

Happiness 651

Chapter 651 Must Not Lose This Chance

“Although I don’t like Yara, I will take responsibility for my child. Hence, I’ve been raising Franklin and Sophia by my side for five years. Since Grandpa wants both of them to have a complete family, he kept urging me to marry Yara. However, neither the kids nor I like her! I loved that woman so much six years ago. However, I am completely uninterested in Yara. Back then, I was naive enough to think that the difference only arose because the medicine made me become like this...”

When Natalie heard that, her lips parted. A look of disbelief filled her eyes.

I didn’t know about this...

During her darkest days, Yara actually used Franklin and Sophia to set up this trap.

If she had not bumped into Samuel and fallen in love, both of them might never know the truth.

Natalie cried so much that her eyes turned red. With her shocked expression, she looked even cuter than before.

Samuel’s heart skipped a beat. Unable to control himself, he bit down on her rosy lips.

“Ouch!” yelped Natalie softly.

“What are you thinking about so intensely?”

“Are you so sure that I’m that woman from six years ago?” asked Natalie with a frown. “Or did you conduct a DNA test with Sophia and Franklin behind my back? Are you treating me so nicely because you’re certain that I’m that woman from six years ago?”

Natalie felt like she had not only fallen for Yara’s trap, but also Samuel’s.

“Ever since I guessed that you’re Yara’s twin sister, I was sure that you’re Franklin and Sophia’s biological mother, not Yara.” Samuel pinched Natalie’s chin and pushed her onto the soft bed. “Why would I need a DNA test? My lust for you is so much that even I find it unbelievable... Even if we assume that you aren’t Franklin and Sophia’s biological mother, I will still not let you leave my side.”

Samuel’s voice became hoarse gradually. A dangerous and alluring glint appeared in his eyes.

“Samuel, since you already knew about it, why didn’t you tell me earlier?” Grabbing the bedsheets helplessly, Natalie asked the question that she wanted to know the answer to the most.

“If I told you that earlier, you’ll only want to snatch Franklin and Sophia away from me, or keep worrying that I’ll want to snatch Xavian and Clayton away from you,” explained Samuel solemnly as he pressed his nose against Natalie’s.

“You’ve been hurt so badly that you can’t believe anyone else but yourself. If I tell you that I desire you so much just because you are you, will you believe me?”

“I...”

Natalie wanted to say something, but she realized that she could not form a single word.

Samuel was definitely very skilled in conquering one's heart.

He knew her better than she did.

Just like what he said, if she knew about this long ago, she would not have trusted him so much like this.

"But... But you didn't have to hide it from me." Natalie bit her lips.

"I want you and the kids." Samuel stared at her intently. "Perhaps, I might take risks when it comes to other matters. However, when it comes to you, I need to be completely sure. I'll admit it if you blame me for being selfish, but I'll never let there be any possibilities of me losing you..."

Natalie met Samuel's gaze.

There was not a hint of manipulation to be found there—all she could see was his immense love for her.

She had to admit that although it was slightly late to know the truth, this was probably the best moment.

At that instant, Natalie felt like all the past sufferings were worth it. Joy overwhelmed her.

Yeah! So what if I learned about the truth a little later? Luckily, all's well, ends well.

"I love you, Samuel!" exclaimed Natalie through sobs as she wrapped her arms around Samuel's waist, her eyes turning red.

Chapter 652 Pamper You Forever

When Samuel heard Natalie's words, his Adam's apple bobbed.

"I love you too!"

Their eyes met. They did not know who took the initiative, but their lips were soon pressed against each other.

It was a long kiss.

It was only when Natalie felt like her lips were going numb that Samuel finally released her while panting heavily.

Natalie was the same too. Her face was blushing significantly. After she was bullied by Samuel, tears welled up in her pretty eyes, making her look exceptionally alluring.

Stroking Natalie's lustrous hair, Samuel said, "Nat, you already know Franklin and Sophia's background. Can you tell me what happened six years ago?"

Biting her lips, Natalie told Samuel everything about the fire five years ago.

Even though she had found her twins, the pain that she experienced was engraved within her mind.

While she narrated her story, her body kept trembling. The look of helplessness and sorrow in her eyes was almost overflowing.

After Natalie finished speaking, a vicious glint flashed across Samuel's eyes.

At that moment, he finally realized why she insisted on wearing such an ugly hyper-realistic mask and why she was so averse to him when he interacted with Yara.

No grudges in the world happen for no reason.

Natalie had such a burning hatred because Yara had committed such a heinous sin toward her.

“I’ll never forgive Yara!” Natalie bit her lips, her eyes burning with resentment. “It hurts too much when she snatched my children away and tried to kill me!”

When Natalie spoke, her eyes were filled with tears.

It was not that she was weak—her tears just kept flowing uncontrollably when she mentioned her painful past.

As Samuel looked at the tears on Natalie’s face, his heart ached. Cupping her cheeks, he kissed her tears away tenderly.

“The past won’t happen again...” consoled Samuel solemnly. “The children and I will be by your side forever. If you want to take revenge, you can do it personally. If you need help, the Bowers family is happy to help!”

“Samuel?”

His words were undoubtedly the most affectionate promise to her.

After all, he was a formidable person who had such a powerful status in Chanaea.

Yet, he was willing to pamper and love her like that. Feeling extremely touched, she teared up.

“Will you treat me like this forever?” mumbled Natalie.

“I will,” answered Samuel firmly. “I’ll pamper you forever and accompany you in doing everything that you want!”

Natalie smiled through her tears.

“Okay! We must be like this forever!”

In the kindergarten, the kids were playing with the sand.

However, Franklin, Sophia, Xavian, and Clayton were cupping their cheeks and grinning happily.

“Haha! I knew that that woman is not our mommy!” exclaimed Franklin gleefully as he raised his eyebrows.

“You’re so amazing, Franklin!” praised Sophia cutely. “I didn’t expect that we’re all Mommy and Daddy’s kids! How great! I’ll have three brothers doting on me now!”

“We used to feel sad that that man was our Daddy! Luckily, he isn’t!” Xavian patted his chest. “Right, Clayton?”

Although Clayton was happy, he was not as overjoyed as Xavian.

During that explosion yesterday, all Xavian saw was the fire. He did not experience that explosion personally, nor witness how Marcus went to all lengths to save him even at the brink of death.

It was true that Marcus was not a good guy. However, without his help, Clayton would have been blasted into smithereens. If that happened, he would not be able to help his mother and father reconcile.

“Clayton, you’re lost in your thoughts. What are you thinking about?” asked Xavian when he saw how quiet Clayton was.

“Although Mr. Landis isn’t our biological father...” replied Clayton slowly. “His death is too strange!”

Chapter 653 Vicious Woman

When Clayton brought that up, Franklin, Sophia, and Xavian fell into deep thought.

“Previously, Clayton and I had been investigating Mr. Landis’ whereabouts. However, his location kept changing. Recently, we found out through the Internet that he appeared at Dellmoor. It’s strange that something like this happened just two days after he reached Dellmoor!” analyzed Xavian with a frown.

“Why did that warehouse explode for no reason?” asked Franklin. “Listening to what you said, it seems like the explosion was caused by someone instead of being a random occurrence!”

“It definitely isn’t a random occurrence! I was right there. Mr. Landis probably got injected with something toxic. When I entered the warehouse, his lips had turned purple and he looked like he could not breathe,” said Clayton, feeling his heart ached. “As for the explosion... I think that someone must have done it to destroy the corpse!”

Xavian nodded. “Clayton, what you said is highly possible.”

“Who would do that?” Sophia suddenly widened her eyes. “The culprit’s such a bad person! Should we call the police?”

“Since the explosion was so huge and the police could probably find the warehouse, but the fire was so big that all the evidence would have been burned. It’s impossible to find the culprit...”

After Clayton spoke, the four of them frowned.

Although they wanted to bring the culprit to justice, they did not have a better solution.

Clayton felt the worst amongst them.

He wanted to find the culprit to seek justice for the deceased Marcus, but he was at a loss for what to do.

For the first time, Clayton felt that he could not do a lot of things just because he was too young. However, he was determined to remember the grudge between Marcus and the culprit. In the future, he would definitely find the chance to take revenge for Marcus.

Meanwhile, the news of the warehouse’s explosion was reported all over the televisions and news.

Since Marcus was recorded in the police's DNA bank for fugitives, they used the remains of the corpse to confirm that the deceased was Marcus.

Based on the investigation at the scene, the police ascertained that the fire in the warehouse started because the flammable objects had caught fire. However, the source of the fire would need to be confirmed with further investigation.

When Marcus' shady past was exposed online, the netizens all commented that he had reaped his own karma. There were barely any comments that called for the culprit to be arrested.

Sitting on the couch, Yara scrolled through the screen with a victorious smile.

"Oh, Marcus! If you want to extort money from me, you need to be alive. If you're dead, you can't do anything!" A hint of an evil smile appeared in Yara's eyes. She remarked flippantly, "Don't worry. If you love money that much, I'll pray that you'll get rich in hell! You can become a millionaire or even a billionaire if you want!"

Looking at Yara, Gale thought that King was right.

Although Yara seemed beautiful, a vicious heart lay underneath her pretty appearance.

She might be less intelligent than others, but even Gale, after all his training, could not compare to her ruthlessness.

"Yara, I've already dealt with the person that you've instructed me to eliminate," said Gale. "Remember King's instructions to finish the experiment and destroy Dream. You must hurry up and not let him down!"

Yara placed her phone down and glanced at Gale.

"Don't worry. I've identified another batch of homeless people to be sent to the secret base." Yara grinned. "As for Dream, just wait. There'll be an entertaining show coming up. So Dream wants to defeat Dexmed Pharmaceutical? I'll make Dream be so busy with extricating themselves from more trouble..."

Chapter 654 Having A Child Is So Impressive

Smiling, Yara tapped her finger against the rosewood dressing table.

"I want to keep a sample of the newest drug..."

"What do you want to do with the drug?" Gale frowned, not knowing why Yara wanted such a dangerous drug.

"Of course, it's for my dear sister!" Yara's grin became devilish. "I couldn't burn her to death five years ago and she was lucky enough to escape the fire. Five years later, I have to give her a huge present!"

Yara is so...

Gale deigned to comment.

"It's your problem how you want to toy around with Natalie. Now, all I care about is whether you can accomplish King's mission for you." Gale shot Yara a warning look. "If you're too caught up in your game, you should know what your outcome will be without needing me to say anything else!"

Yara nodded. "I understand."

At Dream Corporation, Natalie stood in front of the glass wall. Her eyes were filled with amusement.

There was a large stack of documents on the desk in the CEO office. Yandel was busy dealing with all the files. When he raised his head, he spotted Natalie, who was in a good mood.

"Boss, we might need to work overtime tonight..." said Yandel with a troubled look.

"Yeah!"

Natalie nodded happily as she walked toward Yandel.

She flipped open a random file and started reviewing it, looking like she was enjoying the process.

Widening his eyes, Yandel remarked curiously, "Boss, you look like you are in a good mood!"

"Is it obvious?" asked Natalie, before answering her own question. "But it's true that I'm in an amazing mood."

"Did Samuel propose to you?" Yandel made a bold guess.

"No."

"No?"

"Yandel, I found my children!" declared Natalie with a smile as she propped her chin up with an arm.

"Haven't Xavian and Clayton always been by your side?" asked Yandel with a frown. "Boss, what children have you found? Do you have other children?"

"I'm not talking about Xavian and Clayton! I've never told you this, but I actually had four children five years ago, not two! Back then, I thought that my other two children had died. Now, I've found them again!"

"Four?" The corners of Yandel's lips twitched. "As expected of you, Boss... Others normally only have one kid, but you got pregnant once and had four kids straight... That's so impressive!"

Frowning, Natalie pointed at Yandel.

"Are you trying to say that I'm like a pig?"

"No! I'm genuinely praising you!"

Not daring to keep talking about her child-bearing skills, Yandel returned back to the main point.

"Boss, how do your two kids that you've found look like? Where are they living? If you're free, let me meet them! I'm really curious about what they look like. Do they look similar to Xavian and Clayton?"

"You've seen them before."

“I’ve... I’ve seen them before? When?” asked Yandel, feeling puzzled. “It’s impossible, right?”

“Franklin and Sophia are my other two kids.”

“What?” Yandel dropped his pen, but he could not be bothered to pick it up. A look of disbelief crossed his face.

Natalie was not surprised at Yandel’s shocked expression. She explained it to him impatiently, “Yandel, I mentioned to you that Xavian and Clayton’s father is an outlaw, right? Actually, I’ve misunderstood it all along. It wasn’t Marcus who slept with me back then—it was Samuel.”

Even Natalie felt that everything was unbelievable when she explained it.

So many things happened in the past six years, but she ended up returning to the original starting point.

“Oh my God!” Yandel laughed. “Boss, I didn’t expect that your fate with Samuel was determined so long ago! I was worried that it might be a bit sad for you to become the stepmother of those two kids from the Bowers family. Looks like I was worried over nothing!”

Chapter 655 Someone Is Hurt

Natalie read through the document in her hand in a bright mood.

“Then, you were Samuel’s only girl from the start?”

Yandel’s words reminded Natalie of something.

That’s right! Samuel should be inexperienced six years ago.

It doesn’t seem fair that he was inexperienced six years ago, but I was the only one tired and begging him for mercy. In fact, six years later, his technique had improved so much that he could ensnare me in his web of lust with just a kiss.

Just then, Yandel thought of something and said somberly, “Boss, since you’re sure that it was Samuel who you were with six years ago, that meant Marcus had nothing to do with you.”

Since the early mornings, Natalie had left the Bowers residence and came straight to Dream Corporation.

She had a smile on her face the entire way. Being so immersed in bliss, she didn’t catch the latest news.

Confused, she asked, “What’s wrong? Why did you bring up Marcus all of a sudden?”

“Around nine o’clock last night, Marcus was spotted at an abandoned warehouse in a rural area. That warehouse exploded, taking him with it. The police are investigating, but I think it won’t be easy to find any solid evidence in an area so rural.”

“He’s dead?” Natalie’s eyes widened with disbelief.

“I didn’t tell you earlier because I was afraid you would be affected by his death. The only reason why I’m telling you now is that you’re already well aware of the truth six years ago. He’s dead, but you, Clayton, and Xavian have nothing to be sad about.”

Natalie frowned at his words as her lips curled into a cold smile.

“With Marcus dead, there’ll be one less person who knows about the truth.”

“Are you saying that...”

A flash of coldness crossed her eyes. “So many years have passed, but my dear sister still likes to use arson to cover her tracks I see.”

When Natalie arrived home that night, she made a beeline to her room. She stopped in front of the drawer with her first aid box and began to take inventory of the medicines and medical supplies in it.

She had a good memory of the doses and types of medication and the medical supplies she stored in it. A glimpse at its content told her that an ointment for burns and a roll of bandages were missing.

Only Samuel and the kids knew about her first aid box and dared to touch it.

Samuel was beside her every night, so she would’ve caught him if he had any injuries on him.

That only left the kids.

Who could’ve got hurt? And who touched my first aid box?

She contemplated it for a while before closing the box. Then, she got up, left her room, and made her way to the kids’ room.

When the kids saw Natalie, they immediately ran to her.

“Mommy!”

“Are you guys still reading this late into the night?” Natalie said with a smile, “It’s time to wash up and get into bed.”

Clayton and Franklin were calm and collected, but a look of guilt crossed Xavian’s and Sophia’s faces. Their gazes began darting around, not daring to meet their mother’s eyes.

Ah-ha! As expected, they’re hiding something from me. One of them is hurt.

“We got it, Mommy.” Clayton nodded obediently. “We’ll wash up and get into bed soon. You should do the same, Mommy. Don’t work too long even if you have a lot of work. Take care of your body and sleep early.”

“Yeah, he’s right,” Franklin agreed.

Natalie’s gaze flickered between her two sons. She was sure that one of them was injured.

“Both of you come with me.” Natalie gestured at Clayton and Franklin with her finger.

Clayton’s and Franklin’s bodies stiffened as they stayed rooted to the spot.

“Well? Why are you still standing there? Are my words useless now?” Natalie arched her brow.

Chapter 656 I Will Not Do It Again

“No. Of course not. We’re coming,” Clayton and Franklin chorused.

Pressing her lips into a line, Natalie continued, "Then come out with me."

The kids bit their lips and exchanged a glance before finally following Natalie out of the room.

Xavian and Sophia glanced at each other, worried that Natalie would find out about Clayton's injury. Despite their worries, however, they couldn't do anything about it. They hoped Clayton could face everything Natalie threw at him.

Clayton and Franklin followed Natalie to the study quietly.

She took a seat with her legs crossed and looked at the boys.

"Do any of you have anything to tell me?" Natalie wanted them to confess and owe up to it instead of forcing their confession.

"No," they both answered.

She frowned at their denial. It was within her expectation that they would deny it.

She didn't know why they still wouldn't confess when they had already guessed that she had found out about it. It seemed that they were still holding on to a tiny sliver of hope that she hadn't found out as long as she didn't bring it up with them.

Natalie got up from her chair and stepped in front of them.

"I'm not someone that likes to interrogate. I know the two of you are young and have your secrets, but you're my sons. You can't hide something as serious as an injury from me," she said with a grave tone as she met their gazes.

"Hiding your injuries from me won't relieve any of my worries. It'll just make them worse. I don't like nor care for white lies, especially when it comes to your health and safety."

They are my flesh and blood. I don't mind getting hurt if it can spare them from the pain.

Franklin and Clayton exchanged a glance as a pang of guilt hit them at her words.

In the end, Franklin conceded after catching the sincerity in his mother's eyes. "Mommy, it was Clayton. His arm got burned. Since the truth is out now, can you look at his injury and treat it with more suitable medicine?"

"You—" Clayton didn't think that Franklin would let the cat out of the bag so easily.

"Clayton, Mommy is right." Franklin lowered his head and said, "Hiding your injury got us all worried. The injury on your arm is quite severe. I know Sophia has treated it, but she's inexperienced. You need help from a professional."

"Clayton..."

"Mommy, I..." Clayton hung his head with guilt, not daring to meet Natalie's gaze.

"Franklin, I have something to speak with Clayton privately, so I need you to leave the room. Don't worry. I'll treat him later," Natalie instructed.

“Okay.” Franklin nodded as he whirled around to leave the study.

Soon, only Natalie and Clayton remained in the study.

“Remove your coat and roll up your sleeve.”

Clayton knew there was no point in hiding his injury any longer, so he obediently complied and rolled up his sleeve, revealing the full extent of his injury.

His previous fair, smooth arm was now covered with burn scars and spots.

Natalie’s heart clenched at the sight.

“Clayton, you’re all grown up now, is that it? How could you hide such a serious injury from me?” Natalie scolded with reddened eyes.

Clayton merely stayed quiet.

After a long silence, he finally lifted his head slowly and looked at Natalie guiltily.

“Mommy, I’m sorry. It’s my fault.” Tears filled his eyes. “My injuries were not that bad, but the scars were too ugly and scary. I didn’t want you to get upset, so I thought I’d hide it from you till it got better. I figured you won’t feel so upset when you see it then.”

Chapter 657 Parenting

Natalie was furious when she found out the kids had purposely hid it from her.

Now that she saw the teary-eyed Clayton, she couldn’t get even one word out of her mouth to admonish him.

Instead, her heart clenched even tighter at the sight of him, apologizing so cautiously.

Noticing Natalie’s silence, Clayton tugged on her sleeve hesitantly. “Mommy, I know I’m wrong. I won’t do it again.” Realizing what he said, he immediately added, “I promise you there’s no next time.”

Natalie couldn’t hold on to her anger any longer with Clayton sobbing.

“Did Sophia treat your wound?” she asked instead.

“Yeah.” Clayton nodded his head. “She was worried that my injuries wouldn’t heal, so she treated them for me. It’s not her fault, but mine. If you want to punish me, then so be it. I hope you won’t punish any of them.”

“You silly boy. You’re still trying to protect your sister at a time like this, huh?”

“I—”

“Do you think you can hide it that long without them covering for you?” Natalie undid the bandage on his arm and examined the injury. “I’m not that petty. I’ll let it slide this time with no punishment, but if I catch you doing something like this again, I’ll give all of you the cold shoulder treatment.”

Clayton laughed upon hearing Natalie’s words.

“Okay. Our Mommy is the best mom in this whole wide world!”

“Stop trying to butter me up.” Natalie cast a side glance at him and said, “Your injury must have hurt and itched the whole time. It must have been tough for you to act like nothing happened in front of me.”

A small smile tugged on her lips when Natalie noticed that Sophia did a good job at treating the wound.

This girl is much more talented than I thought.

It has only been a few months since I started her lessons. I can’t believe she has learned so much in such a short time and did so well.

After treating Clayton’s wound, Natalie asked how he got hurt.

“Clayton, I want you to be truthful with me. Is the injury on your arm related to Marcus’ incident?” she asked.

Clayton knew that his mother was intelligent and would see through his lies, so he nodded honestly. “I was with him at the abandoned warehouse when the explosion happened.”

“What?” Natalie exclaimed. Dread tightened her gut at the close call.

“He saved me in the end, pushing me out of the warehouse at the last minute before the whole thing exploded and got swallowed by the fire.” Clayton balled his hands into fists at the horrific memory.

“Clayton, I need you to tell me everything from the start.”

“Okay. This is how it started...”

He began recounting everything that happened that day to Natalie.

After hearing it firsthand from Clayton, Natalie had a clearer understanding of the entire incident. I’m sure Yara’s involved with Marcus’ death. It was too much of a coincidence, after all. I mean, how likely is it for Marcus to die from an explosion shortly after arriving at Dellmoor?

But, something’s weird. Clayton claimed he saw Marcus curled up on the ground when he entered the warehouse. That Marcus’ lips were purple, and his veins were bulging. Those were symptoms of being poisoned, not from a heart attack.

Yara had no medical knowledge, and I doubt Dexmed Pharmaceutical would develop this kind of poison. If Marcus was poisoned in such a short period, then Yara might not be the culprit.

The more Natalie mulled about it, the more her head hurt.

“Mommy, are you okay?”

“I’m fine, just thinking about something.” Natalie rebandaged the injury on Clayton’s arm. “Make sure your wound stays clear of water, so be careful when you shower. You can get Sophia to help you with changing the bandage next time. It doesn’t have to be me.”

“Okay.”

Clayton halted in his tracks at the door. He couldn't help looking over his shoulder and glancing at Natalie after much reluctance.

Chapter 658 Poor Thing

"Mommy, even though Mr. Landis wasn't Xavien's and my father, he saved me in the end." Determination shone in Clayton's eyes. "I'm not strong enough to find the perpetrator. So Mommy, can I ask for a favor to help avenge Mr. Landis?"

Natalie had always taught Clayton and Xavian to be grateful and repay those who had helped them.

As such, she wasn't the least bit surprised when she heard Clayton's request.

"I'll help you," Natalie agreed with a firm nod.

Clayton's lips tilted into a smile as he thanked Natalie.

"Thank you, Mommy."

Franklin, Sophia, and Xavian released a relieved sigh when they saw Clayton leaving the study with a smile.

Natalie watched the kids waiting for Clayton outside the room with a gentle gaze. She was glad that the kids' were united during hardships.

After having dinner together, she spent some time with them.

Even though they were each doing their own stuff, they were comfortable with each other's presence.

The kids began to tire out from reading, so they obediently lined up to the bathroom to wash up before getting into bed.

Natalie tucked each of them into their beds and gave each of their heads a gentle peck before turning on the night lamp and leaving the room.

When she got back to her room, she saw Samuel had already washed up and was sitting on the bed in his black robe.

"You were with the kids the whole time?" Samuel lifted his gaze from the document in his hand and focused it on Natalie's face as he spoke.

"Yeah." Natalie nodded with a smile. "Maybe it was because I missed Franklin and Sophia growing up when they were younger, so I wanted to be by their side now. I want to be there for them from now on."

She had just reached Samuel's side when he tugged on her wrist and pulled her onto the bed.

"Samuel, what are you—"

"Shouldn't you spend time with me now that the kids are asleep?" Samuel's dark gaze locked onto hers.

"We've lost five years together. Shouldn't you spare some time for me too?"

"I didn't even know you and hadn't even liked you then. So you can't actually say that we've lost five years," Natalie said, blinking her eyes innocently.

"I'm sure I will still fall for you all the same if I have met you then." Samuel pressed a kiss to her hand. "You have to come up with some way to repay me for the five years we lost. Especially the nights."

Samuel stressed the word "night."

Natalie could feel her face heat up at the innuendo.

This guy just can't keep it in his pants.

Every time she heard rumors about him being celibate, she had wanted to correct them. After all, he was the total opposite when he was in bed. He wouldn't stop until she was screaming and begging for mercy.

Seeing the blush on her face, Samuel stopped teasing her and pulled her against his chest.

"Didn't you ever feel the connection that you could be Franklin's and Sophia's biological mother when you were with them?" he asked.

"I did feel some indescribable connection when I was with them." Natalie muttered, "I just... didn't dare to think about it deeper. I was scared that it was all my imagination. If my hopes fell short, wouldn't it be pitiful?"

Natalie's voice turned airier as she spoke.

Samuel didn't expect Natalie to be upset at his random question.

He tightened his arms around her and said, "I'm sorry, Nat."

Chapter 659 Not Up To The Mind To Decide

Samuel had always assumed that Natalie had not detected anything because she was slow to realize. However, it was suddenly apparent to him that the woman had been rejecting that possibility subconsciously in order to avoid disappointment.

"Sorry..." he said in a deep voice.

"What are you apologizing for?" Natalie blinked away the tears in her eyes and smiled. "Nothing worth having comes easy. Now that I have Xavian, Clayton, Franklin, Sophia, and... you, I'm already extremely contented!"

Even though she was beaming from ear to ear when she said that, Samuel could not help but feel a sharp ache in his heart as he looked at her.

He could feel his heart breaking for Natalie.

Suddenly, he hated himself for being so stupid, and not realizing earlier that Yara was not the woman from six years back. If he had discovered it back then, he could have reunited with Natalie earlier, and she wouldn't have gone through so many hardships.

“It will be the kids’ birthdays in a few days’ time. It’s the first time we will be having a birthday celebration with everyone present!” Natalie cupped Samuel’s face in her hand and smiled widely. “Did you know... such a scenario is something I’ve never dared to imagine in the past. From now onward, we have to spend all of their birthdays together!”

“Sure...”

Although Natalie was smiling happily, Samuel could not bring himself to feel happy at all.

He tightened his embrace around the woman, hugging her with all his might to the point that Natalie felt slightly suffocated.

Nonetheless, she did not move. She stayed in his arms obediently and savored his affection quietly.

If she had not met Samuel, she would probably still be that strong woman who always had her guard up.

Natalie was relieved that things had turned out the way they did.

The couple started kissing passionately again. Romance lingered in the air while sounds of heavy breathing filled the room.

The next day, Samuel set off for a business trip to Loang while Natalie worked from home.

When it was almost evening, Natalie received a call from Yandel.

“Boss, can you attend this evening’s Shine Charity Gala on my behalf?” he asked anxiously.

“Huh?” Natalie was slightly taken aback as it was always Yandel who represented Dream at such charity events.

“You should know that an event like Shine Charity Gala would help to strengthen Dream’s presence in the industry. If no one from Dream turns up, or if we send an ordinary employee to represent us, the media or public might interpret it the wrong way,” Yandel explained. “I have something... urgent to deal with tonight, so... I don’t think I’ll be able to go...”

Although Natalie did not like attending such events that required her to be in the public eye, it wasn’t something she hated to the core.

“Did something happen?” Natalie was more concerned about Yandel, wondering if he had encountered any trouble.

She was met with silence from the other end of the line.

Half a minute later, Yandel finally spoke. “Amelia is sick. She is running a high fever and has been drifting in and out of sleep. She keeps holding my hand and refuses to let me leave... Boss, I...”

Natalie understood Yandel’s inner struggle and interrupted him. “I understand. I’ll go instead. You should stay and take care of Amelia. She’s unfamiliar with Chanaea and doesn’t know anyone else here. If you leave her alone, she’ll be no different from stray cats on the streets.”

“I know.”

“Remember to send me the relevant details.”

After hanging up, Natalie glanced at her phone and shook her head, feeling amused.

It did not seem possible that a sick woman who was not fully conscious would be able to restrain a strong grown man. It was clear to her that it was not Amelia who was holding Yandel back, but Yandel himself.

Even though the man had decided that he should not love Amelia and that they were not a good match for each other, when it came to love, it wasn't up to the mind to decide.

Chapter 660 Small World Indeed

A moment later, Natalie received a text from Yandel with the details of the event.

Before leaving the Bowers residence, Natalie put on her hyper-realistic mask that was full of freckles once again. She drove out of the garage in a Porsche Panamera and headed toward the venue where the Shine Charity Gala was held after dressing up and doing her styling.

Shine Charity Gala was the most prestigious charity event of the year.

When Natalie arrived, both sides of the red carpet were already packed with reporters who were armed with cameras, snapping photos of socialites and celebrities who were walking the red carpet.

Porsche Panamera was considered entry-level among luxury cars.

Besides, Natalie did not even have a chauffeur.

When she walked out of the driver's seat in an all-white suit, the reporters were stunned and had confused expressions on their faces.

To them, it did not make sense for a guest attending such a prestigious event to drive her own car.

It also seemed ridiculous for a woman to be dressed in a suit, especially at such an event where women would be competing to flaunt their beauty.

More importantly...

The woman's face was simply too ordinary. In fact, she looked so plain that it did not seem fitting for her picture to be published on news websites or social media sites.

If not for the fact that she was holding an invitation card and that some people had recognized her as the chairwoman of Dream Corporation, those reporters would have thought that she was merely a socialite's assistant.

Natalie was not interested in being photographed at all.

She greeted the media politely without flattery. In addition, her smart-looking suit and simple makeup gave her the vibe of a dominating queen.

The reporters who were taking pictures of Natalie found themselves being mesmerized by the woman's charisma and could not stop clicking their cameras.

Natalie could feel herself being blinded by the flash of the cameras.

When the event crew reminded her that she could enter the event hall, she immediately quickened her steps across the red carpet.

As Natalie's name was not originally included in the guest list, the event host was not prepared and did not know what to say to her. Reading the situation well, Natalie took over the golden marker in a graceful manner and signed her name on the gator board.

Immediately after Natalie penned her autograph, she noticed a flurry of excitement behind her with astonished gasps from the crowd.

"Yara is here!"

"She used to be a celebrity, but she has retired from the industry in order to take over her father's pharmaceutical business!"

"She has both brains and beauty, not to mention her powerful family background. She also seems to be free of scandals. I bet she's what every woman wish they could be!"

"She's definitely the most gorgeous lady around tonight. Take more pictures of her! That's our cover girl!"

Natalie narrowed her eyes when she saw Yara, who was dressed in an evening gown trimmed with gold sequins, waving to the media on the red carpet.

Yara had changed her dressing style that night, going for a sexy and elegant look, which was a departure from her previous sweet and adorable style.

The gold sequins on the dress perfectly outlined Yara's curvaceous figure, which was probably the envy of all women. She was also wearing exquisite makeup, complete with a winged eyeliner. Her long hair was tied up into a bun on top of her head that was secured using a hairpin in the shape of an olive branch. The woman looked absolutely breathtaking.

A cold glint appeared in Natalie's eyes as she fixed her gaze on Yara, who was exceptionally gorgeous that evening.

It was the first time she had seen her sister after knowing the truth about Franklin and Sophia's birth.

Indeed, it was a small world for the enemies to run into each other.

When Natalie returned the golden marker, she saw Yara walking toward her after the woman was done with her photoshoot with the media.

Yara froze when she met Natalie's gaze, but her shock only lasted for a moment. A split second later, an alluring smile appeared on her sweet face once more.

Clenching her fists, Natalie remained expressionless as she turned around and entered the main event hall.

The banquet hall was luxuriously decorated with crystal chandeliers hanging from the ceiling, casting a warm glow on the guests present.

Judging from the lavish interior of the hall, one could easily deduce that the attendees of the event were either wealthy or influential. Everyone was smiling, holding champagne glasses in their hands.

Natalie picked up a glass of champagne from the waitress' tray while walking slowly into the hall. However, she could not help but feel out of place.