

A Cue for Love chapter 526

Chapter 526 Four Puzzled Faces

Malcolm was confused.

These kids are my apprentice's children. Why can't I show them off?

"Great-grandpa..." Franklin and Sophia looked at Kenneth and called out to him after they lowered the ice cream in their hands.

Even Xavian and Clayton recognized him and said, "Grandpa..."

As soon as the children addressed Kenneth, they all looked at each other, puzzled.

"Xavian, Clayton, what is going on?" Franklin raised an eyebrow and asked. "Do you guys know our Great-grandpa?"

"He's your Great-grandpa?" Xavian and Clayton pointed at Kenneth.

Sophia nodded affirmatively.

"Mmhmm. He's daddy's Grandpa, which makes him our Great-grandpa!"

Hearing that gave Malcolm an instant realization. "You're Samuel's grandfather?" he said while pointing at Kenneth.

"That's right! Samuel is my grandson, and Franklin and Sophia are my great-grandchildren." Kenneth stared at Malcolm. "Why are my great-grandchildren here with you? What in the world is going on?"

"I'm your grandson's master. Is it not normal for me to be with them?" Malcolm's mind was blown. "This is incredible! Even though I knew you both had the same last names, I actually never thought about making that connection."

How complicated yet surprising for this to be the case.

Once things got cleared up, Malcolm and Kenneth both had their jaws wide open for quite a bit before closing them shut.

The two met each other after they got old, and neither of them ever talked about anything related to money. So, their conversations mainly revolved around health and current issues. No one had any interest in the other's family background.

Neither of them would have expected that one was Samuel's grandfather while the other Samuel's master.

At the same time, Xavian and Clayton also understood what was going on, that the man they saved was Samuel's grandfather.

"So you're our stepdad's grandpa, Grandpa," Xavian said excitedly.

"That's right! That means we'll have to address you like how Franklin and Sophia address you, right, Grandpa?" Clayton chimed in and nodded.

Nevertheless, Kenneth furrowed his brows and looked at the two at the mention of stepdad.

"What stepdad? Who's your stepdad!"

"Samuel Bowers of course!" Clayton answered seriously with his chin rested on his palm. "He's going out with my mommy and they're very sweet together."

Xavian and Clayton are both Nichols. On top of that, their mother is in a relationship with Samuel. Which means...

Kenneth came to a realization and asked, "Is your mother, Natalie Nichols?"

"That's right!"

"That's right!"

The two answered at the same time, and that answer gave Kenneth quite the shock.

Kenneth hated Natalie's guts. To him, she was a vixen who bewitched Samuel.

It was hard for him to imagine that the woman that he loathed was the woman that raised Xavian and Clayton to who they were. Was she the one that gave me all those prescriptions as well?

That realization felt like a slap on Kenneth's face.

"Do you know our mommy?" Xavian asked excitedly with his chin rested on both his hands. "Now you understand how great Mommy is, right?"

Franklin pouted and rolled his eyes at Kenneth. "Not only does he know her, he actually doesn't like her!"

"This is why we don't play with him!" Sophia chimed in. "There's something wrong with Great-grandpa's eyes. He can't read properly, nor can he judge someone properly!"

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Chapter 527 Too Many Surprises

At that moment, Xavian, Clayton, and even Malcolm's expressions darkened.

"So you were lying, Grandpa. You don't like our mommy," Xavian said with a saddened expression.

"Don't feel sad, Xavian." Clayton took Xavian's hand and turned toward Kenneth. "Since Grandpa hates Mommy, we'll just have to cut ties with him!"

Even though the brothers were close with Kenneth, Natalie was the only choice they would make if forced to choose between the two.

Kenneth felt terrible and was at a loss for word.

Right then, Malcolm spoke begrudgingly. "Kenneth, let me tell you this. Your grandson is my senior apprentice, while Natalie is my junior apprentice. She's a great person. Your great-granddaughter has already said it as nicely as she could. If it were me, I would have said that you were blind!"

Kenneth had experienced too many surprises in that one day, but what Malcolm said still gave him another round of shock.

"What did you just say? She's your apprentice as well?"

"Of course!" Malcolm brushed his beard and replied angrily. "I'm not the type that would accept apprentices on a whim. That's why I only have three apprentices so far. Your grandson is one of them, and the second is someone you don't know. Natalie is the third!"

"Is she that good?"

"What nonsense is this!" Malcolm slammed his hand on the table. "Even though she's a woman, she'd be better than your grandson if she grew up in a better environment! She always tells me how proud she is to have me as her master. But let me tell you, in a few years' time, I would be the one proud to have her as my apprentice!"

"Then, the prescriptions that I showed you..."

"Don't tell me Natalie was the one who wrote them?" Malcolm figured it out immediately.

At that point, no matter how reluctant Kenneth felt, the facts were all laid out in front of him.

"Yes."

"No wonder I thought those prescriptions were amazing!" Malcolm slapped his thigh in ecstasy. "They were from my favorite apprentice! How could they not be?"

With that, gathering ended on a rather sour note.

Malcolm left the fast-food restaurant with the children and left Kenneth there alone.

Kenneth could not bear the contempt the kids and his friend had for him and crumpled to the seat behind him as soon as his legs gave in.

How could this be?

He had always thought that Natalie somehow bewitched Samuel and talked his great-grandchildren into hating their own mother.

With that being his impression of Natalie, Kenneth never sought to understand more about her. He would have never expected that what he heard that day would shatter everything he thought he knew about Natalie.

In the end, there was nothing he could say.

If it were not for the outstanding education she gave her two children, he would not be sitting there at all.

Suddenly, he was reminded of the phone call from before and realized that the familiar voice he was talking to was none other than Natalie's.

He figured only a woman with a heart of gold would treat an old total stranger that patiently and considerately.

In a daze, Kenneth returned to the Bowers residence.

And as soon as he got off the car, the butler noticed that Kenneth did not look so good, so he immediately offered assistance.

"Sir, are you okay? Let me help you inside."

Kenneth stayed quiet, but the exhaustion got the better of him, so he had no choice but to allow the butler to support him along the way.

"Sir, Ms. Yara just arrived," the butler told Kenneth. "She's waiting for you in the study."

"Let's head over then."

Upon Kenneth's arrival at the study, Yara immediately went up to them and shot a look at the butler.

The butler caught on and let go of Kenneth to let Yara take his place beside him.

That said, Kenneth instinctively brushed her off before she could place her hand on him.

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Chapter 528 Hold It In

"Grandpa, you..." Yara looked at her hand in disbelief.

"No need," Kenneth responded as he sat down with a dark expression. "I'm not that weak. I can still sit down on my own."

Yara was confused as to why Kenneth was upset. However, after what happened, she merely stood there beside Kenneth like how a youngster should behave—her prideful nature nowhere to be seen.

Even at that moment, Kenneth was still unsettled. He was repeatedly knocking on the carpeted floor with his cane.

Back then, he considered Natalie a sly fox out to cause trouble.

But now, he realized that he was being really ignorant.

Realizing how awkward things look, the butler went and brought some soup over.

Yara took some out and served it up to Kenneth in a small bowl. "It's a cold day, so have something hot, Grandpa?"

However, Kenneth did not accept it.

So, Yara pursed her lips and waited by Kenneth with the bowl in her hand.

Soon enough, her hands got sore and started shaking, but Yara bit her lips and held on to the bowl. In the end, she failed to push through and spilled the boiling soup onto her hand because of the trembling.

Kenneth caught a glimpse of Yara's hands that had turned red from the corner of his eye and said with a frown, "What are you doing? Why did you burn yourself?"

"I know I must've done something wrong and upset you, Grandpa." Yara slowly raised her head. "If I did something wrong, you can always tell me, Grandpa. I'll definitely change."

Kenneth was Yara's final trump card, so he was important to her, and she sounded very sincere.

At that moment, Kenneth figured he had misunderstood Natalie, but Yara did nothing wrong. Moreover, she gave the Bowers family Franklin and Sophia.

He realized that he was taking his anger out on Yara, and that was not right. So, he waved his hand.

"Forget about it! I'm just tired. You shouldn't be so paranoid about things. You did nothing wrong. Don't overthink it."

"Grandpa." Yara looked away as tears welled up in her eyes. "You're the only person I can rely on now that Samuel no longer favors me. If even you think that I'm not needed in this family and that I'm a burden, my hard work all these years would have just been a joke."

Seeing how Yara was, Kenneth was reminded of all the times she took care and accompanied him throughout the years and felt a little heartbroken for her.

"I like you, Yara," Kenneth said. "But love is the one and only thing in this world that we cannot force. Even if Samuel doesn't marry you, I still hope that you can find happiness and live a wonderful life!"

"But Grandpa." Yara was still reluctant.

“Let’s stop here. I’m tired,” Kenneth said before he walked out of the study with his cane in hand and an exhausted expression.

He was having an information overload from what happened and wanted to be alone.

Meanwhile, Yara merely watched Kenneth as he left with her fist clenched.

She was in disbelief as she never expected that Kenneth, who had been supporting her all that time, would have a change of heart.

It was obvious that Kenneth was implying that he had thought about allowing Natalie to be Samuel’s wife.

Yara wiped away her tears with her handkerchief, revealing the coldness in her eyes. At that moment, she no longer looked fragile and vulnerable.

On the other hand, Malcolm had sent the children back home.

Back at home, the kids continued talking about Kenneth in their bedroom.

“If it weren’t for the fact that Great-grandpa keeps shoving that bad woman to Daddy, he’s actually very good to us!” Sophia said with a saddened expression.

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Chapter 529 Ulterior Motive

“Great-grandpa often buys me strawberry pudding in the past.” Sophia’s eyes brimmed with tears as she recounted. “But now that he has been sweet-talked by that bad woman, he doesn’t believe my words anymore!”

Likewise, Franklin heaved a deep sigh.

He had immense love for Kenneth. However, that reason was not compelling enough for him to compromise and acknowledge Yara as their mother.

Xavian and Clayton took out two aircraft models from the cabinet.

“This is...”

“Franklin, this is a gift from your great-grandpa to us!” Clayton said with a serious look on his face. “He mentioned that he has got someone to prepare him three models, and one of them is for you. But because you all aren’t on good terms, he didn’t dare gift it to you.”

With his eyes glued on the plane model, Franklin’s expression changed a little.

“Great-grandpa...”

Xavian nodded. “Clayton and I have no idea he’s your great-grandpa at that time. We could tell his love for his grandchildren through our interaction with him then.”

The heads of the four kids drooped over their shoulders, and the brows on their adorable faces scrunched tightly.

Indeed, there was nothing they had to be doubtful of toward each other.

Be it toward Sophia, Franklin, Xavian, or Clayton, Kenneth loved them equally. Nonetheless, there was no way they could continue to get along with him if he remained resentful toward Natalie.

Just as worry shrouded the three brothers, Sophia smacked herself on her head and exclaimed, “I have an idea! Why don’t we make Great-grandpa change his mind about Mommy?”

It was as though her words came as enlightenment that the boys instantly agreed in unison.

“That’s right! Perhaps Old Mr. Bowers doesn’t like her because he hasn’t got to know Mommy well!”

“Given that we like Mommy so much, there’s no way Great-grandpa will not like her!”

"We can definitely try that!"

And so, the four of them huddled together and started rattling off ideas they had in their mind. Confidence grew within them as they came up with a perfect plan.

In the blink of an eye, it was three days later.

Malcolm was getting ready to head back to Mount Surya, and Natalie and Samuel wanted to send him off at the airport.

At the thought that he was leaving soon, Malcolm could not help but feel his heart twinged with pain.

"Old Man, I've peeled this for you." Natalie pulled out a bag of de-shelled pumpkin seeds and stuffed it in his hand. "You can munch on them if you're craving a snack during the journey."

Malcolm took the bag of pumpkin seeds.

"I knew you adore me the most among my three apprentices." As he said that, he threw an annoyed glance at Samuel. "Look at you. You're in no way comparable to Natalie."

Samuel uttered, "Nat has never cracked pumpkin seeds for me. If you continue showing off, I'll make sure you won't be able to bring them onto the plane with you."

Sensing the man's immense jealousy, Malcolm hastily clutched the bag tightly in his arms.

I've always thought Samuel is uninterested in women, not even the prettiest ones. But look at how possessive he is now... Tsk tsk. How scary!

"Samuel, I'd like to have a word with Natalie alone."

Samuel turned and headed to the vending machine not too far away to buy a drink for Natalie so that Malcolm would have some time alone with Natalie.

"Master..."

Malcolm advised, "Dexmed Pharmaceutical should have long lost its footing ever since Arnold's passing. But given it manages to survive and even remain so glamorous on the outside, I bet there must be a powerful hidden force in the dark. I know you've been

bothered by your mother and your granddad's matter. When I left the mountains this time, I mobilized my connections to help you investigate in secret.

However, I couldn't find any helpful information. I've thought about it; the only possibility is that the hidden force is too powerful, and that's why even the people I've enlisted couldn't seem to advance in investigations. I'm sure the hidden force must have ulterior motives that he'd agree to help Dexmed Pharmaceutical so readily."

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Chapter 530 A Ruse To Gain Sympathy

Despite being mentally prepared, Natalie could not contain her shock after hearing Malcolm's words.

"Natalie, I'm old and no longer have the drive and energy I used to have when younger..." Malcolm endearingly patted Natalie's head. "The dead are in the past; what matters at present are those who are still alive. Since you've already found your true love and happiness, perhaps keeping yourself safe is of utmost importance to you now."

"I know..."

"It's good that you understand."

Before Malcolm could pull a smile, Natalie's almond-shaped eyes glinted with stubbornness as she remarked, "Knowing is one thing, but being able to do it is something else. I know you're doing it for the good of me, but there's no way I can give up just like this. I must find out the truth about my granddad's death. He has always been a benevolent and merciful man all his life. I can't just let him die without reasons."

At once, Malcolm knew Natalie had a mind of her own. Despite being able to relate to her feelings, he could not bring himself to allow her to risk herself.

He heaved a sigh. "Natalie, remember that we will always be here for you. No matter how difficult or dangerous situations are outside, the members of Mount Surya will always be your pillar of support."

"Thank you." Natalie felt her eyes welling up with tears as she said that.

Unable to stand the sight of a tear-filled farewell, Malcolm waved his hand in dismissal. "I can't stand women crying. Please don't cry. Otherwise, Samuel will definitely find trouble with me for making you cry!"

Natalie was amused by his comment.

"Master, have a safe trip."

"Sure."

With that, he trotted toward the boarding gate, one hand dragging his luggage and the other tightly grasping onto the bag of pumpkin seeds.

"Can't bear to see Master leave?" Samuel lovingly looked at Natalie and gently wiped the tears forming at the corners of her eyes. "We can always find time to visit him and Mrs. Trevor at Mount Surya every year."

"All right." She nodded profusely.

After getting out of the airport, the couple headed in different directions.

Samuel returned to Centurion Corporation to handle work matters, while Natalie headed back to the Bowers residence to teach Sophia the basics of medicine.

Even though Sophia was small in size, her concentration level for learning was relatively high. She could even bury her little head in the books for a long time.

There were many times when she would come across rarely used terms in the traditional medicine guides. Yet, she had never once grumbled about it. Instead, she would patiently try to recognize and understand those words.

While the girl was busy studying, Franklin, Xavian, and Clayton sat by her the entire time.

Franklin would search through the dictionary, Clayton would help her write notes, and Xavian would make fresh fruit juices for Sophia.

Seeing the great bond between the four children, Natalie felt a warm sensation within her.

About three hours later, Sophia was still eager for more knowledge. Nevertheless, Natalie was worried that the intense lessons would take a toll on the little girl's eyes and health, so she did not continue teaching her.

Having taught Sophia all this while, Natalie realized how the former had a true knack for studying medicine, which had far exceeded her own potential when she was young. Fortunately, she had made the right decision so that the girl's talents did not go to waste.

"Mommy..." Taking a sip of the strawberry juice Xavian made, Sophia called out sweetly.

"What is it, Sophia?"

"I..." The little girl secretly pinched herself on her thigh to summon her tears. "I miss Great-grandpa..."

As much as she missed Kenneth, it was all part of making the act more convincing that she would put in so much strength to pinch herself.

At the sight of Sophia's act, Clayton hurriedly shot Franklin a look.

Seeing that, Franklin understood and forcefully pinched his butt and chimed in, "I-I... I miss Great-grandpa too..."

Without a doubt, Natalie understood the emotions the children were going through.

It certainly would not be a good feeling to be torn between two of their loved ones—one being Kenneth and the other being herself.

They're, after all, Samuel's children and Kenneth's blood-related great-grandchildren. As the saying goes, filial piety is the foundation of all virtues. There's no reason I should forbid the kids from missing their great-grandpa.

Natalie bent down to look at them in their eyes. "Sophia, Franklin, if you guys miss Great-grandpa, you can always go and visit him."

