

Happiness 701

Chapter 701 Secrets Exposed

“What are you doing, Dad? Who are you with?” Yara asked when she heard him panting heavily.

Thomas hadn’t told Yara about Yeva as he felt ashamed of having a mistress about the same age as his daughter.

“A friend of mine ran into some trouble, so I went to help him take care of it.” Having gotten used to telling lies, Thomas was able to easily make something up on the spot.

“It’s only three in the afternoon, Dad. I went looking for you in your office, but you were nowhere to be found, so I thought something might’ve happened to you. Anyway, you should return to the office if you’re done helping your friend out. I want to discuss Dexmed Pharmaceutical’s future publicity campaign with you in person,” Yara said with a frown.

As Thomas was also concerned about Dexmed Pharmaceutical’s development, he agreed to her request without any hesitation. “Got it. I’ll head over right away. Honestly, I’m really impressed at how well you handled this, Yara. It felt amazing watching you crush Dream Corporation!”

Yara’s response to his well-intentioned compliment was rather cold. “It’s still too early to be celebrating, Dad. Natalie won’t just sit by and watch her company go down. Unless we truly destroy Dream Corporation, it’s only a matter of time before Natalie makes a comeback!”

“Aren’t you overestimating Natalie a little too much, Yara?” Thomas asked with contempt.

“I’ll show you something when you come back to your office. You’ll see what I mean, then.”

Thomas then quickly said goodbye to Yeva and returned to his office in a hurry.

He saw Yara sitting in his chair and staring at him when he came in through the door.

“What did you want to show me, Yara?” Thomas asked anxiously.

“Here, take a look at it yourself,” Yara replied while shoving a folder in front of him.

Thomas quickly picked it up and saw two photographs inside.

Those photographs were taken secretly. One of them was from the side, while the other was taken from behind. Although they were a little blurry, Thomas was able to recognize the person in the photographs at first glance. “Aren’t these photographs of you? Why would you show me your photographs?”

“They’re not mine,” Yara said seriously.

Thomas was confused. “What do you mean? Who else could this person be if it is not you?”

A cold glint appeared in Yara’s eyes as she replied, “My dear sister, of course! Have you forgotten that I have a twin sister, Dad? We both look exactly the same!”

“What?”

Thomas slammed his hand against the table and began trembling in shock. He thought that Natalie had died long ago.

“Didn’t your sister die in the fire five years ago? H-How could she still be alive?”

Yara shot him a glance and said coldly, “Not only is she still alive, but you’ve even seen her countless times!”

Thomas was shocked after hearing her words. “How is that possible? This is no joking matter, Yara! The police pronounced her dead back then!”

“Natalie didn’t change her name at all. As you know, she is currently the chairwoman of Dream Corporation. She came back to get her revenge on us, Dad! You, me, and Yvonne were responsible for the fire five years ago. You two hated her for being disobedient as well as the fact that she was raised by Jennie. That was why you two helped me get rid of her instead of stopping me. That way, you two could keep your hands clean while I marry into the Bowers family and bring glory to Dexmed Pharmaceutical! What a way to kill two birds with one stone, huh?”

Hearing Yara exposed his secrets struck Thomas like a bolt from the blue.

A Cue for Love Chapter 702 Forget It

Yara clasped her hands together beneath her chin as she continued with a sneer, “You don’t have to look so surprised, Dad. I don’t hate you for what you’ve done. On the contrary, I’m actually grateful for all that you have done. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to get closer to Samuel!”

After taking a brief moment to calm himself down, “Thomas said, “Yara, Natalie doesn’t look like that person you showed me in the photographs...”

“Oh, she’s just wearing a mask, that’s all! She didn’t get disfigured from the fire, nor did she get plastic surgery done. We both still look exactly alike!” Yara replied nonchalantly.

Thomas slumped weakly against his chair and lost himself in deep thought.

I thought my daughter had died, only to find out five years later that she’s still alive... I never liked Natalie because she was raised by Jennie in the countryside. Her eyes resemble Jennie’s and Arnold’s more than Yara’s do. That look of determination and perseverance in her eyes never fails to remind me of what I’ve done to Jennie and Arnold back then... Who would’ve thought Natalie would make such a powerful comeback five years later? She became the chairwoman of Dream Corporation, competed against Dexmed Pharmaceutical, and suppressed us greatly in the corporate world... It wasn’t until the incident got exposed that Dexmed Pharmaceutical was able to break free of Dream Corporation’s grasp. I can’t believe she turned out to be my daughter! If I manage to reunite with Natalie and use her like I’m using Yara, then I could own both Dream Corporation and Dexmed Pharmaceutical! By having the two companies collaborate with each other, I’ll be able to expand my business into other countries like Loang and Irethiel!

Although Thomas had kept those thoughts to himself, Yara could read his mind simply by observing his facial expressions.

“Why do you think Natalie has returned, Dad? She’s here to get revenge on us, not to reunite with you. Please get this through that thick skull of yours! If I’m able to figure out your intentions, then Natalie can surely do the same with that smart brain of hers!”

“I...” Thomas found himself at a loss for words all of a sudden.

“I’m telling you this because I want you to understand that Dream Corporation will always be our enemy. Any attempts to win her over will only result in disaster! King had you conduct tons of medical experiments over the years. Do you really think Natalie will let all of that slide? I was too young to understand what was going on when you got your hands on the Bayer family’s business. Now that I know someone like King exists, it’s easy to figure everything out. If she finds out about the stuff that King has been doing through Dexmed Pharmaceutical, she’s bound to throw a wrench into his plans! Are we even capable of taking responsibility for that?”

Yara’s words hit Thomas like a sledgehammer to the chest, and the two of them stared at each other in silence.

King’s influence extends far beyond Chanaea, and he is definitely capable of doing more than we have seen. Neither Yara nor I can afford to get on his bad side. I’ve seen what happened to the Bayer family when they went against him back then. Their lives were turned completely upside down after that!

“I understand.” Thomas nodded solemnly after giving it some thought.

“Okay. Next, we will have to up Dexmed Pharmaceutical’s advertising game and cause more trouble for Dream Corporation. We cannot afford to lower our guard until our nemesis is completely destroyed. Even if we have King’s help, Natalie has the Bowers family backing her up. It’s about time we wrap things up with Old Mr. Bowers.”

Chapter 703 Did Someone Bully You

The sky was already dark by the time Yandel, Ross, and Lia woke up in Dream Corporation.

As they looked up, they saw Natalie reading through some documents under the dim lighting of her desk lamp.

The faint yellowish light cast a warm glow over her face and highlighted her eyelashes that gently fluttered as she scribbled on the document.

“How did we all end up falling asleep? Is it dark out already? Oh, my gosh! I can’t believe I slept for so long! I’ve still got a ton of work that needs to be done! I won’t be able to finish them on time! What do I do?” Lia asked while rubbing her neck.

Upon hearing her voice, Natalie shifted her gaze toward the three of them and said with a smile, “Don’t worry! All of the urgent work has been taken care of. Since you guys are awake, I’ll let you guys wrap things up here! Don’t pull an all-nighter, especially you, Lia! A woman’s appearance is incredibly important, and you won’t be able to fix it once it is ruined by lack of sleep!”

Lia instinctively rubbed her face upon hearing that.

Ross simply adjusted his gold-rimmed glasses and thanked Natalie before getting back to work at his desk.

Yandel was really angry at Natalie for taking matters into her own hands like that. He ran up to Natalie with a furious look on his face, but she spoke up before he could say anything. "What, are you about to disrespect your superior at work?"

"No..." Yandel replied awkwardly.

"Then, give me a smile, Yandel." Natalie handed him the document she was holding as she continued, "In this document is the strategy we will be using to handle the problems we're facing. I want you to finish reading this tonight and take some time to digest its contents. If you are unable to reach me, then just follow the plan stated here."

Yandel froze after reading through a few pages of it.

Wait... Did she write this all by herself while we were sleeping just now? My goodness! Words cannot describe my admiration and respect for her!

"Can you smile for me now?" Natalie asked.

Yandel tried his best to force a smile on his face.

Natalie rolled her eyes at him in response. "That's so ugly!"

She was about to leave the office when her phone rang all of a sudden.

"How are things at work?" Samuel asked in his usual deep and seductive voice.

"As a matter of fact, I am done with work. Your call came in with such perfect timing that I'm starting to wonder if you're spying on me!" Natalie replied with a smile as she clicked her pen.

"Great! I am outside your office building right now!"

What the hell? How long has Samuel been waiting for me downstairs?

With that in mind, Natalie said, "Okay, I'm on my way."

"All right."

After hanging up the phone, Natalie grabbed her handbag and went downstairs.

Samuel could be seen leaning against his Rolls-Royce across the street. His hair was a little messy from the night breeze, but it didn't affect his handsome face in the slightest. If anything, it only made him look even more attractive than usual.

Natalie found her eyes tearing up all of a sudden.

Despite the number of people who have misunderstood me and attacked me like crazy, he still loves me all the same. I used to think of such love as a luxury that I can never afford, and yet Samuel showers me with all of his love and affection...

Natalie walked really slowly as she made her way toward Samuel.

Her eyes were all red and teary by the time she stood before him.

Samuel frowned when he noticed the tears in her eyes. He grabbed her by the shoulders and pulled her close. "Did someone bully you? Or has work been too stressful lately?"

Natalie wiped the tears dry and shook her head in response.

Chapter 704 Always Believe Me

"What is it, then?" Samuel lifted her by the chin to make her look at him.

Natalie wrapped her arms tightly around his waist and buried her face in his chest. "It's nothing. I just got some sand in my eyes, that's all."

"Really?"

"Of course! I have you, the four sweethearts, and many other people to keep me company now! What could possibly make me sad?" Natalie replied while nuzzling against his chest.

Samuel patted her gently on the head. "Come on, I'll take you home."

"Okay."

Samuel then drove Natalie back to the Bowers residence.

As it was quite late by the time they got there, the four kids had already gone to bed.

"Welcome home! You two must be hungry after spending such a long day outside! I'll whip up something in the kitchen right away!" Gavin said when he saw them return.

"That won't be necessary. I'm sure you're just as tired, Gavin. We'll cook some simple dishes ourselves, so please go get some rest," Samuel replied as he took his coat off and rolled up his shirt sleeves.

Gavin nodded. "All right, then. Good night, you two."

Natalie waited until Gavin left before turning toward Samuel. "But, I don't really know how to--"

"Don't worry. I'll do the cooking, so you just wait in the dining room. I'll bring the food over once it's done," Samuel said while giving her an affectionate pinch on the nose.

"Okay!"

Samuel then started peeling some prawns and marinating them in olive oil, garlic and pepper. Once that was done, he seared them in a pan with some butter and oil.

About forty minutes later, Samuel came out of the kitchen with two bowls of piping hot garlic prawns in hand.

Natalie held up a spoonful and blew on it before shoving it into her mouth. "It's delicious!" she exclaimed in surprise as the rich flavors bombarded her taste buds.

She didn't eat much during the barbecue earlier, and she completely forgot about eating when she worked while Yandel and the others slept.

As such, she began wolfing down her food when the tantalizing aroma hit her nose. It wasn't until she had finished her food that she realized Samuel didn't eat much of his.

“Here, have some more,” Samuel said while topping her bowl up with some of his prawns.

Natalie had wanted to refuse his offer, but the garlic prawns tasted so good that she couldn’t resist them at all.

After finishing her food and filling up her tummy, Natalie propped her chin up with one hand as she gazed into Samuel’s eyes.

“Thanks for the garlic prawns tonight! I know you’re worried about me, but I have to take risks in order to truly destroy the Nichols family for good. This request of mine might be a little selfish, but I hope that you’ll always believe me no matter what others think of me.”

Instead of replying to her statement verbally, Samuel simply gave her a deep and passionate kiss in response.

The negative comments from haters of Dream Corporation got worse the next day.

Kenneth’s eyes went wide with disbelief when he saw the articles online.

Having gotten to know Natalie a lot better, he believed that she would never do such heartless things for the sake of money.

While Kenneth wasn’t sure what Samuel was planning on doing, he did have some connections that he planned on using to lend Natalie a helping hand.

After giving it some thought, Kenneth went through his list of contacts and began making phone calls.

“Yes, I believe Dream Corporation was sabotaged by its competitor. I hope you will all help my potential granddaughter-in-law get through this crisis.”

Yara had just entered the Bowers manor when she heard Kenneth saying that on the phone.

A sinister smile formed on her face as she thought to herself.

Great... I’ve been staying by this old man’s side for five years pretending to be all obedient, only to have Natalie pop out of nowhere and ruin everything!

Chapter 705 Shut Up

Kenneth hung up the call upon hearing the footsteps and shifted his gaze toward Yara as she came in.

He had a conflicted feeling in his heart as he knew Yara had lied about Franklin and Sophia, but he was grateful for her saving his life and her companionship throughout the past five years.

As such, he still tried to care for her as an elder. “Hello, Yara.”

Yara placed her handbag down and slowly walked up to him as she asked, “Who were you on the phone with, Grandpa?”

“No one of importance. I just thought I’d try and help out someone in need, that’s all,” Kenneth replied with a solemn expression.

Yara clenched her fists upon hearing that, and a look of hatred flashed past her eyes. "Someone in need? Are you referring to Natalie, perhaps?"

Kenneth made no attempts to hide it and nodded his head. "Yes, that's right. Dream Corporation is currently caught up in some nasty scandals after a few cases of sudden deaths related to the special medicine. Based on what I know about Natalie, I believe someone is trying to sabotage her."

Yara looked to the side and let out a snicker in response.

Yara's smile grew increasingly sinister as she shouted through clenched teeth, "Since when did you think so highly of Natalie, Grandpa? People have died because of her drugs! Why are you still defending her? Does someone like her even deserve your help?"

"Shut up, Yara!" Kenneth yelled.

"I was the one who stayed by your side throughout the past five years, Grandpa! Everyone else in the Bowers family has been too busy with work to even come and visit you! I, on the other hand, spent all of my time keeping you company and looking after you! I sacrificed so much for you, and this is how you treat me?" Yara questioned him coldly.

"I..."

"You have made me a promise, Grandpa! You promised that you would only accept me as your granddaughter-in-law and that I would be the future lady of the house! But ever since Natalie showed up, both you and Samuel have been taking her side! You even asked me to give up on Samuel and marry someone else! If I could fall in love with someone else, I would've done that long ago! There's no reason for me to keep dragging things out like this!"

Yara sounded particularly vicious and bitter in contrast to her usual kind and gentle self.

She looks just the same as I remember, and yet I feel like I'm talking to a terrifying stranger right now...

With that in mind, Kenneth shouted with his eyes wide, "You... What has become of you? Natalie is your sister, d*mn it! You've wronged her when you tried to replace her using Franklin and Sophia! How dare you act all high and mighty with me when you're the one in the wrong here? I made you those promises because I didn't know about Natalie's existence. Now that I have learned the truth about everything, I couldn't possibly separate her and Samuel to satisfy your selfish demands!"

Yara was so overwhelmed with rage that she refused to listen to Kenneth's explanation at all.

"So, you have found out about it!"

Yara's laughter turned to sobs as she continued, "This is all your fault! None of this would've happened if you helped me marry Samuel sooner! You've never really helped me throughout the past five years! If you forced Samuel into marrying me, we might have children of our own by now! Natalie would never even stand a chance!"

Kenneth did not expect Yara, whom he had always treated as his granddaughter, to say something like that.

"I believe I have nothing left to say to you, Yara." Kenneth stood up from his chair and ordered Jefford who was standing next to him, "See her out, Jefford!"

To his surprise, Jefford simply stood there without doing anything.

Kenneth shot him a fierce glare as he asked, "Jefford! Are you deaf or something? Did you not hear what I said?"

"Calm down, Grandpa!" Yara wiped the tears off her face and broke into a grin as she continued, "You see, Jefford only listens to me now."

Chapter 706 No Sign Of Life

"Right, Jefford?" Yara shot Jefford a glance.

"Yes, Ms. Yara," the latter piped up, nodding at her faithfully.

"How could you..." Kenneth was speechless with sheer disbelief in his eyes. It never came across his mind that Yara would have bribed his butler.

She caught a glimpse of Kenneth's bowl of medicine that seemed untouched and instructed Jefford, "Jefford, Grandpa hasn't taken his medicine today, has he? Anyway, he mustn't skip his medications. Why don't you let him take it now? It might be less effective if he doesn't take it on time."

"Noted, Ms. Yara." Jefford took the bowl of medicine and advanced toward Kenneth.

"Jefford, what on earth are you doing? What's the matter with you?" Kenneth snapped in bafflement.

"Old Mr. Bowers, I'm sorry!" Jefford grabbed hold of Kenneth, forcing him to gulp down the medicine.

Kenneth struggled frantically, causing the medicine to spill. Nonetheless, quite a lot of it still flowed into his mouth. Subsequently, he almost choked on it and could not resist coughing.

Pointing at Yara, Kenneth rebuked, "Yara, how could you do this to me? What's your intention? If anything happens to me, Samuel will only loathe you even more! Initially, I thought of giving you a chance, so you'll turn over a new leaf. But it seems I have been too naive!"

"Hahaha!" Yara could not help but guffaw as though she had just heard about something ridiculous.

"Grandpa, talking about being naive, you still believe that I was the one saving your life at that time, don't you?" Yara crossed her arms, gazing at Kenneth haughtily. "Natalie Nichols was actually your savior six years ago. After all, I don't have any medical knowledge and have been making a fool out of you all this while. If I continue to keep mum about it, you won't sense anything awry too. Am I right?"

Kenneth's pupils constricted as he stared unbelievably at Yara, dumbstruck. "What did you say? You're not the one who saved me six years ago?"

"Hmph! Grandpa, you always claim that you have a clear insight into everything. But don't you think that you're easily fooled, huh?" She lowered her body and looked intently into Kenneth's eyes. "I dare to reveal the truth now as you won't be able to turn the table even after having a grasp of the situation!"

"W-What did you give me?" Kenneth stammered as the alarm went off in his head.

Yara winked at him with a smirk. "Ha! Of course, it's the medicine that Natalie Nichols prescribed for you! Isn't it a perfect ending for you to meet your end because of that? Not to mention, there were cases of others losing their lives due to sudden death after taking her medicine. Doesn't it make sense for you to meet your end now after taking her medicine?"

"Yara, you..." Kenneth was about to question why she had the heart to do so. Nevertheless, his face turned ashen due to the sudden stabbing pain in his chest.

He struggled to get up, but his legs gave way before he collapsed to his knees feebly.

"Yara Nichols, even if I breathe my... my last breath today... you won't achieve your goal..." Kenneth widened his eyes, weak as a kitten as he was gasping for air. "S-Samuel won't... fall for you... despite anything..."

Instead of giving him a hand, a steel-hearted Yara only snorted. "Pfft! Why're you still lamenting so much on the brink of death?"

At the sight of Kenneth wriggling in excruciating pain on the ground, Jefford could not get a grip of himself. Thus, he could only force himself to shift his gaze away.

When Kenneth finally stopped moving, Yara turned to look at Jefford with a snap of her fingers. "Jefford, call the Bowers family to notify them that Grandpa's in a precarious state now. Bear in mind to inform all the influential ones in the family, other than Samuel."

The latter nodded respectfully and proceeded to call them up as instructed.

In the meantime, Samuel was working from home. His face fell right after receiving Jefford's call. "All right! I get it! I'll be there at once!"

Natalie, who was reading, sensed his unusual incoherence and asked quizzically, "What's wrong?"

Samuel's face turned grim as he replied, "Grandpa was poisoned, and he has lost the signs of life."

Chapter 707 A Woman Who Spells Trouble

Thud! Natalie dropped her book unknowingly. Her frown deepened into a scowl as she stated, "I'll go with you."

Samuel nodded. "All right!"

They hopped into their car at once and headed toward the Bowers manor.

By the time they reached the manor, all the elders and relatives from the Bowers family were already there. Everyone was grief-stricken. Some of their relatives and close friends were even shedding their tears.

When Samuel and Natalie came into view, Steven asked Samuel awkwardly, "Sam, how about you let Natalie go back first?"

"Why? Is there anything wrong?" Samuel asked doubtfully in a low voice.

"Sam, things don't look good now. You'd better let her leave first," Steven replied hesitantly.

His words caught Natalie off guard. "I..." Perplexed, she pointed at herself instinctively.

On the other hand, Jefford had already made his way toward Samuel and Natalie with a few elders from the Bowers family.

"She's the culprit! This woman had prescribed Old Mr. Bowers the medicine, claiming that it could cure his illness! But he ended up losing his life instead of being cured by her!" Pointing at Natalie, he put on a show to convince the elders.

Even though the few elders were not as influential as Samuel in the Bowers family, they were in their old age and had sacrificed a lot for the family. Thus, they were ranked right after Samuel, the patriarch, in the family.

Astounded by Jefford's words, they fastened their gazes on Natalie.

Miguel, the head of the elders, was flustered and fumed, "Since this woman is the prime suspect, what on earth are you waiting for? Send her to the police station now!"

Hearing that, the Bowers family's bodyguard stepped forward to grab hold of Natalie. Right that instant, Samuel stood in their way coldly. "Wait a minute! How dare you lay your finger on my woman!"

Miguel looked in Samuel's direction and added solemnly, "Mr. Samuel, I don't give a d*mn if she's your woman! We can't let her off for sure as she had poisoned your grandpa! No matter what, she has to pay the price for what she had done!"

Yuvaan, the second elder of the Bowers family, echoed, "Yeah! Jefford is also a senior of the Bowers family. How's it possible for him to slander anyone!"

Meanwhile, Xylan, the third elder of the Bowers family, pointed out. "Samuel, don't lose touch with reality just because of a woman! After all, it's not worthy for you to back such a despicable woman up!"

As everyone from the Bowers family kept their penetrative eyes glued to Natalie, Samuel discreetly pulled her behind his back.

"Everyone, please listen to me! I'm sure there's something fishy about Grandpa's sudden death. Thus, we shouldn't jump to a hasty conclusion." Samuel's eyes darkened as he exuded an imposing aura. "I vow to leave no stones unturned to get to the bottom of this matter. No matter what, I'll seek justice for the Bowers family and my grandpa! As for her..."

He paused and enunciated unwaveringly, "She couldn't be the culprit!"

Miguel's heart wrenched as he wailed, "You're a lot younger than us, but we all respect you as the patriarch of the family. I wonder if she has cast any spell on you! How could you turn a blind eye to your grandpa's tragic death and insist on backing her up instead?"

Yuvaan and Xylan grimaced as they reprimanded Samuel.

"Before this, I overheard that you've mobilized the Bowers family's manpower to track her down from the ocean for almost one month! She's undoubtedly a woman who spells trouble to the Bowers family!"

“How could you abandon Franklin and Sophia’s biological mother just so you can be with such an ugly woman with freckles all over her face?”

Oh my! Samuel certainly can’t clear their doubt at the moment! Mustering up her courage, Natalie was about to emerge from behind Samuel, but he grabbed hold of her.

“Just come at me and don’t bother her with anything.” Samuel looked up gradually and scanned everyone on the spot. “I’m willing to vouch for her with my role as the patriarch of the Bowers family. If she is proven to be the culprit, I’ll bring her to justice and step down!” The hint of utter resoluteness in Samuel’s tone astounded everyone.

The three elders of the Bowers family held their tongues instantly with sheer disbelief in their eyes.

Chapter 708 She Will Still End Up Convicted

“Samuel Bowers, what do you mean?” Miguel staggered and pointed at Samuel in exasperation. “To stand up for a woman, you have the heart to pay no heed to your grandpa’s justice! Pfft! You even have the cheek to threaten us into compromising!”

“Mr. Samuel, you should think it through and put filial piety as your top priority. We had agreed to let you be the patriarch earlier due to our utmost trust in you. Bear in mind not to let us down because of this woman!” Yuvaan stated sorrowfully.

Xylan lambasted coldly, “Yeah! What a vicious woman! You’ll surely place the Bowers family in deep water if you insist on backing her up!”

“By hook or by crook, I’ll dig the culprit up. But I won’t let you interrogate her like a prime suspect without any evidence! Most importantly, we should investigate Grandpa’s death instead of barking up the wrong tree and claiming that she should be accountable for the matter!” Samuel emphasized solemnly with a glint of determination in his eyes.

His words sent the elders of the Bowers family into a tizzy. Their faces fell instantaneously.

Right that instant, Natalie could barely take her eyes off Samuel’s well-built figure. When she was about to open her mouth, the latter tightened his grip on her wrist.

He was seemingly trying to reassure her that he would stand up for her regardless of anything. Thus, she could stand behind him without uttering any words.

“As long as I haven’t stepped down as patriarch of the Bowers family, the decisions still lie in my hands.” Samuel gazed at Kenneth’s lifeless body wrapped in white cloth and added grimly, “I’ll get a professional coroner to perform an autopsy before Grandpa’s burial ceremony. Moreover, I’ll trace the root cause of his poisoning by investigating everyone taking care of him all this while, especially senior housekeepers like Jefford,” Samuel stated coldly. His eyes glistened with a flicker of unmissable frigidness.

Sensing Samuel’s penetrative gaze, Jefford cast his eyes down hastily. His body shuddered uncontrollably as a surge of guilt welled up from within him.

All the elders could not resist feeling disgruntled with Samuel’s resoluteness. Miguel snapped coldly, “Mr. Samuel, we respect your decision. But bear in mind that you only have two weeks. If you’re unable to unearth the truth behind Old Mr. Bowers’ death within two weeks, all of us will take charge of the

matter. By then, we won't let the one we believe to be the culprit off the hook! If you still insist on standing up for your woman at that moment, all the other elders and I will surely fight against you till the end!"

Even so, Samuel only nodded placidly. "All right."

Shortly after, the coroner took Kenneth's body away from the Bowers manor.

All the elders of the Bowers family were in a frenzy. Infuriated by Samuel's persistence in backing Natalie up, they stormed out of the Bowers manor.

After assigning Steven to handle some of the matters related to the aftermath, Samuel left the manor with Natalie.

As soon as everyone had left, Jefford gave Yara a call at the secluded area, updating her on everything that had transpired a while ago.

Blood drained from Yara's face as Jefford described to her what had happened earlier. What? Samuel insisted on backing Natalie Nichols up even when the elders of the Bowers family were forcing him to a corner? He's even willing to step down as a patriarch to vouch for her! How could his trust in her remain unshaken even when all the evidence is against her?

Jefford felt a prickle of uneasiness when there was no response from Yara.

"Ms. Yara, I..." he stuttered; his heart was in his mouth.

Yara cut him off by reassuring him glumly, "Jefford, don't worry. Everything was properly arranged. Thus, nobody will think that you have something to do with it. Just hang on for a while more. It won't be long before fourteen days elapse. If Samuel fails to convince the elders of the Bowers family later, Natalie will still end up convicted."

"All right, I got it," Jefford replied earnestly.

After hanging up, a dejected Yara could not help feeling green at how Samuel spoke up for Natalie.

On the brink of tears, a disheartened Yara mumbled to herself, "Samuel, I share the same look with her, but why can't you reciprocate my affection for you? Even if I have to make a deal with the devil for your sake, I'd still willingly do so. But why can't I win your heart after sacrificing so much for you?"

Chapter 709 My Woman

Moments later, Samuel was focused on the road, whereas Natalie was seated quietly next to him in the car.

Somehow, Samuel pulled the car to a halt by the riverbank instead of heading toward the Bowers residence.

The glittering neon lights along the riverbank cascaded on the surface of the river, forming kaleidoscopic reflections. Meanwhile, the night breeze blew across the riverbank, ruffling Samuel and Natalie's hair.

Leaning on the railing, Natalie mumbled in low spirits, "Thanks for speaking up for me in the face of all those elders just now. If not for you, they might have sent me to the police station. It's no big deal if I

were held captive temporarily there earlier. However, there are a lot of urgent matters in Dream Corporation at the moment that I need to settle. If I end up being held there now, the corporation's operation would surely be affected as many things will have to be on hold."

Samuel raised his eyes gradually, fastening his gaze on her face. "I'm convinced that you've nothing to do with Grandpa's death. Regardless of how respectful I'm of those elders, I won't let them wrong you! Didn't I say that you're my woman? No matter what, I'll protect you against any harm!"

Natalie was stunned. Seconds later, her lips curved into a smile.

Clutching onto Samuel's collar, Natalie emphasized, "Thanks for trusting me. Even though Old Mr. Bowers was strict toward me and opposed our will to be together, I don't feel hatred toward him. After all, he's your respectable grandpa who had nurtured you these years and the kids' great-grandpa. Hence, remember that I'll never inflict any harm to him!"

As they were only inches away from each other, Samuel's ears caught every word clearly against the whizzing of the night breeze.

His thin lips parted as he replied softly, "I know."

"Hmm!" Natalie hummed and loosened her grip on his collar. Running her fingers through her ruffled hair, she uttered casually, "Now that such a terrible thing has happened, I don't think we should continue to be together. Apart from racking your brain to clear my name, you might be placed in a worse predicament. Hence, I suggest we separate from each other temporarily and try to cool our heads off."

"No way!" Samuel protested adamantly.

Natalie turned to gaze at him. "Why not? Since you're still digging up the culprit who poisoned your grandpa and my name is not cleared yet, it's better for us to part temporarily. When I'm away, take great care of the kids."

"Then how about you?" Samuel asked worriedly.

Locking her eyes with Samuel's, Natalie assured, "Don't worry about me as I'll take good care of myself. I've gone through a lot before we got to know each other; yet, I'm sound and safe till now. After all, there's still a lot for you to cater to for your grandpa's sake. Moreover, as the patriarch of the Bowers family, you've to take charge of the whole family. Don't you know that I'm like a whirlpool of trouble now? If I continue to stay by your side, you'll be drawn toward the disastrous tornado!"

"I'm not afraid of the so-called tornado!" Samuel clenched his fists. There was a hint of frigidness in his eyes.

"But I am." Natalie stood on her toes, inching closer to him. "Try to hold on. It won't be long before we're reunited again."

Seconds later, she lifted her dainty face and kissed him affectionately on the lips.

Nonetheless, it was a light kiss. Seconds later, she pulled herself back just before Samuel came to his senses and intended to kiss her back.

“Nat...” he murmured reluctantly.

“That’s all for today. I’ll continue with that when I have the chance some other time,” Natalie reassured him mischievously with a bright smile.

The next moment, she turned and left the riverbank.

She could feel that the man never shifted his passionate gaze away from her retreating figure. Nevertheless, she did not turn to look at him. Deep down, she was relatively touched when Samuel insisted on trusting her despite his grandfather’s sudden death and oppressive words from the others.

Apparently, the mastermind started to stir up trouble for the Dream Corporation’s medicine before driving a wedge between her and the Bowers family. She had a gut instinct that there would be a series of obstacles awaiting her.

Anyway, it’s too early to jump to a conclusion about who’ll have the last laugh! She snorted inwardly.

Her smile faded away as a flicker of coldness flashed across her eyes.

When Samuel was back at the Bowers residence, Gavin approached him at once. With tears welling up in his eyes, he sobbed. “Mr. Samuel, I heard that Old Mr. Bowers...”

Samuel knitted his brows and stated gravely, “Gavin, keep it mum from Franklin and Sophia for the time being. Besides, I won’t let them go to school for the time being. I’ll hire a tutor to teach them at home. Try to keep everything under wraps so they won’t be bothered.”

Understanding Samuel’s intention, Gavin nodded solemnly. “Noted, Mr. Samuel.”

Chapter 710 Follow Me Now

After a few days, Dream Corporation’s special medicine remained on the market with high sales. However, many argue that it was useless.

The ghostwriters even went against patients who bought the medicine, criticizing them for risking their lives to save money. Meanwhile, family members of those who died from the medicine formed a support group. They persistently sought hefty compensation for the deceased’s family members and demanded that Dream issue a public apology.

At this moment, Yara was reading a document and smiling smugly. “It seems they won’t give up yet! They still dared to let that medicine circulate on the market. Aren’t they dooming themselves?”

Thomas crossed his legs and said, “This is good news for Dexmed Pharmaceutical! Dream Corporation has ruined its reputation, and its stock index has been red for a few days. Since reputation is vital for a pharmaceutical business, Dream Corporation can never hope to recover this time!”

Then, Thomas suddenly recalled something and sighed. “Oh, Natalie... It is such a pity...”

Yara immediately turned around and glared at Thomas. “Hah, don’t tell me you haven’t given up on her yet? Do you still think she is of use to you? She killed Old Mr. Bowers and is now the center of controversies. It won’t be too long before people throw her onto the streets. Why are you still concerned about her?”

Thomas sobered a little after Yara scolded him. "Yara, I don't mean it that way. I'm just saying."

"Dad, you should gather owners of other pharmaceutical companies and appeal to the public to boycott Dream Corporation." Yara crossed her arms and smiled gracefully. "There should be many companies that Dream Corporation forced out of the market. Since Dream Corporation is in trouble, they would be more than happy to join Dexmed Pharmaceutical to reconquer the market."

Thomas slapped the table excitedly upon hearing the suggestion. "Wow, Yara, as expected of my daughter. That is a good idea."

Suddenly, Thomas' phone rang.

His expression darkened the moment he saw the screen.

"Dad, what's wrong? Who called you?" Yara asked with a frown.

"It's nothing." Thomas forced a smile. "I invited Mr. Lindsay of Lindsay Pharmaceuticals to a game of golf and nearly forgot about it. I should get going now."

"Go ahead." Yara nodded. "Dad, it's fine to play golf, but you must not forget the collaboration!"

"I understand," Thomas replied before walking out of the office to answer the call.

Once he confirmed that no one was around, Thomas said sullenly, "Honey... What is the matter?"

"Where are you? Why haven't you been coming to see me?" Yeva's sweet and coy voice came from the phone. "A pregnant woman needs the protection of a man. I feel insecure if you are not by my side."

"I am busy nowadays." Thomas loosened his necktie. He seemed to enjoy Yeva's coquettish words. "I will be free tonight, and I promise to spend time with you then."

"Okay, I'll be waiting for you!" Yeva replied.

At this moment, Yeva was sitting alone in a dessert shop in a large shopping mall.

After ending the call, she caressed her slightly rounded belly and enjoyed a slice of Mille crepe cake.

Meanwhile, Natalie met with Christopher at another table.

She placed a box before Christopher.

He opened it curiously and chuckled. "A Patek Philippe? Is it for me?"

"Do you like it?" Natalie raised her eyebrows. "If you like it, I will gift one to you next time."

"It's not for me? Why did you put it before me?" Christopher glanced at Natalie with a confused expression.

"It is not for you. Now, let's go." Natalie stood up and grabbed her phone before looking at him firmly. "Follow me now."

"You..." Christopher saw Natalie hurrying away, so he did not hesitate and rushed after her.

They abandoned the Patek Philippe watch worth a million on the table.

