currently in Xerthania, so I'm afraid I won't be able to get involved in this."

"As long as you have the determination, I'm sure you'll be able to pull it off!" Eunice continued to persuade Wanda.

Obviously, she wanted to use Wanda as a pawn.

Little did Eunice know, Wanda had the same intention too.

"I'm only capable of successfully pulling off a plan if Tessa is in Xerthania since this is my home turf. But Tessa is currently in the same orchestra as you, so logically speaking, your chances of succeeding are higher."

Although Wanda sounded calm over the phone, she was a little anxious after ending the call. Eunice clearly has great confidence in winning Nicholas over. It looks like I have to do something soon.

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The next day, Wanda asked her assistant to inquire about Nicholas' schedule for the past two days after she arrived at the company.



It didn't take long for her assistant to report back to her. "President Sawyer has been working overtime with the employees of the entire company for the past two days to follow up on a project. It seems that he attaches great importance to this project."

"Project? What sort of project?"

"I heard it was a project they'd developed with the underdog company that emerged a few years ago, Reinhart Enterprise."

### **Chapter 979 Persuading Nicholas**

Wanda's assistant reported the information she had looked into. Reinhart Enterprise? Isn't that the company founded by Tessa's younger brother? Wanda thought while narrowing her eyes in thought. After that, she ordered, "Get a copy of the detailed information on this project."

Wanda's assistant nodded at her instruction and did as she was told.

Later, an idea popped into Wanda's mind after she finished going through the details. From a business perspective, the prospect of this project is outstanding. I'll surely profit if I invest in the project. Besides, investing in this project can give me an excuse to look for Nicholas in the future.

Due to Nicholas passing the affairs regarding the cooperation between the Muller Group and Sawyer Group to his subordinates, Wanda couldn't get a chance to see him at all. Therefore, she yearned to meet Nicholas, even if it was just for a brief moment.

Even so, in order to prevent Nicholas from rejecting her idea of investing in this project, Wanda intended to bypass him and look for Remus rather than directly searching for him.

Hence, that afternoon, she brought gifts when she paid a visit to Remus in the Sawyer Residence.

"Mr. Sawyer, how are you feeling recently?"

"I'm feeling quite fine."

Remus was quite pleased with Wanda's concern for him.

Excluding that he and Horace were old friends, Remus grew increasingly fond of Wanda as time passed.

In fact, Remus was delighted when he realized that there wasn't a change in Wanda's attitude toward him even after she knew that her chances of being together with Nicholas were slim.

Because of this, he felt even more regretful. Why couldn't Nicholas fancy such a lovely young lady like Wanda?

Meanwhile, Wanda was clueless about the thoughts in Remus' mind. So, she accompanied Remus for a while and only brought up the purpose of her visit when she saw that the timing was right.

"Mr. Sawyer, I'm here today because I have a personal favor I want to ask from you."

"Oh, what is it? I'll definitely help you if it's within my capability."

Perhaps due to the fact that this was Wanda's first time asking him for help and having a slightly guilty conscience in his heart, Remus agreed to Wanda's request quite readily.

Although Wanda was rather clever, she was far from a mind reader. Otherwise, she wouldn't have let such a juicy opportunity slip away. But, still and all, she still managed to receive Remus' support. So, she immediately got to the point after seeing that he was willing to help.

"It's like this. I think the project that Nicholas has developed recently has an excellent prospect. The value of the Muller Group can rise this year if I can collaborate with Nicholas. So, Mr. Sawyer, I would like to ask if you can persuade and perhaps put in a good word for me to Nicholas regarding this project."

"That's an easy task. Sure. I'll talk to Nicholas about this later."

"Thank you, Mr. Sawyer," Wanda said, feeling extremely happy.

She felt she was guaranteed to win that cooperative tie with Sawyer Group for this project, with Remus as her backer.

Yet, little did she know, it was a little early for her to celebrate. Frankly speaking, it was about to become a rather unfortunate trend for her.

That night, Remus invited Nicholas over to the Sawyer Residence for dinner.

The atmosphere in the dining room was considerably harmonious during the meal.

Both of them avoided discussing topics related to Tessa and only addressed the company's affairs.

Later, the topic of their conversation unknowingly touched on the project Nicholas had developed recently. Therefore, Remus took advantage of this situation and brought Nicholas' attention to Wanda's request.

"Why don't you let Wanda participate in this project too, since it has a very good prospect? It's not easy for her to start a business in Xerthania alone."

Nicholas furrowed his brows slightly when he heard Remus' words. He didn't even think twice before he declined by saying, "The company has sufficient funds for the project's development, so we don't need any participation from outsiders. Besides, the company is the one that customizes the high-end watch for this project. The watch is developed with the most advanced technology; each can be sold for up to tens of millions. The profit is extremely substantial, so we don't need Muller Group to have a share in this."

Remus couldn't do anything, considering Nicholas' firm and logical refusal.

Later, after Nicholas left, he conveyed the result of the discussion to Wanda.

Wanda was utterly disappointed after she learned that even Remus could do nothing regarding his grandson.

Regardless, she didn't give up hope.

The following day, Wanda came to Sawyer Group with a proposal that was prepared by her assistant overnight.

As Nicholas leaned against his seat in the grand office, he already knew the intention of Wanda's visit. So, he said coldly, "I think Grandpa made it clear to you yesterday regarding this matter."

"Mr. Sawyer did tell me, but I really think the prospect of this project is full of opportunities. So, Nicholas, I hope you'll give me a chance."

As she spoke, she even handed over the proposal in her hand. "Here: take a look at this proposal that I made based on this project. Also, in order to show my sincerity, I'm willing to invest 100 million to participate in the development. Moreover, I'll add on additional funds later."

Unfortunately, Nicholas didn't take the bait as he still vehemently disagreed with cooperating with her, no matter how good the terms Wanda had offered. In fact, he didn't even take a look at the proposal.

"Sawyer Group isn't short of funds, so Miss Muller, the terms you have offered aren't that appealing to me."

## **Chapter 980 Bottleneck**

As soon as he finished speaking, Nicholas buzzed Edward over and instructed, "Kindly show Miss Muller the way out." Wanda had no other choice except to leave in dismay.

Her mood was pretty terrible by the time she stepped out of the office building. Darn it! Nicholas really isn't giving me the slightest chance at all! Even so, I'll never give up.

Nicholas didn't know about Wanda's thoughts. Once again, he dived into his hectic work schedule after he sent Wanda away.

When he saw that there weren't many affairs left that required him to deal with, he planned to get them done as soon as possible and book a flight to Vienna within these two days.

At the same time, Tessa was also preoccupied with tasks related to her new songs.

After all, if she wanted to present her audiences with good quality songs, she had to put in double the effort not to let the people supporting her down.

Sometimes, she even needed to look for inspiration first before she could produce a song.

For this reason, she bothered Sofia and several of her seniors quite a bit during this period of time.

Gregory was worried sick after he saw Tessa working herself to the bone daily.

But since he was young and inexperienced, he couldn't be of much help. So every day, he could only sensibly behave himself a little and try not to disturb Tessa.

Even so, the progress of Tessa's new song production was still slow going.

This made her extremely anxious.

Meanwhile, Sofia, too, sensed Tessa's emotional fluctuations. Therefore, she suggested to Tessa by saying, "I feel that you've reached a bottleneck phase now. How about this? You don't have to report to the orchestra for these two days. Go and have a walk to get some fresh air with your friends. Relaxing your body and mind may be helpful to you."

As she listened to Sofia's advice, she thought it made sense. Hence, she phoned her best friend, Mona.

"Tessa, aren't you busy with your new songs lately? Is there something urgent?"

"My progress hasn't been very smooth recently. Miss Sofia said that I'd reached a bottleneck phase. She asked me to temporarily put my work down and gave me a two-day break, suggesting that I ask my best friend out for a walk. So, I immediately thought of you. What do you say? Do you want to go shopping with me today?"

Tessa told Mona the truth without intending to hide her actual situation.

Initially, she thought that Mona would happily agree to go shopping with her. Therefore, she was somewhat surprised when Mona rejected her.

“I really want to hang out with you, but I can’t. Not today. Miss Hathaway is giving me special training.”

As she listened to Mona feigning despair, she laughed a little before saying, “Just be glad that Miss Hathaway is keeping an eye on you and giving you personal training.”

Mona giggled in reply. Then, as if she remembered something, she suggested. “By the way, Mr. Brooks has returned to Vienna recently. So, why don’t you look for him and ask him to give you some pointers?”

As she listened, Tessa felt that Mona’s suggestion indeed held some value.

Setting aside the fact that Scott was now a sophisticated musician, he could consistently provide Tessa with different enlightenment with his unique understanding of music.

Thus, she took the initiative to invite Scott for a meet-up after she ended the call with Mona.

Meanwhile, Scott was pretty happy to see Tessa, who seldom asked him out. Plus, she even took the initiative to suggest a get-together.

“Let’s meet there then.”

Scott stated an address, and Tessa readily agreed.

Half an hour later, the two met in a quiet cafe.

A trace of sadness painted across his eyes as he looked at Tessa, who was beamed with joy. Nevertheless, he soon quickly masked his sorrow, for he knew he had no chance to be with Tessa. Being her friend is the best option I can have right now. It’s best that I keep some things hidden from her. Otherwise, we may not even be able to be friends in the future.

On the other hand, Tessa didn’t notice Scott’s oddity and greeted him with a smile, “Mr. Brooks, when did you return to Vienna?”

“Just about two days ago.”

As Scott spoke, he began to express his concern about Tessa’s current situation. “Are you doing well in the Sofia Symphony?”

“Pretty good. Miss Sofia planned to test the water by arranging for me to release an album recently.”

Tessa briefly explained her situation. After that, she said shyly, “Actually, it’s also because I’ve encountered a problem that I asked for a meet-up today. So I want to seek your advice.”

Scott teased her, “Since it’s a problem that can stump you now, it must be a conundrum then.”

“It’s definitely a challenge for me, but not for you.” Tessa blinked and jokingly added, “Mr. Scott, you’re recognized by the industry as a prominent musician of the future. So this problem certainly won’t be a difficult one for you.”

Scott burst into laughter before he replied, "Can I take your words as a compliment to my musical skills?"