

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

Chapter 381

'But what role do the other people play in my life? And who are my biological parents?'

"Ms. Lane?"

Renee's sudden appearance interrupted Hesper's trance. She looked at Hesper with slight concern. "What's the matter? Didn't you discover any valuable clues? You've been standing there for a long time already."

Hesper shook her head, not knowing where she should start with the explanation, and whether

she should tell Renee about what she had found out.

Although she did not want to, she really could not trust anyone around her now.

Her cell phone rang all of a sudden. Hesper picked up the call; it was from Matthew.

"What's the matter?"

Matthew paused for a split second on the other end of the phone call as if he had sensed that Hesper's mood was a little cold at the moment and continued after a short while. "It's nothing. I only wanted to inform you that Twiggy, the girl that you entrusted to me, is fully recovered."

"... Twiggy?"

Hearing this unfamiliar nickname, Hesper was stunned for a short while. It took her quite some time to remember that Twiggy was the girl who rescued her in Salt City a few months ago. After that incident, Hesper asked Matthew to find her a doctor. She did not expect that she was really cured.

"The doctor said that her intelligence has fully recovered and that she wasn't born intellectually inferior to other kids. It was probably caused by some external stimulation or illness when she was a child," Matthew continued to explain. "That's why I called to ask you what to do next, and where I should send her to."

Twiggy did not have a full name. She was not even registered in the country's system, so she did not have an identity.

Hesper was caught off guard by the newly obtained information and could not react to the news. She had been thinking too much before this, so the sudden appearance of

this news had managed to use up all her brain power, causing her mind to go blank for a moment.

“I’ll bring her to the nearest Local Civil Registrar and get her registered. Although she’s saved you, her life is still her life. After all, you have no obligation to take care of her forever.” Seeing that Hesper was a little embarrassed to ask him for more help, Matthew took the initiative to suggest, I’ll also get someone to teach her a thing or two so she can survive out there in society.”

“Okay, thanks, Matt.” Hesper paused for a moment and then said, “I just discovered some things that are rather beyond our current understanding or control for now. We’ll talk about the details. when we meet next time.”

“Okay, I just noticed that your tone doesn’t sound right... So you should put it aside for now.”

Matthew’s voice went a little farther away, so Hesper instantly knew that he was busy with other things again. She decided to summarize everything, making the long story short. “I found something strange about my backstory, and I might be very close to finding my biological parents

too.

Matthew was quiet for a few seconds, then said, “Isn’t this a good thing?”

Hesper shook her head and was about to say something, but she then heard the voice of Matthew’s secretary reminding him that the meeting had already started coming from the other end of the phone call, so she could only give up.

“It’s okay, let’s talk about it the next time we meet.”

“Alright.”

Rubbing her hair irritably, Hesper sighed, tried to calm down the indescribable annoyance that was surging from the bottom of her heart, turned her head, and looked at Renee. “Let’s go back first.”

“Um.” Renee looked at Hesper worriedly.

She could not help but feel that something huge was imminent.

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At midnight.

The room was in a chaotic mess, and Juniper was sitting in Carter’s arms, caressing his neck with her fingertip.

“It seems that your mother likes me very much. She even kept me at your place today.” Juniper sounded a little proud and moved even closer to Carter, “Are we going to get married soon? Congratulations, you’ve finally acquired me.”

“Oh, really?” Carter smirked. “Baby, my mother might like you very much, but your mother doesn’t like me at all, so you might have to wait for a little longer.”

Juniper remained silent for a while. She had not gone back to the Wight Manor all this time. Her mother had been calling her every day, but she had not picked up any one of those calls. She did not know if she was being unfilial, but she could not accept that her mother was trying to stop her from being with Carter.

She could not understand why her mother would stop her when she had finally listened to her advice and given up on Rickard.

‘Carter treats me so well. It may not be common for a p*ayboy to turn his life around, but it isn’t impossible. At first, I only compromised because of that night, but after seeing how kind Carter is, I feel like I was truly blind for loving Rickard back then.’

“I’ll definitely find a way. And if my mother still doesn’t agree, we’ll get married in secret.”

“Ah—”

Carter was a little surprised. He then lowered his head, kissed Juniper, and chuckled as the night was filled with a hint of intimacy.

“I love you, baby.”

As the end of the winter approached, people could finally leave their workload aside for a few days.

Hesper sent Roberto to the airport. He gave her his address in Fredonia before he boarded the plane, looking forward to seeing her next time.

Because she had already returned to Emperion during New Year’s Eve, Hesper did not plan to go back again during spring break. Firstly, it was troublesome to go back and forth in such a short time, and secondly, she was not in the mood to travel.

A call suddenly came in at that moment.

Hesper picked the call up and the other party instantly exclaimed in a playful voice, “Taadaa! Guess who?”

Hesper was at a loss for words for a split second and took a glance at the location of the caller. It came all the way from Emperion, so she could not help but feel a little helpless. “Is this Dianth?”

“Oh my G o d, Hesper, you’re so smart!” Dianthe laughed. “So, why aren’t you asking me questions? Like how did I get your cell phone number? Why did I call you? Why don’t you feel curious at all?”

Hesper wasn’t a very curious person, but it was way too easy for Dianthe to get her hands on her cell phone number, so there was nothing to be curious about.

“Are you coming to Genecity soon?”

Dianthe was surprised. “Did Nathaniel tell you that? You couldn’t have guessed it yourself!”

Hesper was speechless.

“It’s just a simple guess. And although Dianthe was very enthusiastic when we met at the banquet, we’re not so close that there’s a need for her to take the initiative to give me a call when she’s coming over. After all, we’ve only met each other once.

‘As for the relationship between Rachael and Dianthe... It doesn’t seem that they were that close

back then.’

“Alright, alright, you’ve guessed it correctly.” Dianthe s*ipped the previous topic and complained coquettishly, “Staying at home all day is so boring, and I’m about to die of boredom. Since spring break is just around the corner, I’ve decided to go out on a trip and take a look at the world outside of Emperion.”

Hesper felt that it was impossible for Dianthe to leave her alone this time around, so she had no choice but to ask, “Are you saying that you want to come visit my place?”

“You’re the one who suggested it. I didn’t ask you to take me in during my trip to Genecity.” Dianthe chuckled twice. “Geez, I’m so smart. As long as I say that I’m going there to see you, my parents will be more than happy to let me off. I think they’ll even tie a bow around my neck and send me over instantly.”

Hesper was astonished by what Dianthe had to say.

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The next day, Dianthe packed her luggage and came straight to Genecity.

Hesper went to pick her up from the airport and saw Dianthe, who wore all pink, from a distance at first glance as the pink was very eye-catching among the crowd. As soon as

she saw Hesper. Dianthe waved her hand vigorously, forced her way through the crowd with her luggage, and dashed toward Hesper.

“Hesper!”

The suitcase slid forward a few extra feet out of inertia, and before Hesper could react, Dianthe had already hugged her as if she was hugging a human-sized teddy bear.

“Happy New Year!”

Dianthe wore a down jacket, and its fluffy collar nestled around Hesper’s neck, making her feel

even warmer.

“...Happy New Year.”

Hearing Hesper’s voice, Dianthe let her go, and her clear and beautiful eyes narrowed with her smile, beaming with delight. “Are you happy to see me? And don’t I look good today? Do I look like someone who came out of a cartoon?”

Both of them were obviously of the same age, but Hesper subconsciously kept treating Dianthe like a youngster.

“Yeah, you look very nice.”

“Yes, I think so too” Dianthe dragged the suitcase with one hand and pulled the collar of her down jacket down with the other, revealing the bowknot choker hidden inside. She then winked at Hesper proudly. “Look, I even came with the bowknot that I brought up the other day.”

Hesper burst into a chuckle, and the two of them walked all the way to the parking lot, where Isaac stepped forward and picked up Dianthe’s luggage. “Ms Bayless, you can leave your luggage to me.”

“It’s

you.

I know you," Dianthe teased. "You're the unlucky worker who got turned into a hashtag on Twitter with Hesper."

Isaac was at a loss for words

Despite being reminded of the news repeatedly in a very short period of time, Isaac was still able to grab Dianthe's luggage in a very professional manner without showing any expression. He turned around and boarded the car.

"Wow, he's such an enigma." Dianthe shook her head and glanced at Hesper. "He's so taciturn, he looks just like a bodyguard. When you're finding a boyfriend for yourself in the future, you mustn't find someone who talks too little, or he'll piss you off to death whenever you quarrel."

"...How so?"

Dianthe explained vividly. "Try to imagine this... Ahem, you're fuming, and all he's doing is frowning

and keeping quiet. When you want him to give you a reason for you to step down from your argument, all he does is stare at you and keep quiet. Seeing that, you'd really want to get into a fight with him, wouldn't you? But when you reprimand him, he still won't speak. My God, can you imagine living with a deaf person? That's horrible."

Hesper could not help but laugh out loud and got into the car with Dianthe.

"Did you have anything planned and arranged before traveling here? In my opinion, Genecity doesn't seem to have any place that you can go to to have fun."

Hesper had lived in Genecity for more than a decade. And although there was no doubt that Genecity was a huge city that was comparable to Emperion, the pace here was a lot faster and the trade and commerce side of the city was extremely developed, but as far as entertainment was concerned... It did not seem to have much to offer.

"Ah, didn't I tell you about that? I have some work to attend to here."

Dianthe was a producer and director. But it was difficult for someone to blame Hesper for forgetting about her occupation. Dianthe had always acted so childish, it often caused Hesper to think that she was still a young teenager, so she tended to forget that Dianthe was the same age as her and had a job to uphold.

Dianthe patted Hesper on the shoulder. "Although you don't talk much now, I really like you a lot more now. Do you know what you were like when you were a kid? You might have looked like an innocent girl on the outside, but you actually had a wicked heart, and you always pretended to live a great life even though it was obvious that you weren't doing very well at that time."

"Hmm..."

'So was Rachael such a kid back then?'

"Let's not talk about this anymore. I'm going to live with you during this whole trip. Would I be bothering you?"

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One could not claim that Dianthe was bothering Hesper..

Hesper had made breakfast. She then took a glance at Dianthe's closed door and realized that there might be a huge problem-the immense difference between their biological clock.

The main thing that erected the red flag within Hesper happened at two o'clock the previous night Hesper woke up in the middle of the night, only to still hear Dianthe playing games with someone and communicating with her teammate on the mic.

The soundproofing of the room was way above average, so Hesper only heard a voice very vaguely when she walked out of her room, but it did not affect her sleep at all.

But compared to Hesper's regular schedule, it was indeed very late.

However, unexpectedly, just as Hesper had eaten half of her breakfast, Dianthe trudged out of her room and slogged toward Hesper.

"It smells so good!" Dianthe walked into the dining room with light makeup on her face and looked at Hesper with bright eyes. "Hesper, you actually know how to cook. Nathaniel is such a lucky bugger. You should marry me instead of him."

Hesper was slightly astounded.

“Dianthe spoke about Nathaniel very politely when we met the other day, but today, she sounds rather rude when she’s addressing him.”

“About last night…”

Dianthe poked the poached egg with her fork and raised her head upon hearing this. “Did I disturb you by playing games last night?”

“No.” Hesper shook her head, took a glimpse at the time, and said, “But you only slept for a little more than six hours.”

“Oh, I’m still young, so it doesn’t matter just yet, does it? Sleeping is just a waste of life.” Dianthe waved her hands nonchalantly, then lifted her head like a large dog and stared at Hesper with her sparkly gaze. “Hesper, I’m going to go to work today. Could you accompany me?”

Lane Holdings was already closed temporarily for spring break, and Hesper had nothing to do..

‘But following Dianthe to work...? That doesn’t sound very appropriate.’

Dianthe gave a sly smirk. “I must have a reason for asking you to come with me. The host of my show today is Juniper Wight, and the guest that she’ll be interviewing is an even more interesting person-Carter Wilson. Everyone in Emperion knows that you and Juniper are enemies, don’t they?”

Hesper was stunned for a moment, then burst into a chuckle after a short while. “Then are you planning to help me take revenge on her?”

“That’s right. I’ll let her know what it feels like being bullied in a workplace!” Dianthe waved her small fist in the air. “But I really don’t understand her. Rickard and Carter are totally not on the

same level, aren’t they? I’ve met Rickard before, and Juniper must’ve gone blind in order for her to decide to marry Carter, right?”

They’re getting married already?”

Hesper had not been paying much attention to Juniper for quite some time. Ever since Juniper and Carter got together, she had indeed settled down and stopped troubling Hesper with more schemes. Apart from that, a lot of things had been happening around Hesper, and she did not have the energy to pay attention to Juniper, who had not been making much noise.

“No way, how could you not know about this? It’s been spreading like wildfire recently!” Dianthe sounded a little disappointed. “What’s the matter with you, Hesper? You don’t even follow the news about your love rival. I heard... I also heard that she and Rickard had done you many wrongs back then, hadn’t they?”

Dianthe then paused for a bit as if she did not know whether she should bring the matter up.

Hesper, feeling a little helpless, opened her mouth after a while. “How could I forget that part of my life?”

After saying so, she cleared her throat.

“Okay, then you should just come with me today!” Dianthe looked at Hesper and shook her head in dissatisfaction. “But hurry up and put on some makeup. You must suppress Juniper today!”

“...Okay.”

On the other side of the city.

Juniper and Carter were sitting in the dressing room. Every Genecian already knew about their relationship, so no one came in to bother them. Seeing that Carter was staring at her through the mirror, Juniper turned her head bashfully.

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“Why are you staring at me?”

“I think you look great.”

Carter stood up and walked over. A sweet smile appeared on the corners of Juniper’s lips. “Are you saying that I only look good today? Allow me to remind you that the director of today’s program is said to be the daughter of a big family in Emperion. So if I can build a good relationship with her, my career will definitely bring my career to a new height from today onward.”

“Oh, really?” Carter went along with her solemnity casually. “You’re still worrying about your career when you’re my girlfriend?”

“I’m not worried at all.” Juniper giggled and pushed him away. “Okay, okay, stop bothering me already, I have to go through the script carefully now.”

When Hesper and Dianthe arrived at the studio, they happened to arrived just in time. Dianthe came there on a work trip as her mentor’s assistant director, but because of her family background and status, many people in the studio wanted to curry favor with her.

And Juniper was among them.

After being with Carter, Juniper could easily get her hands on whatever she wanted, but money was always more reliable than a man. Thus, Juniper had secretly cashed in a lot of items that Carter had given her. Anyway, those were gifts from Carter and he gave them to her extremely willingly.

If Carter could stay with her for the rest of her life, then she would not need the money.

“Has Ms. Bayless arrived yet?”

Juniper was a little nervous. Dianthe was already standing in front of the door, so she pushed the door open and gazed at Juniper with a half-smile. “I’m here.”

Hearing her voice, Juniper turned her head.

The woman in front of her wore clothing from all kinds of luxurious designer brands. It could be seen that she had been doted on and spoiled since she was a child; her young and gorgeous face

looked innocent and delicate.

Dianthe tilted her head. “What do you need from me?”

Although the Baylesses were also a well-known family in Emperion, Dianthe had been treasured since she was a young girl. Her parents had been living in harmony and none of them had been known to have been involved in any messy relationships, just like most ordinary families.

Hence, Dianthe despised people like Juniper, who stole others’ lovers and wrecked marriages.

“Ms. Bayless, it’s an honor to be able to meet you in person after hearing so much about you. It’s really nice to meet you. I’m Juniper Wight, and I’m the host of today’s show.” Although everything about the lady standing in front of her made Juniper feel jealous, she still lifted her hand generously. “Are there any urgent changes or arrangements?”

Dianthe took a closer look at Juniper.

She’s a good-looking lady, but she looks a little plain next to Hesper’s much more aggressive appearance. It’s in our nature to take a liking to things that capture our attention. A delicate, snow-white flower might invoke others’ pity for a short while, but it’ll also lose its novelty very quickly. Rumor has it that Carter is famous for being a playboy, isn’t he? So how in the world did he and Juniper come to the point of considering tying the knot?”

to any

Seeing that Dianthe's eyes were constantly fixed on her, and the fact that she was not responding to her questions, Juniper could instantly sense Dianthe's inexplicable hostility towards her. Although she did not understand the reason behind it, she had no choice but to give up on the idea of extending her connection all the way to Emperion.

"Ms. Bayless, if there aren't any other changes, I'll take my leave. We'll have to get on stage soon." Juniper took a step back and left.

Dianthe only came to have a look at what kind of person Juniper was, so she did not stop her, letting her off for the time being.

"Dianthe..." When Hesper arrived at the scene, she saw Dianthe leaning against the door, seeming to be in deep thought.

In order to echo Dianthe's sexy concept, the heels that Hesper wore that day were chosen by Dianthe herself, and they were so high that it was difficult for Hesper to even walk slightly quicker.

"Oh my God, you...!" Dianthe covered her forehead, "I just saw Juniper in person. She looks inferior to you in every possible way!"

Chapter 386

Hesper was taken aback for a split second.

"Actually, I didn't look like this at all three years ago. People who see me now wouldn't be able to link me to the Hesper Rivera who was timid and taciturn, a woman who would compromise everything for love. However..."

"Trust me, looking gorgeous is pointless," Hesper said. "Being loved and appreciated is the only true meaning of life."

Dianthe had never been in a relationship before this, so she nodded her head as if she only understood Hesper's philosophy partially.

Hesper shrugged indifferently, then took Dianthe's hand, and reminded her, "Let's stop talking about that. Someone was looking for you over there just now, so you should head over."

"Ah, c*ap." Dianthe blinked twice. "I almost forgot that I'm here on business. I have to go and find my mentor first! All you need to do is just stand there, shine, and wait until I finish my work. I'll come looking for you after I've done my job!"

After saying so, Dianthe ran away in a hurry.

Hesper looked so voluptuous that every passerby had to feast their eyes on her for a moment. She had gotten used to all kinds of scrutinizing gazes, so she sat on the couch and went through the latest news on her phone while waiting for Dianthe to come back.

Probably because of getting scolded for running around before the show started, Dianthe looked like a quail when she passed by the couch. She winked at Hesper as if she was hinting to her. about the hell that she had just gone through and left with her mentor again.

“Uhh... Excuse me, but are you Hesper Rivera?” A male voice came from the side out of the blue, sounding rather hesitant.

Hesper put down her phone, took a glance at the young adult standing beside her, and nodded. ” Yes, I am.”

There were quite many people who knew Hesper now, and the young man looked rather excited when he heard her response. He exclaimed, “My employer likes you very much. He’s one of your biggest fans! He’s also a designer himself, and he’s been paying attention to all your designs...”

“Lionel.”

While the young adult was blabbering away, another male voice suddenly came from behind, and it sounded rather helpless. “Don’t go around talking nonsense.”

Hesper turned her head and glanced in the direction of the voice. The person who spoke was a foreigner, but he was able to speak standard Halwanese very fluently. If she had not seen him with her own eyes, she might not even be able to link his voice to his appearance.

“Mr. Pisano!”

His face looked inexplicably familiar, but Hesper could not remember who he was for a moment.

But the man had introduced himself before Hesper had had the time to recall further. “My name is Pennleigh, Pennleigh Pisano... I’m a fan of yours.”

The man chuckled.

Hesper also knew that it was normal for designers to refer to and study each other’s works. This man might pay a lot of attention to her designs, but it did not necessarily mean that he liked her as a person, but she still got a little emotional deep down after being told that her works were being recognized.

“Do you have a collaborative relationship with this TV station? I don’t think I’ve seen you here

before.”

“There’s no need for you to sound so polite,” Hesper explained. “I’m here to accompany a friend. She has some work here today. I’ve become very busy with other tasks recently, so I haven’t had the time to get into designing anything yet.”

Pennleigh nodded, feeling a little regretful. “You’re a very talented designer that has a soul. That’s what I need to learn from you the most, so from a certain point of view, I’m indeed your fan.”

“...Thank you.”

Pennleigh took out a business card from his suit pocket. “This is my business card. I’ve set up a small studio by myself back in Fredonia. I sincerely hope we can collaborate if an opportunity were to present itself.”

“Of course.” Hesper nodded and accepted the card.

“I still have some tasks to attend to, so I shall take my leave now.” Pennleigh turned his head and motioned Lionel to catch up.

Lionel caught his signal and waved to Hesper. “Hope to see you around, Ms. Rivera!”

After the two left, Hesper went through the business card in her hand.

The name Pennleigh was unmistakably familiar to her. She then took a glance at the name of the studio. It was named after the flower, Eustoma.

It was a very special name, so Hesper instantly remembered it.

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Chapter 387

‘Isn’t that the high-end hand-made brand that’s risen to fame in recent years? It’s known for its long

crafting period, but all its designs are never produced again.

‘Who wouldn’t want to own a dress that’s unique in the whole world? Although most designers accept haute couture orders occasionally, studios that only do haute couture like Eustoma are relatively rare.’

“Hesper!”

Dianthe ran over. Hesper turned around and inserted the business card into her pocket.

“How can you still be in the mood for sitting here? A storm is already brewing!”

“What?”

Dianthe held Hesper’s hand and explained bitterly, “Rickard is one of the guests who were invited to this show. But because he didn’t respond to any of our invitations before, the higher-ups thought that Rickard would not come. However, unexpectedly, we’ve just received a reply from the Duval Group’s email, saying that Rickard has agreed to take part in the interview and he’s on his way here now.”

A guest like Rickard was on a whole new level and was of course very important to the program. And since it was said that Rickard was already heading over here, even if the show had to be postponed, the whole crew would definitely still have to wait for him to arrive.

“So? What’s wrong with him coming here?”

Dianthe frowned and shook her head. “I can already see the turmoil that this love square will cause tomorrow. Do you really think that no one will see you when you show up here? This is a TV station, and there are more reporters working here than you’ve ever seen in your whole life. They’re all waiting for the exact moment in which they can capture something and create a whole news article out of it.”

Hearing this, Hesper could not help but feel a little distressed.

“What I wish to ask you is, do you want to participate in this interview as well?” Dianthe said, “Instead of hiding behind the curtains in this building, I think it’s better for you to face the media straight up. Just go up the stage, sit down with the other entrepreneurs, compete with them, and we’ll see who’ll emerge victorious.”

Hesper had not taken part in too many interviews. To her, Rachael’s identity had always been only a temporary haven of refuge, and she would not be able to live with this identity for the rest of her life.

Participating in interviews naturally meant getting a higher exposure, which also meant that she would be tied to Rachael’s identity for the rest of her life. After all, it would be impossible for her to live with a different appearance in the future.

Just as Hesper was still hesitating, a phone call came in out of the blue.

“Hesper...” It was Matthew who called her.

Judging from Matthew’s voice, Hesper could hear that he was not doing too well, as if he was hesitant and did not know how to deliver the news to her. With that, she suddenly had a horrible premonition, and her heartbeat accelerated significantly.

“Just give it to me straight.”

Seeing Hesper’s expression turn cold, Dianthe guessed that something might have happened.

Matthew was now standing in the ancestral manor of the Lanes, and Twiggy was standing timidly behind him. Arthur was lying against the back of the couch, catching his breath after taking an aspirin tablet. His sons and daughter were kneeling beside the couch nervously.

The sunlight that was reflected into the living hall was radiant and blinding.

Matthew’s throat was a little dry, but he still managed to speak. “Rachael... We’ve found her.”

On the plane back to Emperion, Hesper could not tell how she was feeling.

Although she had always had a premonition that her facade as Rachael would come to light someday in the future, this day still came too early. She still had a lot of things that she wanted to do, and she did not know that her agreement with Matthew would deliver such a huge blow to Arthur when it got exposed.

After getting off the plane, people from the Lanes had come to pick her up, but their attitude was completely different from what she got in the past three years.

Hesper also knew that her identity had been exposed, so that was an inevitable outcome.

“Ms. Rivera, please get in the car.”

Hesper stopped for a split second, then nodded and got into the car.

Chapter 388

When they arrived at the Lanes’ ancestral manor, the whole manor was already in a complete

mess.

When Hesper saw Arthur, she realized that Matthew had toned down the situation in the manor when he called her. Arthur was lying on his bed and his face looked as pale as death.

Wilfred was the first to see her. “Hesper Rivera, how dare you come back here?”

He scoffed. “It’s no wonder I didn’t like you one bit the moment I first saw you. Father defended you so much, so I couldn’t say much about my suspicions. It turns out that you’re not one of the Lanes.”

Hesper did not say anything, as she did not want to argue with Wilfred. She only wanted to know what Arthur was thinking. "Grandpa..."

During her four years living with the Lanes, Arthur was the person who treated her the best. No matter what she wanted, he would try his best to help her achieve it. No matter who badmouthed her, Arthur would defend her.

"Hesper. Matthew tugged on Hesper's sleeve, motioning her not to say more.

Hearing Hesper's voice, Arthur pointed to Helen and directed her to help him sit up. The moment he saw Hesper, Arthur shook his head. "Hesper, I don't want to hear what others have to say. I only want to hear it from you."

Hesper's eyes were bloodshot, but she tried her hardest to suppress her emotions so that her tears would not escape her eye sockets and gushed down her cheeks.

'At this moment, Grandpa is still choosing to believe in me... But what can I say? No matter what kind of excuse I put forward, at the end of the day, I'm just a fraud, someone who was desperate for Rachael's identity and joined forces with Matthew to put on a show in the Lane family.'

"What else can she say? It's obvious that she's made a fool out of Matthew too. She's an orphan and the unwanted daughter-in-law of the Duvals. What kind of good intentions could she have?" Wilfred sneered. "Father, I told you to not trust this woman back then, didn't I? Just look at how..."

"That's enough." Matthew stopped Wilfred, and his gaze looked as sharp as a razor. "I'm the one who brought Hesper back. As for you, Uncle Will, everyone in the family knows that you can be mean, but I didn't know that you obtained the ability of a prophet and can actually foresee things that are going to happen in the future."

Twiggy stood in the corner, looking timidly at the members of the family in front of her. Hesper noticed her at this moment and looked back at Matthew with a puzzled gaze.

"She is Rachael. The paternity test has proven that."

Hesper was stunned for a moment. After some time, a smirk appeared at the corner of her lips.

'Karma is indeed a b*tch, huh? While pretending to be Rachael, I've been on the receiving end of so much kindness from the Lanes, so it's only fair for me to be the one who brings Rachael back to

them."

Theodore and Simon remained silent, while Helen looked a little hesitant. No one knew what she was thinking about.

Hesper looked at Arthur and suddenly did not want to explain anything else.

No matter what the reason was, she did secretly occupy Rachael's identity for four years. She had deceived Arthur for four full years and stolen the affection that should belong to Rachael.

Just as Hesper lowered her gaze, Simon's voice came from the side, and it sounded as cynical as usual. "Let's not be so certain so early on."

Hesper frowned and looked at him.

"Uncle Simon, as one of the people who knows about my true identity, what do you want to say at

this time?

When Simon noticed Hesper's gaze, he walked over and patted her shoulder reassuringly, and then looked at Helen. "How much longer do you plan to hold on to the envelope in your pocket, Helen? If you don't take it out now, Hesper is about to be kicked out of the Lanes for the rest of her life."

As soon as these words came out of Simon's mouth, all eyes in the room turned toward Helen.

Helen inserted her hands into her coat's pocket, as her cover had been blown.

Hesper turned her head to look at Matthew with some puzzlement, but he seemed to not know anything about what Simon just said either.

Chapter 389

In an instant, Helen got pushed into the eye of the storm, but she was still very bewildered.

'I never told anyone about the result since I got it back. I should be the only person who's being haunted by it day and night, considering it and weighing the pros and cons repeatedly. So how did Simon come to know about it?'

"Helen, what exactly do you have in your possession?"

When Arthur opened his mouth, Helen knew that even if she did not want to show the result at this moment, she had to do so, as it was better to just bring the result up openly. That was the only way to help Hesper maintain the image that she had been keeping all this while.

"It's a paternity test." Helen took out a paternity test result that had been folded multiple times from her coat pocket. It looked as if she had been keeping it for quite some time.

"I must admit that I once doubted Hesper's identity, so I secretly collected some of her hair when I went to her room not long ago."

Hesper had not known about this at all.

"When I first came to the Lanes' ancestral manor, I was indeed very careful in handling everything that can be collected and used for a paternity test, but as time went by, I lowered my guard. I didn't think that Aunt Helen would set me up from the shadows.

'Looking back at my trips back and forth between Genecity and Emperion, it must have happened during New Year's Eve, the day when Rickard set off fireworks for me, right?'

"The paternity test shows that..." Hesper closed her eyes, as she knew better than anyone else what the results would look like. "It shows that Hesper and Father are indeed related."

"What?"

Wilfred was the first one to get shocked by the announcement. He stepped forward and snatched the paternity test result from Helen's hand, but the result were exactly as Helen said. The official logo of the hospital was clearly stamped on the results, so it was impossible for Helen to fake it.

Hesper stared at Matthew in astonishment, but he was also staring fixedly at the paternity test and couldn't even clear his mind up to look at Hesper.

"Huh? Are you kidding me? Then what's with that girl? Is her paternity test fake then?" Wilfred strode to the corner of the hall and pulled Twiggy out.

Twiggy, who just regained her intellect and cognition, had been directly brought back to the Lanes without having the chance to learn anything about the family beforehand, so she shrank back in fear when she was suddenly jerked forward by Wilfred.

"Can someone tell me what's going on here?!" Arthur coughed vigorously.

Simon immediately explained, "I know everything about this incident. I can tell everybody that Twiggy is one of the Lanes and so is Hesper."

"What?"

Hesper was completely perplexed. She stared at Simon in a daze, trying her best to understand what he was talking about.

"Three years ago, Matthew asked me to run a paternity test for Hesper," Simon said. "The samples that I took and compared to back then were Hesper and Matthew's, and Hesper and Father's. After the tests, the first set of samples showed that they were not siblings, but the second set of samples showed kinship."

“So are you saying that Hesper isn’t Ben’s daughter, but someone else’s daughter?”
Helen was astonished.

Simon nodded and then glanced at Theodore, who had been silent all this time.
“Theodore should know best about this matter. Hesper’s last name is Rivera. Doesn’t that remind you guys of someone?”

Hesper shook her head, subconsciously thinking that what Simon said was wrong, but with all the evidence that had been laid out right in front of her, she could not find anything that did not make

sense.

Theodore finally spoke up. “I do know that Hesper is my daughter. I already knew it when Hesper was only eight years old. Back then, Yolanda and I had another child besides Shawn.”

Chapter 390

Matthew had walked up to Hesper’s side at some point and held her hand tightly.

Hesper looked back at him. She was hesitant to speak, but her voice sounded extremely hoarse, and she was unable to utter a single word.

“I was shocked too when Hesper was brought back to the Lanes by Matthew, but when I saw that everyone, especially Father, liked her so much, I couldn’t bear to clear things up with Father,” Theodore continued to explain calmly. “Hesper is also Father’s granddaughter, so if we still couldn’t find Rachael, why not let Hesper stay with Father?”

At first, Arthur thought that Hesper approached him only to lie to him, and he only wanted to hear her explanation. He did not expect that he would find both his granddaughters in just one day.

Even Arthur, the man who had experienced countless life and deaths, had teary eyes at this

moment.

“What about you, Simon? Since you already knew everything back then, why would you tell Matthew that Hesper was his sister?”

Simon looked at Twiggy with a smirk. “Because I hated Rachael and I didn’t want her to be found.”

As soon as Simon said that, Arthur yelled, “Benjamin died because of an accident back then! It had nothing to do with Rachael! You can’t blame a child who was not even old

enough to remember things! After so many years, I thought you had already let go of the incident. I didn't expect you to..."

Arthur almost choked on his own breath, so Helen quickly patted him on the back and turned to glare at Simon, who looked extremely calm. "Hurry up and apologize to Father right now!"

Hesper, who had been silent for a long time, suddenly spoke up. "I'm sorry... But wait a minute."

Everyone in the room looked at her, including Wilfred, who had fallen into despair after learning.

the truth.

Hesper's mind was very confused now. Because of everyone's openness today, the fog that was surrounding her identity had become thicker and thicker instead of dissipating.

She felt that there were many flaws in Simon and Theodore's explanations, which made their story sound very unconvincing, but emotionally, she really hoped that she was Arthur's granddaughter

more than anything else.

Theodore looked at Hesper with a nervous expression, which was a rare thing to see. "Hesper, if you have any doubts, I'll explain them to you one by one in the future. I know you're very confused right now, but stop talking already. Just think about the matter for yourself for now."

Having listened to Theodore's words. It did not sound like a consolation but more like a warning.

'Uncle Theo is asking me to play along for now and not say anything for now.'

"Okay."

Although she did not know the reason, Hesper could only do as Theodore wanted her to do, so

she took a step back and stopped talking

The face lasted until late that night Arthur was so exasperated that he almost asked someone to best Simon up. As for Simon, he knelt in front of the bed and did not utter a single word since the incident. And the last time he looked at Hesper, there was a hint of hilarity flashing across his eyes that Hesper could not comprehend.

Simon was punished and grounded. So no matter how many doubts Hesper had, she had no choice but to leave with Matthew

It was obviously not a good idea for her to stay in the ancestral manor that night, so Matthew could only bring her back to his mansion located in the city center.

find it all unreal,”

Walking into the room with Matthew, Hesper seemed to have just come back to her senses and realized that something was wrong. She stopped in front of the door and stared at Matthew in a daze. “Matt, do you believe in what Uncle Simon and Uncle Theo said?”

Matthew did not know what had just happened either. Everything that happened that night was completely out of his plans.

But hearing this, he shook his head. “I don’t believe them.”

“Sure enough.”