

Happiness 428-437

The Promise of Happiness

Chapter 428 Meeting The Twins Again

“What do you mean? What’s wrong?” he asked, not making sense of what was happening.

“Look there!” Sophia hissed anxiously. “That woman is here to visit Daddy too! If we bump into her, she’s gonna drag us to Daddy and say that she’s our biological mom. It’s gonna make Mommy sad!”

Only then did Franklin understand what was going on.

He looked over and sure enough, Yara was walking toward them in a lambswool coat and a pair of sunglasses.

“Xavian, Clayton, um- Sophia and I...” Franklin blurted after coming up with an idea in the spur of a moment, “We need to go and pee!”

Sophia realized what he was trying to do and quickly chimed in, “I can’t hold it anymore. I really need to pee now!”

Clayton frowned and replied, “What’s wrong with the two of you? You were still okay earlier.”

“Is it wrong to want to pee suddenly? I’m bringing Sophia to the toilet. Don’t follow us.”

Franklin took his sister’s hand and sped toward the hospital’s side entrance.

Meanwhile...

Yara thought that the figure of the boy and girl in front looked a lot like the twins when she accompanied Kenneth to the hospital.

However, seeing them running away in the opposite direction had only confirmed her hunched that they were Sophia and Franklin.

What the hell?

Do you really think you can run away from me?

She wanted to take them to Samuel’s room and make Natalie understand that she was their biological mother.

Don’t go thinking that you’re their biological mother just because you’re close to them.

“Head in first, Grandpa. I saw someone I know,” Yara said. “Samuel knows them too. Why don’t I bring them over to his room later?”

“Be quick then.”

“All right.”

After getting Kenneth’s approval, she took off her sunglasses and hurried to the side entrance of the hospital.

Supported by his walking stick, the old man slowly made his way to the main entrance when he saw two boys who looked familiar.

“Xavian! Clayton!” he called out, overjoyed to see them. “What a coincidence!”

The boys were thrilled to see Kenneth as well.

“Hello, Grandpa!”

“Yes, hello.” The old man nodded happily and said, “The prescription you gave me worked wonders! I take the medicine you prescribed me every night, and I feel like I’m so much healthier now. My heart doesn’t hurt as it did previously too.”

“Of course! Mommy prescribed it for you. Many people try to see her but not many succeed even if they offer her lots of money,” Xavian exclaimed proudly.

Previously, Kenneth would have thought that the boys were just talking up their mother.

However, after taking the medicine and actually feeling that he was getting better, he knew that they weren’t exaggerating at all.

“Your mom is such an amazing doctor. Which hospital does she work for?” he asked. He wanted to hire her as his attending doctor so that he could live a little longer.

Xavian and Clayton exchanged glances with each other before shaking their heads.

“Why are you shaking your heads?” Kenneth questioned curiously.

“Mommy doesn’t work for any hospital,” Clayton answered with a smile. “She doesn’t treat people entirely for the money. Most of the time, she does as she pleases or she’d leave it up to fate. There might be a time when she would reject a billionaire as her patient but treat a beggar by the roadside.”

Chapter 429 If Only

Xavian joined in and agreed, “That’s true! Just because we have a good relationship with you, it doesn’t mean that Mommy will treat you if you’re sick, Grandpa.”

Kenneth was stunned to hear that.

It seems like not only is their mother an outstanding doctor, but she also has a strong personality too.

“Well, now I really want to meet your mother.” The old man was in awe and was becoming increasingly curious about their mother.

He wanted to see for himself what kind of woman was able to give birth to such obedient and smart children.

“She won’t be able to meet you these days,” Clayton said as he wagged his finger.

“Why?” Kenneth was obviously disappointed to hear that.

“Mommy’s taking care of our stepfather at the hospital,” Xavian explained. “They’re so lovey-dovey toward each other that even my brother and I had to leave. It’s best that you don’t disturb them, Grandpa.”

“Stepfather?”

“Our stepfather is a great man,” Clayton insisted. “Well, our biological dad is a douchebag. That’s why as long as our stepfather treats Mommy well, Xavian and I will take care of him as if he’s our biological dad. We don’t want his assets, but we’ll still take care of him when he gets old.”

“That’s right,” his brother said while nodding vehemently.

Kenneth was overwhelmed by mixed feelings in an instant.

He once thought that they were active and lively boys. He never expected them to have such a difficult life.

After hearing that they had such a positive attitude toward their mother’s remarriage, he was once again touched by how mature they were.

These boys are so sensible!

How great would it be if they were my great-grandsons?

If only Samuel married Yara earlier. It’d be nice if they can give birth to another set of twins like them.

That being said, there was nothing he could do about it. Kenneth could only dream as he didn’t dare to ask for more.

Since he still needed to visit Samuel, he parted ways with the boys reluctantly.

The old man couldn’t help but sigh at the thought of how obedient the boys were. He felt somewhat indignant at the situation.

After he left, Xavian and Clayton exchanged glances.

“Why haven’t Franklin and Sophia returned from the toilet, Xavian?”

“Do you think they’ve encountered a kidnapper?”

“Absolutely not!” As the older brother, Clayton quickly formed a plan in his mind. “We should go look for them now. We’ve got to let Daddy and Mommy know immediately if something were to happen.”

At the same time, Franklin and Sophia were looking around for a place to hide.

“I think that woman is after us, Franklin.” The girl’s eyes were wide with worry. “Where should we go? Great-grandpa is just right there. It’d be troublesome if she caught us.”

There was no way Franklin hadn’t thought of it if Sophia was able to think of it.

“She won’t be able to catch us. Trust me, Sophia. I have a solution,” he answered with a frown.

“Okay.”

Behind them, Yara was chasing after them relentlessly.

Originally, she thought that it would be an easy task chasing after two five-year-old children. However, not only was it harder than she expected, but she also never managed to shorten the distance between them.

The woman gritted her teeth in anger.

They're really the bane of my life.

She had been staying by their side as their biological mother all their life, but they were always trying to sabotage her.

With that thought in mind, Yara quickened her pace and swore to herself that she needed to catch them no matter what.

Chapter 430 Liabilities

Yara, Franklin, and Sophia continued running around the hospital building.

The children used all their might to escape from the woman, but their bodies seemed to be reaching their limits after running for some time.

"I think that woman is still chasing after us." Sophia could barely catch her breath as she continued to run. Her pace had evidently slowed. "F-Franklin... What do we do? I really... can't run anymore."

"Just hold on a little while longer, Sophia."

The boy encouraged his sister, but he was reaching his limit as well.

That woman is going to catch up to us sooner or later if this continues.

An emergency exit caught his eyes. He quickly pushed the door open and dragged the girl into the dim passageway.

"This way, Sophia."

"Franklin?"

"Shh. Stay here. We can't make a sound, all right? Otherwise, she's going to find us."

"Okay."

The boy was panting heavily, and Yara wasn't doing any better. She had almost sprained her ankle while trying to catch up to them.

Seeing that the children had made their way into the emergency exit, she didn't hesitate to follow.

However, she realized that they were nowhere to be seen when she was inside.

"What are you running for, Franklin and Sophia? I am your biological mother. I gave birth to you, so do you think I'd harm you?"

It was completely silent in the passageway aside from Yara's questioning voice.

She continued to mumble to herself, "Let me tell you, it doesn't matter how much you dislike me. There's no denying that you're blood-related to me. The more you rebel against me, the more it shows how unfilial and ungrateful you are. It means that that woman has failed in teaching you guys!"

Hearing that, Sophia nearly opened her mouth to retort.

Fortunately, Franklin reacted quickly enough and clasped a hand over her mouth, stopping her from making any noise that would expose their hiding spot.

Yara continued to pace around the area. She finally convinced herself that she was seeing things when she wasn't able to hear anything after some time.

I'm really going crazy because of them!

Who said they were bargaining chips to be a part of the Bowers family? They're more like liabilities who only know how to torment me!

Ugh, just how unlucky can I get to have wasted so much time on them?

At that, she pushed open the door to the emergency exit and left in a huff.

After a long while, there was no noise or movement from the passageway.

When Franklin and Sophia were sure that Yara wouldn't return anymore, they finally removed the lid from the rubbish bin they were hiding in.

It was all thanks to the rubbish bin that the woman was unable to find them.

Luckily, it had been cleared out and was quite spacious. They fit perfectly inside the bin, and Yara was unable to notice them.

"Do you think that woman is really our mom, Franklin?" Tears welled up in the girl's eyes as she asked. Soon, fat droplets of tears fell from her face. "I really hate her so much! When can we escape from her?"

Franklin felt the same.

But seeing that his sister was crying so pitifully, he took up the responsibility of being her older brother and consoled her while taking her in his arms.

"Don't cry, Sophia. God may have closed a door for us, but he also opened up a window for us. That evil woman is always thinking of ways to use us, but at least we have Natalie. I'll work hard and learn about business and finance from Daddy. That way, that woman can't ever exploit us anymore."

Upon hearing her brother's words, Sophia rubbed her eyes and a smile broke across her face. Nodding, she said, "I'll work hard too, Franklin. I'm going to learn medicine from Mommy so I can protect our family."

With that, the seeds of their dreams were planted in their hearts.

When Yara met up with Kenneth again, not only was the old man not angry, but he also smiled at her.

"I've kept you waiting, haven't I, Grandpa? Did something good happen to you while I was gone? You look like you're in a great mood," she couldn't stop herself from asking.

Chapter 431 Come To Me

“Yara, I met the children who saved me just now. The more I look at them, the more I like them!”

Kenneth’s cold expression brightened up when he mentioned the kids.

“That’s only natural. They have saved you after all!”

Yara put on a smile and responded cheerily while secretly cursing the old man for not liking his grandchildren but the two brats who were not related to him.

“Yara, it’s a shame you didn’t see them. They looked beautiful just like Sophia and Franklin. They’re adorable!”

“Is that so? Then I definitely have to take a look when I get the chance!”

That said, Yara was not the least bit interested in those kids, so she quickly changed the topic.

“By the way, Grandpa, that woman will surely be inside when we see Samuel.” She bit her lips, deliberately looking helpless. “Is it okay if you head in while I wait outside? I’m scared I...”

Yara showed hesitation and paused at the perfect timing.

“You’re going in with me.”

“But I...”

“What are you afraid of? I’ll be there to back you up,” Kenneth said. “That woman will never step into the Bowers residence as long as I am alive.”

Yara smiled. “You’re the best, Grandpa.”

While they talked, the two arrived at the door of Samuel’s ward.

“Good day, Old Mr. Bowers,” Billy greeted Kenneth when he saw him.

“The incident at the Hamilton’s really blew up. I’ve been hearing all sorts of nonsensical stories.” Kenneth then asked, “Now tell me, is that woman, Natalie Nichols, the reason why he’s in here right now?”

“It’s rather complicated, Sir. Ms. Natalie also got hurt trying to save him.”

Kenneth was rather shocked to hear that Billy’s explanation was for Natalie.

“Did I ask you about the woman?” Kenneth pointed his finger at Billy. “Stop beating about the bush and tell me, is Samuel injured because of Natalie Nichols?”

At that moment, Billy felt chills running down his spine seeing Kenneth’s angry face.

Meanwhile, Yara felt ecstatic knowing that Kenneth had her back.

Grandpa’s right! If it wasn’t for her, Samuel wouldn’t have gotten into that mess and gotten injured!

Billy went silent after hearing Kenneth’s question as he secretly still wanted to defend Natalie.

“Billy! We raised you! What has she done for you that you are acting like this? Are you really not going to answer me?” Kenneth’s finger was trembling from his rage. He did not expect Natalie to be capable of winning over Billy’s heart—a person who had sworn loyalty to the Bowers family.

Just then, the door opened.

Samuel came out with his eyes narrowed and spoke with a deep voice.

“Grandpa, you can always just come to me if you have questions. There’s no need for you to keep badgering Billy.”

Samuel looked rather pale with the hospital gown on him. The color of his lips was still dull, but his gaze remained sharp and intimidating.

“Samuel!” Yara approached him excitedly as soon as she saw him. She tried to grab his arm. “How are you doing? Is everything okay? Why aren’t you resting? You shouldn’t be running around like this.”

Nevertheless, Samuel shifted his body and avoided Yara’s touch entirely.

“Can you keep it down?” Samuel asked while looking at her with his cold gaze, annoyed. “Nat just managed to fall asleep. Please don’t wake her up with that irritating voice of yours.”

Chapter 432 Why Should I Do That

At that instance, Yara felt a jerk in her heart as tears started overflowing from her eyes.

“How could you talk to Yara like that, Samuel!” Kenneth’s expression darkened with rage. “Yara has done so many things for the family over the years, but you chose to ignore all her effort and contribution. On top of that, you’re treating her like this because of that woman? This is ridiculous! You...”

“Grandpa, I don’t want to hear this slander from you. Natalie’s great. She’s not the witch you say she is,” Samuel interrupted Kenneth before he could finish his sentence.

Hearing that, Kenneth’s expression turned bright red. “Are you going to go against me, your grandfather, just so you can be with that woman?”

“No, I was merely correcting the way you address her.”

“You! How can you be such a stubborn fool? What did that woman feed you?” Kenneth pulled Yara in front of Samuel. “Yara’s so much better than Natalie Nichols! Why can’t you see that?”

What he said was exactly what Yara was thinking.

Meanwhile, Yara looked at Samuel with tear-filled eyes, waiting avidly for his answer.

“I ignored her because the only one I want to see with these eyes of mine is the woman I love and adore. Besides, there are many ways for us to show our gratitude, so I hope you don’t lump me with Yara again because I’m never going to marry her!” Samuel said with a straight face.

Then, he turned toward Yara and spoke to her directly. "Don't waste your time on me. I'm certain Natalie's the one for me, and I'll never do anything that would hurt her!"

Yara backed away after hearing his statement, feeling devastated as she looked into Samuel's cold and distant gaze.

Is this what I get for all the things I did for you?

"Why do you have to hurt me so much, Samuel? Can't you at least try to comfort me?"

"Why should I?" Samuel narrowed his eyes and gave Yara a wry response.

"You've gone too far, Samuel Bowers!" Kenneth grabbed Yara's arm. "Let's go, Yara. Don't put what he said to heart. We're leaving this place now."

Hence, Kenneth dragged Yara away from Samuel's ward as though she was a broken doll.

At the same time, Billy burst into a cold sweat from just listening to the conversation on the side.

"Mr. Bowers, what you just said..."

"Do you think I was too cruel?" Samuel asked with a faint grin on his face.

Billy nodded in response. "Yes."

"Billy, it would be cruel to Natalie if I treated Yara any less than what I did." Samuel patted Billy's shoulder.

Every word I say to Natalie is a promise to her, and I don't want her to have any doubts about it. You're still single, so you might not understand, but it'll be clear when you find the love of your life."

Billy kept quiet.

He understood what Samuel was trying to say in the first half of his statement. But the second half just felt like Samuel was showing off his relationship to him.

"Billy, go buy some food from Acapella. I want Natalie to have piping hot food when she wakes up." Samuel said with a little more warmth and passion in his eyes. "She's been taking care of me the entire night, so let's just give her some more time to rest."

Billy nodded and proceeded to head over to Acapella.

After that, Samuel went back inside the ward.

In front of him was a slender silhouette lying on the bed, partially lit by the gold shimmering ray of the morning sun cascading through the window.

Natalie was sound asleep and did not know that her oversized hospital gown had drooped down quite a bit during her slumber, exposing her smooth and tender skin to the man at the door.

Samuel walked toward the girl and stood by her side, quietly looking at her tiny face.

He was glad that they were in the VIP ward, so the soundproofing was superb. Because of that, Natalie did not hear the commotion Yara created earlier and slept through it.

Then, his gaze shifted downward onto her chest.

The blue-white-striped hospital gown was very loose, so Natalie's cleavage barely had anything covering it at that moment.

It was a sight that made Samuel's throat dry as the burning desire in his eyes smoldered.

His breathing became a little faster as he slowly placed his long thin fingers onto the top button on Natalie's hospital gown.

However, Samuel suddenly stopped himself before he undid the button.

If I go any further, I'll definitely wake her up and actually hurt her.

At that moment, the usually decisive Samuel Bowers experienced what it was like to be frustrated standing before the woman on the bed.

Even though he wanted to swallow Natalie whole then and there, there was nothing he could do but watch as Natalie's alluring scent filled the small area around her.

Samuel was going through quite the mental gymnastics, and his breathing got heavier and more chaotic as time progressed.

That said, he eventually pulled the cover over Natalie's body. But before Samuel got up, he gave Natalie a light peck between her eyes.

Outside the hospital, everyone was looking at Yara because of how she was crying.

Kenneth was still a proud man at heart, so he said to her with a lowered voice, "Yara, we're outside right now. This is not the place to shed tears. Let's talk after we get in the car."

Yara's heart was bleeding at that point, but she still had to listen to Kenneth and force herself to stop crying.

After they got in the car, Kenneth let out a deep sigh.

"Yara, Samuel's completely bewitched by Natalie now. I'm worried that it would only be a waste of time if we persist like this. Why don't I help you look for another fine man to marry? I still have some influence, so I'm sure the man I picked will never do you any wrong."

Truth be told, Kenneth wanted nothing more than for Yara to be his granddaughter-in-law, but with Samuel firmly seated as the head of the family, there was not much Kenneth could do, even if he was his grandfather.

Helping Yara find a good man to settle down with was the best compensation Kenneth could come up with at the moment.

"I don't want that, Grandpa!" Yara shook her head violently after hearing what Kenneth said. "I don't want you to help look for other men! Samuel's the only one for me! I trust that this is just a mere lapse of judgment on his part. He'll definitely realize that and come back to me for sure!"

Hearing that, Kenneth's temple started twitching.

"You! Why do you want to go through all this suffering?" Kenneth shook his head in resignation and let out a volley of sighs.

"I will not be shaken by this, Grandpa," Yara said frankly. "No matter what happens, I will be waiting for Samuel in some corner even if I have to wait a lifetime!"

Seeing how persistent Yara was, Kenneth waved his hand dismissively at her and closed his eyes.

At the same time, Yara wiped away the tears at the corners of her eyes and looked to the streets outside with a sinister gaze.

She was head over heels for Samuel, and she knew no man could ever compare to him. In fact, she could feel the happiness just from seeing the way Samuel pampered Natalie.

It's all that witch's fault! I couldn't get rid of you at the Hamilton residence, but you won't be that lucky all the time.

At noon.

Natalie woke up groggily from her sleep.

She slowly opened her eyes and saw that Samuel's face was right beside her, supported by his arm. His intense gaze focused on her with a burning desire deep from within.

"You're awake?" Samuel asked as he gave her chin a light pinch, tilting her head so that their eyes met.

Chapter 434 All To Myself

"Mmm-hmm." Natalie's eyes were still dazed. "I think I fell asleep just now. Are you hungry? I'll go make something for you and get your medicine."

While Natalie talked, she wanted to lift the cover off her and get out of bed.

However, as soon as she did that, Samuel wrapped his arms around her waist and stopped her from moving.

"What am I to do? You don't know me like Xavian and Clayton do." Samuel sounded a little hoarse. At the same time, his slightly calloused hands went under the hospital gown and rubbed against Natalie's smooth back.

The distance between the two were near zero.

They were so close that the tips of their noses touched as their breaths mingled.

With how close they were, sexual tension filled the air around them despite them not doing anything.

That said, Natalie did not realize what was going on. She looked at Samuel innocently, as though she was asking him why she did not know him as Clayton and Xavian did.

The shine in her eyes was like that of a pristine deer looking at its sly hunter.

The stark contrast between them immediately lit a flame inside Samuel.

“Both of them know that you are my remedy,” Samuel explained while holding it in, but his voice was even coarser. “No medication can be better than me having you.”

Does he not want medicine? But me instead?

At that moment, Samuel skillfully removed Natalie’s hospital gown, leaving Natalie naked in his embrace. The battle between her rationality and desire raged on in her head, tiring her out rapidly.

“W-we’re in a ward,” Natalie said anxiously.

“No one would dare come in without my permission.” Samuel’s desire was raging from within as he suppressed his urge to kiss her.

“But...”

“No buts.”

Samuel had been holding it in for far too long, so his desire to devour Natalie far outweighed any rationality left in him.

During the month they were apart, Samuel lived his life as though he was a monk. Now that he finally got the chance to see her, there was no way he would stop so easily.

Things got intense really quickly inside the room.

Natalie felt ashamed of herself and was afraid she might accidentally let out some indecent noises. So, the only thing she could think of was to bite into Samuel’s shoulder and use it as a gag.

“You actually bit me, huh?” Samuel felt the sting from the bite instantly but did not show any signs of displeasure.

At that moment, Natalie was already exhausted, so she did not respond.

After that, Samuel took his performance up a notch, draining Natalie to the point where she did not even have the energy to bite him.

Time slowly ticked away.

When Natalie put on her clothes again, she no longer felt drowsy. Instead, she realized that she was weak from the waist down and could barely get out of bed.

Samuel’s hip is just... Overwhelming.

“Samuel, I’m knackered.”

Natalie laid flat on the bed and complained, “Can’t you try restraining yourself just a tiny bit?”

Samuel brushed strands of her hair aside and answered, "It'll be like that sometimes when everything is pent up for so long. I don't think I'll be that aggressive if I get satisfied more often. And you won't have to be so worn out afterward."

Natalie went speechless after hearing that and rolled her eyes at him.

Just listen to him! Is this something a man should be saying? His reputation would be ruined if any of his business competitors caught wind of this!

"Alright, no more joking around," Samuel said. "I asked Billy to get some food from Acapella. Come and have some."

Samuel did not let Billy go in but went out to take the food for her instead.

However, it was not an act of consideration toward Billy.

Samuel merely thought that Natalie looked far too sexy in the hospital gown and wanted to keep that sight all to himself.

Chapter 435 Disposing A Body

After Yara left the Bowers residence, she chose to go to a bar for some drinks rather than going home.

Her heart was in pain, so she emptied one glass after another as though she would not get drunk.

Soon enough, the alcohol sank in, and Yara's gaze began to sway from being drunk.

Naturally, a beautiful woman like her drinking in a bar alone caught a lot of attention. But, whenever a man tried to get close to Yara, she would look at them with her narrowed, bloodshot eyes and scare them away with that piercing gaze alone.

These men should take a look at the mirror before even thinking of coming near me! How vain can they get?

After that, she left the bar in a semi-drunk state after settling the bill.

She parked her car at a parking lot nearby, so she had to cross a few alleyways to get there.

While Yara stumbled through the alley, she bumped into a familiar figure.

Scarlett Hamilton was the Hamilton family's darling, the shining star amongst the crowd, a stark contrast to the woman in front of Yara. The woman wore a dirty dress and had scratch marks all over her face.

"Scarlett? Scarlett Hamilton?" Yara spoke with lowered volume.

"Did you think that I won't be able to find you just because you don't answer my calls, Yara?" Scarlett put up a smirk that slowly became something more sinister. "It sounded nice at first, you know? Our collaboration to get rid of Natalie. But why am I the one suffering while you walk away scot-free? It was your people who betrayed you!"

Scarlett had seen through Yara's plan, but Yara was not going to admit it.

Yara was wary that Scarlett might be recording everything they said so that she could acquire evidence to prove her innocence.

Hence, Yara took some time to think.

"I-I don't know what you're talking about, Scarlett." Yara played innocent. "What collaboration? I don't understand. Yes, it is true that I don't like Natalie, but I've never said anything about getting rid of her!"

At that moment, Scarlett realized just how disgusting Yara was as a person from her blatant denial.

"Are you really going to keep pretending, Yara Nichols?"

"What's there to pretend?" Yara shook her head in resignation. "I really don't know what happened to you, Ms. Scarlett. Why are you spewing all this nonsense to me out of the blue?"

Locking Natalie inside the freezer was your idea! Why am I the only one who took the blame? You have ruined my reputation and got me kicked out of my own family!

In a fit of rage, Scarlett pulled out a knife and lunged at Yara. "Die, Yara Nichols!"

Seeing that Scarlett was charging at her rabidly, Yara shuddered. She proceeded to pick up a brick from the floor. Then, with a violent stare, she outsped Scarlett and smash the brick right onto her head.

It was one hit after another, with each blow heavier than the previous.

With that, Scarlett collapsed to the floor.

Meanwhile, Yara stood there and looked at the woman on the floor. She had sobered up but remained calm as ever.

She checked Scarlett's pulse and noticed that Scarlett was still breathing, though faintly.

Hence, Yara dragged Scarlett along for a short distance before bringing her car over and loading her inside. With the cover of the night sky, Yara left Dellmoor, found someplace secluded, and left Scarlett there.

She figured Scarlett would not survive since the temperature was cold during the night, and it would be hard to find her in such a rural place.

Yara could not care less about Scarlett's death and quickly escaped the scene after she cleaned up.

At the hospital.

Natalie was asleep, while Samuel went outside.

"Is the contract with the Hamilton family canceled?" he asked Billy with a stern look.

"Yes, then funding has been retracted." Billy paused for a second before deciding to add on to his report. "Mr. Bowers, Mr. Nichols want me to tell you that he had already kicked Scarlett out of the family. He would like you to reconsider on the basis of the close relationship the two families share."

Chapter 436 You Are My Priority

"That's impossible," Samuel responded with his fingers tensed. "Scarlett tried to harm Natalie, so regardless of whether her family wants to back her up or not, I'm not letting her off the hook. Those greedy Hamiltons must be out of their minds if they think they could gain my favor by merely giving up a pawn!"

"I understand, Mr. Bowers," Billy replied.

"Go then."

After that, Samuel went back in, lifted Natalie's blanket, and proceeded to lie down beside her.

Natalie's waist was very soft. Her body was warm while her hair smelled of herbs, and Samuel could not help but pull her closer into his arms to revel in that fragrance.

Even though it was not the first time he hugged her, Samuel could still feel an indescribable stir from deep within whenever he did.

"Good night," he said to Natalie, who was sound asleep, before closing his eyes.

The next day, Samuel was no longer beside her by the time Natalie woke up.

Natalie rubbed her eyes and spotted him sitting on the couch at the side, reading documents from the company.

His facial features were prominently outlined under the golden shine of the morning sun and looked exquisite.

"Why are you going through documents this early in the morning?" Natalie furrowed her brows and asked.

"I had quality sleep sleeping beside you. So by seven o'clock, I couldn't go back to sleep even if I wanted to. Thus, I decided to go through some documents," Samuel said with a magnetic voice while he put down the documents. "You can go and wash up. Breakfast should be here any minute now."

After Natalie was done freshening up, there was a knock on the door.

Knock. Knock.

"I'll open the door." Natalie slipped into her slippers and headed to the door.

When she opened the door, she saw Billy standing there with an anxious expression. He wore a tense frown and looked as though there was something urgent that he needed to report to Samuel.

"Ms. Nichols?" Billy did not expect Natalie to be the one opening the door, so he was a little stunned.

Hearing that, Samuel immediately headed over.

His gaze turned cold when he noticed that Billy came empty-handed. "Where's breakfast?"

"I haven't bought it yet," Billy answered.

"Go buy it then. No matter how urgent things are, breakfast comes first," Samuel ordered with a straight tone.

“Yes, sir.”

After that, Billy closed the door and went to get breakfast for Samuel and Natalie.

Back in the ward, Natalie gave Samuel a stare and said, “To be honest with you, you could have just let Billy do his report before sending him off. What if it was something serious? You could be wasting a lot of valuable time during the wait.”

“Getting breakfast for you is more important,” Samuel responded with a straight face. “I’m sure you didn’t eat well for the whole month. Look at how thin you’ve gotten. Now that I’m back by your side. Keeping watch and making sure you eat is my top priority. I don’t mind making a few million bucks less.”

Natalie’s jaw dropped when she heard that.

I’ve expected this much, but it’s still such a huge flex.

Samuel finally turned to Billy after Natalie had some food in her stomach. “Now, Billy. Tell me about the urgent matter you wanted to report to me.”

“Mr. Bowers, I just got the news that Scarlett is currently in a coma. They say that she tripped and knocked herself out cold while wandering around after getting kicked out of her family.” Billy paused before continuing, “She’s still in critical condition right now and might go into a vegetative state even if they manage to rescue her.”

What?

Natalie froze.

That’s quite a coincidence for something to happen to Scarlett at a time like this. Does Yara have anything to do with this?

Natalie figured that it was only natural for the Hamilton family to disavow Scarlett after what she did, but that did not give Yara the right to murder her for no reason.

She shouldn’t die like this.

At that moment, Natalie lost all her appetite. “Which hospital is Scarlett in right now, Billy?” she asked immediately.

Chapter 437 A Vegetable

Billy did not expect Scarlett to ask him that, so he was a little stunned. That said, he recovered instantly. “Coincidentally, Scarlett’s here in this hospital. She was previously admitted into a small hospital at the outskirts of the city. But because the hospital wasn’t well equipped, the Hamilton family decided to transfer her here out of sympathy.”

At that moment, Samuel understood the hesitation in Natalie’s eyes. But unlike her, Samuel felt no sympathy for Scarlett.

Natalie would have been frozen to death if she did not see through Scarlett’s plan.

So, to him, Scarlett deserved to die.

At the same time, Natalie quickly finished her food and picked up the plates. "Being stuck in this room is a drag, Samuel. I'll head out to wash these. Be right back."

"Okay."

Samuel nodded with a reluctant grin that quickly dissipated.

"Mr. Bowers, Ms. Nichols..." Billy also noticed Natalie's odd behavior.

"Just follow her. See what's going on. Don't let her see you," Samuel ordered with a finger over his lips. "If anyone mistreats her, let her handle it on her own. Step in if it doesn't seem like she could fend herself."

Billy nodded. "Yes, sir."

After Natalie came out of the ward, she left the plates on a window sill and hurried to the information counter on the first floor.

"Excuse me, can I know which floor the patient, Scarlett Hamilton, is being treated on? I'm her friend. I heard she got into an accident, and I'm very worried about her current wellbeing."

The nurse saw Natalie's worried gaze and did not doubt her. "That patient is... currently on the ninth floor undergoing emergency brain surgery in the operation theater," the nurse said after checking the records on her computer.

"Thank you."

Natalie immediately took the elevator all the way to the ninth floor.

She was in her hospital gown and had her hair over her face.

Hence, Zayden, who was pacing back and forth in front of the operating theater, did not notice her.

Not long after, the red light outside the theater finally turned off.

"Doctor, how is my sister?" Zayden hurried over and asked as soon as the doctors came out.

At the same time, Natalie pricked up her ears.

"I'm sorry," the doctor said grimly after taking off his mask. "They found the patient too late. The blood clot in her brain is already suppressing some vital nerves. An operation is not needed anymore. Even though her body's functioning normally, we can already declare her brain dead."

Although Zayden was usually an a***ole, Scarlett was still his sister. So, the doctor's words felt like ice water being thrown onto him.

He could not accept it.

She could still laugh and cry a few days ago, even when Grandpa kicked her out of the family! She was still alive! How did things turn out this way? She's become a vegetable!

“Doctor, please, I beg of you. Save my sister.” Zayden was in tears as he clung onto the doctor’s arm and begged. “My family’s rich! Just name your price! I’ll pay you anything as long as you can save my sister!”

Nevertheless, Scarlett’s condition was too precarious. No amount of money could grant the doctor the ability to save her.

“My condolences to you and your family, mister.”

After that, the doctor put on his mask again and left the vicinity while Zayden followed behind him with tears all over his face.

“Please, Doctor! Please! I beg of you! Please save my sister!”

A while later, Scarlett was pushed out of the operating theater on a stretcher.

It had only been two days since they last met, but the once dazzling Scarlett Hamilton now had her head covered in thick layers of bandages. Her face was dark red and swollen, while her lips were sickly purple.

All the signs and symptoms pointed to one thing—Scarlett’s brain was severely battered.

The medical staff relocated Scarlett into a room and left after penning down some records.

Then, Natalie looked around and made sure that the coast was clear before going into Scarlett’s room.