

A Cue for Happiness Chapter 181-190

Chapter 181 Brought To The Forest

Feeling shameful about the dirty deed Mandy had done, Max could not find words to rephrase the incident again.

Furious, he yelled, "See it for yourself!"

Then, he slammed the stack of documents of photos onto her face.

Feeling the pain, she bent down to pick up the documents. After having a glimpse of the contents, her face turned pale instantly.

This... This is evidence of me hiring assassins!

Previously, she used various anti-scouting techniques to protect herself from being exposed. However, never did she expect the evidence to be collected one day.

At this moment, it would be useless no matter how hard she denied it.

Panicking, she knelt in front of Max and Shawn to beg for mercy. "Dad, I made a mistake! My greed has clouded my judgment. Please let me go this once!"

"You say it like it's nothing! How could you hire an assassin to kill her? Do you respect me as your father-in-law at all?"

Then, Max hit her with his walking stick out of anger.

It was so painful that she felt that it had crushed her bones. Yet, she dared not make a single sound as tears rolled down from her cheeks.

Deep down, she knew that she needed to plead for Max's protection.

Otherwise, this incident would be enough to take away the glory and wealth for the rest of her life.

"I'm sorry, Dad. I've learned from my mistake." Keeping her head down, she continued, "I hope that you can forgive me this time for the sake of me, the daughter-in-law of the Watsons family. I promise that I will atone for my sins for the rest of my life!"

Looking at Mandy, although he hated her for her actions, he could not bear to see her in this state.

After all, Mandy was still the rightful daughter-in-law of the Watsons.

Noticing Max's hesitation, Billy snapped coldly, "Since she had admitted her crimes, I'm going to take her back with me."

Then, two men who came with Billy grabbed her by her shoulder and carried her out of the living room.

"Who are you? Who are you to take me away? Dad! I'm your daughter-in-law! You have to save me! You can't do this! I'm Mrs. Watsons!"

Holding onto his walking stick tightly, Max narrowed his eyes and said, "Mr. Morin, you are still at the Watsons residence. Don't you think it's a little rude to do so?"

Upon hearing the words, Billy glared at Max and Shawn sharply.

"Ms. Nichols is Mr. Bowers' woman. In fact, he has shown you mercy by letting Chris and the entire Watsons family go. The only person he wants is Mandy."

As soon as he finished his sentence, Shawn frowned. "What do you mean by that? Since when did Natalie become Samuel's woman?"

Although Billy was an assistant, he had a domineering aura as well.

"You have to ask Ms. Nichols and Mr. Bowers if you wish to know." Then, he continued calmly, "I have a question for you, Mr. Watsons. When Mr. Bowers was looking for Ms. Nichols with all his might, where were you?"

Startled, Shawn was unable to utter a single word.

"Bye then."

On the other hand, although Max knew that Natalie was not a nobody, he did not expect her to be Samuel's woman.

Glimpsing at Shawn, who was feeling listless, he understood immediately.

At Dellmoor, though Shawn was also gifted, he was nothing compared to Samuel.

There was a secluded forest behind the Bowers residence.

However, it was some distance away from the main grounds. Thus, under normal circumstances, they had no real reason to venture there.

After taking Mandy away from the Watsons residence, Billy brought her to a mysterious house in the forest.

“Don’t kill me! Please spare me!” She screamed. With her hair disheveled, she looked like a shrew.

Billy opened a metal gate and pushed her into a room with water.

“Please! I beg you...” Fear crept over her at once. Grabbing the metal fence tightly, she wailed, “I was wrong! I’m sorry! Please let me go!”

Chapter 182 The Insatiable Ingrate

Not a single ray of light permeated the darkness of the pitch-black room. Although the icy cold water was only up till Mandy’s waist, what truly sent shivers up her spine was the unknown slimy objects that she sensed swimming about her feet.

“Ah! What’s in the water? How can it be swimming about like this? Let me out of here at once!” screamed Mandy in fear as she thrashed about in the water in a vain attempt to reach for safety.

Billy shot Mandy a cold glare as he snarled, “So now you’re afraid? You’ve hurt someone that Mr. Bowers cares deeply about! This is just the beginning of what awaits you!”

With that, Billy barked out a few curt instructions to the men watching over Mandy before he turned and took his leave.

Still trapped in this flooded room, Mandy found herself spinning about haphazardly to evade the unidentified creature swimming about and bothering her. In her despair, she wailed, “Don’t leave! Please don’t leave me here all by myself! You can’t treat me like this! I’m from the Watsons family after all!”

Even though Mandy screamed frantically until she had gone hoarse, no one paid her any heed.

After taking his leave earlier, Billy headed back to the Bowers residence and updated Samuel on the current situation.

“Sir, everything has been done as you’ve requested,” stated Billy.

“Excellent! Let’s let this woman stew in the water for some time with those water snakes before we hand her over to the police,” replied Samuel as his lips curled into a faint smile.

“Understood.”

“You may go now,” stated Samuel dismissively.

Just as Billy was about to take his leave, Natalie strolled into the study.

“Hello, Ms. Nichols,” greeted Billy with a formal bow.

Startled by Billy’s sudden gesture, Natalie was about to return the bow when she suddenly felt Samuel hug her tightly from behind. He had such a tight grip that her spine was pressed firmly against his muscular chest with nary a gap between.

They’re too intimate!

In his embarrassment, Billy couldn’t bear to witness the scene unfold any further and hastily took his leave, making sure to close the door firmly shut behind him.

“Samuel! You-” began Natalie before she abruptly cut herself off. She had wanted to chide Samuel for his behavior, but she knew that her efforts would only be in vain. Furthermore, there was also a good chance that her words would have enraged Samuel further, and she would have to go to great lengths to cajole him just to calm him down.

After a brief silence, Natalie finally spoke, “Now that you’ve pretty much recovered from your illness, I’ll be moving back home to stay starting tomorrow.”

“Sure,” replied Samuel.

Something’s wrong. He agreed to that way too easily...

“You’re okay with that?” asked Natalie in surprise.

At this, Samuel’s lips mischievously wandered about her ear before it finally settled on her earlobe. Natalie couldn’t help but let out a soft gasp. Deep down, she hated herself for being so sensitive to Samuel’s touch. From where she stood, that she reacted this strongly in response to his flirtatious advances was nothing more than her body’s betrayal.

As his heavy breathing tickled her ear, Samuel whispered, “Of course, your request comes with a condition you have to fulfill on your end before I agree. You have to take Franklin and Sophia home.”

Natalie was again taken by surprise at this recent development. As she struggled to conceal her glee, she asked, “You’re asking me to take Franklin back? Are you messing around with me, Samuel?”

“I’ll be rather busy dealing with some important matters during this period of time. I’ll also be away on a business trip. No idea when I’ll be back. Since Franklin and Sophia like you, it only makes sense for me to leave them with you. Sophia especially, since her aphasia has gotten much better ever since she stayed with you,” explained Samuel as he continued with his flirtatious motions.

As Natalie was extremely fond of Franklin and Sophia, she was thrilled at the very thought of being able to take them home with her and to live with them. She couldn't help but fantasize about how beautiful her life would be living with them and Xavian.

"All right then, that settles it! I'll take Franklin and Sophia back with me tomorrow," declared Natalie.

Samuel's body stiffened, and he gripped Natalie's chin with his rough fingers. As he turned Natalie's head to face his, Samuel asked tersely, "Are you glad that I'll be away on my business trip?" His face had suddenly tensed, and his eyes darkened with an unfathomable emotion.

Startled by the sudden change in atmosphere, Natalie carefully probed, "Should I... Should I be very upset or something?"

At this, Samuel gradually tightened his grip on Natalie's chin and whispered, "Oh, you insatiable ingrate..."

The next second, Samuel's lips planted themselves firmly and aggressively against Natalie's bare skin. Nobody could tell if he was punishing her or simply taking out his frustrations while making his move on her.

Chapter 183 Shameless

By the time Natalie emerged from Samuel's study, her lips had become a mess after Samuel was done with her. She couldn't help but gently nurse her lips with her nimble fingers.

What on earth does his business trip have to do with me? Did he really have to use this method of punishing me just because I didn't respond or perform as expected?

Just as Natalie was cursing and swearing at Samuel internally, she bumped into Celia in the corridor. Neither woman took the initiative to speak or greet one another. However, Celia's sharp eyes remained fixed on Natalie's lips, which had gone swollen from Samuel's forceful kissing. Although Celia's gaze was still haughty beyond measure as per before, it wasn't provocative in any way. She completely ignored Natalie and brushed past her as if she weren't there.

Natalie wasn't surprised by Celia's behavior. She knew that Celia was the next-generation scion of the Jean family. Aside from her incredible talent in the field of medicine, Celia also possessed a high IQ and emotional intelligence. Over the past few days, Natalie was sure that Celia must have observed the interactions between Samuel and herself and surmised the nature of their relationship. As it was obvious that Samuel was the one who was relentlessly chasing after Natalie, there were no grounds whatsoever for Celia to be jealous of her. Naturally, her provocative behavior would then also come to an end.

Natalie had zero interest in such petty squabbles between women. She was only focused on her life with the three children moving forward. The emotional scars she previously suffered from the loss of her twins had always been a heart wrenching pain she endured. However, Natalie felt that her pain alleviated to some degree now that she had Franklin and Sophia by her side.

The next day, just before Samuel was about to leave for his business trip, he pulled Franklin and Sophia to the side and instructed, "Make sure to be obedient and listen to Natalie while I'm gone. If she tells me that either of you has been naughty, I won't let you go over to her house anymore next time."

Franklin and Sophia exchanged brief looks before they replied in unison, "We'll be obedient, Daddy."

Samuel nodded in acknowledgment.

Just then, Franklin added, "I'll miss you, Daddy!"

Sophia leaned forward and hugged Samuel's leg tightly as she softly said, "I'll m-miss you too, Daddy..."

Samuel's eyes suddenly turned to rest on Natalie, and he asked, "What about you?"

"Me?" asked Natalie as she pointed to herself in surprise before she continued, "What do I have to say?"

Suddenly, Sophia said, "Daddy is waiting for you to s-say you'll miss him..."

Samuel's pursed lips curled playfully as he directed his mysterious gaze to rest questioningly on Natalie. Likewise, Franklin and Sophia turned to look expectantly at Natalie as well. Even Billy, who had been silently waiting by the side the entire time, turned to see what Natalie would do next.

Faced with the weight of everyone's gazes, Natalie had no choice but to give in. She felt the heat rush to her face as she blushed and stammered, "I'll m-miss you too, Samuel..."

Having heard what he had been waiting for, Samuel couldn't help but smile as he replied, "All right. Remember what you've just said."

Once Samuel and Billy had taken their leave, Natalie made her way back to her apartment with Franklin and Sophia. Since the two children were familiar with Xavian, it didn't take long for the three of them to start playing together under Natalie's watchful eyes. As she took in this scene, her eyes misted over as she couldn't help but imagine just how perfect her life would be if Sophia and Franklin were her very own children.

When the call finally got through, Natalie asked, "Do you have any updates on the matter I asked you to look into, Yandel?"

Yandel replied, "Yes! Someone from the Watsons family was scheming against you. It's someone called Mandy, their third daughter-in-law."

I still remember our previous entanglement, but to think that Mandy would actually hire someone for murder?

"But..." Yandel hesitated.

"What's the matter?" asked Natalie impatiently as she continued to probe, "It's not like you to beat around the bush like this, Yandel. What's wrong?"

"Mandy has been taken away from the Watsons residence by Samuel's men. Her current whereabouts are unknown."

Her whereabouts are unknown? What on earth does that mean? Is she dead or alive?

"You'll have to account for Old Mr. Watsons if you wish to deal with Mandy, Boss. After all, she's the legitimate daughter-in-law of the Watsons family and is under their protection. That said, Samuel is different. He's not bound by such constraints. I'm sure that Old Mr. Watsons would have nothing to say if Samuel was the one to demand Mandy's head," cautioned Yandel before he continued hesitantly, "How about this? Since you're in a prime position to seek Samuel's help, why don't you take advantage of this and have Samuel investigate your granddad's death in your stead?"

Chapter 184 Coaxing Children

Natalie interrupted coldly, "Yandel, are you asking me to betray myself?"

"Boss, Samuel has never seen you. So, you're not really betraying anyone."

"Stop it! Or I'll cut your tongue."

"I'm just joking. You're too cruel." Yandel pursed his lips with an aggrieved look.

"Don't ever mention this in front of me again. People are always chasing after things they can't have. Maybe Samuel is just trying to impress me by doing that. He may no longer appreciate me once he has me. A woman who likes to cling to a man is like a vine that grows on a tree. Once the tree no longer provides nutrients, the delicate vines will soon wither and die." Natalie narrowed her eyes and said lightly.

Her voice was soft, but she seemed resolute in her words.

Upon hearing that, Yandel was stunned.

She's really not an ordinary woman.

"The dragonblood fruit is rumored to be put up for sale in this auction. Reckon it'll cost a princely sum. I'll attend and try to get it," said Yandel to Natalie.

"Got it."

After Natalie finished her work and stepped out of the bedroom, she saw the three little ones sitting neatly at the dining table, waiting for her.

"Mommy, I made your favorite steak today." Xavian lifted the creamy yellow lid. The delicious aroma of the steaks made Natalie, Franklin, and Sophia salivate.

"Thank you, sweetheart."

Natalie then pulled out the chair and sat down.

Shortly afterward, she noticed that Franklin's and Sophia's expressions had suddenly darkened.

"What's wrong with you guys?" Natalie asked while she took a bite of her food.

"Natalie, you call Xavian a sweetheart. What about me? I'm better than him in other things other than cooking," Franklin said unhappily, pursing his lips.

Blinking her eyes, Sophia also asked sadly, "Am I not good enough?"

Hearing that, Natalie then only realized that the two of them were jealous of Xavian.

She then rubbed their heads and said with a smile, "Who said that I don't call you guys sweethearts? You two are my sweethearts, too!"

Franklin and Sophia felt better and started to eat after hearing Natalie.

On the other hand, Xavian complained inwardly that Natalie was really good at coaxing children as she called everyone a sweetheart.

However, Xavian did not hate Franklin and Sophia.

On the contrary, he felt relaxed and comfortable around them.

Sophia was nice, cute, clingy, and understanding. She was also gluttonous, but she ate extremely slowly.

Franklin had a high IQ. He was even stronger than Xavian in some aspects, which made Xavian look at him differently.

The whole family was eating steaks.

Seeing the three little ones eating, Natalie felt warmth in her heart.

She was so excited that she ate two large pieces of steak.

In a blink of an eye, the day of the auction had arrived.

Wearing a blue suit, Yandel drew a lot of attention from ladies as soon as he appeared at the auction site.

“Wow! He is the CEO of the Dream Company!”

“Is this the CEO of the Dream Pharmaceutical who has established a firm foothold in Dellmoor in just three years?”

“He is so young and handsome! I thought the CEO was an old man. I didn’t expect him to be such a young man!”

Yandel listened to the praises with an empty heart.

He was just a titular CEO.

The person who made Dream Pharmaceutical gain a foothold in Dellmoor was someone else, but not him.

Chapter 185 The Little Boy At The Auction

Yandel was only temporarily managing Dream Company on behalf of Natalie.

These people will be even more surprised once I officially return the Dream Company to her!

Today’s auction was the most exclusive in recent years. Even the president of the Auctioneers Association, Godfrey Relish, personally came to the auction site to become the auctioneer for the final item.

The buyers who could attend were all dignitaries in Dellmoor. They were all dressed luxuriantly, making the scene look more regal than a typical banquet.

Looking around, Yandel took a sip of the champagne in his hand.

Suddenly, his arm was touched by an unknown person. He was about to curse, but when he saw a little boy in a black shirt and gold-rimmed glasses, he was so shocked that he almost spat out his champagne.

“Boss?” Yandel coughed violently for a while.

“You’re so dirty. Wipe your mouth quickly. You are now representing the Dream Company, after all.” Natalie grabbed a napkin from the plate and handed it to Yandel.

“Boss, why are you here?” Yandel asked while wiping his mouth.

“I’ve read the auction information you sent me. Besides the dragonblood fruit, there are many treasures to be auctioned today. Although I may not be able to afford everything, it’s good to have a look at them,” answered Natalie.

“But why are you disguised as a man?”

“What’s wrong? Do I look awful?”

“No, boss. If it weren’t for the freckles on your hyper-realistic mask, I wouldn’t have recognized you in the crowd.” Yandel immediately shook his head and responded.

Natalie showed a bashful expression.

Seeing how Yandel was extremely gentle and patient with Natalie, the hearts of the ladies at the auction sank.

It was hard for them to find such a good man like Yandel, but they did not expect him to like men.

Yandel was soon surrounded by a number of high-society dignitaries and plutocrats.

Seeing that they were approaching Yandel with the intention of rubbing shoulders and talking about pointless collaborations, Natalie left silently with her glass of wine.

She did not enjoy socializing.

Yandel was better at socializing with different people than she was.

After Natalie walked away, she wandered around the entire auction site.

There was still half an hour before the official auction started. Backstage staff were intensively preparing the exhibits and confirming the procedures.

Natalie inadvertently wandered backstage.

Walking back and forth, the staff did not chase Natalie off when they saw her. They thought she was a young boy helping around backstage.

Just as Natalie realized that she was in the wrong place and was about to turn around and leave, she heard two girls arguing.

“Rachel, Mr. Fernsby has confirmed that I’m the soloist today. How could you throw my flash drive with music into the toilet bowl? How can I perform without music?”

“Wendy, that’s your fault for not protecting your flash drive.”

“You...”

“Now I’m giving you two choices. First, you tell the organizer that you can’t perform today without music and we’ll get into trouble. Second, take off your costume, and I’ll perform for you.”

“Rachel, I really need this performance. My father...”

“Stop talking about your father’s brain tumor and treatment. It’s none of my business. I’ll give you ten minutes to think about it. Or you’ll have to bear the consequences yourself!”

After saying that, a girl wearing beige clothes walked out with her eyes full of condescension.

She walked hastily and bumped into Natalie.

Both of them stumbled a little.

Before Natalie could say anything, Rachel raised her little face and yelled, “Who are you? Don’t you know how to walk with your eyes open?”

Chapter 186 You Cannot Afford

Rachel saw that she bumped into a little boy about 1.7 meters tall.

Looking at her gold-rimmed glasses, which were a little crooked, and the freckles all over her face, Rachel thought that Natalie was one of the backstage staff.

She then raised her voice to Natalie. “I want you to apologize to me! I’ll not let you go if you hurt me!”

Listening to the voice, Natalie realized that Rachel was the arrogant person in the conversation just now.

How can she be so arrogant after bumping into someone? She must be either be an a**hole or she has friends in high places.

“Did I hurt you? If so, I’ll pay for the damages.” Natalie coldly narrowed her eyes and made an offer.

“You’ll pay for me? If I was really hurt, you definitely can’t afford the treatment even if you starved yourself for ten years!”

Rachel wanted to give Natalie a hard time, but her phone suddenly rang.

“You’re lucky I’ve got phone call. Otherwise, I’ll not let you off!”

She then glared at Natalie and turned around to answer the phone.

Natalie looked at her back with gritted teeth.

Whether or not this ends now isn’t your call to make, little miss.

“She’s always been like this. Because she’s the third daughter of the famous director, Noah Lynch. She’s used to being domineering. She talks like this to everyone, so don’t take it to heart.” Wendy walked over to Natalie and sighed.

Natalie finally saw Wendy.

This girl was dressed in orange and dark green clothes. Her long black hair was combed in a unique bun. She had a pair of beautiful eyes and attractive facial features, which made people think she was an otherworldly being.

Natalie rarely thought other women were more beautiful than her.

But this girl in front of her made her think differently.

Seeing Natalie was silent, Wendy asked, “Are you okay?”

“I’m good.” Natalie shook her head.

“Glad to hear that.” Wendy smiled with teary-eyed.

“Ms. Xander.”

“How do you know me?” Wendy asked cautiously.

“I heard the conversation you had with that girl just now. I want to know your decision,” responded Natalie.

Wendy lowered her eyes and laughed. “How can I choose? Is there anything I can do other than let her perform for me? Actually, I don’t care if I can’t go on stage. I just want to earn money for my father’s treatment with this dance.”

“You still have time. Why are you giving up?”

“What else I can do if I don’t give up? The makeup artists and costumers here knew I was being bullied by Rachel, but they couldn’t do anything either. Nothing can change!” Wendy was crying.

“Others can’t do it, but I can,” said Natalie, a cunning look coming into her eyes.

“You?”

“Yes. I can.”

Natalie held Wendy’s hand and walked into the prop room.

There were many things inside, but Natalie immediately saw the piano in the corner.

“Can you hum the song you’ll be dancing to?” Natalie then glanced at the bewildered Wendy and continued, “You just need to hum. You don’t have to be accurate.”

“You want to play the piano?” Wendy questioned incredulously.

“Yeah. Now you have the music. So, do you choose to fight or give up now?”

Time passed.

The auction had officially started, and all the guests were seated.

Yandel could not help but roam around the entire place again. Didn’t the boss say she was coming to see the goods? Why did she disappear in a flash?

Chapter 187 Piano Beauty

Yandel had no idea that his boss was backstage, getting ready for a performance.

Wendy was startled to see Natalie’s upper body wrapped in thick cloth after she took off her shirt.

“You’re a woman?”

“Yeah.” Natalie then took the clothing that Wendy gave her and put them on one by one.

“Let me help you with your makeup.”

“No thanks. Makeup is too troublesome. Plus, you’re the star tonight. I’m just a backup performer that will accompany you.” Natalie shook her head and took a veil with gold sequins from the hanger and put it around her face.

After putting on the dark green veil, her eyes shone brightly and looked beautiful.

Besides the extreme beauty of her own eyes, even the light at the bottom of her eyes was breathtakingly beautiful.

Looking at Natalie, Wendy suddenly felt that she was extraordinarily charming.

As the auction kicked off, exquisite lots were displayed. They were sold one after another. Many of them set new records in the auction world.

When the auction was a third of the way through, the Flying Goddess painting from Gerton was displayed.

It was rumored that this was a famous painting that had been handed down for thousands of years. The painting was unexpectedly well preserved as it was buried under the sand, which was a dry and air-insulated environment.

Not only was the painting barely oxidized, but the goddess on it was also still exquisite. The frown and smile of the goddess were still perfectly preserved.

The dance recital that was to be performed today was choreographed because it was inspired by the Flying Goddess painting.

Before the performance started, Rachel and Wendy still did not reach a compromise.

Rachel stood behind the curtain with gritted teeth. Is Wendy really going to screw up the auction? But I don't think she would, as she's short of money for her father's treatment. How dare she mess up such a big event?

Suddenly, Rachel saw a dolled-up Wendy getting ready to go on stage. "Wendy, you should know very well what kind of occasion this is! You can't make such a joke!" Rachel whispered harshly.

"Who said I was joking?" Wendy pushed her hand away and calmly walked to the stage.

"You're stupid! I want to see how you're going to solve this problem!"

While Rachel waited to see Wendy make a fool of herself, she saw another woman on the other side of the stage walk to the piano and slowly sit in front of the bright moon.

The entire venue suddenly went dark.

Only the two women in front of the bright moon and standing under the light could be seen.

One of them was wearing a veil, making it difficult to see her true face. The other one was as beautiful as a fairy.

At this moment, everyone waited for their performance with bated breath.

Natalie slowly lifted her hands, pushed down the piano keys, and played beautiful music.

Hanging from a wire, Wendy danced like a Flying Goddess.

That was a great performance.

Although the dance was only accompanied by the piano, it was far from a simple performance.

Everyone was attracted by Wendy's dance, including Yandel.

He could not take his eyes off it.

When Yandel suddenly caught a glimpse of Natalie, he was stunned.

That woman's eyes... They look like hers. Is that my Boss playing the piano?

Staring at the figure in front of the bright moon, Yandel was certain that the woman playing the piano was Natalie.

Chapter 188 So Will You

Yandel's jaw dropped as he stared at Natalie in disbelief.

Boss has never told me that she could play piano so well. Her piano skills are incredible! Her performance is on par with those of professional pianists!

He was not the only one amazed by Natalie. Every audience was astonished by the breathtaking performance, which was a feast to their eyes and ears.

As the last note was played, Wendy disappeared into the dark.

After the marvelous performance, silence filled the hall where the auction was held.

Moments later, when someone started clapping, everyone in the hall snapped back to their senses as if they had just woken up from a dream. The crowd then erupted in cheers and thunderous applause.

For the next few minutes, the sound of people clapping filled the air continuously.

“The female dancer is amazing!”

“I know! Besides the dancer, the one who played piano is stunning too!”

“The dancer is so pretty. She looks like a goddess!”

The audience started to discuss among themselves as they continued clapping.

After the performance, Natalie left the stage and went to find Wendy.

Wendy was trying to catch her breath after the dance. However, the smile on her face showed that she had finally gotten rid of the burden on her heart.

“Thank you...” Wendy hugged Natalie, feeling overwhelmed with emotions. “Thank you for helping me so that I have the chance to perform on stage and get paid for it. Otherwise, I would have had to destroy my life in exchange for the money for my dad’s surgery.”

“I only helped a little. The most important thing is that you’ve earned this with your ability. People who strive to survive will always get to see the light at the end of the tunnel.” Natalie patted Wendy consolingly on her shoulder.

“Thank you again.”

Although Natalie did not think Wendy’s gratitude was necessary, Wendy, on the other hand, took her as the savior of her father and herself.

Wendy started sobbing and smiling at the same time.

Meanwhile, Natalie urged her to remove her makeup quickly, saying that a beautiful fairy like her would soon turn into an ugly one if she continued shedding tears.

After Wendy left, Natalie wanted to return the accessories she had used back to the designated room. However, Rachel suddenly stormed toward her and yelled, “Who are you? Why did you help Wendy?”

Natalie smirked under her veil as she watched the frustrated woman in front of her. “I’m sure you’re the only one who knows the reason why I helped her.”

Rachel was so irritated that she could not stop herself from lashing out at Natalie. “You b*tch! Do you know who I am? I’m the daughter of the famous movie director, Noah Lynch! I’ll be a popular actress in the future. Think twice before you decide to go against me!”

No one in the world should be conceited even when one was powerful.

Since she has such poor manners, I'm sure her dad is not a person who deserves respect as well.

"I see... Noah Lynch's daughter? If Noah is doomed, so will you," said Natalie calmly.

"What do you mean? Don't you dare curse my dad!"

Through the veil, Rachel could hardly see Natalie's face.

Therefore, she took two steps forward and reached out to snatch the veil covering the lower half of Natalie's face. Before she could reach the veil, Natalie forcefully grabbed Rachel's wrist.

"Let go of me!" shouted Rachel.

Natalie was surprised at how dense the woman in front of her was. Couldn't she tell that I am in a bad mood right now?

Not bothering to continue the conversation, Natalie yanked Rachel's hand, dislocating her arm.

Rachel wailed in pain. "Ouch! My arm is broken!"

"I know. You should go to the hospital quickly." Natalie smirked.

Rachel still wanted to pester Natalie, but the pain in her shoulder was too much to endure. After hesitating for a moment, she turned around and headed for the hospital, promising herself to seek revenge on Wendy and the woman with a veil after she had her arm treated at the hospital.

That was only a brief interlude for Natalie because she did not come to the auction that day just to play the piano.

After she returned the accessories, she changed into the menswear she had brought in the restroom.

Then, she went back to the auction hall.

The Flying Goddess was placed in a glass exhibit as the auction carried on.

"One hundred and thirty million!"

"One hundred and forty million!"

Natalie was stunned when she heard the bids.

The value for the painting is only about fifty million. Why did the price suddenly increase so much and even exceed a hundred million?

Chapter 189 Increasing Bid

The bid of the painting kept increasing even though it had far exceeded the amount it was worth.

To Natalie's surprise, more and more people raised their bidding paddles as the auctioneer called out the prices in high spirits.

Natalie went back to her seat beside Yandel and pushed her glasses up her nose lightly, looking like a young man.

"One hundred and fifty million!"

"One hundred and sixty million!"

The corner of Natalie's lips twitched when she heard the numbers. This is ridiculous!

Yandel did not miss the change in expression on her face as he whispered, "Boss, you and that lady are amazing! The bid for the painting rises to a great extent because of your performance. There is a chance that it will become the item that is sold at the highest price in today's auction!"

"I wore a veil. You still recognize me?" Natalie frowned.

She did not wear the veil to cover her freckles. Instead, it was because she did not want anyone to find out who she was.

"Well, I could still see your eyes. Even the dancer was not as calm as you were on the stage." Yandel paused for a second before continuing, "I've known you for years and I'm used to seeing you in the hyper-realistic mask, so I can recognize you just by looking at your eyes. That said, that doesn't mean that other people would be able to recognize you just now."

Natalie nodded in response.

The bid was still increasing as seconds ticked by.

"Five hundred and eighty million going once!"

"Five hundred and eighty million going twice!"

"Five hundred and eighty million going thrice!"

As the gavel fell, the painting, The Flying Goddess, was sold at a price ten times its original value.

Yandel was not shocked at all at the price it was auctioned off.

Meanwhile, Natalie had a plan in her mind and said, "Yandel, I need you to do something for me."

Yandel nodded. "Okay..."

"Given the high auction price of the painting, the dancer who performed just now probably can't leave here easily tonight. Get some of our men to protect her secretly so that she won't be hurt by the others who have bad intentions."

Yandel was amazed by how meticulous Natalie was. Immediately, he rose to his feet to make the necessary arrangements.

The rest of the lots were brought onto the stage and were soon auctioned off. Most of them were rare antiques. However, none of them was sold at a higher price than The Flying Goddess.

After a long wait, it was finally the turn for the dragonblood fruit. That object was the reason why Natalie came to the auction.

Godfrey, who was going to reach the age of ninety, walked onto the stage with the help of his assistant. "The last lot today, the dragonblood fruit, is the highlight of today's auction..."

The dragonblood fruit, shining in bright red color like a ruby, was placed on a piece of silk.

Everyone in the auction hall could see the features of the fruit clearly displayed on the screen.

"The dragonblood fruit originates from places with extremely hot, dry weather. Due to its bright red color, it was given this name. People say that it takes thousands of years to bear this fruit in a harsh environment and that it can even resurrect the dead. I'm sure you've heard of how precious it is, so I won't dwell more on that. The starting price of this dragonblood fruit is three hundred million!" announced Godfrey excitedly.

As soon as he was done with his speech, people started to raise their bidding paddles.

"Three hundred and ten million!"

"Three hundred and twenty million!"

“Three hundred and thirty million!”

The competition for the dragonblood fruit was even fiercer than The Flying Goddess.

Only people who understood its value knew it was indeed a worthy treasure.

Meanwhile, Natalie was unfazed as she watched on. She did not even touch her bidding paddle, not to mention raising it.

When Yandel was back, he saw her sitting there, looking as though she was about to give up.

Why does Boss not worry at all?

He was totally dumbfounded. “Boss, isn’t this dragonblood fruit your target in today’s auction? Why aren’t you raising your paddle? Is it because you have some secret plans to make sure you get it in the end?”

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Yandel asked the question seriously, so he was expecting that Natalie would tell him an amazing plan.

To his surprise, she pushed her glasses up and smiled. “Who says that I want this item?”

“Boss, what do you mean? You said you wanted it to cure Mrs. Becker of her illness! I didn’t expect the dragonblood fruit to be so popular. Look at these people around us! So many of them want to get it!” whispered Yandel.

“It is indeed good medicinal material. We have a low dragonblood fruit supply in the market, so many people can’t buy it no matter how rich they are. However...” Natalie paused on purpose, causing Yandel to feel more curious.

He asked, “What is it?”

“This dragonblood fruit is fake. It is not even a dragonblood fruit, to begin with...”

His jaw dropped as he stared at the red fruit on the screen in disbelief.

This is not a dragonblood fruit? But it looks the same as the one recorded in the books!

Natalie glanced at Yandel. “The snakeblood fruit looks very similar to the dragonblood fruit at first sight. Besides, the place it grows is quite near to where the dragonblood fruits grow as well. That’s why a lot of people have mistaken it for the dragonblood fruit.”

Yandel was stunned.

No wonder she doesn't seem to care at all.

"The snakeblood fruit is a valuable medicinal material too. However, judging by its name, you can tell it's very different from the dragonblood fruit. It doesn't worth so much money. Besides, I have three snakeblood fruits with me, so I don't have to buy more of them." Natalie smiled.

Even though it was not a dragonblood fruit, it was still valuable.

Yandel's eyes lit up as he stared at Natalie.

"Yandel, can you stop looking at me like that? I'm getting goosebumps..." She shot him a look.

"Boss, is there anything else that you don't know about?" He grinned.

"Stop speaking nonsense. Focus on the auction."

"All right."

As the bid increased, the final auction price reached one billion five hundred and sixty million.

Godfrey grinned as he clapped his hands. "One billion five hundred and sixty million. Congratulations to Mr. Collins!"

As Natalie looked at Christopher, who looked about twenty-seven years old, she shook her head and sighed inwardly, pitying him.

However, she did not dwell on it because she was not the one who got fooled.

The auction lasted for nearly three hours and ended after Godfrey gave a thank you speech.

Although the event had ended, most of the ones who joined were unwilling to leave the venue.

When Natalie was about to leave, she saw that members of the Watsons family, the Sutton family, and the Bowers family were present as well, including Shawn, Seth Sutton, and Steven.

Natalie lowered her head to avoid being recognized by them. Then, she quickly gestured to Yandel, signaling him to leave through another route and meet her outside.

After that, she kept herself away from the crowd and chose another way to leave the scene.

As she walked further away, she came to the back door of the hall and entered the courtyard.

“Mr. Collins, why did you spend so much money on that? You know it is a snakeblood fruit.”

“Because I want to live...”

Natalie was surprised when she overheard the conversation.

Only then did she know that Christopher was suffering from a disease that was difficult to cure. He was even willing to buy the snakeblood fruit at such a high price even though he knew it was not a dragonblood fruit.

Just when she was about to leave, she accidentally stepped on a branch.

“Who’s there?” someone shouted.

Natalie tried to run away, but Christopher’s subordinate, Nicholas Collins, had already come over and grabbed her shoulder.

“Who are you? How dare you eavesdrop on our conversation!”

She was then dragged over to Christopher.

As she looked up slowly, she met his eyes.

“Mr. Collins, would you believe me if I say I did not hear anything?” asked Natalie as she stared at him.