Happiness 438-448

The Promise of Happiness

Chapter 438 Natalie To The Rescue

After she got inside, Natalie approached Scarlett without any delay and placed her finger on Scarlett's wrist.

Her pulse is haywire. It's far worse than I have imagined. It's no wonder the doctor did not go through with the operation. It's far too risky. Even the tiniest mistake could kill Scarlett on the spot, so the best move is to do nothing. That way, she could at least keep her life. However, how is she any better than dead?

Natalie was deep in thought for quite a long time, trying to figure out the optimal way to get rid of the blood clots in Scarlett's brain using acupuncture.

After that, she untied the pouch on her thigh and took out a row of crystal needles from it.

Then, she slowly unraveled the bandage on Scarlett's head before finally getting to work.

The crystal needles were made out of an unusual material, so they glowed of ominous blue, even under direct sunlight.

At that moment, Natalie composed herself and started sticking the needles into the top of Scarlett's head. She used a total of forty-nine needles on different pressure points, all varying in depth.

What Natalie did may look easy, but it actually required an intense level of control and concentration to pull off.

When Natalie was done, her hospital gown was drenched in sweat and stuck onto her back.

In the end, Natalie was not sure how much of the blood clot got dispersed and how well Scarlett could recover. That said, even though Natalie did not like Scarlett, she did what she had to do and was proud of it.

Natalie unknowingly let out a sigh of relief after that.

Right then, the door suddenly opened.

Zayden came walking in with his bloodshot eyes and was dumbfounded to see that his sister had needles sticking out all over her face, as though she was being cursed.

"You!"

Zayden immediately recognized that the woman in the hospital gown was the person who kicked him into the pool.

To be precise, she was Samuel's fiancée, and Zayden dared not cross her.

Has my sister not suffered enough? Why is this woman torturing her like this? What did she do to deserve such humiliation? Can't she just rest in peace?

"Why are you doing this to my sister?" Zayden lost all sense of rationality and roared at Natalie. "Yes! My sister did try to hurt you, but you're still alive! In return, she was disavowed by the family and kicked out! Most importantly, she's merely a soulless husk now! So what if you're Samuel's fiancée? Do you actually think you're invincible because of that? Do you think you can kick her while she's down just because Samuel likes you? You'll face divine retribution sooner or later! Mark my words!"

Natalie frowned as she listened to Zayden cursing at her. She suddenly felt like he was not as bad as she once thought, though his intelligence was still something to be concerned about.

"Why aren't you saying anything?" Zayden got angrier seeing that Natalie kept quiet.

"What do you want me to say?" Natalie responded.

"You!" Samuel was at a loss for words and eventually blurted out, "Samuel must be blind to have fallen for someone like you! You'll be abandoned sooner or later! Just you wait!"

Natalie could not help but laugh after hearing that.

Meanwhile, Charles had arrived at the hospital and was hurrying over with his cane in hand to see his granddaughter.

But the first thing he saw when he opened the door was Natalie and Zayden staring at each other. Then, he noticed Scarlett, who was on the bed had needles all over her face.

"Oh, lord! What sins have the Hamilton family committed to deserve such a punishment?" Charles hooked his head violently in denial.

Chapter 439 Blood From Orifices

Natalie's head started aching, noticing Charles was present too.

She had wanted to leave quietly after her treatment on Scarlett. Unfortunately, luck is not with me today. The grump has arrived, yet the dumb is still here.

Her mouth dried at the thought of coming up with an explanation.

Charles walked over to Zayden with a cane. "What's going on here? What's with this woman? Who is she? Why is she also in Scarlett's room?"

Zayden frowned and explained Natalie's identity to him.

"No way! She's lying!" Charles' temper spiked. "Are you casting black magic on my granddaughter? The reason you stabbed her with these needles was to bind her soul here to stop her from ascending to Heaven."

Natalie rolled her eyes at his imaginary nonsense.

"I'll only say this once, so open up your ears and listen to me. This is not black magic, but a medical procedure to help your granddaughter." Something flashed across Natalie's eyes. "I believe Mr. Zayden

has heard the doctor's advice. "Ms. Scarlett had been announced brain death since only a few of her bodily functions were still functioning.

"I was trying to save her with these needles on her head. I'm not trying to harm her."

Natalie's figure was very slim, and especially so, under the loose hospital gown.

The confidence and calmness shining in her hazel eyes convinced the duo.

Zayden was stunned.

Even the over eighty-year-old Charles was affected by Natalie's confident yet calming presence. He stopped his complaining and merely waited for Natalie to finish.

All of a sudden, Scarlett started to cough heavily.

Ahem!

Glee filled Charles and Zayden as they approached Scarlett's bed, thinking she would wake up from her coma.

However, they were thunderstruck by the bloody scene.

Scarlett started to cough up dark brownish-red blood. The blood wasn't only expelled from her mouth. It had also flowed out from her nose, eyes, and ears. She was bleeding from all her orifices. There was so much blood that it dripped onto the pillow and the bed.

"Blood!" Zayden began screaming at Natalie from the shock. "You said you're good at this. You said you could save my sister. Why is there blood coming out of her from all the orifices?"

"Scarlett! Scarlett!" Tears were flowing out of Charles' eyes as he accused, "You are a bloody witch! Yet, you say you're not using black magic. You're blatantly punishing my granddaughter. Are you trying to keep her here on Earth and let her transform into evil?"

Zayden and Charles were furious at Natalie yet anxious for Scarlett.

Even if Scarlett was at fault, she shouldn't receive such cruel punishment.

Natalie bit her lower lip and merely shrugged her shoulder resignedly. Where else should the blood escape from within the brain if not the closest orifices on the head? Are they expecting it to come out through her bladder?

Scarlett can be saved if all that blood flows out of her body, instead of being stuck inside.

These two men really come from the same family. One is stupid, and the other is just grumpy.

Zayden was young, and his frustration turned into anger. He got up in front of Natalie's face and accused, "So what if you're Samuel's fiancée? Do you take the Hamiltons as doormats you can step on freely? I'll show you what a Hamilton is capable of."

Billy, who was standing guard outside the ward, heard the commotion and was about to barge in to teach Zayden a lesson.

"Where am I?" A voice questioned curiously amid the ruckus. Everyone turned toward the bed to see that Scarlett had woken up from all the noises.

"Scarlett!" Zayden ran back to Scarlett's bed and laughed while tears of relief rushed from his eyes. "Everything is fine now that you're awake. You almost gave me a heart attack. The doctor had even announced you're in a coma. I'm so glad that you're fine."

Zayden was lost in happiness while Charles was staring at Natalie with disbelief.

Chapter 440 Suddenly Lose Her Mind

Shock and disbelief crossed Charles's mind.

On his way over to the hospital, he had mentally prepared himself to accept the fact that Scarlett would live the rest of her life attached to a machine. He even considered donating her body to release her from the pain and give her freedom.

He hadn't expected Natalie to save Scarlett with merely dozens of needles.

He realized he had wronged her. However, she continued to save Scarlett with her kindness despite his biting accusations.

No wonder the granddaughter he was so proud of would lose to Natalie. It was rather obvious that this was a complete loss.

Charles let go of the cane in his hand and bowed to Natalie.

"I apologize for my harsh words earlier." He added sincerely, "You have a kind heart and excellent medical skills. You didn't take Zayden's and Scarlett's insolence to heart. And you even did your best to save her. It was all thanks to you that she could regain consciousness. "I want to offer you my gratitude other than my apologies.

"I know you're Samuel's true love and the future mistress of the Bowers family. Maybe you can get everything you want by then. "But I promise you that Zayden and I will help you with everything we have if you ever need help from the Hamilton family."

Charles still had that loyalty and honor from back in those war-torn days. Since he had received Natalie's help, he would repay her kindness no matter the cost. Even if he passed on one day, he would ask Zayden and the future generation of Hamiltons to repay her kindness.

Natalie accepted his gratitude and apologies with an open heart.

However, she wasn't keen on an elderly man bowing to her, so she quickly helped him up. "All right. Let me help you up. I still need to check on Ms. Scarlett's condition."

"Right!"

Zayden stepped away from Scarlett's side, giving Natalie some space to check on her.

Natalie didn't care for the grime and merely focused on pulling out the crystal needles from Scarlett's head and face.

She wiped the needles with a clean cloth and sorted each back into her pouch neatly.

After that, she felt for Scarlett's pulse again.

Scarlett's pulse had recovered to that of an average person's beat. Most of the hematoma in her brain had been expelled. Her nervous system didn't suffer from any side effects.

"Ms. Scarlett is fine now. She will make a full recovery after a period of rest," Natalie concluded casually.

"That's great!" Zayden wiped away the tears from his eyes, grateful at the good news.

Natalie was about to ask Scarlett for the cause of her injury. She wanted to know if it was from an accident or Yara's doing when Scarlett suddenly shrunk her body into a corner of the bed. Her eyes had lost focus and were staring mindlessly at everyone in the ward.

"Don't come near me!" Scarlett's entire body was trembling as though she was cold. "Who are you? What have you done to me? I-I want to go back to kindergarten. I want Mommy and Daddy... I want my brother."

Natalie was bewildered by her reaction.

Kindergarten? That isn't something an adult would say.

"Scarlett? It's me. I'm your brother, Zayden." Zayden covered Scarlett's hand with his and met her gaze nervously. "I'm right beside you. Look at me, Scarlett."

"Who are you, mister? Aren't you embarrassed to say you're my brother? Why are you impersonating him?" Scarlett rolled her eyes and made exaggerated gestures at Zayden. "My brother is this short. He's not as tall as you! Do you think kids are so naive these days?"

At that moment, everyone understood her condition.

Her cognitive ability had been affected despite getting rid of the hematoma from her brain. Her memories and intelligence had regressed to kindergartner level.

"Ms. Nichols, my granddaughter..." Charles felt like he was on a roller coaster ride. He was elated just a while ago, yet now he was crestfallen.

"Logically, once all the hematoma has been completely removed, she shouldn't have any side effects." She narrowed her eyes and her the creases on her forehead deepened. "Maybe the hematoma pressured her Hippocampus..."

"I'm hungry, mister." Scarlett tugged on Zayden's sleeves and requested, "I want to eat fish and chips."

Even though Scarlett had lost her mind, she was alive. Zayden was grateful for that. He nodded, agreeing to her request. "All right. I'll go and get it in a while, but I have to call the doctor to give you a complete checkup."

Chapter 441 Blood On Her Hands

Disbelief crossed the surgeon's face when he saw Scarlett sitting straight on the bed energetically.

"What a miracle! It's a medical miracle! This is the first time I have had the chance to encounter a miracle like this after all these years of being in neurosurgery."

Then, he inquired politely, "Can you tell me what has caused the patient to wake up?"

Zayden was about to explain that it was all from Natalie's acupuncture, but she stopped him.

"Maybe God has shown mercy. Ms. Scarlett was coughing vigorously a while ago, and she managed to cough up the hematoma," Natalie lied casually, hiding the fact she had helped Scarlett earlier.

She didn't want to reveal her skills.

The professional might treat her skills as a common folk remedy.

Modern medicine had its advancement, while traditional medicine had its profoundness. It was through fate that she had saved a person's life. She didn't want any praises and ended up with the mess that happened in Livingsfill.

"This..."

The surgeon sighed as he was all curious and amazed. He couldn't use any other words to describe the scene in front of him other than a miracle.

"Doctor, you should check her condition," Natalie said.

"That's right. Please check my granddaughter's condition, Doctor," Charles chimed in as he was rather anxious.

The surgeon conducted a comprehensive checkup on Scarlett and reached the same conclusion as Natalie.

All the intracranial hematoma had been gotten rid of her brain, and his tests had shown no side effects had impacted her nervous system.

Charles asked, "Why is my granddaughter behaving this way if she's fine?"

The surgeon's eyebrows drew together as he answered, "The system within the human brain is very complicated. Even though our tests had shown that she was in the clear, it didn't mean she was completely healthy. I'll list a couple of possibilities for her to be like this. It could be her experience with some trauma before she got hurt, and that incident had triggered the defense mechanism to protect itself. It could've chosen to regress to a safe memory of hers when she was younger to avoid secondary harm."

Natalie cast a glance at Scarlett sitting on the bed.

The edema on her face had reduced by a lot, but her naivety and innocence showed on it.

Natalie couldn't discern whether Scarlett was acting or had truly lost her mind.

Scarlett had gone loony.

However, none of the Hamiltons blamed Natalie. Charles and Zayden thanked her again before she left the ward.

She made her way back to Samuel's ward.

On the way back, she was going through mixed emotions.

I thought I could help Scarlett recover completely. Alas, it was a regretful attempt.

Hearing the door open, Samuel looked up from the book in his hands. "You're back? Isn't that a bit too long to wash the dishes?"

Natalie simply muttered an acknowledgment and nodded listlessly.

She didn't notice the bloodstains on her hands when she got back.

The dark brownish-red bloodstains had dried up on her petite hands. Samuel frowned at the sight.

"Why is there bloodstain on your hand?" Samuel asked.

"[..."

Not knowing where to start, she merely stared helplessly at Samuel like a little girl caught red-handed with her hand in the cookie jar.

Samuel's heart ached at the vulnerability she showed, so he didn't have the heart to scold her.

"Come over here."

Natalie bit her lip and shook her head. Who knows if he calls me there to punish me?

"You..."

Giving in first, Samuel got up and crossed the room over to her. He reached for her hand and led her to the restroom connected to the ward.

He turned the tap for some warm water. Once the water was warm enough, he placed her hands underneath the warm stream.

He pumped for some soap from the dispenser on the side and began to wash her hands carefully.

The callous on his hands combined with the smooth, silky bubbles spread tingles through her body as he rubbed her hands.

Her heart started to pound mindlessly as though a disobedient rabbit was trying to escape from her chest. It was mindlessly and violently bumping every corner of it.

Chapter 442 How Can She Be So Cute

Their fingers entangled under the warm stream.

Natalie turned her face to the other side as she was too embarrassed to meet Samuel's gaze.

Her fingers and heart clenched. The harder she tried to ignore the sensations on her hands, the faster her heart was beating.

"Samuel, I-I can wash my hands myself," Natalie explained with pink cheeks.

"You can, but it doesn't mean you have to do it yourself. I'm fine helping you with it." Samuel leaned his chest against Natalie's back and softly whispered against her ear. "How are you still so sensitive when you're already a mother?"

"Sen-sensitive? What nonsense are you saying?"

Natalie's embarrassment evolved into anger as Samuel struck a nerve.

"I don't know if my words are nonsense or the truth." Samuel chuckled softly at her adorable reaction.

"But, you can lift your head and take a look. There's a bossy kitten-"

"Samuel, you're being childish! We're a restroom in the ward. There's no kitten here."

Natalie raised her head and merely saw her reflection in the mirror.

A dumbfounded expression crossed the face in the mirror.

But the pink blush on her cheeks had betrayed the fuzzy feeling she had.

This...

Samuel asked me to lift my head to look at a bossy kitten, but all I see is myself.

"Why aren't you saying anything? Samuel pecked her ear. "Cat got your tongue?"

Natalie gave up. "My hands are clean now." She pulled a few napkins from the dispenser and dried her wet hands. Then, she quickly escaped from Samuel's embrace and returned to the ward.

Samuel didn't follow behind the shy Natalie.

In contrast, he merely grabbed a napkin and casually dried his hands.

Delight was shining in his eyes and the corners of his lip curled into a wide smile.

It was just an everyday occurrence. But with Natalie around, my life is suddenly filled with bright and colorful lights.

Samuel couldn't suppress his chuckle as he recalled Natalie's adorable reaction earlier.

My Nat.

How can she be so cute?

After Yara had dealt with Scarlett, she fell right into bed once she got back to the Nichols residence. She was satisfied and confident with herself, thinking she didn't leave any trace behind.

When she woke up from her drunken slumber and scrolled through her Instagram, her fingers paused on a post about Scarlett.

"Scarlett is done for. Even God is not on her side." "It was just the second day after she was kicked out of the Hamilton family, and she has already gotten herself into an accident and turned into a nitwit." "In conclusion, do more charity for good karma, people."

The photo attached to that post was a selfie not related to the post.

The owner of that post was a wife of a businessman. She had quite the standing within the social circle, so she wasn't the kind to spread fake news.

Feeling annoyed, Yara scratched her head frustratingly.

"How can it be? How can Scarlett survive that? She had actually lived through that ordeal?"

"Hmm... so she is now a nitwit? Has she really gone mad? Or was she simply faking it?"

No way!

Yara decided to take a trip to the hospital after contemplating her options. She needed to check with her own eyes whether Scarlett had truly lost her mind.

After a shower, she put on full makeup before she departed.

She found out Scarlett's ward by asking the receptionist.

Knocked on the door, the person who opened it was Zayden.

Yara had met Zayden a few times before, but they weren't acquainted.

She had attended quite a few banquets and parties with Kenneth the past five years.

Despite knowing who Yara was, Zayden didn't think she was close enough to Scarlett for a hospital visit.

"Yara? What are you doing here?" Zayden asked.

"Old Mr. Bowers had me drop by for a visit." Yara lied convincingly, "He heard about Ms. Scarlett's accident and felt sympathy for her.

"The Bowers and Hamiltons have a close relationship. Grandpa wasn't feeling well, so he had me visit Ms. Scarlett and see if there is anything I could help you with."

Using Kenneth as an excuse for a visit didn't raise any suspicion with Zayden. So, he let her into the room.

Chapter 443 An Exchange Between Two Sides

Once Yara stepped into the room, she beelined for Scarlett's bedside.

At that time, Scarlett was concentrating on reading a Snow White-themed comic with an IV attached to the back of her hand.

"Ms. Scarlett." Yara stared at Scarlett pointedly. "I heard you got into an accident two days ago. How are you feeling now?"

Scarlett's hand paused in flipping a page and turned her attention to Yara.

"Do I know you?" Scarlett asked naively, with her head tilted to the side.

"Don't you remember who I am?" Yara held Scarlett's hand and uttered softly under her breath, "You used to hate me because I gave birth to Samuel's children, Franklin and Sophia.

"It doesn't matter whether I'm married to Samuel because my son will be the heir of the Bowers family."

She wore a gentle smile on her face as she spoke. It was a stark contrast to the ruthless words coming out of her mouth.

Zayden couldn't hear the conversation between Yara and Scarlett and merely assumed Yara was treating Scarlett like a child.

Scarlett's pupil constricted.

"What is an heir?" Scarlett clung onto Yara's arm, then asked Zayden, "Uncle, do you know what is it?"

Yara pointed at Zayden with a gaping mouth and asked Scarlett with disbelief, "You call him uncle?"

"Yeah." Scarlett nodded her head and answered naively, "He's nice to me. He bought many storybooks for me and fed me a lot of yummy food. I want to marry a man like him when I grow up."

Zayden is Scarlett's biological brother.

Then wouldn't her words be defying morality?

Zayden's expression turned somber at Scarlett's words. "I'm your brother. You can't say such things in front of others."

"Have I said something wrong?" Scarlett rubbed her eyes and looked at Zayden with teary eyes.

"Th-That's not what I mean."

Scarlett was his elder sister, yet her mind was of a five-year-old. She even called him uncle. He was turning mad too.

"Don't cry. Sorry, I shouldn't have scolded you."

Scarlett didn't let the tears drop and instead folded her arms and turned her face to the side with pouted lips.

Yara merely observed silently from the sides and came to a conclusion.

Even though Scarlett is alive, she has lost her mind. She is nothing but a mere fool...

I used a brick to hit her head, yet she didn't recognize me. Also, Zayden's troubled look didn't seem fake.

Well, it doesn't matter if she's dead or crazy. The results are the same.

She's pitiful enough. I don't need to add more salt to the wound.

After achieving her motive, she flung Scarlett's arm off hers then got up from the bed.

"Mr. Zayden, it seems like you will need a lot of effort to take care of your sister."

Yara left after leaving that comment to Zayden with a smile.

After the door shut behind her, Scarlett lowered her head and dropped the storybook in her hand.

Zayden walked over and bent down to pick up her book from the floor. As he returned the book to her, he noticed her eyes were full of unshed tears.

"What's wrong?"

"Brother..."

It was the first time Scarlett had recognized Zayden as her brother and not as an uncle.

"Scarlett, do you recognize me?" Tears filled Zayden's eyes. He cried, "Do you know you had scared me to death!"

"I didn't want that." Tears were streaming down Scarlett's face as she laughed. "The Bowers family won't let me go. What more that person. Pretending to be crazy is my only way out.

"I finally realized that Grandpa isn't cruel. He had to chase me out of the Hamilton family to protect our family. I know this now after going through a life-and-death situation.

"If I want to live in the Hamilton residence safely and quietly, I have to pretend to be a crazy person. So the others wouldn't pay any attention to me."

Chapter 445 Increase Your Stamina

Samuel had no intention of releasing her.

He tightened his grip on her wrist and stopped her from running away.

He even pried her fingers to interlock his with hers.

"Hey." Natalie let out a deep sigh and gave Samuel a sullen glare.

"I understand you get exhausted easily," Samuel pressed his voice and whispered in Natalie's ears, "But we can slowly increase your stamina. Once you get used to the training regime, you'll feel less tired."

His remark had rendered Natalie speechless.

How could he say those despicable words with a straight face?

I never knew he could be this shameless!

Rumors had it that he's emotionally distant and would stay away from women, but that's not how he behaves when he's with me! Clearly, the rumors about him are not real!

While Samuel was whispering in Natalie's ears,

Yandel's eyes turned red when he noticed how intimate they were.

Ross, who stood beside him, patted his shoulder. "What's wrong with you? Don't tell me you have feelings for..."

"Shut up, Ross. It's not what you think." Yandel threw a punch at Ross' chest. "I have mixed feelings. I'm happy for Natalie, but seeing her laughing in another man's arms, I could not help but feel a little down."

"You're acting like a father now." Ross chuckled and shook his head. "At work, you're her subordinate, but beyond that, you've already regarded her as your family. It's time to wake up from your imagination! Or else, you might be too upset to attend her wedding in the future!"

"Don't be silly. Why would I miss her wedding?"

"You might not miss her wedding, but I'm afraid you might cry your eyes out on her special day," Ross teased.

Yandel stared at him and let out a sigh. But the moment he imagined Natalie walking down the aisle, he could not help but feel overwhelmed by mixed feelings again.

Da*n it. Ross could read me like a book!

Ten of them got into five different cars and departed for Acapella. After arriving at the restaurant, they went straight into the private room that Samuel had reserved.

They started the dinner by drinking wine.

"I don't know what else to say, but I wish to thank every one of you for your love and care." Natalie raised her glass and made a toast. "I pray that all of you can overcome obstacles in life. Cheers to a more exciting and bright future!"

All the guests raised their glasses and downed the wine.

Natalie had a great time and savored all the dishes to her heart's content. She had also gulped several glasses of wine that night.

On the contrary, Samuel did not drink much. He sat quietly and observed how Natalie interacted with her friends.

Natalie looked tipsy. Her cheeks turned red, and her eyes looked like she was in a daze. Yet, they sparkled like stars in the galaxy.

How did she manage to get so many loyal friends? Why are these people willing to go all out to help and support her?

Well, she is worthy of their loyalty and love.

She's a person with principles and will work hard to achieve her goals. She'd also lend a hand to those who need assistance.

Samuel took a sidelong glance at Yana and the others and took a sip of wine. I wonder how many of them here know who Natalie is beneath her hyper-realistic mask.

But at the same time, he did not want Natalie to take down her mask either.

More suitors might go after Natalie had she unveiled her true personality in public!

Chapter 446 Satisfied

Both the host and the guests had a great time that night.

After bidding farewell, they left in separate cars.

As the host of the night, Natalie had downed quite a bit of wine.

She was so drunk that she instantly lay on the table. Her hand still gripped the wine glass. "More wine, please. I'm not drunk..."

"Enough." Samuel narrowed his eyes and snatched the wine glass from her. "You're gonna have a terrible hangover if you keep drinking."

Natalie tilted her head and shot daggers at Samuel. "Be a man, and stop whining!

"You've asked the most obvious question."

Samuel's expression turned grim, and a dangerous glint flashed across his eyes.

Unaware of the danger she was in, Natalie continued her drunk talk. "I don't know."

She continued adding fuel to the fire. "For all I know, you might not be a man!"

That remark had crossed Samuel's line.

He pressed his lips tight and was about to go into a predatory mode.

Samuel lifted Natalie's chin and gave her lips a deep kiss.

Natalie was so drunk that she did not know what Samuel was doing. In fact, she had no idea what she was doing too.

Somehow, she felt something as soft as jelly on her lips. After feeling the texture of the 'dessert', she reciprocated by sucking them into her mouth.

Her reaction had triggered Samuel.

He had never expected Natalie to make the first move. He was utterly satisfied when she finally did.

He continued sticking his tongue into her mouth passionately.

It took them a few minutes to end the lingering kiss.

Natalie eventually dozed off.

Samuel was still overwhelmed with sexual desire, but at that point, he could not do anything to her.

Instead of disturbing her, he decided to put aside his feelings and let her sleep in peace.

Natalie is not only my Achilles' heel, but she's also my nemesis!

Samuel gently rubbed away the moisture on her lips with his thumb. "Let's go home."

Samuel squatted down, wrapped both her arms around his neck, and piggyback her.

The sky started snowing on that winter night.

Billy had a few drinks, so Samuel told him to take a cab home.

Likewise, Samuel could only hail a cab since he also had a few drinks. However, it was not easy to get a cab on a snowy night like this.

He took Natalie to his Hummer because he was afraid she might catch a cold. He then made a call to get someone to bring them home.

All of a sudden, Natalie wiggled her body and wrapped her arms around his neck. She mumbled, "I've been waiting to see the first snow with you."

"I don't want you to catch a cold," Samuel gazed into her eyes and said. "Let's enjoy the view in the car, shall we?"

"No." Natalie opened her eyes and insisted, "I want us to walk in the snow together."

Walk in the snow together.

That was her wish.

Before knowing Samuel, Natalie had never loved anyone. It was Samuel who taught her what love was all about.

"All right. Let's walk in the snow together."

Samuel put Natalie down from his back, put his coat over her, and tied a scarf around her neck.

He then held her close to his chest as they watched the snowfall from the night sky.

Natalie had a vague memory of that night because she was drunk.

But she would always remember the warmth from Samuel's body when he held her close to his chest.

Chapter 447 Childish But Domineering

The next day, Natalie woke up with a hangover and was feeling dizzy.

After washing up, she went downstairs and saw the four children and a man sitting by the dining table.

Clad in casual attire, Samuel, whose hair was left uncombed, was reading a business newspaper.

Any woman would have easily fall for this look.

"Good morning, Mommy!"

"Mommy! Good morning!"

"Mommy, morning!"

"Good morning, Mommy!"

Four precious little ones greeted her concurrently, and that made her feel good.

Natalie walked about and gave each of them a kiss on their cheeks, but when she walked past Samuel, she ignored him, went to her seat, and started having her breakfast.

The four children took turns and filled her plate with food.

Her plate was so full that she had to stop them from adding more food to it.

After breakfast, the four children departed for pre-school.

Samuel was about to leave for work at Centurion Corporation, and she needed to make a trip to Dream.

Before leaving, Samuel grabbed her wrist and pulled her to his chest.

He gazed into her eyes and refused to let her go.

"Samuel..."

"You can't leave just yet. There's something you forget to do," Samuel said in a deep voice. "You must do it before you leave."

"What is it?" Natalie looked confused.

Samuel pointed at her rosy lips and expressed his dissatisfaction. "You gave the kids a kiss but not me."

"But you're not a kid!" Natalie huffed a laugh. "Stop acting like a spoilt brat!"

But Samuel begged to differ. "I deserve a kiss too." He then kissed her lips when she was unprepared. "As their father, I deserve it more."

His remark had rendered Natalie speechless.

A corner of Samuel's lips quirked up as he left for work.

Natalie gently touched a corner of her lips. She could not help but grin when she recalled the snow they watched together last night.

Samuel's childish but domineering behavior did not turn her off. In fact, she quite liked how he behaved.

After arriving at Dream, she waited for Lia in her office.

Yandel had to attend a meeting, so he instructed the assistant to make two cups of coffee and put them in the CEO's office.

"Here." Lia handed over a hard disk to Natalie. "These recordings will come in handy if you wish to expose Yara's wrongdoings to Samuel."

But Natalie did not accept it. Instead, she took a sip of her coffee and said, "I'll put you in danger too if I were to expose Yara's wrongdoings with this evidence. Besides, you can always use these recordings to threaten Yara, so keep them to yourself."

After spending some time with Natalie, Lia could somehow understand her train of thought.

"I supposed you're still not willing to find out how important you are to Lionel. So what plan do you have in mind?" Natalie asked.

"I want to work in Dream. I want to work with you, like Ross and Yandel." Lia said. "I never thought of marrying my brother in the first place. It was all under the threat of Yara that I did the unthinkable. I want to train myself to be like you and to help others so that I can also become a role model for someone in the future."

Besides love, there's more to life than meets the eye.

Natalie was pleased that Lia had finally sorted out life and was willing to lend Lia a helping hand.

"Working in Dream is no bed of roses." Natalie winked and intentionally put on a serious look. "Even Ross and Yandel were nearly driven crazy when they first joined the company!"

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Lia held Natalie's hand and smiled.

"No problem. I will definitely work hard for the company."

"I believe you."

Although Lia did not have much experience managing a company, she had no lack of professionalism and academic qualifications. That was why Natalie had arranged for Lia to work under Yandel so that she could learn to be better under intense pressure.

The sun poured in through the window and shone on the two girls.

They smiled at each other without another word.

Around an hour later, the meeting ended, and Yandel returned to his office.

Soon after Natalie told Yandel about Lia's appointment, the phone rang.

Ring!

"Boss, please let me get this first."

Yandel picked up the phone.

He had initially thought that the caller was one of the department heads. Instead, this call caught him off guard and gave him an immense headache.

"Can't all of you handle such a small matter?" The frown on Yandel's forehead was getting deeper. "I understand. Don't let her come up. I will come down now."

With that, he ended the call.

Natalie asked, "Yandel, did something happen at work?"

"I wish that was the case." Yandel rubbed his temples and said helplessly, "It's Melissa. She's at the reception right now and wants to see me. I thought I behaved really badly the other night. Most people would think that I am a scumbag. But I didn't expect Melissa to be so clingy! She refuses to let me go! After that, she tried to contact me, but I did not get back to her. I can't believe that she has come all the way here to look for me. Now she refuses to leave until she sees me!"

When Natalie heard that, she was slightly stunned.

She did not expect her tactic of using Yandel to be of any use. All she wanted was to create a rift between Yara and Melissa.

Yara was a smart girl, so she would have known that Yandel was there to sow discord between the two of them.

However, both Yandel and her did not expect Melissa to be so stupid. Things had gone to this extent, and yet, she still wondered why Yandel had not contacted her.

"If I let her come up here once, she will become bolder and do it again in the future." Despite the trouble on hand, Yandel was still quite clear-headed.

"It won't be ideal for you to go down and show yourself either." Natalie cast a glance at Yandel and continued, "It looks to me that Melissa will go to any lengths. You obviously didn't do anything. Yet, she is trying to force her way in. I'm afraid things will worsen. Even if you manage to resolve the issue at the reception today, she may find other ways to get into your office again."

For a moment, Yandel was unable to think of a better solution.

"Boss, what should I do now? Why don't I find another woman to be my new girlfriend? That way, she will give up once and for all!"

"I thought of this idea too." Natalie nodded.

"All right then. I better go get a firm and outstanding female subordinate for this task!"

"Why go to all that trouble?" A glint appeared in Natalie's eyes, and she grinned wickedly, "She's right in front of you."

Yandel thought about it and mumbled uncertainly, "Are you referring to Lia?"

A shudder ran down Lia's spine. She had no confidence that she could play along with Yandel.

Natalie rolled her eyes at Yandel.

"I'm referring to myself!"

"Boss, do you have other hyper-realistic masks with you?" All of a sudden, Yandel was filled with confidence and exclaimed, "Change into another hyper-realistic mask and go down with me now!"

"I didn't bring any."

"Boss, you..."

Natalie removed her mask and smiled.

"There's no need for any mask. My of mine, she will most likely go into	enough, isn't it? Whe	n Melissa sees this face