A Cue for Love chapter 266

Chapter 266 Do Not Get Drunk

Phoebe was someone who would never let her emotions show on her face. Hence, regardless of how envious she was of Natalie, she did not express it openly.

However, Susan was the exact opposite. She had been the apple of the eye among the Leister family and had been well adored since young.

Her love for Samuel had bloomed since her prime of youth. She had given up previously as she thought she had lost to the twins' mother. But now that she saw Samuel kissing someone whom she had never seen before, she could no longer suppress the burning rage within her.

"Why is it her? Why can't it be me? I'm better than her in every way. Why did Samuel choose her instead of me? Susan was seething with anger.

"Perhaps she made use of peculiar tactics to seduce Mr. Bowers?"

"I'm sure that is it!" Even though Susan's voice sounded sweet, her eyes were full of vicious intent. "If I can't get Samuel, I won't let that woman get him either! I'll make sure her reputation is ruined at my party tonight!"

"Susan, you..."

"You have to help me, Phoebe."

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Meanwhile, Samuel reluctantly let go of Natalie's lips and rested his forehead against hers while adjusting his heavy breathing. The kiss did not last too long despite it being a passionate one.

Natalie was not faring any better either. She was panting heavily, trying to catch her breath.

"H-How can you do that? Y-You're being unreasonable."

"You're so attractive that other men are coveting you. If I don't assert dominance, you'll be taken away by other men sooner or later." Samuel leaned close to her ear and whispered.

Natalie could not wrap her head around Samuel's behavior.

All she knew was Hector's wine, which she supposedly would receive as a gift, had disappeared for good because of him.

"My wine..."

Among the vast number of interests, one of Natalie's favorite was savoring good wine.

Knowing that she had such an interest, Yandel had searched many good wines for her throughout the years. But of course, no one would complain about having too much wine! At the thought of how she had missed a bottle of precious wine by a hair's breadth, she felt crushed by disappointment that even her gazes dimmed.

"You love wine that much?"

"Mmm." Natalie nodded. "Of course, we should enjoy it while we can. Savoring a good wine is like savoring merriment in life."

"Not only do the Leister family have a winery in Livingsfill. I have a private one too," Samuel uttered.

"Oh!" Natalie was startled for a tad moment before she could react.

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"Do you own a lot of good wine in your winery too?" Her eyes lit up at the mention of good wines.

Seeing her expression, Samuel unknowingly curled his lips up into a smile. "From this moment on, the winery is yours."

A bottle of wine? And the whole winery?

Immediately, her sorrow, as well as the embarrassment from Samuel's sudden kiss earlier, had vanished into the air.

"Are you sure?"

"No." Samuel deliberately said the opposite.

"Stop lying to me. I've heard you clearly earlier. You said the winery is mine." Natalie smiled so brightly her eyes narrowed. "Hehe! All of the wine in that winery belongs to me now!"

"It's all yours, on one condition."

"What is it?" Natalie stared at him curiously.

"From now on, you can only get drunk while you are with me." Samuel gently tucked Natalie's messy hair behind her ear while fixing his gaze intently on her. "I'm the only one allowed to see your drunk look, but no one else. I don't care if they are men or women."

Natalie's heart was pounding wildly.

She could feel Samuel's possessiveness toward her.

Isn't this man acting way too aggressive?

But even so, she did not feel suffocated by his overwhelming affection. On the contrary, she appreciated the man's tender love, care, and protection for her.

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"Samuel, thank you."

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Chapter 267 A Lifetime To Repay Me

In truth, Natalie was not only showing her appreciation for Samuel's generosity in gifting her a winery, but she was also thankful for his love toward her.

"Stay by my side and repay me slowly." Holding Natalie tightly by her waist, Samuel pressed against her body and leaned close to her ears. "As long as it's you, I don't mind."

Natalie felt even her cheeks burning as emotions surged within her.

"I-I'm a little thirsty. Let me go get a drink."

She quickly walked away and started fanning trying to cool herself down.

She was so flustered that she could even vividly feel her cheeks blushing red.

Oh gosh. This isn't good. Why am I getting more and more easily affected by Samuel?

Seeing a server walking past her, she quickly grabbed a drink from the tray and took two sips.

"Look! That's the woman whom Samuel kissed!"

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"She must be a talented lady to be able to beat Susan and Phoebe. But it's a pity she doesn't look as pretty."

"Perhaps that's the secret of successful people, unlike you and I who're only after looks."

Unable to hold her embarrassment in, Natalie almost spat out the beverage in her mouth.

The evaluation from head-to-toe made her feel so embarrassed it was as though she went through the walk of shame.

After several sips of the iced beverage, she finally cooled herself down. Just as she wanted to look for Samuel, a familiar figure bumped onto her violently.

Burgundy-colored wine spilled straight onto her.

The familiar figure that bumped her turned out to be none other than Phoebe.

"Oh, I'm sorry." Phoebe had a look of apology written all over her face. "I don't mean it. I'm so sorry that I got your gown dirty."

"It's fine." Natalie held her hand out to steady Phoebe. "Be more careful when you walk."

"Got it." Phoebe stole a glance at Natalie's gown and added, "I've dirtied your gown. Let me take you to change into a clean gown. Otherwise, it's going to be uncomfortable for you."

"There's no need." Natalie kindly rejected it since it was no big deal to her.

"What do you mean?" Phoebe was a little stunned initially. "Ms. Natalie, you're set for the opening dance with Mr. Bowers later. Perhaps it doesn't affect you, but Mr. Bowers is, after all, representative of the Bowers family. Your appearance not only reflects your image. If you look bad, it'll reflect badly on him too."

Staring at the scheming lady before her, Natalie lifted the corners of her lips into a faint smile.

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She thought Susan and Phoebe had learned their lesson earlier during the wine-tasting contest. Nonetheless, it turned out that these two envious women had yet to have enough of such petty games.

She wants to play such tricks? Game on then!

Her motto in life was to give in to others even if they tried picking on her. However, she would not sit still if they continuously picked on her time and again.

"Sure. I'll have to trouble you then."

Phoebe smiled, thinking that she had succeeded with her plan. "You're welcome."

On the other side, Justin walked over to Samuel while holding his glass of wine in his hand.

"Samuel, she's gone. What are you still staring at?" Justin sized Samuel up and teased, "Everyone has always said that you're not interested in women and that Franklin and Sophia are surrogate children to carry on the Bowers family's family line. It seems like those people have to take back their words now."

"She's mine. Of course, I have to pay more attention to her." Samuel's eyes were radiating warmth and tenderness as he took a sip of wine.

"Are you bragging?"

"No." Samuel shifted his gaze to Justin. "I'm only speaking the facts."

Justin was at a loss for words.

The dejected Justin, who had been snubbed by Jane earlier, could only feel a crushing blow to his pride and ego after hearing Samuel's words.

"Don't you sense the intense rivalry the two ladies from the Leicester family have toward Natalie?" Justin decided to give Samuel a piece of mind. "She's after all, your woman. You should be the knight in shining armor and save the damsel in distress!"

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Samuel's eyes glinted with an inscrutable emotion as he looked intently at Natalie's face. "She doesn't need my protection. She's far more powerful than everyone assumes her to be."

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Chapter 268 Putting On A Servant Costume

It was the first time Justin had heard Samuel had such high compliments for someone.

He stood frozen on the spot for a good while before he regained his senses and quickly took a gulp of wine from his glass to calm himself down.

What the hell!

Justin's curiosity toward Natalie had only increased after hearing Samuel's praises. Now, he wanted to see how special Natalie was.

Natalie followed closely behind Phoebe into a guest room on the second floor.

Once they got into the room, Phoebe put on a warm smile on her face as she said, "Ms. Natalie, please wait here for a moment. There's some juice over at that corner; do help yourself to it. I'll bring you a clean gown that suits you soon."

Finishing that, she stood up and left.

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Left alone in the guest room, Natalie sauntered around while surveying the surroundings, only to realize that the room was way warmer than the ballroom. In no time, she felt her throat go dry.

Her gazes landed on the glass of fresh orange juice on the coffee table.

She walked over and picked up the glass, only to find it weird after taking a whiff of it.

Tsk! Tsk! Susan has such evil thoughts despite her young age, huh? How is this digging a hole and making me suffer? She's obviously trying to destroy my reputation and make me fall from grace!

Picking up the glass, she poured all the juice into a potted plant beside the coffee table.

Shortly after, Phoebe knocked and pushed open the door.

As soon as she walked into the room, she saw Natalie lying on the couch, her body slightly curled and her almond eyes tightly shut.

Assuming that Natalie had lost consciousness, a hint of smugness flashed across Phoebe's eyes. She walked nearer and gave the former a nudge. "Natalie, wake up. Do you hear me?"

Looking at Natalie's state and the empty glass on the coffee table, Phoebe was certain that Natalie was knocked unconscious after taking the drugged orange juice.

Phoebe reached her hand out and pinched Natalie's cheeks. Even her exquisite makeup could not disguise how malicious she was.

"Tsk! What gives you the right to be standing beside Samuel with this face of yours? If I can't, neither can you."

She then fished out her phone and sent a voice message to Susan.

"She has lost consciousness. The man I've arranged will arrive at the room in ten minutes."

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At the mere thought of how disgusted Samuel would be if he saw the sight of Natalie tangled with a random man in bed, Phoebe could not hide her excitement. She pushed herself up from the couch and prepared to exit the room.

Just as she headed toward the door with her guards down, an arm swiftly landed around her neck.

"Mmph—- Phoebe let out a muffled grunt before falling onto the ground.

Natalie dusted her hands and shot a cold, piercing glare at the collapsed Phoebe.

Even though she appeared exceptionally calm, her downcast gaze had a hint of daunting glint to it.

In truth, her skills might not be comparable to that of a skilled young man, but it was more than enough for her to deal with a defenseless wealthy lady like Phoebe.

Following that, Natalie carried Phoebe onto the couch, removed her hair accessories, and messed up her hair so that her long wavy locks would cover her face.

She then opened the wardrobe in the room, only to find two sets of clothing—a cream-colored silk nightgown and a servant uniform.

Without hesitation, Natalie chose the black and white striped servant uniform.

She hurriedly removed the gown on herself and changed into the servant uniform. Next, she took off the hyper-realistic mask on her face and proceeded to get out of the room.

At that point, she was completely different from the impression others had of Natalie completely.

Many had caught a glimpse of her looks as she made her way from the inner hall to the ballroom, yet no one could recognize who she was.

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As she was about to walk into the ballroom, a familiar silhouette came before her, blocking her path.

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Chapter 269 Getting Recognized

Natalie looked over, only to notice that it was Justin.

I've removed the hyper-realistic mask. Don't tell me he can still recognize me? Or perhaps he has taken me for Yara?

No matter what reason it was, it was not something Natalie would hope to happen.

"Is anything the matter?" Natalie purposely held her head low.

"I'd like a piece of strawberry cake," Justin uttered while loosening his tie.

Hearing that, she silently heaved a sigh of relief.

"Sure, mister," she politely replied. Of course, she could not be bothered by the strawberry cake. She continued with the act just so that she could escape from the tricky situation.

"Hurry. I'll wait for you here."

"Sure."

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Just as Natalie was about to leave, Justin suddenly reached out his arm and grabbed hold of her wrist.

"You-" Natalie furrowed her brows.

"Wait, no... Have I seen you before? Your voice sounds very familiar. It seems like I've heard your voice recently..." Justin tightened his grip on her wrist. "I'm sure I know you. It's just that I can't recall right now."

Natalie felt a chill down her spine.

It had never crossed her mind that not only had Justin met Yara before, but he could even recognize her voice.

She knew that Samuel would learn about it had Justin smelled something fishy. It had always crossed her mind about coming clean with Samuel about the hyper-realistic mask, except that she had yet to find the best time to do it.

Despite the internal dilemma tearing her apart, her mind was in an unusually calm state.

I can't just confess this way.

"Mister, could it be that you got the wrong person?" Natalie pried his fingers off her wrist.

"That's impossible." Justin narrowed his eyes. "I'm sure I know you. You aren't a servant from the Leister family. I can't recall who you are now, but I will be able to do that after a short while."

"Y-You really made a mistake!"

Despite Natalie's constant denial, Justin was just as eloquent. There was simply no way she could win the debate.

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This isn't going anywhere. We'll only attract more attention with more commotion. Perhaps someone in the crowd might recognize Yara. This wouldn't do any good for me. Oh dear, I'm done for!

Just when Natalie was in an anxious state, a woman's voice sounded from one side.

"Justin, you're becoming braver at flirting recently, huh?" A cool-looking lady strode toward them, with her eyes that were full of disappointment fixed on Justin. "Hah. So this is your so-called love for me?"

"I-I... Things aren't like what you imagined it to be!"

Justin's love for Jane was embedded deep within his bones. Seeing how she had misunderstood him as a two-timer, he was eager to explain his stand. Nevertheless, he still held onto Natalie's hand tightly as he was afraid that the suspicious woman would run away in the process.

"My feelings for you are true and honest! It's just that she looks like someone I know!" It seemed like Justin had become a young boy in front of Jane. "You have to believe me, Jane."

Having heard him call the lady Jane, Natalie immediately knew she was his beloved.

She saw her only chance to get away from her current situation.

"Mister, I've told you many times. I really don't know you." Natalie blinked at him as she put on an innocent expression. "Yet, you're still unwilling to let go of my hand and even claims that I look like your first love. My hand hurts a lot..."

"First love my foot!" Justin snapped. "Stop spouting nonsense! My first love is Jane!"

"But that's not what you say just now..."

"What are you babbling about?"

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"Why are you denying what you've told me earlier?"

"Listen carefully! Don't think that I wouldn't dare to beat a woman up!" Justin was on the verge of going berserk.

"That's enough! Stop pretending, Justin. I don't want to see you anymore!"

Finishing her sentence, Jane looked grimly at the two who had differing statements before turning around and walking away.

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Chapter 270 Shattered Ideologies

Watching Jane walk away without looking back, Justin shot daggers at Natalie and shrugged off her hand without any hesitation.

He then ran in the direction where Jane left and shouted, "Jane, stop right there."

Although Jane had heard him clearly, she completely ignored his commands and held her head low as she continued forward in large strides. It seemed like she was determined to get the man out of her life.

Staring intently at their silhouettes, Natalie rubbed her reddened wrist that Justin grabbed earlier.

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Hmm... It seems like Jane's actions show that she still cares about him, unlike what she says. Perhaps, I might've even created a chance for him to confess his feelings to Jane. What a blessing in disguise!

While this little encounter threw Natalie into a little surprise, she was relieved that Justin did not expose her identity.

In the meantime, after receiving the voice message from Phoebe, Susan did not see or hear from her again.

"Where exactly did Phoebe go?"

In reality, Susan was not genuinely concerned about Phoebe's whereabouts. Her only anticipation was to see the miserable-looking Natalie, with barely any clothes on, getting criticized by everyone.

As such, she gathered a few ladies from wealthy families that she was close with and came up with an excuse so that they would accompany her to the guest room to get an accessory.

Standing before the guest room, Susan narrowed her eyes. A flash of cruelty flickered in her icy gazes.

Hmph! I'm the daughter of the Leister family! While that woman is an orphan with no background! How dare she snatch Samuel from me? I'll let that wretch meet her doom for doing that!

Pushing open the door, Susan walked into the room with her best friends.

In the next second, they were dumbfounded by what they saw on the couch—two naked bodies intertwined together.

The man's breathing was as heavy and intense as a beast, while the woman's soft moans filled the air.

The two had their clothes disheveled.

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The woman was on top of the man, and her long hair was all over her face.

"Ah! W-What are you guys doing?" Susan covered her mouth and gasped in astonishment.

The other ladies had looks of disgust on their faces as well.

"No way! How shameless!"

"Aren't you too disgusting to be doing this here? Are you guys a little too impatient?"

"Don't you know what kind of occasion this is? Whatever it is, there's still a limit to having fun."

Susan felt a slight sense of victory within her.

However, it would be a pity if they were the only ones who saw that sight. She wanted more people to join in to see Natalie's pathetic look.

She believed that Samuel would lose all interest in Natalie if he saw her in such a predicament.

Since it was quite a commotion there, some guests had followed the trail of sound and went over in no time to join the spectacle.

In truth, it was common for men and women of the upper-class society to have such clandestine affairs, some faring way worse than this. Even so, a majority of them still knew their limits, unlike the pair before the crowd's eyes. Everyone was appalled at how the two were still reluctant to be separated even after getting exposed.

"Who is that? She won't be able to get married anymore!"

"Exactly! I'm sure no family would allow their son to marry a woman like her!"

"There's nothing that deserves our pity! Serves her right for doing such a disgraceful thing!"

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Susan was on cloud nine after hearing the crowd's reactions, except that it was not enough to satisfy her.

When she saw Samuel making his way over in her direction, she became incredibly thrilled.

She hurriedly padded to Samuel's side and grabbed his arm as she said pitifully, "Samuel, it's my coming of age ceremony and my birthday today. H-How can they do something so disgraceful and shameless here?"

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