

The Promise of Happiness Chapter 46-50

Chapter 46

The siblings' reactions were out of Natalie's expectations.

"Don't say that. What if your mommy has her reasons?" Natalie tried. "There's no mother in this world who does not love her child. She would feel extremely hurt if she heard what you just said."

Franklin and Sophia liked Natalie a lot, but they had to disagree with her.

Franklin turned his head to the side and sneered. "That woman does not love us at all! She just wants to fulfill her celebrity dream. She's using me and Sophia to gain favor with Daddy!"

Even Sophia, being the soft girl she was, disliked Yara.

Soon, Natalie figured out what was going on.

The mother of the children treated them as bargaining chips to marry into the Bowers family. No wonder they resented her so much.

"I could stay in contact with you guys. I can even promise to visit as frequently as I can." This was Natalie's first time appearing so determined in front of the children. "But I can't promise the rest," she concluded.

Although she adored the twins from the Bowers family, she could not just take care of them because of her liking toward them.

Not only would their mother oppose, but their father, Samuel, would do the same as well.

The atmosphere in the room immediately took a turn. The originally cheerful children looked like deflated balloons.

Just then, Samuel returned with a glass of warm water in his hands. Natalie asked Franklin to drink a few sips. After that, she put the two children to bed with the reasoning that Franklin needed more rest.

Despite her decision not to move in, the children still adored Natalie.

Natalie's words were like law to them.

They obediently went to bed, accompanied by the lullaby sung by Natalie.

Soon, it was midnight.

Feeling tired, Natalie massaged her stiff neck as she exited the children's bedroom.

Samuel had stayed with her the entire time while she was pacifying the children.

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"Thanks," he stated as soon as they were face to face.

Without the presence of the two children, Natalie's attitude changed. "Mr. Bowers, it's unlike you to call for me even when you knew that the children were faking it."

"How did you know that I've known all along?"

“You’re always putting up a front in front of Franklin. You actually care for him a lot. Yet, you appeared to be unusually calm when he was supposedly sick today,” Natalie explained. She lifted her gaze to meet his eyes. “I told you that Franklin only needed to drink warm water to soothe his stomachache, and you didn’t question it at all.”

Samuel hummed in response.

Natalie thought that he would at least try to explain himself. She did not expect him to admit it so easily.

A thought flashed through her mind. She bit her lips and asked, “You did it on purpose?”

“The children wanted to see you, and I wanted to see you, too,” Samuel answered. His eyes were unreadable. “If you think that I did it on purpose, then I won’t deny it.”

Natalie’s eyes widened. Why do these words sound so misleading?

Deep inside, she kept telling herself that she was just imagining things.

Since when did he start speaking like this to me? I must be imagining things!

“You sure are a jokester, Mr. Bowers,” Natalie remarked with a sneer on her face. “I won’t beat around the bushes. I understand Franklin and Sophia wanting to see me, but what do you mean when you said you wanted to see me?”

As their eyes met, Samuel strode toward Natalie with his long legs.

He was much taller than her. Their height difference made her feel small.

Natalie did not want to move, but as he got closer to her, she could not help but back up.

In no time, she was backed into a corner.

“Tell me,” Samuel huskily prompted. “What do you think a man desires when he wants to meet a woman?”

Chapter 47

The distance between them was too close. Moreover, Samuel’s exquisite facial features were very alluring

Natalie had to tell herself repeatedly to keep it together. Yet, she could feel her face burning up as the blood rushed to her cheeks.

I don’t like him. I definitely do not like him.

No matter what the twins’ mother was like, Samuel had children with her. That meant they had a special relationship.

Furthermore, Samuel was close to Yara. It was possible that they had an unspeakable relationship.

Aside from that, no man would find Natalie’s freckled face charming.

She placed her hand against Samuel’s chest. “Your jokes are getting out of hand. You could easily get any woman you want. Don’t tell me you like women like me? My freckles are hereditary. They will get worse as I age. Are you sure you won’t get disgusted by them?”

She was not trying to mock herself. Instead, she was trying to annoy Samuel.

“I won’t,” he deadpanned.

Natalie's eyes widened as she raged, "Are you blind?"

"What do you think?" Samuel retorted, his gaze locked on her face. "Beauties get hit on by too many people. It's better to be slightly ugly. That way, no one would hit on you."

"You-" Natalie could not even finish her sentence. She was utterly defeated by his logic.

Did he damage his head or something? Or is it because he has seen too many beauties that he finds my hyper realistic mask fresh and unique?

"But do you know..." Natalie paused halfway through her sentence.

"What?"

"Do you know that I'm a mother?" Natalie asked. She moistened her lips and glared at him provokingly. "It seems like you don't know. Well, I have not only one, but two sons."

A glint of anger flashed through Samuel's eyes when he heard her words.

"You don't even know me well, and you know nothing about my past," she stated, taking the chance to push him away. "So don't try to use the children's liking toward me to make me their new mommy and give them a complete family. Blood is irreplaceable. I'm not their mom. Moreover, I have my own children that need my care."

Samuel was irritated. Natalie, on the other hand, was nonchalant.

Sure, he could bear with ugliness.

However, she did not believe that he could bear with the fact that she was the mother of two children.

“When did this happen?” he questioned.

“Does that matter?” Natalie questioned back. “What matters is that I did not lie. I have, in fact, given birth to children.”

“Natalie.”

She poked him on the chest. “Samuel, I advise that you get rid of the thought of building a family with me. If you want to let Franklin and Sophia grow up in a complete family, you should go and reconcile with their mother. I have to borrow your guest room again tonight. Good night.”

With that, she turned away without even looking at him.

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Samuel could still smell the faint scent of herbs even after she left.

Maybe she had a reason to behave like this. Even if she changed her looks, I would never misidentify her. Scents do not change. Especially her sweet scent that made me fall so hard.

Samuel’s eyes burned. He clenched his fists so hard that his veins were visible on his forearms.

He did not expect Natalie to have two children.

Well... So what? Even if there were forty of them, I can afford to take care of them.

Natalie took a hot bath the moment she got back to the guest room.

Wearing the hyper-realistic mask was stifling and suffocating. After throwing it in the basin, she then entered the bathtub.

She never imagined that Samuel would be willing to use his good looks to charm an ugly woman just for the sake of his children.

She once thought that Samuel's love for Franklin and Sophia was too rigid. Now that she thought about it again, she felt that she had misunderstood him,

However, the incident earlier made her even more curious.

Who is Franklin and Sophia's mother?

Chapter 48

The next day, Natalie was woken up by the sound of knocking on the door.

"Who's there?" she called out.

"Natalie, it's me and Sophia." The owner of the voice was Franklin. "You're awake? Can we come in?" he asked.

"Sure!"

Just as Franklin was twisting the doorknob, Natalie suddenly remembered the hyper-realistic mask that she had left in the bathroom. Hurriedly, she went to collect it and put it on.

She was greeted by the twins just as soon as she exited the bathroom.

Franklin lifted his head and greeted Natalie energetically. "Good morning, Natalie."

Sophia, on the other hand, showed her a piece of paper. The words good morning was written on the paper using crayons. There were even pink petals drawn on the sides.

The twins were really something.

Franklin was domineering yet endearing. He was the embodiment of a young master.

Sophia, on the other hand, was adorable and smart. Her cuteness made everyone's hearts melt.

Although Natalie had rejected their suggestion for her to move in, she could not deny her desire to get closer to them.

“Good morning, Franklin and Sophia.”

She bent down and stroked each of their heads. However, she soon realized that the action was too natural.

It was as if her lost pair of twins were right before her.

The pain she felt in her heart was excruciating.

She realized that this was why she wanted to give Franklin and Sophia the best love and care she could. She wanted to make up for her past regrets.

As Natalie brought the two to the dining room for breakfast, she bumped into Samuel.

She sat down and smiled at Samuel. “Good morning, Mr. Bowers.”

Memories from the night before flashed through her mind.

She did not care whether Samuel was doing it for his children or whether he was trying to flirt

with her out of boredom.

She had made herself clear.

She was convinced that Samuel could forego her ugliness, but she would not believe that he could also endure the fact that she had given birth.

Samuel took a sip of his coffee as his gaze met Natalie's. "Good morning," he greeted indifferently.

After seeing his attitude toward her, Natalie felt relieved.

She came back after five years to get back at the Nichols family. Getting into any unwanted business was not part of her plan.

Halfway through their breakfast, Gavin came to report to Samuel after receiving a phone call. "Mr. Samuel, Ms. Yara called to inform that her film crew has let her off for half a day. She said that she'll arrive half an hour later."

Natalie, who was cutting a slice of cake for Sophia, accidentally exerted too much force and broke the plate into two.

The sharp end of the plate grazed the back of Natalie's hand as it rebounded.

Immediately, blood seeped out from the fresh wound and started flowing down her hand.

Natalie was still dumbfounded as everything happened too suddenly.

She did not feel the pain from her wound. Instead, she was contemplating whether her clumsiness seemed too out of the norm.

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She bit her lip as she proceeded to force a slight smile. "I... My hand slipped."

Seeing the blood from Natalie's wound, the twins sat frozen in shock.

Samuel, on the other hand, took Natalie's hand in his and turned to Gavin. "Bring the first aid kit right now."

Gavin hurriedly obeyed and went to look for the kit.

Samuel glanced at Natalie coldly. His voice was unusually hostile as he said, "Why are you so careless?"

"It's not that painful," Natalie retorted.

"What do you mean it's not painful?" Samuel asked, his eyes filled with tenderness. "I feel pained just by looking at it."

Samuel's words successfully made Natalie's heart skip a beat. She stared at the man before her in a daze.

Why do his words sound as if they have an alternate meaning? Is he worried for me? That can't be, right? I look hideous. On top of that, I have two sons. Why is he still so sweet to me?

At that moment, Gavin brought the first aid kit and handed a bandage to Samuel.

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Samuel took it and pressed it onto Natalie's wound. "Is it so painful that you're spacing out now? You can cry if it hurts," he said with his gaze fixed on her.

Pain?

To be honest, Natalie wasn't so sensitive to pain.

She grew up in the countryside, and since she didn't have a father, she was often bullied by others.

Soon, she grew numb to it.

She used to have a mother who was worried for her. However, after her mother's death, no one cared for her anymore.

Yet, at the moment, she could see the adoration that Samuel had for her.

She almost allowed herself to be drowned in the affection. However, the thought of Yara's relationship with him pulled her back to reality.

"I'm not as weak as you think I am, Mr. Bowers."

Chapter 49

With that, Natalie pulled her hand away from Samuel.

“There’s nothing to worry about,” she said as she took the bandage and pressed it onto her wound. “I’m still equipped with medical knowledge despite being a coroner. I know the state of my injury very well.”

Samuel narrowed his eyes as he could sense that Natalie was trying to draw a line between them.

As soon as he approached her, she would distance herself from him.

His concern for her irritated her.

Just how much does this woman dislike me?

If it were not for the presence of Franklin and Sophia, he would like to ask Natalie what was going on in her mind.

The two children did not understand what was happening between the adults. They misinterpreted it as Samuel hurting Natalie while cleaning her wound earlier.

Thus, they proceeded to surround Natalie.

“Are you okay, Natalie?” Franklin asked, shooting a resentful look toward Samuel. “He’s a thirty year-old man, so he acts too presumptuous at times. Don’t let it bother you.”

Sophia could not say anything. However, her eyes were visibly red. She looked like a vulnerable and pitiful bunny.

Natalie was touched by the actions of the children. Slowly, she shook off the mixed emotions she had because of Yara and Samuel.

“Don’t worry, Franklin and Sophia. I’m fine,” she reassured.

Witnessing the change in Natalie’s attitude toward the children, Samuel felt baffled.

She could be as gentle as a lamb when she was with the children. Yet, she always acted like a puffed-up pufferfish in front of him.

The bleeding finally stopped.

Skillfully, Natalie applied some antibiotic cream to her wound.

Soon enough, a feminine voice was heard from the porch.

“Gavin, is Samuel at home?” the voice asked.

“Yes, Mr. Samuel is having his breakfast in the dining room now.”

“I finally got a half-day off, so I rushed here from the filming set. I haven’t had my breakfast yet.”

“Would you like to have it with Mr. Samuel?”

“Yes. Thank you.”

Natalie knew the voice very well. It was basically ingrained into her brain.

In the past five years, whenever she had a nightmare about the fire, she would hear every word that Yara had told her before burning her to death.

They were twin sisters. Yet, Yara only wanted Natalie to disappear from this world.

Yara hated her to the core.

Nevertheless, Natalie felt the same toward Yara.

This would be her first time seeing Yara after escaping from the fire.

She bit her lip so hard that it started to bleed.

The footsteps were getting closer.

Expectantly, Yara walked into the dining room. She immediately noticed that there was another person there other than her beloved Samuel and the two little devils.

It's a woman! She's even sitting on Samuel's left.

Yara could not see the woman's face as the latter wasn't facing her.

Who is she? I've never met her before! Why is she having breakfast with Samuel?

The alarm in Yara went off. Yet, she still managed to put on an elegant smile. "Samuel, who's this?" she asked.

"I'm Natalie Nichols," Natalie introduced with a cold voice.

Natalie? Yara felt as if she just got struck by lightning.

This voice... This name... It's her!

Five years ago, that woman had been burnt to crisps in the accident she had plotted.

Yara knew that the dead could not be resurrected, so there was no way the woman before her was the same Natalie. However, hearing the name and that similar voice still shook her to the core.

Her smile froze. Unknowingly, her breathing, too, turned rapid.

On the other hand, Natalie, whose back was facing Yara, had a mocking smile on her face.

She turned around slowly, her eyes filled with sinister delight as she looked at Yara.

Chapter 50

Natalie did not want to reveal her identity to Yara so soon.

There was no fun in doing so.

After all, Yara was still in the process of climbing to the top. Natalie wanted to bring her to the peak first before pushing her down.

With her freckled hyper-realistic mask, Natalie faced Yara.

The tension that was building up within Yara finally eased upon seeing the woman's flawed face.

As a matter of fact, her deceased twin sister was prettier than herself.

The ugly woman before her was nothing like her sister.

A dead person remains dead. The only similarity between them is the name.

Yara then proceeded to put on a thousand-watt smile as she held her hand out to Natalie. for more visit :- www.noveljar.com "Hello, Ms. Nichols. I'm Yara Nichols. It's such a coincidence that we share the same last name."

Truthfully, Yara could not care less about Natalie. She just wanted to leave a good impression on Samuel, so she tried to act nice.

Yet, Natalie ignored Yara's extended hand.

"Ms. Nichols, what are you-"

Franklin interjected impatiently before Natalie could reply. "Can't you see that Natalie's hand is wounded?"

"Franklin, you-"

"What?" Franklin retorted with a roll of his eyes. "I'm a five-year-old, and even I could see the bandage on her hand. How bad is your eyesight?"

Yara knew that Franklin was difficult to deal with.

Although he was rude to her, she didn't dare to scold him. Instead, she turned expectantly to Samuel.

In the past, Samuel would say something to defend her whenever Franklin was acting up.

While Franklin and Sophia did not care about her, they still respected Samuel.

Yara waited for Samuel to tell off Franklin just like before. Yet, this time, things were different.

“If your eyesight is bad, I can refer a doctor to you.”

Samuel’s tone was nonchalant, but Yara’s face turned pale.

“Samuel” She continued to put up an act. “I have something to tell you in private. Do you have time now?”

Natalie was uninterested in the conversation between Yara and Samuel. She interrupted, “I still have to get back to the Major Crimes Unit for an autopsy. I’ll take my leave now.”

Yara nodded slightly in response, but deep down, she was utterly disgusted.

She has a face full of freckles. And now, she’s telling me she performs autopsies? I guess what Gavin said was true – only Franklin and Sophia like her. Not even a beauty like me can sway Samuel’s heart, so there is no way he would come to like an ugly woman like her.

After Natalie’s departure, Franklin and Sophia, too, left the dining room.

Now, Samuel and Yara were the only ones left in the dining room.

Samuel took a sip of his unfinished coffee, not even bothering to glance at Yara.

Yara sat on the seat that was originally Natalie’s and inched closer to him. “Samuel, there’s something I want to discuss with you.”

Samuel remained indifferent.

Since there was no reply, she continued, "My dad is having his sixtieth birthday in a week. for more visit :- www.noveljar.com Can you bring the twins along and accompany me back to the Nichols residence?"

"You want me to publicize that you're Franklin and Sophia's biological mother?"

"That's not what I meant," Yara said. She bit her lip before continuing, "My dad hasn't seen the children ever since they were brought here. He really wants to see them on his sixtieth birthday."