

A Spoonful of Sugar: Don't Beg for Love By Oopsie Daisy

Chapter 131

Furthermore, if he really was sincere, why didn't he help her when they were questioning her?

If it was just to find someone, Isaac could do that without his help. If she were to feel touched by that, it would be too cheap.

"How long will you stay here?"

"Two days."

"Stay with me tonight then, since Ren is here too. You bought so many Legos bricks that he keeps saying that he wants to meet you."

The mood lightened when the child was mentioned.

"Sure, I want to meet him too." They soon got to the apartment.

Since Hesper was going to be busy with the launch she couldn't bring Renfrew along and left two bodyguards with him.

When Hesper went in, she saw the bodyguards pretending to be monsters and lying on the floor as Renfrew pretended to be a superhero and fought them.

"Renfrew Duval!"

"Mommy is back!" Renfrew immediately stood up as if he hadn't done anything.

Hesper pinched the bridge of her nose. "Have you been watching some weird shows again?"

She realized that Renfrew was learning quickly, immediately putting what he learned from

television to use.

She guessed that the bodyguards weren't able to keep him under control when she wasn't around.

"Don't be upset, Mommy. I just watched it for a little while." Renfrew used his fingers to gesture. The child was quirky; she couldn't help but smile.

"It's alright if kids are a little active." Matthew loved it. He walked over and waved. "Do you know

who I am?"

Renfrew didn't blink. Even though Matthew had a poker face, Renfrew felt his kindness and tilted his head. "Uncle Matt?"

Hesper's eyes grew wide. She remembered that Renfrew had never met Matthew before, not even on video, so how did he know? ?

Renfrew explained. "I heard his voice before, so I remembered."

Hesper was astonished. They only had a short conversation, but he was able to recognize his

voice.

"Very clever." Matthew praised him and was immediately guided toward what he built with his Lego bricks.

Within a few days, he managed to build something with his wits. His speed and mental capacity

were probably better than some adults.

That night, after Renfrew fell asleep, Matthew found Hesper and spoke to her. "Hesper, I think should bring the child for an IQ test."

Hesper quickly reacted. "Do you think that he has a high IQ?"

"I've never seen a child his age who is that smart."

Hesper understood.

you

The Lanes were a huge family and Matthew had many nephews and nieces. There were geniuses among them, yet he said he had never seen a child as smart as Renfrew. That was enough to prove that Renfrew had a very high IQ.

She made a mental note of that. "Alright, I will."

"Okay," Matthew said. "It would be a waste if we didn't train his talent."

Hesper didn't speak because she knew that having a complete family was important to a child's development too.

Her rocky relationship with Rickard could be a disadvantage for the child. If they were together,

Renfrew would have a better life and it would help with his training.

Too bad life wasn't all sunshine and butterflies.

Chapter 132

The next day, Matthew rejected Hesper's request for him to visit the office with her.

"Since you're the person in charge, it's up to you to decide on everything. If I show up, it will affect your persuasiveness."

Hesper didn't know what to say but her appreciation for him increased.

Matthew had other plans anyway..

Ventoso was the most popular restaurant in Genecity. It was decorated with vintage decor and even the chef was from the state dinner.

After it went viral, its popularity skyrocketed. Reservations had to be made one to two months in

advance.

At that moment, Matthew and Rickard were sitting across from each other. They were both stone-faced, and no one spoke. The atmosphere was cold.

Benji and Tanner looked at each other then looked away.

"Did

you invite me here without even knowing what you want to talk about?" Matthew picked up his teacup and took a sip elegantly.

Rickard had to admit that it was his mistake for not realizing who he was in the first place.

"You're a smart man, so I'm going to get straight to the point. I have a question. How did Hesper Rivera become Hesper Lane?"

"What does this have anything to do with you?"

Matthew wouldn't attack with his words, but he would make people feel threatened by his

demeanor.

Rickard chuckled and ran his finger over his black ring. "Hesper is the mother of my child, so I

can't be oblivious to her."

"Using a child as an excuse is so out of character."

"I'm guessing you don't plan to tell me?"

Just a few short sentences but the air was tense.

Tanner and Benji were ready to run.

Rickard suddenly got up and fixed his sleeves, his expression cold but regal. "If you won't tell, I'll just have to look into it myself. You better bury your secrets deep. It would be disappointing if I dug them out so easily."

He then turned and left with Benji.

Tanner wasn't happy about that. "He's so arrogant. Who does he think he is? Does he expect us to tell him just because he asked?"

Matthew calmly lowered his gaze. "Can't you tell that he was just testing me?"

"What?"

"He used Hesper's past as an excuse to see my attitude toward Hesper. If I told him, he would save the time. It would benefit him either way."

"That man is too cunning!" Tanner grumbled. "That was why Ms. Lane was bullied to such a degree in the past. No one would be able to stand this."

"Alright, let's not mention this to her."

"Okay."

Meanwhile, Benji, who had seen through what Rickard did, said, "Would you like for me to look into the time when Mrs. Duval was in the orphanage and see if I can find her biological family?"

"Do you think that Matthew wouldn't wipe the records clean?"

"What should we do then?"

Rickard paused and squinted. "It's easier to investigate the present than the past. Go."

"Yes, sir."

Rickard's phone started ringing. That number had called him countless times that day, and it seemed as though it would keep calling until he answered.

“Are you not done yet, Juniper? Just tell me if you want me to block you. I’ll gladly do it.”

Chapter 133

“Don’t.” Juniper was on the verge of tears. “I didn’t want to bug you. It’s just that...that...” She hesitated for a long time but couldn’t form a complete sentence. Rickard scoffed. “Is this about Hesper?”

Juniper was shocked. “How did you know?”

“You know what you did. If you didn’t slander her during her opening ceremony, why would she try to get you?” Rickard said with a cold tone before hanging up.

Juniper sent a few messages to ask for his help but he ignored all of them.

Juniper was going crazy. Her face had just recovered not too long ago, but now big pimples were starting to sprout again, which looked disgusting.

More importantly, after her previous recovery, she finally got back into the station with some connections and got herself a few sponsors to get a show. She was trying to get back to becoming the top host.

Now right before the shooting began, her face was acting up again. If she couldn’t get better, not only would her face be forever ruined, her career and her connections would be ruined in a single day!

“Hesper, show yourself!”

At Lane Tower, Juniper, who was out of ideas, rushed in with her bodyguards.

The receptionist informed the assistant. Once Hesper found out, she said, “Let her in.”

“But... what if she loses her mind and hurts you?”

Renee was very worried.

Hesper calmly waved her hand. “It’s fine. She won’t be able to hurt me.”

Juniper was soon in the room with her men. She had a mask on but the acne on her face was still

visible.

“Tsk, that looks terrible.” She didn’t try to hide her mocking tone as she leaned back into the chair. Her eyes were judging Juniper.

Juniper told herself that she shouldn't be impulsive, so she removed her mask and said, "Look at my face. Didn't you cure it? Why does it look like this now?"

"Hah." Hesper chuckled. "I did, but I never promised that it would stay that way.

"What do you mean?"

"Don't understand? I did that intentionally. Get it now?"

"You... you're outrageous!"

Juniper's face twisted in anger, and with the little acne, it looked horrifying.

Hesper waved her hand in disgust. "Don't come so close. You're polluting the air."

After being insulted continuously, Juniper couldn't stand it anymore and started yelling. "I don't care. You took so much money from me, so you need to fix my face! If you ignore me, I'll tell everyone how you poisoned me!"

Hesper smiled and imitated her shameless attitude from the past. "If you have proof, go ahead. Otherwise, it's none of my business even if your face falls off."

Juniper shook her head in fear. "You're terrifying. You're going to let my face fall off? How could a woman as cruel as you exist in this world?"

"I can't be the worst when you exist." She smiled and slowly approached Juniper, her voice gentle like a ghost. "Didn't you use Ren to make me jump off a building? Don't you remember how much blood there was? I almost died because of you."

"I didn't. You're lying!"

Juniper lost her balance and fell to the ground.

Hesper coldly glared at her as if she was staring at a corpse.

"It's time for you to make amends."

Chapter 134

"What are you doing? I'm warning you, stay away from me! I'm a Wight. If you hurt me, my family won't let you get away with it!"

"Don't worry, you're not worth dirtying my hands

let you live so you can feel tortured and see

yourself turn ugly and rot, then eventually die like the pile of mud you are!"

Juniper had never felt so terrified. She could see her life ending with just the simple description

Hesper gave

Fear and instinct prompted her to grab onto something, and before she realized it, she was grabbing onto Hesper's pant leg, "Please help me! I'm begging you. I can't let my face rot!"

"Get away Don't get my clothes dirty!" Hesper looked disgusted, but Juniper wouldn't let go.

Seeing how it was almost time, Hesper suddenly smiled. "I can help you, but you have to agree to

one thing."

"Tell me. I won't say no as long as it's something I can do!"

Hesper smiled and whispered in her ear. Juniper's eyes grew wide. "You... Aren't you afraid?"

"Afraid? If I were afraid, I wouldn't have returned. In my heart, I've died once. If you agree, I'll provide you with a consistent supply of medication so no one will be able to tell that something is

wrong."

Juniper was still hesitant. She didn't want to help her, but her problems needed urgent solving, so she had to agree.

"Alright, please give me the antidote."

"That's not how deals are done. Why would I pay you before seeing your effort?"

After saying what needed to be said, Hesper's patience ran out. "Get out, and remember to not disappoint me."

Juniper clenched her jaw and could only swallow her anger and leave.

Nothing happened after a few days.

Sophia performed well and was done with her grounding. She couldn't wait to get out and hang out with a group of friends. When she got there, she suddenly got a call from Juniper.

"Sophia, I want to see you."

“I don’t think that’s a good idea... My brother won’t allow you to come over to our home.”

Sophia was in a tough spot but Juniper threatened her. “It’s about what happened in the past. Don’t you want to listen to what i have to say?”

“Alright, alright.” Sophia helplessly gave her location

When Juniper got there, Sophia was already drinking with a group of good-for-nothing friends and it was a lively scene.

She quietly stood at one side and looked around then pulled Sophia out from the dance floor. You’re getting so high, right after getting out of house arrest? Aren’t you worried that your brother is going to find out?”

“I’m an adult now. He can’t control me.” Sophia scoffed.

So what if she drank and danced with a few hot men? She was wilder in school. Someone with money and looks was always popular.

“Enough about me,” Sophia said. “What did you need to see me so urgently for?”

“Oh, I just wanted to ask... Can you be my wingman to get close to your brother? You know how sincere I am about this. After so many years, I just can’t let him go.”

She had prepared what she was going to say before coming over, so it sounded convincing.

Sophia looked disgusted. Nobody liked women who threw themselves onto men, especially her brother.

But seeing how she still looked at her with puppy eyes, she said, “Juni, it’s not that I don’t want to help you, but that I’m in no place to get involved in my brother’s life. I couldn’t help even if I wanted to.”

“Fine, I’ll do it myself then.”

[Claim Bonus For Free Every Day>>](#)

Chapter 135

Juniper was surprisingly easy to speak to today, but Sophia didn’t think much about it since she was her friend. She changed the topic. “By the way, about what you mentioned in the call, it’s all in the past, so we shouldn’t bring it up anymore, okay?”

“Sure.” Juniper agreed. When she pretended to flick her hair, she dropped a pill into the glass of alcohol in front of her.

“Have fun then. I’ll be on my way.”

“Alright,” Sophia waved her hand and picked up the alcohol without suspecting a thing then took a sip and quickly went back to the dance floor.

“Don’t blame me, Sophia,” Juniper whispered. “It’s your own fault...”

Juniper turned and left. Once she was out of the bar, she gave Hesper a call.

“I’ve done what you asked. Where’s my antidote?”

“Don’t worry. I’ve sent it over. If I’m correct, it should be at your home by now.”

“You better not be lying to me.” Juniper happily rushed home but not before giving her some advice.

“Here’s a tip, Hesper. Although it may seem as though Rickard doesn’t care much about Sophia, he wouldn’t let anyone hurt her. I hope you know what you’re getting into after what we did today.”

“Don’t worry. You, on the other hand, should take the antidote sooner rather than later and do some skin care. Your station has enough pretty and talented interns. When comparing your age with theirs, you’re a lot older.”

She smirked and hung up, ignoring the anger from the other end.

“Let’s go. It’s time for us to show up.”

At the bar.

Sophia felt that something was wrong because her entire body was burning and she had to have some sort of release.

Trying very hard to control herself, she wanted to call Rickard for help, but when the phone connected, a frat boy hugged her waist while flashing a cheeky smile.

He had a light minty scent as if there was a drug in there. There was a snap, and Sophia’s mind. stopped thinking.

“Hello? Hello?”

Rickard frowned as he looked at his phone, but just when he was about to hang up, Sophia’s pants could be heard.

His iris shrank and he immediately got up. “Something has happened to Sophia.”

Benji quickly got information about where she was, and when he came to report, his expression looked strange. "Mr. Duval, I found out that... Ms. Duval has booked a suite at the Grand Hotel."

At that moment, Hesper showed up with Isaac.

"Do you need me to wake her up?"

Sophia was half-conscious as she mumbled something with her eyes closed.

Hesper looked at the red mark on her neck and squinted. "Did you do something to her?"

"No." The fratboy was part of Hesper's plan. He was a handsome man who would be very popular

in school.

"She kept rubbing against my face, and that sultriness... Mm. She's lucky that I have good self-control. If it were any other man, something might have happened."

"Shut up. Don't say that." Isaac was shocked, as that wasn't something that should be said out

loud.

Chapter 136

"I'm just worried that the lady will misunderstand..."

The frat boy winked. His flirtiness gave the man goosebumps.

"Alright, that's just how Sean is. The two of you aren't strangers to one another, so you know how he is." Hesper stifled a laugh and pointed toward Sophia with her chin. "Go wake her up."

"Yes, ma'am."

Isaac walked over with a glass of water and threw it on her face.

"Who?" Sophia jumped and slowly opened her eyes. She immediately saw a handsome frat boy smiling at her.

"You're awake."

Sophia, still mesmerized by his looks, tried to speak in a higher pitch. Her phoney femininity made Hesper chuckle.

When Sophia looked toward the noise and saw her sitting on the couch, she frowned. "What are you doing here?"

"You're so fierce." The frat boy sniggered then walked over to Hesper and tilted his head. "This is my boss, pretty girl."

"What?" Sophia finally realized that she had been framed. Her face filled with horror. "You work for her? But we... we..." She anxiously examined her clothes. They were messy and there was evidence of a scuffle as if they had...

Sophia was going mad. She was fine with sleeping around, but not if Hesper was the one who planned it.

"What do you want?"

"Don't be anxious." Sean continued to smile despite being questioned. "Weren't you throwing yourself at me before? I was just following your lead."

"You're lying. Why would I..." But before she could finish her sentence, Hesper threw a stack of photos on her legs.

They were pictures of her making out with Sean.

Even though there weren't any n*des, it wasn't hard to guess what followed the photo session.

"What do you think would happen to your reputation if I showed these to the world?"

Hesper's casual threat made Sophia's face turn red. Suddenly realizing that Sean's clothes were still in place, she squinted.

"No, we didn't do anything. I don't remember anything and he's still fully dressed. We don't look like we did anything!"

"So what?" Hesper was calm; all she wanted were racy pictures.

"Do you think people would believe you? Everyone will only believe what they see before them and start thinking that Sophia Duval is a slutty woman. No one would believe otherwise!"

"No, I didn't do anything!"

Hesper ignored her and pretended to send the pictures to reporters.

Sophia immediately panicked. Once that got out, her reputation would be ruined and no one would want to marry her.

“Don’t send them!” She leaped over to snatch the phone away, but Hesper moved aside.

Sophia fell hard on the ground. Hesper looked down at her arrogantly, just as Sophia had done to her all those years ago.

Claim Bonus For Free Every Day>>

Chapter 137

“Now you’re worried? I bet you never thought that this day would come when you were bullying me and didn’t give me a chance to defend myself.”

Finally understanding that Hesper was taking revenge, Sophia bit her lip. “It’s all in the past, so there’s no point talking about it now. No matter what, I’m Rickard’s sister and Grandpa’s granddaughter. Even if you don’t care about me, you shouldn’t do anything for Grandpa’s sake!”

Hesper was silent. Before Grandpa came back, she wanted to run Sophia to the ground as revenge, but Grandpa still treated her well even after so many years, and she didn’t have the heart to disappoint him.

“Fine. I’ll let you off for his sake.”

“Really?”

Before Sophia could get too happy, she coldly said, “But you should still get the punishment you deserve. I want you to apologize to me ten thousand times for how you treated me.”

“Wh... what?” Sophia was confused.

Hesper continued. “From now on, no matter where I am, you should avoid me. Because whenever you see me, you’ll have to say that you’re sorry. Do this until you’ve done it ten thousand times, then I’ll let you off.”

“But that’s...” Sophia was frustrated. She would rather pay her a large sum of money than do something so humiliating.

Seeing how Hesper wasn’t open to negotiating, she clenched her jaw and agreed. “Alright. Now delete those pictures.”

“Apologize.”

The air froze. Sophia’s expression was funny, but she was unable to overcome her fear, so eventually, after some stuttering, she said, “I’m sorry.”

“Not bad. Remember to do it more eloquently next time, or people might think that a mute offended me.”

“...You’re a horrible person!”

At that moment, footsteps came from the other side of the door. Rickard had found them.

Once the door was kicked open, he saw Hesper and looked shocked.

“What are you doing here?”

Hesper lazily replied, “I was the one who took your sister. What do you think I’m doing here?”

Rickard’s eyes shifted to Sean. His outstanding looks were very much Sophia’s type, but it couldn’t be a coincidence that Hesper’s men bumped into her.

Seeing suspicion in his eyes, Hesper’s eyes turned dark. “What, you think that I made someone take advantage of your sister?”

“No.”

“Hah, then what was that look for?” With a scoff, Hesper got up and coldly said, “No matter how much I despise you, for Grandpa’s sake, I wouldn’t take it too far. But let me tell you, if you’re going to suspect me regardless of what I do, I might not be so nice next time.”

Rickard wanted to go after her but couldn’t leave Sophia alone, so he calmed down and said, “What happened? Did he touch you?”

“No, we just had too much to drink. Hesper got here in time, so nothing happened.”

Had he actually wrongly accuse her?

Rickard was troubled. Maybe he shouldn’t think of her as such a terrible person.

Sophia wasn’t happy about it. If she weren’t worried about Rickard lecturing her, she would have blamed everything on Hesper.

Not only did she have to be careful of what she said, but she also had to clear Hesper’s name. It was infuriating!

Chapter 138

After getting out of the hotel, Rickard stopped in his tracks.

Benji, who was behind him, followed his line of sight and saw that not too far away, the frat boy was holding Hesper's hand and flirting with her. Hesper not only didn't reject him but gently tapped his shoulder.

"Let's get out of here!" Rickard didn't take another look.

Noticing him, Hesper helplessly said, "Sean, they've left. Do you still want to flirt? If Isaac starts hitting you, I won't be able to stop him."

"I don't." The man immediately let go and smiled. But Hesper, Rickard is such a nuisance. He's got nothing on me. Why don't you think about going out with me? I'll make you happy."

"...No thank you." Starting to get goosebumps, she retreated into the car.

The frat boy was going to say more but was warned off by Isaac's glare. "If you don't leave, I'm going to stab you with a fork!"

After sending Sean away, Isaac said unhappily, "Malam, please don't listen to him. There's nothing great with that young boy. He isn't for you."

Hesper's interest was piqued at the usually serious Isaac's statement. "Oh? Then who would you say is for me?"

"Mr. Tucker, of course!"

Nate? He really was a good man, but more importantly, when Rachael was a child, the Lanes had arranged for her to marry Nate. Now that Hesper was Ms. Lane, she would be the one getting married.

Her head started hurting when recalling the marriage arrangement. It was lucky that Nathaniel never brought it up and the pair had a good relationship.

Seeing that her expression was odd, Isaac shuddered. "Ma'am, I hope you're not really interested in that kid."

"What? Do I look such a person?" Hesper looked back and asked him to drive.

On the way back, the scenery outside flew past as her thoughts were let loose.

She never thought about remarrying one day or imagined what it would be like if she did.

Marriage seemed to be something distant; all she wanted was to take good care of the people she loved for the rest of her life.

Meanwhile, Rickard was getting angrier the more he thought about it.

Sophia, who sat in the same car, could feel how dense the air was. She made herself smaller.

Rickard suddenly blurted out, "Is that the kind of man that women want?"

"I really didn't do anything with him, Rickard. We just had too much to drink and he brought me to the room to rest."

After getting out of the hotel, Rickard stopped in his tracks.

Benji, who was behind him, followed his line of sight and saw that not too far away, the frat boy was holding Hesper's hand and flirting with her. Hesper not only didn't reject him but gently tapped his shoulder.

"Let's get out of here!" Rickard didn't take another look.

Noticing him, Hesper helplessly said, "Sean, they've left. Do you still want to flirt? If Isaac starts hitting you, I won't be able to stop him."

"I don't." The man immediately let go and smiled. "But Hesper, Rickard is such a nuisance. He's got nothing on me. Why don't you think about going out with me? I'll make you happy."

"...No thank you." Starting to get goosebumps, she retreated into the car.

The frat boy was going to say more but was warned off by Isaac's glare. "If you don't leave, I'm going to stab you with a fork!"

After sending Sean away, Isaac said unhappily, "Majam, please don't listen to him. There's nothing great with that young boy. He isn't for you."

Hesper's interest was piqued at the usually serious Isaac's statement. "Oh? Then who would you say is for me?"

"Mr. Tucker, of course!"

Nate? He really was a good man, but more importantly, when Rachael was a child, the Lanes had arranged for her to marry Nate. Now that Hesper was Ms. Lane, she would be the one getting married.

Her head started hurting when recalling the marriage arrangement. It was lucky that Nathaniel never brought it up and the pair had a good relationship.

Seeing that her expression was odd, Isaac shuddered. "Ma'am, I hope you're not really interested

in that kid."

“What? Do I look such a person?” Hesper looked back and asked him to drive.

On the way back, the scenery outside flew past as her thoughts were let loose.

She never thought about remarrying one day or imagined what it would be like if she did.

Marriage seemed to be something distant; all she wanted was to take good care of the people. she loved for the rest of her life.

Meanwhile, Rickard was getting angrier the more he thought about it.

Sophia, who sat in the same car, could feel how dense the air was. She made herself smaller.

Rickard suddenly blurted out, “Is that the kind of man that women want?”

“I really didn’t do anything with him, Rickard. We just had too much to drink and he brought me to

the room to rest.”

Sophia was on the brink of tears. She had thought that was the end of it, so why was he still pursuing it?

“Just answer my question.”

“...I’ll be honest then. He’s young, good looking, and very good at flirting. It’s hard for any girl to resist. Why else would rich ladies like younger men? Because they’re fun to be around!”

Rickard thought about it. Hesper was a rich woman now, so did that mean she was interested in younger men too?

Enjoy Ad-Free Reading>>

Chapter 139

Benji, who had sharp eyes, noticed that something was off with him. He cleared his throat. “Ms. Duval, you said you were drunk, but we checked the surveillance and your condition didn’t seem very natural.”

Remembering that she was feeling hot all over, Sophia’s eyes widened. “Are you saying someone drugged me?”

She couldn’t wait to put the blame on Hesper, so she blurted, “Was it the man who was with me? Why else could he have been there?”

“No, not him.” Benji shook his head and explained “We checked the footage and that man only showed up after you were out. He didn’t get close to your alcohol, and-”

“And what? Tell me.” She was on the edge of her seat. Why did he stop at such an important part?

Benji looked at her with a strange expression. “And it looked like you were taking the lead, and you

... led him to the hotel.”

“Shut your mouth!” Sophia just wanted to hide in a hole, but it was too late. Rickard heard their conversation and suddenly snorted.

“Look at you. That’s not how a girl from a good family is supposed to act. If you continue to ignore my warnings, I won’t mind marrying you off soon.”

“No, I’m sorry.” Sophia, who was afraid, became obedient.

Once they got home, Rickard immediately handed her to Julie so she could discipline her.

When he came back out, Benji was still there.

“Yes?”

“Mr. Duval, we’ve gotten information from the person who was investigating Mrs. Duval and the

Lanes.”

Rickard paused. “Let’s speak in the study.”

They both soon sat down in the study and Benji started reporting. “Last time, our men just tried to verify her identity but didn’t look into layers and layers of information. This time, they found something. Matthew does love Mrs. Duval like his sister, and he has a fiancé who he will marry next year.”

Rickard unconsciously relaxed when he heard that.

However, Benji continued. “But the Lanes arranged a marriage for Mrs. Duval too, and the man is a family friend, a Tucker. Nathaniel Tucker.”

“Nathaniel Tucker?”

He repeated the name, as it sounded familiar; someone must have mentioned it to him before.

The fact that Hesper had a fiancé shocked him and made him ball up his fists. She must not marry anyone else.

The next day.

Hesper went to the office as usual. After some discussion with Drogon Tech, they successfully got on the right track. On top of that, since Matthew showed up during the launch, a lot of people who were interested in working with the Lanes came to meet her.

It was, however, the first time Rickard showed up there.

“Ms. Lane, someone from the front desk said that Mr. Duval of Duval Group is here to see you,” Renee reported.

Hesper frowned. “What’s he doing here?”

“Do you want me to turn him away?”

“No, let him in.”

Soon after that, Rickard walked in wearing a suit.

Their eyes met and they both had a serious tone that was only found in a work environment. Hence why Hesper thought he was there for business.

“How can I help you, Mr. Duval?”

Rickard didn’t speak. There used to be a time when he could see her whenever he wanted, but now, he had to go through a few people and even make an appointment just to meet her. His change into a stranger made him... excited.

Chapter 140

“I’m here to apologize to you about what happened yesterday,” Rickard took some time to say. Something seemed to be hiding behind his dark eyes.

They were married for a while, so Hesper was able to tell.

“That isn’t worth you coming all the way here. What else?”

“Ren’s birthday will be in a few days. Do you have any plans?”

Hesper remembered, as she had to go through a lot for that birth. He had been arranging the parties in the past, so it was understandable that he asked her.

After thinking about it, Hesper slowly said, “I just returned, so let’s celebrate at my place.”

“I’m afraid that won’t be possible.”

“What?”

Rickard calmly said, “Grandpa wants to throw him a party and will be inviting some people over.”

Hesper frowned but didn’t reject him. “Alright.”

The second she said that, she noticed the man smiling.

Seeing that he was still sitting there, Hesper tried to hint at him to leave. “Anything else?”

“No, I’ll show myself out then.”

Hesper was baffled as she watched him walk away but then shifted her focus back to work.

Rickard took a detour and contacted Renfrew. “Where are you?”

Renfrew was reading at home. “At Mommy’s place.

“Send me your location. I’ll come and get you.”

“Okay.” The innocent child, not realizing that his father was using him, sent his location.

Rickard got there soon.

Saying he wanted to eat some fruits, Renfrew sent away the bodyguards Hesper had left to guard him, then let his father in.

“Why are you here, Dad?”

Rickard looked around the place, admiring her taste. It was simple, clean, and cozy.

He went straight to the point. “I’m here to see you and ask if you want Mommy and I to show up together on your birthday.”

Renfrew nodded hard. “Of course, I do!”

He went to other kids’ birthday parties, and they had both parents present. As for him, there was only ever Dad. Even though he never said it, having both parents was something he yearned for.

Rickard, feeling sorry when he saw his son like that, patted his head. “In that case, you’ll have to

come up with a plan to get Mommy to come to our home so we can celebrate together.”

“But... Mommy probably wouldn't go.”

“Don't worry, I'm sure she wouldn't say no if you asked.”

Renfrew beamed before suddenly realizing how cunning his dad was. However, his desire to see both his parents at his birthday party was very strong, so he nodded.

“Alright, I'll do my best!”

That night, when she got home, Hesper realized that something was off. “What's wrong? Are you unhappy?”

“Mommy, my birthday is coming soon.”

The little boy blinked his big dark eyes that could melt anyone's heart.

Her heart did melt and she pulled him into her arms. “I know. I was planning to bring you to the aquarium, but your Great grandpa already planned a party. I have to drive you there.”

“Aren't you coming?” Renfrew was anxious. His eyes turned red at her silence.

“Mommy, I really want you to be there with me. You weren't around in the past, but now that you're back, you're the one I look forward to spending time with the most. Please come with me.”