

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

Chapter 211

There was a foreign yet familiar feeling.

Hesper turned around. 013 was still looking at her. He hadn't expected Hesper to suddenly turn around, so their eyes immediately met.

013 looked down and tugged on the mask he was wearing, then left the place through the back door.

Hesper was stunned for a moment, then remembered the black mole under his eyes. He was the man. who pushed her in Salt City!

Isaac and Renee were with her, so even if she knew that the assassin was there, she couldn't do anything about it. That person obviously noticed her gaze and that's why he left.

Hesper sat there for a while, thinking, then slowly got up.

A lot of eyes were on her, and when she stood up, they all looked toward her. However, Hesper didn't have time to care about that.

Before the assassin showed up, she could still lie to herself about having more time and that the man might have been arrested, but now, it seemed that the person had been observing her and was ready to pounce when she wasn't careful!

"What's going on?"

Zikmund and Rickard looked at each other, as Hesper wasn't acting normal. At least it didn't look like she wanted to leave.

Did something happen when they weren't paying attention?

Rickard got up and Zikmund followed along. Half the people there had their eyes on Hesper when she left, now the other half were looking at Rickard. The auctioneer was introducing the final item on stage but could only smile sadly in his heart.

The two heavy-weights had left, which meant that the auction was unofficially over.

Hesper ran after 013 and noticed that her heart was racing.

Logic told her that running after the man alone was very risky, but she didn't want him to get away.

Her instinct told her that this wouldn't be the last time she saw him.

Since she was a little late when she started running, all the rooms before her looked identical. Hesper took a deep breath because she was probably going to go back empty-handed.

She tried to remember those dark eyes but her focus kept going back to the mole.

Twiggy was right, that mole was easy to recognize.

“Hesper!”

Rickard came running and immediately grabbed her hand. “What is it? What happened?”

Zikrnund caught up quickly and was panting very hard as he said, “What... What happened? Why are we running?”

“...Let go of me.”

Hesper struggled but didn't manage to get out of his grip, so she looked at Rickard. “Please respect boundaries, Mr. Duval.”

Hearing that, Rickard looked at Hesper from head to toe to confirm that she was fine and then let go.

“I'm sorry, you suddenly left. I thought-”

“What's the point of pretending?” Hesper cut him off and took one step back to put some distance between them. “There's nothing more to say between us and you don't have to explain. Bye.”

Chapter 212

Hesper turned and left, not giving Rickard a chance to stop her, but he was sure that there must be a reason she suddenly ran out. He asked Zikmund to go back while he quietly followed her.

Hesper saw the person who attacked her and knew that it wasn't safe, so she called Isaac as she walked to ask him to come get her.

The wind was very cold at this time of the year and Hesper was only wearing a thin gown. The wind would definitely get to her if she stood outside even just for a while. Fortunately, Isaac was worried that something would happen, so he was waiting at a gas station nearby and was able to get there very soon.

After watching Hesper safely leave with Isaac, Rickard was still not completely relieved and drove after them, but kept his distance.

After they all left, 013 finally came out from a corner. He had never left but instead changed into a waiter's uniform and hid among the crowd, watching her.

"So sensitive." 013 lowered his head. "I guess I need to be a lot more cautious."

After Zikmund went back, he had a feeling that something could have happened, but since Hesper and Rickard both left, there was no reason for him to stay.

When he got back, the auction already ended. Juniper was the highest bidder for the most valuable item there, so she was showing off. Zikmund was utterly disgusted by her behavior because he would never expect her to be so cruel. He used to think that Hesper wasn't good enough for Rickard and that only a girl like Juniper was good enough.

Juniper put in a lot of effort for the day, so she naturally stayed. Since Hesper and Rickard were no longer there, all eyes were on her.

"Ms. Wight, you're someone all the socialites should look up to. It's good to finally meet you."

The man kept getting closer to Juniper. She realized that the man kept looking at her body and definitely had some inappropriate thoughts, so she took a few steps back.

The man didn't seem to notice how awkward she was feeling and continued walking forward. When he got closer, he saw that Juniper had a small face and her skin was supple and fair. It was much better than the C-list celebrities.

"Sir, please control yourself."

Juniper frowned and wanted the man to get further away from her, but he shook his head. "Don't you know who I am? I'm the deputy director of Apple Station. I remember that you have a program with us."

"..." Juniper wouldn't have imagined that this man was someone important. He was right, her most popular program was shown on Apple Station.

"I'm not going to do anything. I just want to have a drink with you. Are you not going to humor me?"

Juniper hesitated, then nodded. "If you told me earlier, wouldn't have rejected you. My show would need your full support. Cheers..."

"Sure." The man nodded and just drank, nothing else.

"Are you sure you just want to have a drink?"

Juniper looked at the man who remained unmoving and suddenly felt upset. The man looked at her, surprised, then shook his head, finished his drink, and left.

After walking out of the venue, the man took out his recording device and looked around for Rickard. However, he was nowhere to be seen.

“Where did he go? I almost had to lose my dignity to get this recording.”

The man sighed and gave Rickard a call, but no one picked up. He thought about it, then put the recording away. He would just speak to Rickard the next time they met.

Chapter 213

When he first followed Rickard’s instructions and tried to find a way to get the recording, he felt guilty because what was said would be enough to destroy a woman’s future.

However, Juniper actually seemed to ask for something more.

Young women had their minds filled with filthy thoughts. Did she really think that she would get help just by having a few drinks and letting people hold her hand? The world was a lot more complicated than that!

Rickard did forget what he was supposed to do that night and instead started investigating the reason. Hesper left early.

Benji, who was awakened in the middle of the night by his boss, maintained his professionalism and stood in front of Rickard after ten minutes, even though he was ready to go to bed a minute before that.

“Hesper seemed to be looking for someone just now. I can’t figure out who she was looking for or hiding from.”

Rickard couldn’t be sure, but since Hesper didn’t like to bother anyone, she would have gone home by herself after the party. However, she had asked Isaac to fetch her instead.

That meant that there was some sort of danger and Hesper was being cautious.

Benji didn’t have to guess to know that this was about Ms. Lane, so he pushed his glasses higher onto his

nose. “Do you want me to ask Isaac?”

Even though Isaac was a good fighter, there was something missing from his brain, so it was easier to get information out of him. Rickard paused and didn’t speak for a long time, but Benji understood.

Find a chance to try to get information from Isaac.

“I’m thinking it might be related to what happened in Salty City because that was the only accident Ms. Lane was involved in since her arrival at Genecity. I heard they were looking for a man with a mole under his eye.”

Benji analyzed the situation, then hesitantly pointed at Rickard’s phone. “Sir, your phone vibrated.”

Rickard suddenly remembered that he had set up a trap for Juniper but didn’t expect the plan to go so well. He didn’t manage to see what happened there and even pushed it to the back of his mind.

Derek: I’ve gotten the recording you asked for.

Derek: Mr. Duval?

Rickard replied to the message and got the recording, then tossed his phone aside.

In comparison, Hesper’s safety was more important. As for the plan for Juniper... it was fine to move it. aside.

“On top of that, Mrs. Wight was admitted to the hospital today. Mr. Duval Sr. is really worried and keeps saying that he wants to go visit her.” Benji read the message and sighed, then told Rickard about how Mrs. Wight was injured.

Why didn’t they realize that Juniper was a cruel woman?

She was willing to hurt her own mother to get some attention, and instead of taking care of her, she attended an auction.

They were too oblivious!

Chapter 214

After Hesper arrived home, she told everything that happened to Isaac and Renee.

“I thought he wouldn’t try again after failing the first time.” Isaac was a simple man. He thought that the man gave up after so long.

“Keep an eye on Juniper. I think this has something to do with her.”

Hesper rubbed her temples when she thought about Juniper.

Renee said, “Juniper pushed her mother when she left home today, giving Mrs. Wights a concussion. She has been admitted to the hospital.”

“Hah...” Hesper chuckled because she wasn’t surprised. Juniper was someone who would do that; she knew better than anyone else. “Let the media talk about this. I can’t be bothered about her recently, but I also can’t stand seeing her prancing around.”

“Alright.”

After what happened that night, Hesper was tired. She didn't know why but she remembered her phone call with Seth Tucker. The man said that they'd met before and would meet again.

What did that mean?

Hesper fell asleep. Meanwhile, Juniper picked up her clothes in her room, not knowing how she ended up

like this.

“Juni...”

The familiar yet unfamiliar voice came from behind her. She remembered what happened in that room a while ago and was disgusted.

After the man who said he was the deputy director of Apple Station left, Juniper felt unwell, so she wanted to leave but was surrounded by a group of men.

She made a splash that night. Juniper had always been in the limelight in Genecity, but she was protected by Rickard in the past. Even if she said something that offended someone or attracted people's attention because she was too flashy, people wouldn't do anything to her out of respect for Rickard.

It was different now. Rickard had severed ties with her during the auction.

Juniper tried to run away. Mrs. Wight wasn't there, so no one could help her!

However, how could she outrun a group of people? She was soon caught, and as looked at Carter Wilson, the leader of the group, she knew that it was going to be the end of her. Ever since their schooling days, Carter had always wanted to pursue her, but it ended when she entered a relationship with Rickard.

However, every time they met, Juniper could feel his eyes on her and she never felt safe.

Carter stepped forward, and as he watched her anxiously put on her clothes, he chuckled and grabbed her. “My dear Juni... After being with Rickard for so long, I didn't expect...”

He chuckled drily. “I'm going to treat you right so we won't get tired of each other so soon.”

Juniper was so upset that her body shook. “Rickard isn't going to let you get away with this!”

Carter laughed out loud after hearing that and touched her face. "Ms. Wight, do you think you still have the same status as before? Everyone could tell that Ms. Lane and Mr. Duval have a thing going on and they might even get remarried. As for you... you're just someone that he grew tired of."

That was a stab in Juniper's heart. She started fighting back but got a slap in return.

"You best get used to the new reality. You'll be fine with me. What am I lacking?"

The Wilsons were one of the most powerful families in Genecity. Even though they were slightly lesser than the Duvals, they weren't too far behind. However, Carter always lived under Rickard's shadow and never had his chance to shine.

Chapter 215

Having already been slapped by him once, Juniper knew that Carter wasn't a gentleman. Only Rickard would respect her....

Realizing that, she suddenly lost her energy and felt guilty, but soon, it turned into anger.

Why did Hesper have to show up? If she didn't, none of this would have happened. She would have married Rickard and had a beautiful child with him.

She wouldn't be the one standing there being humiliated!

"Do you get it now?"

Carter's voice was at her ear. Juniper lowered her head, then looked up after a long pause into Carter's eyes. "If you really like me, could you agree to a few conditions? If you can fulfill them, I'll marry you."

The next day, Hesper went to the Duvals.

"Hesper?" Wendy didn't know that Hesper would be visiting when she came to get the door. "Why didn't you call? How long were you going to stand here if I didn't see you?"

Hesper was hesitant. She knew that Duval Group was founded and built by Ernest and she had been taking down the business as Lane Holding's rep.

"You young people will need to settle it." Wendy seemed to know what was on Hesper's mind, so she consoled her. "Even though Mr. Duval Sr. built the company, after handing it over to Rickard, he doesn't care about it as much anymore. He said that he wouldn't get involved in this, so you can just do what has to be done."

Even if Ernest said that, Hesper still felt guilty.

It wasn't as much about whether Ernest minded. He was still using all kinds of ways to take over the company, so she was unquiet. The business world was just like a battlefield. The person with better tactics would be the victor.

She still felt guilty because Ernest really treated her well.

"Alright, come in." Wendy turned around and saw that Hesper was holding a bag, so she took it from her. What's this? Did you come all the way to drop this off?"

Hesper came here to drop the medication, so there was no reason to hide it. She nodded.

"I asked my friend from overseas to send it over. He said that this could help with Grandpa Ernest's sickness. It's definitely more effective than the other medication and has minimal side effects."

The box was just a normal box without special designs. Hesper was worried that Wendy wouldn't believe her, but Wendy smiled after she heard that.

"That's great. He's getting more stable now but we're still worried."

Wendy took Hesper past the corridor and to Ernest's room.

"He'll be delighted knowing that you still think of him." Wendy patted Hesper's hand. "I'll go speak to the doctor and see when he can start taking this medication. You guys talk."

Chapter 216

She spent the entire afternoon with Ernest.

Hesper didn't bring up the medication and Ernest didn't talk about the battle between the two companies. They just chatted like a normal pair of grandpa and granddaughter, and the afternoon passed.

Before coming over, Hesper had a lot of worries, but now, she was more confident.

"Grandpa, I came here to take Renfrew with me." But after thinking about it, she lowered her head and told the truth. "I don't believe that Julie and Sophia treat Renfrew nice. I can't leave him, and he can't be away from me. Maybe you'll think that I'm selfish, but I'm his mother, so I think I have the right to take care of him." That was something that Hesper spent a lot of time mauling over. If Sophia and Julie were willing to throw the baby down the stairs, they would do anything to Renfrew now too.

Renfrew was the only family Hesper had, so she didn't want her child to suffer.

She would give him a hundred fold love to replace the father that he wouldn't have, but even though Rickard treated Renfrew well, Hesper really didn't want Renfrew to be away from her.

She wasn't willing to leave that to chance.

"I know, I know you love Ren too, but Rickard's still young and could have a new family and more children. But I... I can't. He can..."

She was messing up her sentences, but before Ernest could speak, the door behind them opened.

"Hesper." It was Rickard's voice. Ernest didn't speak but Hesper lowered her head and didn't turn around when she heard him. Her eyes were warm.

Rickard was there to see Ernest but unexpectedly heard what she said.

Did she bring Ren back the other day just so she could focus on tearing him down, then bring him to court. to fight for custody?

That was her plan all along?

"Hesper, I won't remarry or have more children. Renfrew will be my only child." Rickard knelt on the floor and turned Hesper's face toward him, forcing her to look into his eyes. "I will not let you take him

away."

"Dick..." Ernest wanted to cut Rickard off, but Hesper scoffed.

"You're finally done pretending, Rickard?" Hesper's eyes were icy cold. "I thought you would keep the regretful and loving facade. You're finally done with it?"

"Hesper, don't force my hand."

Hesper smirked, then looked at Rickard with sad eyes "How am I forcing you? Did I keep bugging you and forcing you to treat me right? Or did I cry in front of you and ask for you to make amends?"

Ernest looked at the two people who wouldn't back down and sighed.

"Enough, just talk things out. Do you have to force each other into a corner?"

Chapter 217

Rickard lowered his head and pressed his forehead to Hesper's cheek. "Hesper, what can I do to prove myself? I was so wrong in the past, but you can't judge me now based on what I did three years ago. I stand before you now. Can't you see?"

Rickard's warm breath blew on Hesper's neck. She let him finish with no expression, then moved away

from his arms.

“There’s no need to keep acting, Rickard. How many times do I have to say this? The old Hesper died. I want to take Renfrew away so that the people who hurt me will fall into some nameless abyss. This includes you, Rickard Duval.”

The two left Ernest’s home dismayed. By the time Wendly found out that Rickard was there, they were

gone.

“Sir..”

Ernest seemed to have aged a few years in that short time. He waved his hand. “There’s no point in us getting involved in the life of the young people. They need to figure things out themselves. Love is a lifelong dilemma...”

To the outside world, Duval Group and Lane Holdings were in a tough battle and seemed to have dragged the smaller companies into it. It felt as though something terrible was going to happen at Genecity, and Zikmund felt it the most.

His best friend seemed to really be triggered.

“What? She really plans to fight for Renfrew’s custody?”

Rickard had been exasperated for the past two days, and when he brought it up again, the veins on his forehead started to pulse.

“I thought that it was weird she would willingly send Renfrew back. I guess it’s obvious now why she did

that.”

Zikmund wanted to commend Hesper because the Duvals never talked things through with her and took. Renfrew because they had the power to do so.

If it wasn’t because Hesper was as good as she was, she probably would never get to see her son ever

again.

However, Zikmund still had to support Rickard because he was his best friend.

“I don’t think she will stop until she gets her way, and she has the monetary support from the Lanes. It isn’t going to be easy for you.”

Rickard wasn't worried yet, but he was worried about Hesper. Even though they seemed to be on terrible terms, he could still tell that she didn't mean everything that she said.

Even if she didn't, the Duvals really did treat her terribly. Other than taking Renfrew away and cutting him off, he would be alright with anything else.

"I heard that there's going to be a plot of land up for auction in a few days. It's a good location." Zikmund changed the subject. "My dad has been eyeing it for a while already and thinks that he can get it. Is the Duval Group not going to do anything?"

Rickard didn't comment on that but instead turned the attention to him. "Well, now that you mentioned it, our peers have mostly made a name for themselves, but you're still running after your dad and grandpa.

Aren't you ashamed?"

Zikmund was so used to living life on the wild side, it would be torture if he had to start taking over the

company.

"We were talking about you. Why did it switch to me?" Zikmund pouted. "Fine, I have nothing more to say to you. I think Hesper is going to get her revenge. I'm rooting for her."

Rickard had to get back to work and had no time to bicker with him. Zikmund could tell that he was distressed, so he patted his shoulder and said, "Speak to me if you need help. Even though I don't think I can do much to help, I'll do whatever I can. There's something that you definitely don't know. Hesper's favorite designer Roberto Sanchez will be coming here for a transfer program."

Chapter 218

Roberto's name card lay in Hesper's desk drawer in her office, untouched.

Even though it was rarely given out and Nathaniel tried very hard to get it, Hesper knew that she wasn't good enough to attract Roberto. Nathaniel was the only reason she was able to get the name card.

After realizing that, Hesper no longer wanted to get in contact with Roberto. Even though she liked his work, contacting him that way would only make him think that she wasn't resilient enough and would only rely on her family's influence.

That wasn't how she planned to meet him.

She still appreciated Nathaniel's effort.

Since she turned down the chance to join the competition held by the Duvals and the competition was in full swing, Xavier was annoyed to see Hesper and no one dared to talk to him.

Jessie quietly pulled Hesper aside. "Do you know why my dad is so angry?"

Hesper shook her head. It wasn't because she didn't take the chance? From how Jessie asked, it seemed

that there was more to it.

Jessie sighed after seeing how clueless Hesper was. "I know you never cared about this... Do you remember Michelle Sullivan? The one who always fought for first place in class with you before."

Hesper shook her head and looked at Jessie, who was looking tired. She tried to remember who this Michelle' was, but other than focusing on her studies and chasing after Rickard, only Jessie managed to push her way into her world.

She didn't have a lot of memories of anyone else.

Jessie looked at her and knew that she wouldn't recall, so she sighed and shook her head. "Alright, I'll tell you then. Didn't the place that my dad get for you go to waste? She went around telling everyone that my dad was biased and would rather waste the spot than give it to her."

Hesper didn't know what happened and she understood.

"However, the truth is, she wasn't good enough to even qualify, so even if the spot wasn't for you, it wouldn't be for her either." Jessie pouted. "I heard that she made a name for herself in the past few years. and joined the competition held by the Duval Group and Genecity, so she's shading my father in front of the press."

Hesper frowned when she heard that. "Professor Jenkins is her teacher. How could she do that?"

"Do you think everyone respects their teacher?" Jessie tapped Hesper's nose. "Honestly, it's not easy being an educator. Even though my dad is very angry, he was still nice to you. He never brought this up, did he?"

-Hesper nodded as guilt grew in her heart.

If it wasn't for of her, Xavier wouldn't be dragged into all of this.

As for Michelle Sullivan...

Hesper put her designs into a binder and tried to search for information about Michelle. All that came out was news about her secretly criticizing Xavier, and there were a lot of commenters who were talking badly about him.

“...I’ve noted this, so don’t worry. I won’t let people drag Professor Jenkin’s name through the mud.”

Jessie was alert. “You’re not going to ambush her, are you?” Hesper was speechless.

!

Chapter 219

“Haha, I’m just joking.” Jessie patted Hesper’s shoulder. “I’m telling you this to vindicate my dad. I just want you to be careful not to make my dad angry anymore.”

Hesper didn’t explain herself and just nodded.

After leaving, Hesper tried to get more information about how the Duval competition was going on.

She had an out-of-sight, out-of-mind attitude about it, so she didn’t pay attention to the competition. However, the competition was a lot more interesting than the previous years because some celebrities joined in and it became more entertaining, so the public was more interested in it.

It was obvious that Rickard put effort into it.

Hesper looked at some of the work through the night and could see that it was commercialized and had a lesser focus on authority like the previous years, so it was good that she didn’t take part.

Michelle did stand out in the competition, but everything revolved around how she ‘had looks and money’. As for her designs, Hesper could see that it was catered to the public and did not show her personality. She was able to get high scores because she was the most popular contestant.

In comparison, a contestant who had gotten an average score had more personality in their work, but because the person didn’t talk a lot and was boring, they were on the verge of getting eliminated.

Hesper frowned, especially when Michelle was given a chance to take the materials from that contestant but didn’t even end up using what she took. Michelle pretended that she forgot about those materials during the interview.

Hesper just thought that Michelle was a disrespectful person at first, but it was obvious that she was a jealous person too.

People wouldn't be able to tell, but those who were from the industry could see who produced better work.

Her phone suddenly vibrated and Hesper moved her laptop out of the way, then picked up her phone from the carpet. She saw that Jessie added her to a group called 'Friendship Forever'.

Three puppies: Is this really Hesper? Jessie, I thought you lost contact with her.

Lulu: I heard that someone saw Hesper in Emperion and she was with two men so that person didn't go and say hi to her.

Michelle: When was that? I thought Hesper got married. I miss her!

Hesper slowly read all the messages and Jessie tagged her at the bottom, saying that they were going to hold a reunion and that was why she was added.

Hesper: Alright. Hello everyone, I'm Hesper.

A bunch of messages suddenly flooded in after her message was sent. Hesper didn't have time to read all of them and was curious. Did she have so many classmates? From what she remembered, only a few spoke to her.

Three Puppies: Did you really get married? What are you doing now?"

Jessie: Hesper is doing very well. You'll find out in a few days.

Hesper was no longer the quiet person she was, but she was overwhelmed by the sudden care people

were showing her.

Some of the people seem to be targeting her and mocking her for not finishing school.

Chapter 220

Three Puppies: The reunion will be on Wednesday and I've pinned the location here. Don't forget to join. Our celebrity Ms. Sullivan will be buying, so don't be shy

Michelle: Throwing me under the bus!

Hesper read a little longer and realized that everyone seemed to be worshiping Michelle. She raised her brows and left the group.

Jessie immediately called.

“Hesper, I’m sorry.” Jessie sounded guilty but Hesper was fine with it. Then Jessie said, “I’m so annoyed! Do you know how badly they were talking behind your back? They said someone saw you with two men in Emperion and said you looked promiscuous.”

“If I didn’t know that you and Rickard... They’re just crazy! Don’t they know that their words could ruin someone’s reputation?”

Hesper said it was fine but knew that they weren’t lying. They were just exaggerating.

She often went out with two men in Emperion. It was either with Isaac and Matthew or Nathaniel, or Matthew just had to give her another bodyguard.

But being promiscuous... was a lie.

“Alright, it’s fine. This has nothing to do with me anyway, but I’ll keep what they said in mind.” Hesper sounded calm, and that relieved Jessie. “You don’t need to worry about me. They can say whatever they want. It won’t affect my life. I don’t live my life according to what others think.”

Jessie hesitated then said, “I never got the chance to ask, but you and... Rickard, after you broke up, where did you go? You’re studying now and caring for Renfrew. It must be... tiring.”

Hesper didn’t realize that Jessie was worried about that and was touched.

“Don’t worry, I have enough money. Don’t be shocked when you find out.”

Hesper wasn’t trying to hide anything, but flashing her money at school would affect her life and the learning experience of others.

Since Lane Holdings was in steep competition, she didn’t want to add any more drama to it.

“So mysterious. Alright then, if you don’t want to tell me I won’t ask.”

After hanging up, Hesper checked her schedule. She had a dinner appointment on Wednesday, but shutting the old classmates up was more important.

After postponing the dinner appointment, she checked the time and it was already two in the morning.

It was closer to Wednesday.

Ever since Juniper started her relationship with Carter, she had all the money that she couldn't have before. She couldn't help but compare her current situation to when she was with Rickard.

Even though everyone was nice to her out of respect for Rickard, she didn't have anything under her name, or she wouldn't have had to resort to tactics to get what she wanted in the past.

She suddenly realized that being with Carter was beneficial to her.

Mrs. Wight was much better after staying in the hospital for a few days and was discharged. Juniper was still feeling guilty because her mother loved her. Even though they had some disagreements, she

shouldn't have pushed her mother.