Happiness 751

Chapter 751 Secret Is Out

Before Natalie could return to her senses completely, another two old men kneeled down.

When they saw Miguel kneeling on the ground, the other two elders followed suit. They both shared the same emotional pain and the same heartache.

"Please agree to it, Mr. Samuel."

"Please agree to it, Mr. Samuel."

It was clear that the three elders were doing that to force Samuel to agree.

Natalie instantly felt troubled. The thirty minutes she said was just an estimation. However, she didn't expect the elders to be so rigid that they were counting the minutes using the watch.

"You all should get up first. You just need to wait a few more minutes before you can meet Old Mr. Bowers," she informed.

Miguel was furious when he heard that. He turned toward Natalie and exclaimed, "You made us wait for thirty minutes, and now you want us to wait even longer? It's certainly impressive that you managed to make Mr. Samuel listen to you. However, it's unwise to keep pushing people's limits. Otherwise, you'll end up burning all the bridges!"

"In that case, you better remember everything you just said." There wasn't any make-up on her clean, plain face. However, the oppressive aura she emitted couldn't be ignored.

There was a resolute look in Miguel's eyes as he replied firmly, "I'm already one foot inside the coffin. You don't need to threaten me nor will I be threatened by you. I stand by what I said earlier. This is something that Mr. Samuel promised me before, and now, he still hasn't fulfilled his promise. So, you can't marry her!"

"You don't need to worry. I'll fulfill our promise." Samuel countered apathetically, "I'll hand over my position when she's willing to marry me."

"You!" There was fury in Miguel's eyes.

The crowd was shocked again upon hearing that.

They couldn't help but wonder if his principles and morality were customized for Natalie.

Power and beauty had always been a dilemma. When it was Samuel's turn to choose, it seemed like he didn't hesitate at all.

"That's crazy!"

"He's clearly protecting and pampering her!"

"If that woman wants a star in the sky, he'll probably find a way to pluck it for her."

"And he said he wasn't interested in women in the past. Not only is he interested in one now, but he's also treating his wife as if she was his life."

Natalie was a little shocked when she heard that because she thought Samuel would still at least give some respect to the elders. I didn't expect him to say whatever he wanted without any consideration of their feelings.

Miguel was livid as he continued, "Mr. Samuel, this is—"

Before he could finish, an old, hoarse voice cut off his sentence. "Stop talking, Miguel! Natalie is my benefactor!"

The sudden voice instantly silenced the entire hall.

The crowd stared intensely at the old man walking out of the door. He was wearing a deep blue outfit and was holding a crutch. While he was walking slower than usual, he was undoubtedly Kenneth himself!

Their line of sight kept shifting back and forth between the posthumous picture in the hall and his face. If Natalie didn't tell them that Kenneth was still alive, they would've thought he had risen from the dead.

Miguel stared at Kenneth with disbelief, his eyes turning red.

How could he not be bewildered when the person he thought was dead appeared right in front of him?

He opened his trembling mouth and spoke in a tone of disbelief. "Is this a disguise technique? That woman... She knows the art of disguise. Maybe she found a person and make them wear a mask..."

Kenneth scoffed at Miguel. "Open your eyes and take a good look at who I am. If you don't believe me, that's fine too. I know there are seven red moles on the left side of your buttocks. When you finally became a couple with your first love, she handed you a pregnancy report and wanted you to be her child's father. When you were thirty, you were so horny that you were seduced by a woman from the outside and almost divorced your wife. You only changed your mind after I had a long talk with you."

Chapter 752 Double Standards

In order to prove his identity, Kenneth told Miguel things that no one else would know. "Also, while outsiders said the reason your eldest grandson didn't have a child yet was that his wife was infertile, the actual reason was—"

Miguel cut him off before he could continue with a flushed face. "Enough! That's enough! I know it's you! You don't need to continue anymore! Don't say those things ever again!"

If Kenneth was to continue, the fact that his grandson was infertile was going to be revealed. Nonetheless, it seemed like he hadn't realized something yet. While Kenneth stopped right before the big reveal, everyone could already more or less guess what was going on.

Without anyone's help, the three elders got up.

The three of them stared at each other with a solemn expression. All three of them saw Kenneth stop breathing. Everyone hoped he could get better, but at that moment, they were still a little terrified.

The rest of the relatives felt the same as well, especially those who stared at Kenneth's picture and the clusters of white chrysanthemums in the hall.

When Natalie said Kenneth was alive, Samuel was convinced that the old man was fine. There wasn't any change to his expression when he saw his grandfather standing in front of him, alive and breathing again. However, he did shoot a glance at her and silently tightened his grip on her hand. If my guess is right, I bet the reason Grandpa is fine is because of her.

Kenneth glanced at his own posthumous photo and shook his head in disappointment. "Can't any of you pick a better picture? This is ugly! Just looking at it is making me quite upset!"

The crowd, including Natalie, was speechless. Most people would feel unlucky to witness their own posthumous photo, and whether it was a nice picture was definitely not the point.

"I just recovered, so I need some fresh air, but there are too many people here. Let's go somewhere comfortable so we can talk over a cup of coffee." Kenneth used his crutch to support his body as he ordered slowly, "You three, together with Samuel and Natalie shall follow me! The rest of you will stay here!"

"Understood!"

Thus, Samuel, Natalie, and the three elders left with Kenneth.

The rest, who weren't called out by Kenneth, were still staring at his feet. Only when they saw he was wearing a pair of shoes beneath his outfit that they believed they weren't looking at a ghost.

Kenneth's group arrived in the living room.

It was much quieter with less crowd around. Three cups of hot coffee were served.

The elders subconsciously reached out to accept it but could only watch as the housekeeper personally deliver the coffee into Kenneth, Natalie, and Samuel's hands.

"This is..." Xylan sounded a little annoyed.

"You three should be glad that you have a chair to sit on." Kenneth took a sip and narrowed his eyes. "You bullied Natalie when I wasn't around. Now it's time we settle the scores."

The three elders were stunned. They quickly asked Miguel to speak on their behalf.

"You can't blame us, Mr. Kenneth!" Miguel glanced at Natalie and spoke in increasing frustration. "Back then, we saw you stop breathing. Your iris expanded and you didn't have a pulse left. Not to mention Jefford said that the medicine she prescribed for you had a problem that led to your death. So all of us thought she killed you! We wanted nothing more than to punish the culprit and avenge you. Who knew that the current head of the family, your grandson, protected her! We did bully her in order to chase her away from Mr. Samuel, but nothing we did was able to move her. So, in a sense, we didn't manage to bully her."

Kenneth thought about how his grandson did indeed fiercely protect Natalie. When I forced Samuel to leave her back then, that brat complained that I'm a snob and that he's willing to cut off all contact with

me. Though, now that I think about it, he actually has foresight. If he didn't keep her around, I would've already been on my way to hell.

Kenneth cleared his throat. "What's there to complain about? It only proved the point that my grandson has a sharp eye while you three need a pair of thick glasses!"

Chapter 753 Apology

Kenneth was naturally not going to tell what he did in the past to those three elders.

His outburst shocked the three elders and caused Natalie to almost choke on her coffee.

The coffee spilled out of the edge of her mouth. Before she could wipe it away, Samuel's slim, clean fingers had already stretched toward her and tried to wipe it for her.

Her heart skipped a beat as she shot him a glare to warn him about the many eyes watching them. Yet, he kept smiling at her, unfazed.

The three elders lowered their heads when Kenneth scolded them, so they didn't notice that.

"We did what we did because we cared about you, Mr. Kenneth..." Miguel explained in a small voice as his face turned pale.

"You bullied my precious granddaughter-in-law. Even If my grandson didn't try to pick a fight with you, I wouldn't have let you all go easily." Kenneth pointed at the three elders. "She gave birth to four great-grandchildren for me and saved my life twice. It's not an exaggeration to say she's the Bowers family's benefactor!"

When the three elders heard what he said, their hearts were already like a pool of stagnant water because they were already numb from the shock.

Natalie had repeatedly exceeded their expectations and embarrassed them. At that moment, even if they were told that she was an alien, they would've just nodded obediently and believed it.

After a while, the three elders recovered from their shock and calmed down. They then asked an important question. "We saw you stop breathing, Mr. Kenneth. How did you come back from the dead? Where have you been in the past two weeks you went missing? Why didn't you contact us to let us know you're still alive? We were worried sick."

Even Samuel was curious. He knew his grandfather's death had nothing to do with Natalie and that Yara was the true culprit. He also knew that whoever was backing Yara was involved, but that was the extent of his knowledge. It never occurred to him that Natalie could surprise him like that.

Kenneth took a sip of the coffee and explained slowly, "I trusted Jefford completely, and yet he betrayed me. The person who detected something amiss was Sophia. She called me and told me not to take the medicine because one of the ingredients seemed off. I launched my own investigation and confirmed what she said. So, in order to gain a clearer perspective on everyone around me, I played along with Natalie. The medicine I took last was one that would fake my death. The symptoms that you three observed were merely the effects of the medicine. I didn't actually stop breathing."

"As for why I didn't show up, well..." He smiled. "Faking my death allowed me to see the picture a lot clearer. On one hand, I was going to use this opportunity to observe who's loyal to me and who's merely feigning it. On the other hand, there were still traces of poison inside my body. I've been following Natalie's medical advice to recover. I didn't want to show myself before I was well again. These two weeks of recuperation had done wonders for my body. Don't you all notice that I looked healthier than before? This is the first time my body feels so well in ages."

When the three elders heard what he said, they studied how he looked with greater scrutiny. Indeed, he looked younger and much more energetic, which in turn made them envious. However, when they thought about the mockery and accusations they flung at Natalie, they didn't have the nerve to ask her to examine their health, even if they really wanted to.

The elders talked to Kenneth for a little longer before leaving the residence. Before they did, Samuel reminded, "Now that the records have been set straight, where's the apology you three promised? Isn't it time for you three to fulfill your promise?"

Natalie's eyes widened. I'd already forgotten all about that, yet Samuel still remembered it.

Before she managed to speak, Kenneth stroked his beard and nodded. "My grandson is right. You three need to apologize to her before you leave."

Chapter 754 No Children

The three elders were once well-respected individuals. So, when they were asked to give a twenty-odd-year-old brat an apology, they were quite hesitant to do so. However, they did promise to do that, so they approached Natalie.

"All of us were certain that you were the culprit; we didn't investigate the matter thoroughly and blindly trusted the rumors..."

"Thankfully, Mr. Samuel already predicted that. Otherwise, you wouldn't have been alive."

"We're sorry for saying those horrible things to you. It's our mistake. I hope you're willing to forgive us and let us off the hook."

Seeing how the three of them went against her because they were also fooled by Yara, she declared seriously, "It's exactly as you three said. I hope that, in the future, you'll make more level-headed judgments. After all, accusing an innocent person can destroy their lives!"

The three elders were filled with shame when they heard that. They raised their heads and stared at her.

She had attractive features and looked beautiful. Although she was not the typical shy, delicate lady, she exuded an air of confidence and calmness.

Even though they had lived for more than seven decades and had very high self-esteem, they couldn't help but feel inferior when compared to her.

After they left, Kenneth talked to Samuel and Natalie a little longer.

Kenneth couldn't help but sigh. "Five years ago, I mistook Yara for you. I wanted nothing more than to pair her up with Samuel for the past five years. Even though he treated her coldly, I still treated her as my granddaughter and leave everything to her when I die. I never expected that under her sweet appearance was an ugly and venomous heart. The moment she couldn't get what she wants, she was willing to use me as a tool to frame someone else."

Even after two weeks had passed, he still hadn't recovered from the pain of Yara's betrayal.

After all, he didn't know he mistook her for someone else and he genuinely loved her for five years. The sorrow and helplessness he felt when Yara, the person whom he treated as his own granddaughter, betrayed her was immense.

Samuel and Natalie exchanged a look silently.

Kenneth quickly realized what he said wasn't something that would make the couple happy, so he changed the topic. "Samuel, regardless if it was five years ago or now, Natalie is still the one who saved me. Not only that, but she also gave birth to four adorable children. You need to take good care of her for your entire life. If I learned that you bullied her, I definitely won't let it slide!"

Samuel hugged Natalie tightly. "Don't worry, Grandpa. She can be the bully in our relationship. I definitely won't bully her."

Natalie felt a little uncomfortable that he was hugging her so tightly in front of an elder and elbowed him gently for him to let go.

However, he ignored her and didn't budged.

Kenneth smiled when he saw the loving interaction. "All right, don't get all lovey-dovey in front of me. You two can leave now."

"Goodbye, Grandpa." After Samuel bade his goodbye, he left with Natalie.

She let Billy take care of her vehicle.

Samuel left the place with her in one car. She lowered the window next to the passenger's seat, allowing the breeze to enter the car and blow away all her worries.

Instead of bringing her back home, he brought her to a bubble house.

During the night, the transparent bubble house was so surreal that it looked like it was ripped out of a fairy tale. The shining orange light made it seem dream-like under the starry night.

She turned to him and asked, "Why did you bring me here?"

He hugged her from behind and wrapped his arm around her. "I thought you'll like it. I always wanted to bring you here. Since we finally took care of some of the most problematic matters, I decided to bring you here."

Natalie gazed upon the lake through the transparent glass. When she raised her head, she saw the darkened sky. It's incredible that I can see such a beautiful view in the city.

"I really like it here." There was hesitation on her face. "But... is it really okay that we leave the kids at home? How about I ask Gavin to bring them here?"

Chapter 755 Threat

The look in Samuel's eyes grew deeper. "With the four of them around, I won't be able to get close to you."

"You're their father. Can't you be more tolerant and spend some time with them?" Natalie asked tentatively.

Despite her patient persuasion, he rejected the proposal coldly. "No. It'll only be their turn when I feel like I've spent enough time with you."

"When will it ever be enough for you?" She pouted. This man never knows what the word 'enough' means, no matter the place and circumstances!

"Mhm," he muttered in a low voice. "I guess it won't."

She was speechless.

"Thank you for saving my grandfather," he thanked her in a deep voice. "If not for you, I wouldn't have been so cautious around Yara. It was just like Grandpa said. I knew Yara had dark intentions. But it was five long years! I thought she would be grateful for how he took care of her and wouldn't do anything terrible to him. It seems like I was wrong."

"There's no need for you to thank me." She smiled plainly. "Yara knows how to put up a very convincing act. If not, I wouldn't have fallen into her trap five years ago. I could've avoided narrowly losing my life and being separated from two of my children."

She suddenly thought of something and asked, "Do you blame me for not telling you anything?"

"If you don't want to tell me, there must be a reason for it." Samuel turned her face toward him and stared into her eyes. "If you don't feel like saying anything, I won't ask. You have my trust. Today's events proved my point once again."

"You're getting better at sweet-talking." At that moment, Natalie felt her heart was warmed. He really understands me. Instead of trapping me inside a birdcage, he respects my choice. Even when everyone is accusing me and mocking me, he still protected me domineeringly from all the pressure and chaos.

Both of them sat inside the glass building and stared at the stars as they hugged each other.

As she listened to the sound of wind blowing past them and observed the stars, she gradually nodded off. Suddenly, she felt a cold and soft sensation on her lips.

Because she was halfway through dreamland, she thought she was eating jello. So, she gently suckled on it. At that moment, Samuel was bewitched by her sweetness and kissed her deeper. His cold lips slowly became warmer and hotter.

His hand explored her soft body and touched the most beautiful curve in the world. Then, his hand slowly moved downward...

When Natalie woke up, she realized her outfit had been taken off by him, while he was...

While the bubble house was a building, it was also transparent. It made her feel like she was in the wild.

Her face flushed in embarrassment as she asked, "W-What if someone sees us?"

"It won't happen."

"What if someone did?"

"There's no what ifs."

I can't lie. Doing it in the wild is quite exciting. It was then she realized Samuel found this bubble house not because she liked it, but because he liked it.

It also explained why he didn't want her children to come.

Suddenly, her phone rang.

She picked up the phone and saw it was Clayton calling.

Just as she was about to answer the call, he touched her body and caused her to moan embarrassedly. "Clayton's calling."

"Don't answer it." Sweat was covering his entire forehead. His handsome face was tense, as though he was holding back with great effort. "If you answer the call and let out any strange noises, you better know how to answer when the kids asked you about it."

Natalie's heart tightened as an electrifying sensation came from a certain part.

She gritted her teeth and glared at him disapprovingly. He's threatening me!

Chapter 756 Education Background of Samuel

When Natalie thought about what Samuel had said, she felt an urge to bury herself in a hole if she really did let out any weird noise during the call.

The phone became silent after ringing for a while.

During that period, she didn't have the courage to answer it.

Some time later, she raised her face and stared at Samuel.

The look in his eyes was deep and dark. His insidious gaze was locked firmly on her as if she was his prey, and he would never let her escape from his grasp.

He's too domineering and horny! How can I ever look at other men when I'm being loved by such a man? A blush surfaced on her face.

"You are really... Can't you have some self-control?" She looked as red as an apple.

Samuel asked in a hoarse voice, "You don't like it?"

"N-No..." Natalie couldn't help but tremble as he teased her sexually.

It made her struggle to answer even a simple yes or no question.

"Look at your body, Nat. It's more honest than your mouth." He smiled mischievously before kissing her violently on her red lips, indulging in his overwhelming desire. All her dissatisfaction and protest were swallowed by him.

It was a crazy night.

His desire was fulfilled, but she was exhausted.

When she woke up, she felt her entire body was sore. He left hickeys all over her body. At that moment, her snow-white body looked like a winter's ground covered in red plums.

He overdid it! Natalie bit her blanket and cursed in her mind. It felt good, sure, but I feel really tired afterward.

On their way back, she intentionally didn't talk to him and stared out of the window, pouting.

Samuel knew what she was angry about since he was the culprit. Of course, he was willing to accept the consequences. She could throw all kinds of tantrums at him, and he would accept it without complaint.

When they arrived at the Bowers residence, the children crossed their arms and stared at them in dissatisfaction.

"Where did you kidnap Mommy to, Daddy?"

"You brought Mommy with you, but you didn't bring us along! You're a meanie!"

"You're playing dirty, Daddy! You can't take Mommy for yourself!"

Even Sophia, the most obedient of the four, pouted in anger. She exclaimed as her eyes turned watery. "You aren't allowed to snatch Mommy away from us, Daddy!"

Facing the accusations that the children had against him, Samuel tightened his arm around Natalie's waist and smiled. "I'm not snatching her because she's originally mine. Soon, she'll be my wife. She doesn't belong to you four. She belongs to me! You are already six years old. Why can't you be more mature? After a decade or two, you'll have your own partner too."

The children were stunned by his lecture. They scratched their little heads in confusion.

After Gavin brought the children away for breakfast, Natalie glared at Samuel. "What are you teaching our kids? They're only six years old. Even though you told them to act more mature, you're still very childish yourself despite being thirty."

"I'm childish, petty, and possessive of you." Instead of denying the allegations, he admitted to them.

"You..."

"They'll one day be the heirs to the Bowers family. Do you want to see them clung onto their mommy all the time?" He removed his arm from her waist and created some distance between the two of them. "This is a world where the fittest survives. If they want something, they have to work for it or come up with a clever way to get it. It's a cruel reality, but they have to start learning that, or at least, be aware of it."

She thought he was simply jealous, but it seemed like he had some foresight.

Chapter 757 The Press Conference

It wasn't a good thing to grow up naïve in a family like the Bowers family.

If Samuel was telling Natalie that, it meant when he was little, he had to live in that "survival of the fittest" environment, too.

"You must have had a rough childhood?" She glanced at him and asked.

"I don't remember," he replied plainly. "Maybe I did have it rough, but if I didn't go through that cruel experience, I wouldn't have become who I am today."

She nodded.

Self-preservation was the first law of nature.

If Thomas and Yara didn't work together six years ago to try to kill her, she would've still thought those two were her only family in the world.

I bet Samuel had similar experiences like this too!

There was sympathy in the look she was directing at him. That made his heart tremble. He subconsciously held her cheek and gazed into her clear eyes before saying, "There's no need to feel sorry for me, silly. It doesn't matter how harsh my life was back then because the heavens have granted me you and the children."

"Mhm." She could feel the warmth from his palm. It touched her heart.

Dream's retaliation toward Dexmed Pharmaceutical was destructive.

Saunder, who was spouting about impartiality at the press conference back then, was discovered to be using his position to accept a crazy amount of bribes. It was estimated that the bribes added up to at least ten million, and that excluded the valuable gifts and prepaid cards he received in private.

According to the authorities, when they visited his place for investigation, they were bewildered by the cash stacked high up inside his house.

After they swiftly gathered the evidence they needed, the court issued a warrant for Saunder, and he was arrested by the police.

Thomas wasn't exactly doing great either. Not only did he cheat on his mentally deteriorating wife after the passing of his daughter, but he also planned to divorce her. That heavily tarnished the brand image of Dexmed Pharmaceutical.

Other than that, Dream, who survived the attack from Dexmed Pharmaceutical, released a series of evidence. It proved that the company was engaged in undue competition and, in order to greatly increased their profits, they trade off the quality and the production cost of the medicine.

That led to the authorities launching an investigation against Dexmed Pharmaceutical, which caused its reputation to drop to an all-time low.

On the other hand, Dream had stopped laying low and started pulling out all the stops. The special medicine that was effective in curing cancer had brought hope to the patients. That contributed greatly to Dream Corporation's soaring reputation.

The company was growing and expanding faster than many people expected. A lot of investors had sent them letters and emails expressing their intentions to invest in the company.

In just a few days, Yandel had accepted countless investment proposals. The conditions listed inside were so good that it made his jaw drop.

"This is crazy, Boss." Yandel rubbed his sore shoulder and stared at the pile of proposals in front of him. There was pain and joy in his voice. "What should we do? So many people sent their investment proposals in order to invest in Dream Pharmaceutical. Each of their proposals had conditions so favorable that it'll make us laugh in our dreams!"

Natalie sipped her coffee and asked, "What do you think?"

"Right now, these investors should be able to see the company's potential. They're eager to invest as much as they can," Yandel analyzed.

"Throw all of this away." She placed her cup down and stared at him. "Dream will reject any form of capital investment. They only see Dream's recent performance and want to jump on the bandwagon by investing in us. There's no doubt they want a piece of our ever-expanding pie. These investors only care about making money and nothing else.

Dream needs money, yes, but the pharmaceutical section doesn't need any. I don't want the medicine I invented to be taken away by some greedy capitalist. That's because I know they'll inflate the price and sell it for more money instead of delivering it into the hands of those who truly need it."

Chapter 758 The Nichols Family Is Done For

That was why when Natalie first build Dream Corporation, aside from building a pharmaceutical branch, she also built Dream Entertainment and Dream Jewelry. In the future, she would expand into the technology sector too.

The amount of money that needed to be spent on developing and researching new medicine was astronomical. If they put the pressure of the cost on the patients, the patients wouldn't be able to afford it. If she was going to realize her grandfather's dream, not only would she need to take good care of the research and development of the medicine, but she would also need to secure a steady stream of income to patch the hole in the pharmaceutical branch.

Yandel stared at her beautiful face. "Are you really not going to consider taking even one of their investment? Some of the investors are offering extremely good conditions."

"No." She raised her chin as she exuded a kind of composed brilliance. "Dream isn't in a hurry to win a race. We're here to run a marathon. There's no need to waste our time on these investment proposals when there are more important things that require our attention."

"Then, what should we do next, Boss?"

"I'm going to wrap up my purchase of Dexmed Pharmaceutical in a month." A cold grin surfaced on her face. "The person who betrayed my granddad and mother has been sitting at the top of that company for far too long. It's time for him to return everything he took and become what he was once, a man with nothing."

Even as she was smiling, he couldn't see any joy on her face. There was only an endless bone-chilling murderous intent swirling within.

That's the kind of person she is. If anyone crosses her, they'll only be getting twice the payback. Thomas and Yara are doomed! Yandel nodded.

A week later, the authorities revealed the result of their investigation on Dexmed Pharmaceutical.

All the rumors regarding the crimes the company committed were confirmed to be true. They found out that the production costs of medicines were so low that the quality was seriously affected.

A lot of patients were infuriated when they saw how the medicine they relied on to survive was produced.

The company's reputation was completely destroyed. The furious netizens even dug out that sex video between Martin and Yara and reposted it everywhere.

Dexmed Pharmaceutical was cussed incessantly on Twitter.

LittleAngel: "When Dream was framed back then, Dexmed Pharmaceutical was still parading around like they're the best. They're truly shameless!"

IAmACarp: "The people in control of the company are all trash!"

WarriorBeyond: "They only got a fine? No jail time? Oh my god! A black-hearted businessman like him should be thrown into prison!"

LittleRoosterGoestoSchool: "What the hell?"

The public had boycotted all medicine developed by Dexmed Pharmaceutical amidst the outrage. Even hospitals had stopped buying their products. The company's sales instantly dived to an all-time low.

Thomas' left hand was wrapped in bandages. When he saw the latest financial news, he hugged his head with a pained expression and sighed.

A significant drop like that meant the value of the assets in his possession had shrunk. It would only take a few days before Dexmed Pharmaceutical announced its bankruptcy.

In his panic, he quickly called King.

The call connected a few moments later. He urgently asked, "You need to help me again, King! If you don't, Dexmed Pharmaceutical is done for!"

No one replied for a long time.

That made Thomas panic even more. "Are you there, King? Please, I beg you, help me. I've lost my left hand. I've accepted the punishment I deserve. Give me another chance! Please!"

"It's me." Gale's voice was heard on the other end. He sneered, "King would never save a worthless person. Right now, you're just a piece of trash. You don't deserve any help from him."

"But the underground—"

"Oh, that? Don't worry, someone will take care of it," Gale mocked. "As for you, you're just a useless pawn now. The best you can hope for is a swift death. If you leak out even a smidge of information about the base, then you'll become one of the subjects for the experiment and disappear from the face of this planet."

Chapter 759 Stubborn

"Mr. Gale—" Before Thomas could speak any further, Gale ended the call.

His once elegant and civilized appearance became disheveled in just a few days. Wrinkles started to show on his forehead and at the corners of his eyes. Additionally, his black hair had turned grey. Even though he was only in his fifties, he looked like a seventy-year-old man.

His arm drooped weakly, causing the phone to fall to the ground with a loud thud.

The fear in his heart was like a black hole swallowing him whole.

King had determined that Thomas was useless to him. He dealt with Thomas and Dexmed Pharmaceutical as though he was taking out the trash. It wasn't that he was afraid of doing Thomas in. He was just lazy. The last warning Gale gave Thomas was enough to spook the latter.

Thomas saw those research subjects with his own eyes. Just imagining being treated that inhumanely was enough to make him break down.

"I'm done for..." He sat inside the empty living room. There was no one paying attention to him. He wailed like an abandoned dog. "I still have a bright future ahead of me a few days ago. How can I be done for?"

At the same time, Natalie was tracking down Yara's location.

"We sent many people to find her, Boss, but she's nowhere to be found," Yandel reported. "It's like she vanished without a trace."

"So there is indeed someone backing her up." Natalie furrowed her eyebrows. She wasn't surprised. "Got it, Yandel. You keep looking."

"Understood!"

After the call ended, she paced back and forth on the floor. She was so focused on analyzing the situation that she forgot she was barefooted.

When Samuel pushed the door open and entered, he saw a slim figure in a white nightgown walking back and forth. The moonlight landed on her face, enveloping her with a layer of silvery light. She looked stunning.

Her eyelashes fluttered lightly as she blinked. Her eyes were like rippling fall water while her two thin lips were lightly pursed together.

She strolled along the floor with her small, bare feet. All ten of her toes were white and tender, like lotus seeds.

His throat tightened as he felt his blood boiling.

He always felt an indescribable possessiveness toward her. It wasn't just once or twice, but many times. It was as if he was addicted to her, and he would never get sick of her.

Natalie was so caught up in her thoughts that she didn't realize Samuel was approaching her.

Suddenly, she felt someone hug her waist tightly.

Her legs were swiftly lifted into the air as he carried her in his arms.

"Hmm?" She instinctively hugged his neck.

"You're back?" she muttered. "Put me down!"

He ignored her and put her on the bed. However, he kept her legs on his lap. "Being disobedient again, hmm? The floor's cold, you know. What if you get a cold?"

"I..." She retorted, "I'm a doctor. I don't get colds easily. Even if I did, I can get recover speedily."

"Still being stubborn?"

"Who's stubborn here?" Natalie glared at him.

That one look prompted him to kiss her on the lips overbearingly.

"What are you doing, Samuel?"

"You're not cooperating." There was a hint of warning in his hoarse voice.

What nonsense is he talking about? She furrowed her eyebrows.

He kissed deeply and forcefully, which caused her to have trouble breathing. After a long while, he let her go and ran his finger across her lips. "Are you still going to say such a heartless thing?"

She blushed as her eyes darted around. "I know you're doing it for my sake. I won't say it again next time."

Chapter 760 Put Out The Fire

Natalie's cute demeanor was tugging at Samuel's heartstrings.

Unable to resist her sweetness, he indulged in his impulsive desire and followed up with another kiss, catching her off guard.

They kissed for a long time, so much so that when he was done, her lips were swollen.

That had also incidentally warmed her cold feet.

"Don't make me worry, okay?" He tenderly helped her put on a pair of slippers. "I don't want to see you unwell."

She stared at his eyes. I can't tell if he's being overly protective or if he's really doting on me. It was something new for her, as she never experienced being doted on when she was a child.

"Will you always pamper me?"

"I will," he answered without hesitation. "I'll pamper you for as long as I live."

"What if I'm bullied or that I'm in the wrong? Who will you help?" She smiled.

"It's definitely the other person who's wrong." After he fitted the slippers onto her feet, he smiled at her. "Even if you caused a huge ruckus one day, it will not be your fault." He spoke as if he was making an oath.

She liked his delicate facial features and elegant aura, but she also liked his sweet-talking. Her arms hung around his neck. Instead of kissing his lips, she kissed his Adam's apple.

The moment her lips touched him, she could feel Samuel's Adam's apple bobbing.

"Do you know you're playing with fire, Nat?" It was as though a flame was ignited in his eyes. His voice sounded tense.

"Of course I do." She grinned. "And I know how to put out the fire I lit."

Instead of saying another word, he pushed her slim body down and kissed her ravenously again.

The next day, she woke up later than usual because she had over-exerted herself the night before.

After she went downstairs, the children were already carrying their bags and heading to the kindergarten.

Samuel was still drinking coffee at the table and eating his bread.

"Morning." She smiled.

"Your stamina has improved last night," he praised with a grin.

"You- Shut up!" Natalie pouted. "You're not touching me for the next ten days if you speak another word."

That threat successfully kept him quiet. After all, not being able to touch her when she was around for even a single day was agonizing enough for him.

She sat down and began eating her bagel.

Chanean breakfast was tasty, but she liked eating something simpler at times. For example, bagels, cereal, or even just a crispy and fragrant toast.

Natalie sent a spoonful of cereal into her mouth.

He asked, "What were you thinking so intensely on the balcony last night? Is it about the Nichols family and Dexmed Pharmaceutical?"

"Mhm." She nodded. "The plan to buy over Dexmed Pharmaceutical is going smoothly. This means that whoever's backing Thomas up has abandoned him. However, that same person is starting to protect Yara..."

A cold look flashed across Samuel's eyes. "My people are looking for her too, but sadly, they couldn't find her as well. The reason my grandpa had mercy on that woman was that he liked her and because she had a blood relation with you. To think she was a ticking time bomb all along."

"I think I know why the person backing up Dexmed Pharmaceutical and Thomas gave up on him but chose to protect Yara." She took another bite of that bagel and concluded casually, "The only reason I could think of was that she had a very similar face to mine without the need for plastic surgery. Even a normal blood test would be difficult to tell us apart. That person wants to keep her around because she'll always be an effective trump card to deal with me."

"I won't mistake you for someone else, Nat." He fixed his gaze on her and spoke each word clearly.