

Happiness 480-490

The Promise of Happiness

Chapter 480 Is He Mad

Natalie was upset and a little indignant.

She knew Samuel cared for her, but she found it hard to accept his authoritarian behavior.

There's no need to strip me naked to examine me for any injury.

Samuel did not notice any wound on her body. After a while, he helped her with her robe and tie it properly.

"I was worried you were lying to me again. I know of your stubbornness all too well." Samuel did not apologize to Natalie. However, his tone turned gentle.

"I understand..."

Natalie lowered her eyes.

She had been living independently for a long time. Even though she knew she had someone she could rely upon now, she was not used to depending on anyone.

I am injured. It was just a three-word phrase, yet it was challenging enough to get those words out of her mouth.

"Are you mad at me?" Samuel asked.

"No." Natalie lifted her head and looked into Samuel's eyes. "I know you care for me. It's my problem. I don't know how to show you my vulnerable side."

The same goes for the wound on my hand, the mask on my face, and even the hatred in my heart.

She knew Samuel was keen to know everything about her. However, she did not want to mention those things whenever she faced him.

A series of tragedies that happened five years ago had been a massive blow to her. With that, it had caused her to form a somewhat rebellious personality.

"Am I being unreasonable?" There was somehow a trace of panic in Natalie's eyes. "If you treat me the same, I think I will be mad as well."

Samuel let out a sigh as he caressed her head.

"Silly girl!" Samuel murmured. "If you couldn't do it now, I will wait until the day you can finally do it. We have a lifetime ahead of us. I will always be with you. I believe you will be able to open up to me completely one day."

"Okay."

A warm and fuzzy feeling rose in Natalie's heart.

She wrapped her arms around Samuel's waist, and she took the initiative to kiss his lips.

Right after the kiss, Samuel suddenly pressed her down against the bed.

Meanwhile, at the Bowers residence.

Kenneth stood by the pond and sprinkled the fish food in his hand.

As the fish food scattered on the pond's surface, the fish rushed to the surface and compete for the food.

Kenneth stared at the chaotic pond. Yet, he was devoid of expression.

Yara was busy with the new drug development at Dexmed Pharmaceutical. Thus, she seldom came to visit him.

However, he did not need Yara's company as his health was generally well. Even though he greatly admired Yara, he preferred his own flesh and blood like Samuel and Steven, or his great-grandchildren like Franklin and Sophia, to be by his side.

However, ever since Natalie showed up, he had less and less chance to see Franklin and Sophia.

As the winter breeze started to blow, Kenneth felt a sense of loneliness in his heart.

In the end, he could not bear it any longer and made a video call to Franklin and Sophia.

No one answered it even after he called twice.

To his relief, someone finally picked up the call the third time he called.

Franklin was the one who answered it. Kenneth smiled delightfully as he saw the former's tiny face appearing on the screen.

"Franklin, where's Sophia?"

"Great-grandpa, hold on a second."

Franklin grabbed the phone and left the scene abruptly. After getting into the bathroom, he closed the door and let out a sigh of relief. "Sophia is reciting medical scriptures. She will be tested later. Great-grandpa, just tell me if you have any message for her..."

"Medical scriptures? Why is Sophia learning that? And who is teaching her?" Kenneth furrowed his brows in displeasure.

## Chapter 482 There Might Be Something Special

On the day Kenneth was set to meet Xavian and Clayton, Yara came over to spend time with him.

"Grandpa, I know you loved listening to Hazel Kaley singing, so I invited her here today..." Yara said.

She wanted to be the matriarch of the Bowers family, so she needed Kenneth to support her.

Therefore, she tried her best to find his preferences and win him over.

Yara thought that she would receive rewards for her effort to appease Kenneth. However, he was in a hurry. "Tell Hazel to come here on another day... I'm meeting someone important today!"

"Grandpa, Hazel is now waiting outside..." Yara said awkwardly. Hazel was a famous singer in Loang, so Yara had made a lot of effort to get her here.

Kenneth gave her a sidelong glance and asked, "Why didn't you inform me about her earlier?"

"I... I wanted to surprise you. If you missed meeting her today, I don't know when I can get her to come by again."

"I have already arranged to meet someone, so I can't break my promise. Therefore, I won't be watching her performance. You can ask her to go home," Kenneth replied without hesitation.

Yara was stunned. Who is he meeting that he is willing to miss out on listening to his favorite singer?

Yara softened her tone and asked gently, "Grandpa, who are you meeting?"

"I'm meeting the two children who saved me," Kenneth seemed happy when he mentioned Xavian and Clayton. "Since I promised to meet them today, I can't back out of it. I don't want them to think that I'm an unreliable old man."

Although Yara remained smiling, she clenched her fists in her pockets.

How could a couple of lowly street urchins take precedence over Hazel? What is wrong with Old Mr. Bowers? This is unbelievable! Old Mr. Bowers was a prominent man in his younger days. How could he let a couple of five-year-olds lead him by the nose?

"Yara, do you want to meet the children? I've invited them to meet at a cafe next to the kindergarten," Kenneth said with a warm smile. "They are about Franklin and Sophia's age and go to the same kindergarten with them too. Both of them are adorable and clever. I think you will like them as much as I do once you meet them."

Yara would not spend time with Kenneth unless it were a means to an end.

She would prefer to go for a beauty treatment than meet a couple of unknown brats.

"Grandpa... I..." Yara stuttered, "I'm worried that I will think of Franklin and Sophia when I see them. Ever since that woman appeared, Franklin and Sophia began to hate me. I can't get to them no matter what I do. I... I don't know what to do anymore."

Franklin and Sophia are Yara's flesh and blood, yet they side with Natalie.

Kenneth and Yara looked at each other and did not speak for a moment.

It was awkward.

Kenneth could not think of something right to say.

In the end, he sighed. "Yara, you are their biological mother. No one can separate the bond between a mother and her children. Furthermore, no mother hates her children. They are still young. Once they are

older, they will understand nothing could sever blood ties and how much you have sacrificed to raise them.”

Yara was sick of hearing those words.

However, she feared that Franklin and Sophia would become harder to control as they grew older. After all, she never “raised” them.

Yara still felt indignant, but she had no choice but to nod obediently. “Grandpa, I am their mother. Of course, I would never hold it against them.”

“Yes, you’re right,” Kenneth replied.

Then, he realized that it was nearly time to meet Xavian and Clayton. Therefore, he did not stay to chat but left the house happily with arms full of gifts.

Yara frowned as she watched Old Mr. Bowers walk away.

It is not as if he is meeting his great-grandchildren. Why is he in a rush? I can’t believe it! He is even willing to forfeit meeting his favorite singer to see those children. There was not even a hint of hesitation. Perhaps, there is something special about them!

Yara’s expression turned cold. She decided to follow Old Mr. Bowers to see those children.

## **Chapter 481 Under Her Spell**

Franklin was stumped and regretted what he said. He realized that he should not have revealed that Sophia was learning traditional medicine.

Kenneth’s expression darkened when he sensed Franklin’s silence. “Is she learning from that woman?”

Although Kenneth did not mention any name, Franklin immediately knew he was talking about Natalie.

“Great-grandpa, can you show her some respect?” Franklin asked. He felt indignant on behalf of Natalie.

Kenneth felt anger brewing in his chest upon hearing what his great-grandson said. He was on the verge of bursting with fury.

As Franklin and Sophia’s great-grandfather, Kenneth doted on them since they were young. It hurt him that they kept talking back to defend a woman of unknown origin.

Therefore, the more they tried to defend Natalie, the more Kenneth grew to hate her.

“No!” Kenneth lashed out furiously.

“Great-grandpa, why are you...” Franklin mumbled angrily, “I am trying to reason with you. How can you be as stubborn as a child?”

Kenneth was rendered speechless.

That Natalie is something! It is bad enough that she put my grandson under her spell. Now, she even influenced my great-grandchildren, Franklin and Sophia. I can't bear the indignity.

Kenneth yelled, "What did that woman tell you? Have you forgotten your real mother? How can you accept that lowly woman as your mother? You and Sophia have fallen for her trap!"

Then, Kenneth took a deep breath before continuing, "Both of you are still young and immature. Once you are older, you will understand the importance of family. Then, you will regret how you treat Yara!"

Initially, Franklin had the patience to try and reason with Kenneth. He wanted to help him to consider from his point of view.

However, the moment Kenneth mentioned Yara, Franklin could not help but feel disgusted. "Great-grandpa, I need to take a dump, so I can't stay to chat anymore."

Then, the phone fell silent.

Franklin hung up without saying goodbye. It hurt Kenneth's heart to the point of breaking.

As a result, Kenneth did not have the mood to feed the fish anymore—he threw a fistful of fish feed into the pond and left.

He could not understand how his relationship with his beloved great-grandchildren had come to this point.

Kenneth had always gotten along with Franklin and Sophia. He remembered their cute voices when they called him "Great-grandpa." Nothing could beat the joy of hearing them say that.

Now, they were not even willing to call him.

It is all Natalie's fault!

Kenneth returned to his bedroom. He suddenly recalled Xavian and Clayton. They were about the same age as Franklin and Sophia.

A few days ago, Xavian and Clayton sent him a medical prescription.

Kenneth shared this prescription with a friend who knew medicine. His friend stayed on the mountain in seclusion. When he saw the said prescription, he declared that he wanted to come down of the mountain to meet Yara and discuss medicinal knowledge with her.

Kenneth turned down his request immediately.

After all, Yara did not prepare the prescription. Even Kenneth never met the woman who formulated it.

The butler prepared the medicine as prescribed for Kenneth to consume regularly. Soon, he discovered that his stamina and health improved tremendously.

Therefore, Kenneth became even more curious about the identity of Xavian and Clayton's mother. She had perfected her medical skills and taught her children so well.

Kenneth's anger and frustration receded as he thought about Xavian and Clayton.

He had not seen them for a long time. Although they had no blood relations, he missed them somehow.

Therefore, Kenneth sent a WhatsApp message to Xavian and Clayton, inviting them to meet up. He soon received their replies: Okay!

Kenneth could not help but feel excited and immediately instructed the butler to buy the children's favorite snacks.

After the butler left, Kenneth was suddenly puzzled by his behavior.

Why am I so fond of Xavian and Clayton? That sense of affection and familiarity seems no different from what I feel for Franklin and Sophia.

### Chapter 483 His Illegitimate Children

Kenneth left the house in his car, and Yara followed right behind without his knowledge.

"I've not seen you smile like this for ages, Old Mr. Bowers!" the chauffeur said after taking a glance at the rear mirror.

Kenneth nodded. "I can't help it. I guess I'm thrilled to meet the little ones."

The chauffeur thought the little ones Kenneth referred to were Franklin and Sophia. "I can totally understand how excited you are to be able to meet your great-grandchildren. After all, blood is thicker than water."

Blood is thicker than water?

Kenneth's expression turned grim.

Erm. That's strange.

They might have saved my life once, and I appreciate that, but why would I be excited to meet them if we're not related?

Kenneth began to question his reaction.

Come to think of it, Xavian and Clayton did bear a resemblance to Samuel when he was a child.

Unless Samuel had a fling with another woman and gave birth to illegitimate children when he and Yara conceived Franklin and Sophia five years ago?

Meanwhile, at the entrance of the kindergarten, Xavian and Clayton bade Franklin and Sophia farewell, as they would be meeting another friend.

When Franklin and Sophia were about to leave in their car, a vehicle drove passed them. They took a closer look and saw Yara in the driver's seat.

"What is she doing here again?" Sophia frowned and hid behind Franklin.

"She drove all the way to the kindergarten and didn't come down to bother us? How unusual is that." Franklin wondered while staring at the car that drove past them.

"I know, right? I thought she would come and disturb us!" Sophia fidgeted. "I thought she'd always wanted us to call her Mommy? Instead of coming after us, where is she going?"

Franklin and Sophia exchanged glances and yelled out simultaneously, "Xavian and Clayton!"

Both Franklin and Sophia finally realized how serious the situation was.

"Do you think she'll take it out on Xavian and Clayton since she couldn't do anything to Mommy?" Sophia widened her teary eyes and expressed her concern.

"It could be!" Franklin knitted his brows. "Besides bullying Xavier and Clayton, that evil woman might even use them to take it out on Natalie!"

"Oh, no! We have to stop her!"

"Yes!"

When the chauffeur took over the bags and was about to carry them to their seats, they dodged him.

"Mr. Franklin? Ms. Sophia?" The chauffeur was at a loss for words.

"Did you not see the woman who claimed to be our biological mother pass by?" Franklin said in an assertive voice. "Sophia and I haven't met her for some time, and we wish to talk to her; so, we're not in a hurry to go home."

The chauffeur could not believe his ears.

What's going on? I thought they hated their biological mother?

"Can we talk to her, please?" Sophia begged. "Look, she has driven quite far from us now. Could you please take us to her?"

No adults would have the heart to say no to Sophia after listening to her sweet voice.

Besides, Yara is not an outsider. Mr. Franklin and Ms. Sophia should be fine.

Without any further hesitation, the chauffeur started catching up to Yara.

Meanwhile, Yara started keeping a distance from Kenneth when she noticed he got down the car with a bag full of gifts.

Kenneth then walked into the restaurant and sat by the table in a corner.

The two little children had already arrived.

## **Chapter 484 Sneaking Around**

Yara kept her eyes on the two little children but could not see their faces clearly.

Despite that, she had a hunch that she had seen one of the children before.

When Yara was trying to squint her eyes and take a closer look at the child, the voice of a domineering child merged from her back. "Hey! What are you looking at?"

That gave Yara a scare. She turned around and found the two little devils standing behind her.

“Franklin, Sophia...”

“Are you surprised to see us here? Our kindergarten is just around the corner, so we just pop by. You have a problem with that?” Franklin shot a sullen glare at Yara. “What are you doing here? Why are you sneaking around?”

Yara froze for bit but immediately regained her composure.

“Didn’t you say your kindergarten is just nearby? Since you don’t wish to spend time with me, I thought I might come here and try my luck, hoping that I get to bump into the two of you. I guess today is my lucky day!” Yara said shamelessly.

The twins that came out of nowhere had completely distracted Yara.

She could no longer pay attention to Kenneth and the children in the restaurant, as dealing with these two was already a challenge.

“What do you mean by we don’t want to spend time with you?” Sophia asked while looking at Yara with her big round eyes.

“Erm...”

“You want to spend time with us, right? Fine. Sophia and I will give you a chance,” Franklin said. “The two of us have always wanted to visit a place, but Daddy didn’t have time to go with us. Why don’t you take us?”

All this while, Yara had only thought of using Franklin and Sophia to her advantage. She never wanted to spend time with them at all. “I’m a little busy right now. How about next time?”

“It looks like someone is good at talking and making empty promises,” Franklin said casually. “You said you came here to wait for us, but it seems you’re just sneaking around and doing shady things. Sophia, should we call Daddy and tell him about it?”

“Yes!” Sophia nodded in agreement.

These twins instantly found her weak spot. Upon hearing their threat, Yara exclaimed, “I’ll take you to the place you wish to visit since I’m your biological mother!”

“Yay!” Sophia turned to the chauffeur and said, “Drive us there, please!”

The chauffeur rubbed his eyes instead of ears.

Did I hear it wrongly? These two are willing to go on a trip with their mother?

At the restaurant, Kenneth ordered a table full of desserts for Xavian and Clayton and placed the gifts in front of them.

“I bought everything since I don’t know what kind of toys you like,” Kenneth said with a grin. “Here. This is the latest spaceship model. I believe this is something all boys would like!”



Xavian and Clayton were so mesmerized by the spaceship model that they could not turn their eyes away.

Upon noticing their expression, Kenneth knew he had made the right choice. He was pleased that he had gotten the right person to purchase the gifts for the two boys.

In fact, Kenneth bought a total of three boxes of spaceship models.

After giving two of them to Xavian and Clayton, he still kept a box with him.

Kenneth could not help but sigh when he thought of his estranged relationship with Franklin. When would I have a chance to give him this spaceship model?

Franklin and Sophia were his precious grandchildren!

Though Kenneth did not like how they disrespected Yara, he still wished to maintain a close relationship with Franklin and Sophia.

But somehow, they seemed to have drifted apart.

He did not know what he did wrong and had no clue why his great-grandchildren were mad at him.

He would have broken down and cried if Xavian and Clayton were not with him.

Xavian could tell Kenneth was trying to hold back his tears. "Are you okay? You can talk to us if you're upset."

Clayton too, nodded. "Yes! We can lend you an ear."

Their sincerity touched Kenneth. He then told them how Franklin and Sophia refused to reconcile with their biological mother no matter how hard he tried.

He also told the boys how the great-grandchildren resented him for it. Nonetheless, he did not reveal their names to Xavian and Clayton.

At this point, these two boys still had no idea Yara was Franklin's and Sophia's so-called biological mother. Hence, they did not associate their stories with Kenneth's.

After telling his story, Kenneth expected Xavian and Clayton to understand him and take his side.

But Xavian threw out a question that even Kenneth could not answer. "But why would you try to mend their relationship if she's their biological mother?"

"I think being able to spend time with my mommy is the happiest, isn't it?" Clayton also expressed his doubt. "How we wish our Mommy could split into a few figures so that we could spend more time with her! It's so weird that your great-grandkids refused to get close with their mommy."

Their remarks rendered Kenneth speechless.

It was natural for children to be dependent on their mothers. By right, no one was needed to help mend their relationship, let alone force them.

But Kenneth had tried every possible way to bring Franklin and Sophia closer to Yara but to no avail.

What have I done wrong?

“Grandpa, your great-grandchildren must be smart kids, right?” Clayton asked.

“Of course!” Kenneth responded with pride.

“They had only disrespected their mommy but not anyone else, right?” Xavian continued with another question.

Kenneth thought about it before answering, “Yes. They’re kids with good manners and know how to behave in public.”

“If there’s nothing with your great-grandchildren, could the problem lie with their mommy?” Clayton asked directly.

Kenneth initially wanted to answer no, but he could not find a way to justify his answer.

The questions two young boys asked got him thinking. Could it really be Yara’s problem?

But he brushed aside that thought as quickly as it came.

“Their mother is a kind person. She had even rescued me when I suffered a heart attack. I’m getting older by the day, but she’s the one who willingly accompanies me when all the other family members are busy with their work and careers,” he explained.

“She sounds like a nice lady.”

“Oh, yes!” Kenneth sighed. “That’s why I don’t understand why the kids refused to acknowledge her as their mother!”

“Calm down, Grandpa,” Xavian said. “My mommy once told us that every mother in this world loves and cares for their children, and children love and care for their mothers too. Could there be a misunderstanding? Anyway, I think they’ll be fine!”

Kenneth could not resist stroking the heads of these caring and sensible young boys.

“Hearing you mention your mommy all the time makes me want to meet her!” Kenneth let out a sigh. How did she train her kids to be so kind and obedient?

Suddenly, Xavian’s phone rang, and it was a call from Natalie.

“It’s Mommy!” Xavian lifted his head and grinned. “Our mommy might not have the time to meet you, but you can talk to her over the phone!”

## **Chapter 486 Sounds Familiar**

Kenneth nodded.

Xavian answered the call and heard Natalie’s voice from the other end of the phone. “Have you finished school, Sweetheart?”

“Yup!” Xavian grabbed the corner of the table cloth and tested the waters. “Mommy, do you remember Clayton and I asked for a prescription for heart conditions? We actually gave the prescription to an old man. He has heart diseases, and his family members are not always by his side...”

“And?” Natalie smiled.

“Grandpa’s health has improved after taking the medication. We’re with him now, and he wishes to thank you over the phone.” Xavian did not know how Natalie would react to this, so he asked sheepishly, “Can I pass the phone to him?”

Xavian and Clayton might not have inherited Natalie’s medical skills, but the three of them all cared for others and wanted to do their part to help those who were in need.

“Of course,” Natalie said. “Pass the phone to him then.”

“Okay!”

Xavian responded with an innocent smile and handed the phone to Kenneth. “Here you go, Grandpa.”

Kenneth then placed the phone next to his ear. “Hi there. You’ve done a great job raising Xavian and Clayton. They’re such amazing children!” Kenneth continued to express his gratitude. “I would have been dead had they not performed CPR on me at the kindergarten in time.”

Natalie thought the elderly man’s coarse voice sounded familiar, but she could not quite put her finger on it.

“You’re welcome. They did what they’re supposed to do.” Natalie then remembered Kenneth was not exactly in the pink of health. “How are you feeling now?”

“I feel better after taking the medicines you prescribed. I am still in awe of your amazing medical skills and how excellent you are even though you’re still very young,” Kenneth said.

“That’s great. You should continue taking the medicines regularly. Keep yourself warm during the cold season, and avoid getting too emotional.”

“Thank you so much! I hope to meet you in the future!”

“Sure.”

Kenneth then returned the phone to Xavian and Clayton after ending the call.

From the way she spoke, Kenneth could tell Natalie was a steady and low-key person. Such characteristics were rather unusual for people her age.

“Your mommy is a great person.” Kenneth was impressed.

Xavian and Clayton responded with a sweet smile as they were proud of their mother. “Yup! She’s the best Mommy in the whole wide world!”

“Clayton and I hope to grow up as soon as possible so that we can protect and take care of her!”

Kenneth was envious of the relationship these two boys had with their mother.

But at the same time, he felt her voice sounded familiar. It was as if he had heard a similar voice elsewhere before.

Is that possible?

From all the people he knew, Yara was the only young woman who excelled in the medical field.

Perhaps it's a coincidence?

Kenneth did not think further anymore.

Meanwhile, Franklin, Sophia, and Yara arrived at an amusement park.

The chauffeur parked the Bentley right in front of the entrance.

As the evening sky turned dark, the amusement park began to light up.

Yara took a glance at the amusement park and had no clue what these little devils might do to her.

"Let's go!" Franklin opened the door and got down of the car. Sophia followed right behind.

Yara loved amusement parks, but she disliked coming during winter. Besides, she had never wanted to come with these two monsters.

Gusts of cold air greeted Yara the moment she stepped out of the car.

Yara did not put on a thick layer of clothes. The chilly wind that hit her face caused her to shudder.

It's so cold!

Yara wished she could get into the car instead of entering the amusement park.

"Come on. Let's go!" Franklin raised his brows. "You always complained we don't spend enough time with you, right? You have a chance to do this with me now! I hope you'll appreciate every second of this trip!"

## Chapter 487 Revenge On Yara

"Yeah! Hurry up and follow us!" Sophia urged with a smile.

Franklin and Sophia were only five years old their smiles were pure and innocent like little angels.

Yara couldn't even force herself to smile despite seeing their angelic smiles.

Even though she was unwilling, she had to accompany them to the amusement park.

"Which ride do you guys want to go on first?" Yara asked patiently. "Merry-go-round or the spinning teacups?"

"Those are too childish!" Franklin rejected outright, "Sophia and I don't like these kids' rides."

Yara's anger boiled at his biting remark, yet she didn't show it on her face.

Urgh, these two brats are acting spoiled again!

"These rides are not childish. They are perfect for five-year-olds."

Yara taunted,

"Why did you bring me here if you weren't interested in rides?"

A sweet smile formed on Sophia's lips as she pointed at the massive roller coaster ride.

"Franklin and I want to get on that!"

The roller coaster carts were bright with neon lights at night. The train of cars traveling along the track looked like a dragon flying in the sky. Even from afar, they could hear the shrill screams of the passengers.

Yara, with a fear of heights, immediately shook her head vehemently. "You guys can't go on that ride. You're too young."

"I thought you love us the most in the whole world? Didn't you always insist we were your babies?" Franklin said casually, "If you insist on not getting on the ride with Sophia and me, then I guess everything you have said about being our mommy..."

Franklin was clueless about the truth. He said those words merely to provoke Yara but unexpectedly struck her nerve.

"What are you saying?" The expression on Yara's face turned changed.

"Do you still suspect me as your mother? Of course, I love you both the most. It's just a ride on a roller coaster. I'll go with you. I don't want to hear any doubts about me being your mother after this!"

Sophia and Franklin exchanged a glance, wondering the reason for Yara's sudden aggravation.

They didn't take her reaction seriously as long as she accompanied them on the ride.

The trio joined the line for the roller coaster ride and reached the front after fifteen minutes.

The attendant let Yara through the gate and pushed the restraint bar down after she climbed into the car.

She turned to look over her shoulder to check on Franklin and Sophia behind her, but instead of the two children, a couple was sitting behind her.

Yara panicked. "Where are the two kids in line with me earlier?"

"They're at the gate." The attendant kindly pointed in the direction of the gate.

Following his direction, she saw Sophia and Franklin standing there, with innocent looks on their faces.

"Let them in, hurry! They're here for the ride too!" Yara barked with a frown.

“Miss, let me clarify the rules for this ride. There’s a height limit enforced for this ride. Children below 4’2” aren’t allowed entry.” The attendant gave Yara a contemptuous look.

What!

Yara finally realized she had fallen for the little devils’ trick.

They hadn’t intended to ride on the roller coaster from the beginning. It was a lie for me to get on the ride.

“I don’t want to ride anymore. I want to get off.”

Yara wanted to unclasp herself. Despite pushing it with all her might, the restraint bar didn’t budge.

“What’s wrong? Why isn’t this moving? I said I don’t want to play anymore.”

“Miss, I’ve locked all the safety bars on all the cars, so all passengers are secured. The ride will start soon,” the attendant said with a shrug of his shoulders.

The entire train began a slow crawl forward into an ascend soon after.

Yara cursed the kids under her breath. Before long, the train of cars reached the highest peak and started its descent down the steep slope.

“Ah!”

Yara let out a shrill scream with a face pale as a sheet when she felt the weightless sensation hit her.

Her scream was the loudest among the passengers.

Meanwhile, somewhere close by to the ride.

Franklin snorted. “That’ll teach her a lesson for bullying Natalie, Xavian, and Clayton.”

“You’re so smart, Franklin!” Sophia gave him two thumb-ups to express her admiration for him.

“I won’t ever admit she’s my mommy!” Franklin clenched his fists tightly.

“Even if I die!”

## Chapter 488 Stop Lying To Me

When the train of cars finally returned to the starting point, Yara’s voice had turned hoarse from all the shouting. Her legs were weak and shaky from the frightful ride.

The roller coaster ride was much more terrifying in the dark of night than in broad daylight.

All she could see in her sight was just a field of dark and silhouettes of objects when neared. She couldn’t even get a clear view of the track under the breakneck speed.

The combination of the unknown and her fear of height had tortured her to the extent of having all colors drained from her face and she even tasted bile in her throat.

These two brats! Do they think I won't dare to do anything to them?

The reason I kept them alive all these years ago was so they could be of use to me one day. Now, they have the gall to trick me despite not helping me.

After calming her breath from the terrifying ride, she stomped toward the exit, resolved to teach them a lesson.

Once she reached the exit, an ice cream cone was thrust into her hand. She looked down to see Sophia tipping her toes and pushing the cone into her hand.

"Here you go! An ice cream cone!"

Looking at Sophia's innocent smiling face, Yara noticed a similar glint of slyness in Sophia's eyes as the dead Natalie.

Setting me up on a roller coaster ride, then hands me an ice cream cone next. Is she planning to freeze me to death?

Yara bent down slowly, forcing a smile on her face as she reached for the ice cream in Sophia's extended hand.

"Sophia, you won't get to eat it then if you buy for me only." Yara narrowed her eyes, amplifying the malicious glint in them. "You love ice cream too, don't you? I'll let you have this then. Make sure you finish every bit of it."

Yara was about to force-feed Sophia the ice cream in her hand.

"I don't want it."

"This is delicious. Eat it!"

"I don't want it! Daddy! I don't want to eat it! She's forcing me to eat it!"

Yara's body stiffened at the mention of Samuel, but she quickly dashed off the possibility of him being there in the amusement park too.

They're adamant about me not meeting with Samuel, so there's no way he'll be here in an amusement park.

"Sophia, why are you being so rude to me when I'm offering ice cream to you?" Yara tightened her grip on Sophia's arm despite her gentle chiding.

Feeling a sharp pain in her arm, tears were welling in Sophia's eyes.

"Daddy, it hurts!"

"Why are you crying? I'm offering you an ice cream. There's nothing to cry about."

"Daddy! Daddy!"

"Your daddy isn't here. Why are you calling for him? Do you think I'll believe your lies? Have you ever heard of the story of the boy who cries wolf?"

With fingers pinching Sophia's chin, Yara was about to force the ice cream into the latter's mouth when a chilling voice called her from behind her.

"Yara! What do you think you're doing to Sophia?"

Hearing the familiar voice, her heart sank. She instantly let go of Sophia's arm, straightened her back, and looked over her shoulder with a panic look. "Samuel, you're here. What are you doing here?" she asked nervously.

The second Sophia saw Samuel, she raced to him and clung to his leg with teary eyes. "Daddy, she forced me to eat an ice cream!"

Yara couldn't picture Samuel being there in an amusement park at that time. Hearing Sophia's complaint, she immediately explained herself.

"I didn't force her!" Yara insisted. "Samuel, you can't just listen to her. I merely wanted to share the ice cream with her since she loves ice cream."

His expression turned grave when his gaze landed on the teary-eyed Sophia.

"You want my daughter to eat ice cream on such a cold day?"

"I-"

She couldn't come up with an explanation.

So Sophia can't eat ice cream in the middle of winter but I can? But if I say that, I'll sound like I'm shifting the blame onto a child.

"Yara, finish that ice cream yourself!"

Then, he warned,

"If I see you bullying my daughter next time, I won't let things slide because you're Grandpa's caretaker."

His daughter?

She is our daughter!

The way he puts it shows he doesn't recognize me as the mother of the two kids.

Hatred and pain filled her heart, meeting his cold, harsh gaze. I love him so much. I have done so much for him, but why doesn't he reciprocate my feeling. I'm happy even with a smidge.

Chapter 489 Daddy Are You Jealous

"Samuel, I believe I can do well if only you let me stay beside you and the kids," Yara swore as she toyed with her fingers.

Samuel shot her a death glare, furious at her suggestion.



“There will never be such a chance.”

“Samuel...”

“The only reason I endure you is that Grandpa likes you.”

He added,

“If you continue to have any unrealistic notion about anything else, even Grandpa won’t be able to protect you then.”

He bent down and gently scooped Sophia into his arm and reached for Franklin’s hand with his other arm. Next, he turned around and left.

Yara watched until he was gone from her sight.

The amusement park at night was bright like the stars in the sky.

His tall frame could easily attract the lingering gaze of the opposite gender just by looking at his back.

I could feel the distance when I talked to him previously, but now...

I can see rejection, hatred, and distaste in his eyes.

Maybe I’m only Old Mr. Bower’s caretaker in his eyes.

However, I don’t want to be a soon-to-be eighty-year-old man’s caretaker... I want to be Samuel’s lawful wife!

Her tears flowed down her cheeks as she watched Samuel’s back on a winter night.

Meanwhile, Sophia circled her short arms over Samuel’s neck. Her eyes were still glassy from her crying earlier, but there was a smile on her lips.

Franklin looked up at Samuel’s side profile with admiration shining in his eyes. “Daddy! As expected of my daddy. You looked so cool when you said those words to Yara earlier.”

Samuel glanced at Sophia in his arms, then at Franklin holding onto his hand. “Remember to always stay far away from that woman.”

“Got it, Daddy.”

“Okay, Daddy.”

Franklin and Sophia nodded, agreeing obediently.

It was seven in the evening, and the colorful neon lights around the castle in the amusement park and trees lit up. The whole place looked like one written in fairy tales.

The beautiful view bedazzled Franklin and Sophia, causing their reluctance to leave.

“Daddy, it’s so pretty here!” Sophia tightened her arms around Samuel’s neck and asked, “Can we call Mommy, Xavian, and Clayton to join us?”

“Yeah! Daddy, it’s a pity if only the three of us get to see such a pretty sight,” Franklin chimed in.

It's a beautiful night view. I wonder if Natalie likes it?

"All right."

Samuel released Franklin's hand and reached for his phone to call Natalie.

Natalie had just picked up Xavian and Clayton when she got the call from him.

"Are you free now?" Samuel's husky voice sounded from the phone.

"I'm with Xavian and Clayton at the moment." Natalie paused briefly, then asked hesitantly, "What's wrong?"

Sophia had been eavesdropping on their conversation with her ear against the back of Samuel's phone. After hearing Natalie's question, she immediately answered, "Mommy! Daddy, Franklin, and I are at the amusement park! It's so pretty here! Bring Xavian and Clayton over to play with us."

Natalie's lips curled into a knowing smile hearing Sophia's baby voice.

How can I reject such an adorable little girl's request?

"All right. I'll go over with them."

"Yay! We'll be here waiting for you!"

The fear and sadness Sophia felt earlier from being bullied by Yara were gone and replaced with delight blooming in her heart.

After she hung up the phone, Samuel suddenly had a feeling that she would be his opponent for Natalie's love instead of Franklin.

Feeling his gaze on her, she pouted. "Daddy, are you getting jealous now?"

## **Chapter 490 You Belong To Me**

Samuel did not deny it and he nodded. "Yes."

Sophia's big, round eyes flashed as she stared at him. Then, she pursed her lips and said, "Daddy, you don't have the right to be jealous! Every night you get to hug Mommy to sleep, and I don't even have a chance to do that!"

Samuel cheekily pinched Sophia's nose. "All right. I'll give you one chance every month."

"Is that true? That's great!" Sophia beamed and kissed Samuel on his cheeks. "You cannot lie to me, even if you're my daddy! A liar's pants will be on fire!"

"Okay."

Sophia was just like Natalie, gentle and loving.

In actual fact, Samuel loved having Natalie all to himself at night.

But if Sophia wanted to sleep with them once in a while, he could make it work.

“Daddy, can I also...”

Franklin balled his small fist and wanted to demand something for himself too. However, Samuel interrupted him coldly.

“No.”

Franklin frowned and felt aggrieved. Daddy is so unreasonable! He didn't even hear me out but he had already rejected me!

Hmph! No wonder Daddy didn't want me to pursue Natalie last time. He's abusing his position as my daddy and wanted to keep Natalie for himself. Now I must call her Mommy...

He's such a cunning man!

“I need to make a phone call.”

Samuel put Sophia down, picked up his phone and started calling someone on the phone.

After half an hour...

Natalie brought Xavian and Clayton to the amusement park, where they gathered with Samuel.

The weather was freezing cold and the four children's faces blushed as red as rose. Even so, the excitement in their faces was evident.

The entire amusement park was playing Christmas carols and the surroundings were decorated with different lighting and ornaments.

Natalie stared warmly at her sweethearts and her heart was filled with warmth and love.

“Hmmm... What should we play?”

“There are a lot of things that we can't play because of our height!”

“We can try the haunted house!”

“Okay! Great!”

After a round of discussion, they decided to visit the haunted house first.

Natalie was concerned that Sophia might not be able to handle the thrill and exhilaration in the haunted house. She squatted down and adjusted Sophia's scarf. “Sophia, will you be afraid? Don't force yourself if you are, okay?”

Sophia's eyes blinked innocently and she shook her head vigorously.

“Mommy, I'm not afraid! I have three brothers who will protect me!”

“Besides your brothers, Daddy and Mommy will protect you too!”

“That's great!”

Natalie held Sophia's hand and they headed toward the haunted house together with the other kids.

Inside the haunted house, there was an electric car parked on a track, and everyone needed to put on 3D glasses to experience the thrilling adventure that awaited them.

The four of them separated into groups of two and occupied the first two rows.

Natalie wanted to get into the third row, but Samuel grabbed her hand and stopped her.

"Samuel, you..." Natalie looked at Samuel in confusion.

"There are others with them," Samuel whispered softly in her ears. "You should keep me company."

"Hmm?"

The next instant, Natalie understood what Samuel meant.

Steven and Billy showed themselves and got in the electric car quietly, and they were seated just behind the four kids.

The kids who had the 3D glasses on were immersed in the virtual setting. They waited excitedly for it to begin and were unaware that Natalie and Samuel were not the ones who boarded the electric car.

Following the creepy sounds of cats meowing and bats swarming, the electric card started moving and headed into the haunted house.

On the other hand, Samuel held Natalie's hand and brought her out of the haunted house.

Natalie uttered, "Samuel, you are thinking of..."

"The children are being looked after. Don't worry about them." Samuel tightened his grip, and his glare exuded confidence. "From now on, you belong to me..."