

# The Promise of Happiness Chapter 14

## Chapter 14

After Samuel finished talking with Natalie, he ordered Gavin to find a chauffeur to bring her home. He glanced at the sticky note he was holding in his hand that had a string of phone numbers written on it. *She turned out to be a greater surprise than I expected. Not only does Sophia like her, but Franklin does too! Those two brats listen to no one but me, out of fear. Even our relatives, Gavin, and the servants can never handle them. Moreover, I don't dislike her either. Dammit!* A knock sounded on the door. "Come in." Samuel had a photographic memory, so he had already memorized the numbers on the sticky note the moment she wrote it down. However, he did not throw the note away and kept it in his drawer instead. Steven walked in and sat down on the couch, crossing his legs lazily. "Sam, I've closed the deal regarding the land in the east of the city," he announced with an eager expression on his face as if waiting for Samuel's approval. The latter merely glanced at him coldly. "Did you teach Franklin how to flirt with girls when you were with him?" His mouth twitching, Steven immediately rebutted, "Goodness gracious, no! He's the precious child of the Bowers family. No matter how daring I am, I will never dare to teach him this!" "From now on, when you are with Sophia and Franklin, you are not allowed to flirt with women." "Huh?" asked Steven, baffled. "Even if you did not teach them, they can also learn from observing you." Narrowing his eyes, Samuel continued, "Don't let me catch Franklin learning those indecent words from you." "Indecent? My nephew?" Steven looked at Samuel and asked curiously, "That brat's personality is the same as yours. Aloof. He usually listens to no one but you, so to whom will he say those words?" "You know her. Natalie Nichols." Steven was dumbfounded. "Her? What's her background? Sophia is crazy about her, and now, even Franklin, that naughty brat, likes her?" "I don't know, but that's not important. I'm only concerned about whether or not she can treat Sophia." "Sam, this woman's looks are too plain. If not, with her ability to handle those two, plus some seduction, she can probably become your wife!" commented Steven, shrugging his shoulders. The moment Steven finished speaking, two figures appeared at the ajar doorway. "Uncle Steven, is there something wrong with your eyes?" asked Franklin with a frown, his face reflecting his displeasure toward Steven. "M-My eyes..." "How is she ugly? If you don't believe me, ask Sophia." The boy swept a gaze at his sister as if waiting for her affirmation. A serious expression appeared on Sophia's typically adorable face as she hugged her teddy bear. She shook her head with all her might. Steven had seen Natalie in real life. *Her face is covered with freckles, and all her features are average, except her pair of almond-shaped eyes. How is she pretty?* However, upon meeting the siblings' displeased gazes, he turned to look at Samuel in desperation. "Sam, come on, say something." Subconsciously, Samuel remembered that pair of sparkling eyes and murmured, "She's quite pretty." Steven was at a loss for words. *What did you say? This conversation is over! Not only are the three of them siding with an outsider, but they are also blind!* That night, Yara could not help but call the Bowers residence from her hotel room. It had been five years, yet she still did not have Samuel's private phone number. Whenever she needed to contact him, she could only call the Bowers residence's landline. *Ring...* The phone was finally answered a long time later. "Hello, you have reached the Bowers residence." "Gavin, it's me." Yara smiled. "Is Samuel there? I want to discuss the kids with him." "Ms. Nichols, Mr. Samuel and Mr. Steven are discussing

work in the study right now. He isn't able to come to the phone," replied Gavin matter-of-factly. "I see..." A sense of disappointment washed over Yara, and she gripped the corner of her dress in her hands. However, she had to continue pretending to be a loving mother, so she asked with fake concern, "Have Franklin and Sophia been obedient these few days?" *I had to leave early due to last-minute work previously and didn't get to spend much time with them. They wouldn't complain to Samuel, right?* Gavin did not know what transpired between Yara, Franklin, and Sophia. He assumed that they did not get along well because Yara wasn't living with the children. Thus, his reply was heartfelt. "Mr. Franklin and Ms. Sophia are doing well, especially when Mr. Samuel brought back a guest today. I rarely see Mr. Franklin being so amiable to an outsider." "Amiable?" Yara was their biological aunt and stood in as their mother, yet Franklin had never treated her nicely. Before he could speak, he would bite her. When he grew up, he either ignored her or thought of ways to make her life hard. "Gavin, who was the guest?" Yara pretended to ask in a casual manner. "It was a lady, and it seems like her last name is Nichols." Yara furrowed her brows. *Nichols? Isn't that the same as mine? In addition, Franklin is particularly close to her and treats her amicably?* Afraid that the secret buried deep in her heart would come to light, she felt a sense of uneasiness enveloping her. "Gavin, do you know the lady's full name?" Recalling for a moment, Gavin replied, "Something like Nat? Oh, right, Natalie Nichols."