

Happiness 418-427

The Promise of Happiness

Chapter 418

Everyone at the door trembled because of the freezing temperature, except for Samuel, whose expression remained deadpan as he moved toward the inside of the cold storage.

Even though he was unsure if Natalie was inside, he had to find out for himself.

When Scarlett realized that Samuel intended to enter the cold storage in his dress suit, she grabbed hold of the man's arm to stop him from advancing. "What do you think you're doing, Samuel? Are you trying to get yourself killed?"

"Take your hand off of me." Samuel's tone was almost as cold as the temperature inside the cold storage.

"No! I am not going to let you throw your life away like that." Scarlett was convinced that Natalie had already frozen to death since three hours had passed. Natalie has to be dead somewhere in the cold storage by now, so there's nothing Samuel can do to save her. If I let him walk in there, he's only going to get himself hurt, and I don't want to see that happen.

"Just because you're a woman doesn't mean that I won't get physical with you, Scarlett."

"I don't care what you do to me, but I'm not letting go!" insisted Scarlett as she tightened her grip on the man. "Even if you were to go in now, what can you possibly hope to change? If Natalie really is in there, she will have frozen to death a long time ago. I'm not trying to stop you from finding her, but could you please just wait a little longer? At least until they get you proper clothing. If it's fate that she died in there, there's nothing you can do to change it. I don't want you to get hurt because of a dead person!" Has he gone nuts? It is below -15°C inside!

Scarlett thought that she was being very reasonable with Samuel, so she expected the man to listen to her.

However, to Scarlett's surprise, Samuel forcefully pulled his arm away from her.

The woman lost her balance because of Samuel's sheer strength and fell flat on her face.

Lying on the ground with her fists tightly clenched, Scarlett started to develop hatred for Samuel, for she could feel everyone watching and judging her as though she was a fool.

At that moment, Scarlett wished for nothing more than to see the look on Samuel's face when he found Natalie dead.

As soon as Samuel broke free from Scarlett, he started making his way inside the cold storage without waiting for Yana, Hans, Billy, or the others.

To him, rescuing Natalie was all that mattered.

Although the cold inside felt like razors cutting his skin, Samuel showed no signs of slowing down.

The cold storage was dimly lit, and there were boxes and hanging meat everywhere.

“Nat! Where are you?” shouted Samuel as he searched the place, but the only response that he received was the echo of his own voice.

All of a sudden, Samuel spotted a phone, and he could immediately tell that it was the one that belonged to Natalie.

The man then picked up the device and realized it had already turned off. Because of the freezing temperature, the phone was as hard and cold as an ice cube. If Nat’s phone is here, she must’ve been here somewhere!

However, when Samuel remembered how the cold storage door was locked, his heart immediately sank.

It felt like someone had suddenly stabbed him in the heart with the cold hard truth. If Natalie is still here, that means... I can’t bring myself to imagine what has happened to her. What do I do without her?

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Samuel then started coughing, for the emotional stress and the sheer cold eating away at him was getting too much for him to bear.

Still, the man drew on his willpower to continue with his search.

After he had only managed to take a few steps, Samuel realized that he was starting to get blurry vision.

Before long, the man lost his consciousness and collapsed onto the ground.

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Even though Billy and the others had not heard from Samuel for several minutes, they dared not enter the cold storage without proper protection because of the extreme temperature inside.

All they could do was wait for the housekeepers to get them the proper clothing.

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Meanwhile, Scarlett slowly got up from the ground.

Since she never had to work a day in her life, her hands were almost as delicate as those of a baby but ended up bruised when she fell.

Scarlett then crossed her arms indifferently while watching everyone else around her get anxious. It was as though she was a goddess watching mere mortal fretting over trivial matters. Samuel should’ve found Natalie’s body by now. I guess the only reason he isn’t out yet is because he couldn’t accept the woman’s death. Samuel must be crying over the corpse right now. No matter how much he loves Natalie, there’s absolutely nothing he can do to revive a dead person. Samuel can cry as much as he wants, but not even an ocean of tears could bring the dead back to life. Oh, how I’ve waited for this day! Finally, Natalie Nichols is dead and out of my way! Now is my chance to win Samuel’s heart and marry the man.

“What are you guys doing here?” Suddenly, a familiar voice pulled Scarlett out of her fantasy.

Everyone immediately turned around and realized that voice belonged to none other than Natalie, who had a stole around her shoulders and a glass of wine in her hand.

All eyes were on Natalie as she made her way over to Scarlett.

“Natalie? How come you are here? I thought you were inside the cold storage,” stuttered Scarlett with her eyes widened in disbelief. For a moment there, Scarlett thought that she had seen a ghost. Natalie is supposed to be dead inside the cold storage! How is she standing in front of me now?

In response to that, Natalie smirked at Scarlett. “Why would you think that, Ms. Hamilton? And why do you look like you’ve seen a ghost?”

Scarlett was immediately lost for words when Natalie pointed out how horrible she looked.

Amused, Natalie thought Scarlett would be difficult to deal with, but it turned out that the woman was just like any other skank she had come across.

“Are you disappointed that I didn’t stay inside the cold storage? It seems like you’re either the mastermind or an accomplice behind what happened tonight.” Although Natalie was smiling when she said those words, Scarlett knew that there was nothing friendly about them.

After all, if Natalie did not somehow manage to get out of the cold storage, she would have been killed in there.

Everyone at the scene could immediately figure out what Natalie implied, so they all shifted their attention to Scarlett, who started to get nervous under pressure.

Still, Scarlett tried her best to act calm. “I have no idea what you’re talking about, Natalie. Do you have any proof?”

“I know how strict your family is when it comes to rules, so I don’t think anybody can just gain access to the cold storage as big as this one here without permission. Besides that, you seem more concerned about why I’m not in the cold storage than my safety. For some reason, you were pretty sure that I was in there,” stated Natalie as she purposely leaned in to further pressure Scarlett.

Since she knew that Yara and Scarlett would be careful not to leave any clues behind, Natalie intentionally stayed out of sight to make Scarlett think that everything was going according to plan.

Natalie waited for the right time to show herself so that she could catch Scarlett by surprise and reveal the woman’s true color to everyone.

Cornered, Scarlett knew that the only thing she could do now was to continue playing innocent. “What did I ever do to you? Why are you trying to slander me in public?”

“Huh, it’s funny how you ask me that. I should be the one to ask you the question,” scoffed Natalie.

Even though everyone at the scene was glad to see that Natalie was fine, they suddenly remembered that Samuel had not yet come out of the cold storage.

“Ms. Nichols, I’m more than relieved to see you safe and sound, but Mr. Bowers has gone inside the cold storage to look for you and hasn’t come out yet!” informed Billy as he was worried about Samuel’s safety.

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Natalie was instantly filled with bafflement. “What? Isn’t he supposed to be on a business trip overseas now? I thought he’s only coming back next week!”

“Yes, that was the plan, but he did everything he could to close the deal early just so he could see you sooner. He came to the party to surprise you because he figured that you’d be here with Mrs. Becker.”

After listening to Billy, Natalie was taken aback.

In order to convince Scarlett that she had frozen to death in the cold storage, Natalie left the party after Lia pretended to drag her into the cold storage.

That was why she had no idea what Samuel had done, even though he had caused quite a commotion at Zayden’s birthday party.

When Natalie saw Billy at the scene, she thought Samuel sent the man to help Yana look for her since he was still overseas.

Never did Natalie expect that Samuel would come back early for her, only to end up in the cold storage. That idiot! What the heck was he thinking?

Even though Natalie tried her best to bury her emotions, her eyes seemed to have a mind of their own as they started to well up.

“He worked all day and all night just so he could see you sooner. That must’ve taken a toll on him,” stated Billy.

Natalie immediately grabbed the man by the collar and questioned, “How long has he been in there?”

“Around ten minutes, I guess.”

Natalie had always been patient, but her emotions had gotten the best of her then. “You’re useless! Is this how you’re supposed to protect your employer? You let him go in alone while you stand here and talk to me!”

Before Billy could respond, Natalie swiftly turned around and rushed toward the cold storage just like the way Samuel did for her.

Everyone at the scene was too afraid of the unforgiving temperature to enter the cold storage, but not the couple. Samuel and Natalie were ready to sacrifice their own lives for each other.

“Natalie, wait! You’ll get cold burn in there!” warned Yana, who tried to chase after the woman but got stopped by her husband. “Let go of me, Hans!”

“You’re not going to be of much help in there, Yana. Just think about it! You’re with child now. If anything were to happen to you, you’d only become a burden to Natalie.”

“But...”

After witnessing how strong the love was between Samuel and Natalie, everyone was deeply moved, especially Scarlett.

As much as she claimed to love Samuel, Scarlett could never throw herself into a mercilessly cold environment like Natalie.

Fortunately, the clothes arrived shortly after Natalie entered the cold storage, so Billy quickly grabbed a set and put it on.

On the other side, Natalie’s eyes darted around the cold storage as she searched for Samuel.

Tears continued to well up in her eyes while she shouted, “Samuel, you idiot! Why did you rush in? If I were really locked in here, I would’ve frozen to death already! Why did you have to throw your life away like that?”

Natalie could feel the cold eating away at her, but she dared not slow down because she had not found her beloved Samuel yet. :

After passing by several stacks of food products, she finally saw Samuel lying unconsciously on the floor. “Samuel!”

Natalie hurriedly unbuttoned her stole and covered the man with it. At that point, all she could think about was how to warm the man up. “Can you hear me, Samuel? It’s me!”

However, Samuel was not responsive, and his eyes remained shut.

The man’s face was already as pale as a ghost, and his purple lips only served to worry Natalie even more.

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Natalie tried to warm up Samuel’s hands with her own but quickly realized that her hands were just as cold.

Even though she had always managed to stay calm under pressure, Natalie could not help but panic when she saw how dire Samuel’s situation was. Had I known that Samuel had returned early and that he would end up unconscious in the cold storage, I would never have gone away just so I could expose Scarlett in front of everyone. I know I can always get back at her. Heck, even if I had to let her get away with it, I would never let something like this happen to Samuel!

The mere thought of losing Samuel was enough to send shivers down Natalie’s spine.

“Wake up, Samuel! Please! I’m begging you to wake up. I can’t lose you!”

Drop after drop, Natalie’s tears rolled down her cheek and fell onto Samuel’s face.

No matter how much pressure she had had to endure over the years bringing up Xavian and Clayton on her own, Natalie rarely cried.

However, at that moment, her tears just kept falling out.

Natalie then put Samuel's arm around her neck and tried to carry the man out of the cold storage.

Since Samuel was much heavier than she was, every step she took felt as though it demanded all the energy she got left in her. I don't care if I fall, but I can't let Samuel fall with me!

Under the extreme condition, Natalie knew all she could do was grit her teeth and try to rescue Samuel with everything she had got.

Fortunately, it did not take long before Billy and his men, clad in thick clothing, rushed in to help her.

"Ms. Nichols." Billy was more than impressed when he saw the woman carrying his employer while wearing only a thin blue dinner dress. He had always thought that Samuel loved Natalie more than she loved him.

However, after witnessing Natalie's bold effort, Billy realized how wrong he was to think that way.

"Samuel is unconscious, Billy, so you have to get him to the hospital now. He might not survive if he doesn't get medical attention soon, Don't worry about me. Just go!" ordered Natalie with almost all the energy she had left in her.

After nodding at Natalie, Billy quickly took Samuel from her and made his way to the exit,

After making sure that Samuel was finally in good hands, Natalie started coughing violently.

Her shoulders were completely exposed to the cold since she wrapped her stole around Samuel.

"Let us get you out of here," suggested one of Billy's men.

Natalie only took two steps before she realized that she could no longer walk on her own.

Scoffing at herself, Natalie wondered how she managed to summon enough strength to carry Samuel when she could barely walk herself.

Natalie remained in a state of hypothermia even after leaving the cold storage, so Yana quickly covered her with a down jacket.

"Do you have any idea how worried I was after you ran into the cold storage? You almost gave me a heart attack!" exclaimed Yana exaggeratedly.

Even though Yana was upset with Natalie's impulsive actions, she could not help but cry tears of joy when the woman turned out to be okay.

Just look at your wife, Hans. She's with child now. You should know better than to let her cry like that," joked Natalie.

In response, Hans gave Natalie a look before handing her a flask of warm tea. "I see the cold hasn't rid you of your sense of humor. By the way, you really should go to a hospital for a thorough examination."

Natalie knew that Hans and Yana cared a lot about her, so she nodded obediently. "Fine. I promise I'll go to a hospital, but I want to go to the one Samuel is in."

Chapter 422

"Is this all that you were wearing when you entered that cold storage? Luckily you didn't stay in there for too long. Otherwise, even I can't help you. Getting frostbite is no joke!" A doctor at the hospital reminded Natalie, but she simply looked away and ignored everything he told her.

All Natalie cared about at that moment was Samuel's condition and nothing else.

Jason, Hannah, Yana, and Hans were all waiting for her when she entered the lobby. They only breathed a sigh of relief when the doctor informed them that Natalie was fine.

Seeing how concerned the elderly couple, Jason and Hannah, were for her, Natalie felt warm and fuzzy on the inside.

Natalie got teary-eyed when she was reminded just how lucky she was to have them by her side.

When Jason turned to look at Natalie, his face was dead serious. "Natalie, Yana told me how Scarlett nearly got you killed. I won't rest until that woman gets what she deserves for trying to hurt you! Our family may not have wealth nor power, but that doesn't mean we are pushovers!"

"I know. But it's getting late, so you and Godmother should go home and rest now."

After some persuasion, the elderly couple eventually agreed to head home, but Hans and Yana insisted on staying.

"You're pregnant, Yana, so you shouldn't be out this late. Think about your baby!" reminded Natalie in all seriousness.

Yana slowly walked over to Natalie before inquiring, "This isn't your real face, is it, Natalie?"

"What?" Natalie widened her eyes in surprise.

"We can understand that you deliberately stayed out of sight because you wanted to expose Scarlett, but we thought you'd be hiding somewhere in the building. However, nobody could find you even after we searched the whole place. Plus, you seemed to be unaware that Samuel had returned. The only explanation I can think of is that you somehow managed to leave the place undetected," deduced Yana logically...

She then exchanged looks with her husband before continuing, "If you had walked out of there with that face, Scarlett would've surely spotted you. Hence, you must've used a different one. Natalie, you're like family to us now. I think you should trust us with your secret."

Natalie immediately shook her head. "I didn't mean to keep it from you. It's just that I never found the right time to tell you. I guess I was just afraid that you would be upset after hearing it. To tell you the truth, my real face is... going to surprise you."

"Surprise us?" exclaimed both Hans and Yana at the same time.

“You’ll know what I mean once I take off this mask.”

With that, Natalie dug her fingers into the edge of the hyper-realistic mask and removed it.

Hans and Yana almost dropped their jaws onto the floor when they saw the face underneath, for they did not expect it to look exactly like Yara’s.

“You and Yara,”

“We’re twins,” interrupted Natalie before her expression suddenly turned grim. “But as far as she knows, I died in the fire she caused five years ago.”

Yana covered her mouth in shock. “Oh, my goodness! Hans and I have always thought that you

“It’s not yet the right time to reveal myself to Yara and her family.”.

“Don’t worry. Yana and I will keep this between us,” promised Hans solemnly.

Hans and Yana wanted Natalie to rest, but Natalie was too worried about Samuel to fall asleep.

That was why she waited until the couple had left before sneaking out to the intensive care unit to see Samuel.

Chapter 423 Suffer The Consequences

When Billy saw Natalie walking over in her hospital gown, he lowered his head in embarrassment.

He claimed that he was loyal to Samuel and would sacrifice his life for his master. However, he instinctively retreated under the freezing condition.

“Billy, how’s Samuel doing?” asked Natalie.

“The doctor gave Sir some oxygen and transfused some warm saline solution into him. He reminded that Sir should rest well for these two days,” Billy reported everything that the doctor had said word-for-word.

After a long silence, Natalie said, “Billy, I went overboard when I scolded you for being useless outside the freezer. It’s too dangerous to enter without a protective suit.”

“Don’t mind it, Ms. Nichols.” Billy patted his chest. “To me, you’re only second to Sir. I’m not saying this because he likes you. Instead, you’ve convinced me with your actions.”

“Why are you making me sound like some burly dude? I’m still a girl, okay?” Natalie joked before saying seriously, “You can leave now. I’ll keep Samuel company. If you’re worried, you can wait outside the hospital ward. Remember that only I can be in here.”

Billy knew that if Samuel were conscious, that would be his wish too.

Hence, he nodded and left the room, leaving some space for Natalie.

Sitting beside Samuel's bed, Natalie held his hand slowly and pressed it against her cheek.

Only then did she feel the immense worry weighing down on her disappear.

He's fine.

Natalie felt an urge to cry. Tears welled up in her eyes, though they were tears of joy.

"Samuel, you're the biggest fool in the world!" mumbled Natalie as she choked on her tears. "But I don't mind. I'll use the rest of my life to repay your foolishness."

In the Hamilton residence, the news of Scarlett plotting to kill Samuel's fiancée had spread.

Fury raged in Charles' eyes as he glared at Scarlett.

Standing beside Scarlett, Zayden could feel the overwhelming sense of intimidation from his grandfather. He did not even dare to breathe loudly.

Meanwhile, Scarlett stood there listlessly with her head drooped, waiting for Charles to deal with her.

"Scarlett, although the Hamilton family rose to power through our ammunition business, I've always done everything above board and just. You're my granddaughter, but how can you do something so despicable? Everyone's treating the Hamilton family as a laughing stock now!" chided Charles sternly as he stared at her.

Even Scarlett was making him worry now. Never would he had expected his granddaughter, who had always made him proud, to bring such troubles to the Hamilton family.

Scarlett's actions were even more challenging to deal with than Zayden's troubles.

Charles was overwhelmed with rage.

In a fit of anger, he slapped Scarlett hard across the face.

Slap!

Caught unaware by the slap, Scarlett felt a searing pain on her cheek.

"Grandpa?" Scarlett covered her cheek in disbelief.

"Don't call me your grandpa!" scolded Charles. "Scarlett, you're no longer part of the Hamilton family from now on."

"What do you mean, Grandpa?"

"From today onward, you'll be evicted from the Hamilton family. Although your last name is still Hamilton, you have nothing to do with the Hamilton family." Charles averted his gaze, but his tone was exceptionally firm.

"Please, Grandpa. I'm begging you! Don't do this!"

Scared, Scarlett quickly fell to her knees and groveled. She slammed her forehead against the floor till it almost bled.

Even though Charles' heart ached, he would not forgive her.

He instructed the butler sternly, "She's no longer part of the Hamilton family. Why are all of you still standing there? Kick her out of the house now!"

Soon, the housekeepers chased Scarlett out of the Hamilton residence.

"Grandpa, I'm your most precious granddaughter! Please, don't give up on me! The blood of the Hamiltons flows through my veins. You can't do this to me! Zayden, I've always treated you so nicely. Are you going to watch me get evicted without doing anything?"

Chapter 424 Drag The Hamilton Family Down

When Zayden heard Scarlett's pathetic cries, he could not stand it either.

"Grandpa, even though Scarlett has committed a mistake, don't you think that throwing her out from the Hamilton residence is too harsh a punishment?" Zayden pleaded on behalf of Scarlett.

"Do you think that I want to do this?" Charles stumbled backward as a look of exasperation crossed his wrinkled face. "Zayden, the Hamilton family isn't as powerful as you think. After your parents died, I'm the only one supporting the entire family. You know very clearly how incompetent you are. The Hamilton family has been going downhill since a few years ago. We've been hiding behind a false pretense of power."

After a slight pause, he continued, "Before your birthday banquet, I've finally managed to reach a verbal agreement with Samuel for him to cooperate with the Hamilton family for the next ten years. Now that your sister has done something so outrageous, do you think that Samuel will still collaborate with the Hamilton family? I have no choice but to make a sacrifice. It is only by cutting off all ties with your sister and making the family's stance clear that there'll be a slight chance for Samuel to change his mind!"

Having a sudden revelation, Zayden finally understood the reason behind Charles' harsh actions.

"What about Scarlett..."

"Considering Samuel's methods, your sister will end up a hundred times worse than going to jail." When Charles said that, he could not help but tear up. "I know that, but what can I do? She messed around with someone she shouldn't have provoked and even crossed his bottom line! If the Hamilton family helps her, we'd all have to follow her to the grave."

After knowing the powerful dynamics behind this, Zayden did not dare to mention anything no matter how much he wanted to help Scarlett.

After Scarlett got chased out of the Hamilton residence, she paced around the villa like a lost ghost, unwilling to leave.

However, since Charles had given the absolute command, no one dared to let her in.

It was extremely chilling outside.

Scarlett was overwhelmed with fear and regret.

She called Yara, but the phone rang a few times before Yara declined the call directly.

Da*n it!

When Yara asked to join forces with her, she had acted so deferentially.

Now that things ended in failure, Yara immediately transformed into a traitor, not even willing to pick up her call.

“Yara! You were the one who dragged me into this mess!” A vicious glint flashed across Scarlett’s eyes as she spat through gritted teeth, “Now that you’ve made me utterly homeless, don’t you think that you escape scot-free.”

Meanwhile, Yara also received news that the plan had failed. Naturally, she could not accept Scarlett’s call at this critical juncture.

Initially, she wanted to join forces with Scarlett and eliminate Natalie secretly before Samuel returned. Never had she expected that he would come back earlier and that Natalie did not even enter that freezer!

Luckily, she managed to fend herself from Scarlett.

The reason why she asked to join forces was so that Scarlett could become her scapegoat if the truth was revealed.

Yara frowned as she fell into deep thought.

I’ve already reminded Lia to knock Natalie unconscious using the sedatives before throwing her into the freezer. Why did things take such a sudden turn?

Feeling puzzled, Yara could not help but call Lia.

“Do you have a death wish, Lia?” Furious, Yara screamed at the phone, “How did you carry out my instructions? Do you believe that I’ll reveal to everyone that Lionel is an orphan and expose your scandalous affair with him?”

Yara vented all of her anger on Lia, thinking that her threats would be effective again.

Surprisingly, Lia replied, “Go ahead and reveal my secret. However, I’ll also release the voice recording of you instructing me to sabotage Natalie.”

“You...” Yara’s heart skipped a beat. “What do you mean?”

“At the very most, people will just look down on me. However, I’ll still be the heiress of the Johnson family.” After a slight pause, Lia continued, “on the other hand, you are different. Your reputation will be utterly destroyed.”

Chapter 425 Nothing To Hide

“Are you threatening me, Lia?” demanded Yara as her voice broke.

“In the past, I only knew how it felt like to be threatened. I didn’t expect that I’ll be the person threatening you one day.” Lia stated coldly, “Yara, don’t be too arrogant and underestimate others. Otherwise, you will dig your own grave and die from your own actions.”

With that, she hung up.

Listening to the beeping tone on the phone, Yara clenched her fists unconsciously. Her nails dug into her palm, causing blood to drip down her hand.

She had spent all her effort on guarding Scarlett.

Back then, she thought that Lia was just a pushover whom she could control. However, it turned out that Lia was the one who sabotaged the entire plan.

Yara’s beautiful facial features contorted into a look of hatred and menace.

“Lia! Who do you think you are? How dare you toy around with me like that? Natalie almost died! She was this close to disappearing from the world! Why did God help that woman but not me?”

In a fit of anger, Yara threw her phone to the wall. With a loud crash, it smashed into pieces.

Meanwhile, Natalie continued staying by Samuel’s side in the hospital.

She gently wiped the ice burns on Samuel’s body with lukewarm water. For the entire night, she did not sleep.

Gazing at Samuel’s exquisite features, she could not help but place her fingers on his thin lips.

So thin...

People often say that men with thin lips are heartless. But why is he so nice to me, to the extent that I don’t even know how to repay him?

She ran her fingers across his lips gently.

It was almost addictive to touch them.

At some point in time, Samuel had already woken up.

“You’ve touched my lips for so long... Don’t you want to kiss them?” Samuel’s eyes were half-closed, but his gaze was overflowing with affection.

“Stop being so narcissistic!” whined Natalie coyly. “Are you awake?”

When she saw that Samuel had woken up, she wanted to withdraw her hand. However, he grabbed her hand so tightly that she could not free herself.

“Samuel...”

“Why are you wearing a hospital gown too? Did you get injured?” interrogated Samuel with a worried frown.

Natalie bit her lips.

This man is going to be the end of me. He's the one who's the most severely injured. However, instead of caring for himself, he's worried about me. The ice burns are so serious. How is it possible that he's not in pain?

Not waiting for Natalie's answers, Samuel suddenly pulled her onto the bed and into his arms.

Their eyes met.

"Where did you get hurt?" asked Samuel nervously.

"I'm not injured, Samuel."

Natalie was telling the truth. Although she was freezing in the freezer, that did not count as an injury.

When Samuel recalled how Natalie used to put up a strong front, he was afraid that she was hiding her injuries from him.

The most foolproof way was to personally examine whether Natalie was injured.

"I really am not..."

Before Natalie could finish her sentence, Samuel was already unbuttoning her hospital gown assertively.

Soon, she felt a gust of cold wind against her chest.

The last button of her hospital gown came undone, revealing her body to him.

Samuel scrutinized every inch of Natalie's body. After confirming that there were no injuries, he realized that she was not lying to him.

"Is this how you check me for injuries?" asked Natalie with a frown.

"I'm worried that you're lying to me again." Samuel tightened the hospital gown around her before saying matter-of-factly, "Since you're mine, your body and heart are mine too. There's nothing that I can't see."

Chapter 426 Insatiable

Who in their right mind would take off someone else's clothes if they were just checking for injuries?

Yet, the man didn't think that he had done anything wrong.

"You ripped off the buttons on my hospital gown, Samuel," Natalie scolded while glaring at him. "People are going to misunderstand us if they see me like this. You stopped the Hamilton family's party and even got injured because of me. I'm sure I'm a vixen in their eyes now. If they were to see us like this, they're going to think that I'm an insatiable woman who torments you even when you're sick."

Samuel's heart skipped a beat at the sight of the woman rambling away. Without warning, he leaned in and kissed her lips.

"Mmph..."

She froze instantly as she never thought that he would kiss her at a time like this.

At that, Samuel took the opportunity and deepened the kiss while she was still in a daze.

By the time Natalie snapped back to her senses, she was already short of breath from the kiss.

This man...

She actually liked the fact that the man was as wild as a tyrant instead of hating it.

Samuel only released her from his arms after a long while.

"It's obvious that those people have underestimated you," he said lovingly while pinching her cheek. "To me, not even ten vixens can beat you. I'm happy that you're insatiable, and you can torment me however you want."

"Where did you learn nonsense like this, Samuel?" Natalie's cheeks puffed up as she complained.

"I don't need to learn it. I've become a self-taught expert after getting to know you," he replied with a smile.

"How ridiculous!"

She hit on his chest lightly and tried to get away from him.

But before she could move away from him any further, Samuel pulled her back into his arms.

"Don't move."

"Huh?"

"I can't do anything to you right now." His voice was hoarse and it was evident that he was trying to keep himself from losing control. "I just want to hug you like this. Oh, right. Can you tell me what actually happened? Why was your phone in the cold storage?"

Natalie nestled in his warm embrace and started talking about how she had escaped Scarlett's plot.

However, she never mentioned Yara or Lia.

She didn't do it out of kindness for Yara, as she was actually trying to protect Lia.

The woman wanted to help the latter escape from her sister's clutches, and also escape from the plot itself.

After all, if Natalie had mentioned Yara, the price Lia would have to pay for being an accomplice would be too big.

Samuel traced her back with his slender fingers as he listened to her speak.

His hands moved gently and he was full of affection for her.

However, his eyes burned with anger.

How dare they make a move against my woman? Scarlett and the Hamilton family must be tired of living!

The children of the Bowers residence began pestering Steven and asking him questions when they heard that Samuel and Natalie were at the hospital.

“Uncle Steven, is Daddy okay?”

“Hurry up and take us to the hospital! I want to see Daddy and Mommy.”

“Is Mommy okay?”

“Uncle Steven, stop drinking water and being so carefree. Take us to the hospital so we can visit Mommy!”

The man had rushed over and only managed to take a sip of water when Sophia said that. At her words, he almost spat out the water in his mouth.

It was already difficult enough for him to have to take care of Franklin and Sophia who were like little demons. He seemed to be getting a headache now that he had to take care of Xavian and Clayton as well.

But what could he do?

They were all his little bosses after all.

Even Xavian and Clayton got the same treatment because of Natalie.

“Don’t worry. It’s nothing serious even though they’re at the hospital,” Steven explained patiently. “Just let me drink some water and I’ll take you guys to them.”

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Steven and the kids soon arrived at the hospital.

Fortunately, Natalie had already changed into a new set of hospital gown.

Otherwise, she would be so embarrassed that she would want to dig a hole and hide in it if the children were to see her in a disheveled state.

“Are you okay, Daddy?” Franklin asked as he lay beside Samuel. It was rare to see him being so obedient. “I heard you barged into the cold storage just to save Mommy. I feel so proud of you as your son.”

“Yeah.” The man’s lips tilted upward into a smile as he glanced toward Natalie affectionately. “I’ll protect her for the rest of my life.”

The latter’s heart melted at his words.

She knew very well that he wasn’t just sweet talking and that he meant every word he said.

He would definitely keep his words.

“Daddy, Daddy!”

Sophia got onto the bed as well and shoved a bag that was almost as big as her in front of her father's face.

"Uncle Steven said we can only visit you for half an hour. I was worried that you would get bored so I brought lots of things for you."

The girl opened up the bag and took out her gifts while explaining what they were to her father.

"I prepared a little bunny plush for you so you can cuddle with it while you sleep. There are pencils and paper so if you ever get bored you can draw with them. Here's a nightlight too. You can press on it once when going to the toilet, so you don't have to worry about falling anymore. I also brought some strawberry candies for you to eat when you feel peckish."

Even though the gifts Sophia brought were things only a five-year-old girl would like, they were still carefully picked out by her.

It was the thought that counted.

Samuel reached out and patted the girl's head.

"Thank you for preparing these for me, Sophia. I really like them."

"Really?" Sophia's eye shone with happiness. "I'm glad you like them, Daddy. Uncle Steven said that I brought too many things earlier."

"He was talking nonsense."

He glanced over at Steven in displeasure, giving him a look that seemed to say, "You're going to get it when I recover."

The latter's jaw dropped at that. I'm innocent!

They were pestering me so that I would bring them to the hospital, but Sophia was taking her time picking out the items. What else could I have said?

Nonetheless, there was no way for him to negotiate with someone who spoiled his daughter so much. All he could do was take the blame.

Xavian and Clayton came empty-handed.

Natalie thought that since they were normally quite sophisticated with the ways of the world, they would bring something, especially Xavian. He was great at cooking, so she thought that he would bring some soup when he visited.

She said nothing about it, but they were still able to tell what she was thinking.

"You're wondering why Xavian hasn't made any soup, aren't you, Mommy?" Clayton asked with an eyebrow raised.

"Yes," Natalie answered with a nod.

“What’s the point of bringing soup, Mommy? You’re Mr. Bowers’ medicine,” Xavian answered. He stuck out his tongue mischievously before he continued, “Not even soup made by God would work as well as you staying with him.”

She was about to tell them not to talk nonsense in front of Samuel but saw that he was smiling at their words.

“That’s right,” he said. His smile grew wider as he continued, “That’s why your mommy will be staying with me until I recover. Do you have a problem with that?”

“Nope!”

“Nope!”

“Nope!”

“Nope!”

The children replied simultaneously.

Natalie bit on her lips, speechless that no one was asking for her opinion.

The children chatted happily for a long while before they finally left reluctantly.

They waited at the hospital entrance while Steven went to get his car.

Suddenly, Sophia noticed a car stopping some distance away from the corner of her eye. Kenneth and Yara got down from the car a second later.

Oh gosh! Why is that woman here?

The girl shivered at the sight of her. She quickly tugged on Franklin’s sleeve and said, “What do we do, Franklin?”