

Happiness 159

The Promise of Happiness

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Faced with Samuel's question, Kenneth answered loudly and unashamedly, "Yes, I caned him. Franklin is my great-grandson, and he did something wrong but refused to apologize. How is there anything wrong with me caning him for misbehavior?"

The old man then walked tremblingly toward Samuel before adding, "Why do you ask? Are you questioning my decision?"

A subtle but murderous emotion gleamed in Samuel's darkened gaze at once.

He bravely locked eyes with Kenneth and said, "Grandpa, Franklin is my son. I will personally discipline him for any of his wrongdoings, so please stop using your outdated and violent ways to educate my children as you did to Steven and me."

"You—" Kenneth was speechless.

"I believe I've made myself very clear, Grandpa."

Although Samuel did not use a single vulgar word, every word he said was profound.

"Well then, Samuel, let us talk openly about something I wish to discuss now that Yara is here. We're all aware that she has birthed Franklin and Sophia, both of your children. So why is it that you haven't given her a proper place or title in this family? What kind of a man are you?" Kenneth stated while candidly pointing at Yara.

To this, Samuel gave a curt response. "Five years ago, I only acknowledged her as Franklin and Sophia's biological mother, but not once did I promise to give her any place in this family."

Kenneth's trembled with rage upon hearing that.

Likewise, Yara's expression immediately turned sour. She could not help feeling annoyed that Samuel chose to keep a distance from her, as he did throughout the last five years.

*I've successfully persuaded Samuel that I'm Franklin and Sophia's biological mother. Why won't he give me a single chance to share a bed with him? Ugh! I don't get it. Why would he rather have a fling with Natalie instead of marrying me, the mother to his children? She and I have the same face; most people can't even tell the difference between us. So why doesn't he feel the same way for me as he does for Natalie?*

"Samuel, my feelings for you and the kids are genuine!" Yara pleaded as she forced

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out a couple of fake tears.

"I don't care," Samuel snapped.

His response to Yara made Kenneth's blood boil once more.

The latter bellowed, "So that's how you usually treat Yara? With such disrespect? This lovely girl bore your children, but you don't even know how to cherish her. Instead, you fall head over heels in love with a hideously freckled woman! How absurd!"

Samuel immediately flew off the handle as he let out a menacing roar, "Don't you dare speak ill of Natalie!"

"Why? Do you value her more than me, your very own Grandpa?" Kenneth challenged.

Samuel's

fists balled up at his sides. It took him a while to calm down before asking in a low voice, "Where's Franklin and Sophia?"

"That shameless woman of yours took them away with her."

Hearing that, Samuel whipped around and headed toward the main gate.

"And where do you think you're going?" Kenneth yelled from behind.

"To get Franklin and Sophia."

Not wanting Samuel to see Natalie again, Kenneth called out loudly, "You're staying here. I'll get my assistant, Leo, to pick the children up."

However, Samuel continued walking out of the Bowers residence as if he had not heard Kenneth.

"Samuel! Get back here right now!" Kenneth's voice boomed angrily, but Samuel was persistent and did not even turn to spare him a single glance.

"Grandpa, what do I do? I've completely lost to that woman! I've sacrificed so much for Samuel, but why can't he see it...?" Yara sobbed uncontrollably.

At this, Kenneth felt a lump in his throat. He gently patted her on the shoulder while reassuring, "Don't you worry. I'll always support you as long as I still live and breathe."

Just as Samuel headed to the courtyard, Gavin walked over.

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The former said, "Thank you for immediately reporting today's incident to me, Gavin."

"No problem, Mr. Samuel. I was only doing my job." Gavin paused to think for a moment before hesitantly adding, "I'm all right, but Ms. Natalie—"

"What happened to her?" Samuel asked as soon as he heard Natalie's name.

“Ms. Natalie took two canes from Old Mr. Bowers while protecting Mr. Franklin and Ms. Sophia. Old Mr. Bowers evidently held back when he caned Mr. Franklin. However, with Ms. Natalie, he used his full strength...” A chill went down Gavin’s spine as he mentally recalled details from the scene.

Shock and concern loomed over Samuel’s now paled face.

At that moment, a breeze brushed by and ruffled the men’s hair.

It was not long before a dangerous and cold aura thickened in the air around them; Samuel seemed like a manifestation of the devil at that very moment,