

A Spoonful of Sugar Don't Beg for Love

Chapter 421

"One more thing. Nathaniel contacted me several days ago."

Hesper was stunned for a moment when she heard that name. Lowering her head, she said, "You didn't tell him about my whereabouts, did you?"

"Don't worry, I know you don't want the Lanes to know where you are. Mr. Tucker and the Lanes are close, so there's a chance that he'll tell your brother if he finds out your location," Robert replied. He patted Hesper's shoulder. "I didn't lie to him though. I just told him that you're still in Fredonia, that's all."

Roberto had always treated his friends with sincerity. Hesper knew that he would not lie to Nathaniel, but she was very grateful that he was willing to cover up for her.

"Thank you, Mr. Sanchez."

"Don't mention it," Roberto replied. "I noticed that you've been frowning a lot ever since you came to Fredonia. Actually, you don't have to be so hard on yourself. You've already done a great job."

"Yeah, thank you, Mr. Sanchez," Hesper said, offering him a smile.

Roberto knew that Hesper was just entertaining him from the smile on her face, but he did not want to say anything anymore. In fact, Hesper knew everything Roberto said. It was just that time did not allow her to take things slowly.

After Roberto left, Hesper sat on the couch for a while and let her thoughts drift away. After a while, she took her phone out and hesitated for a moment before logging into her old account. Perhaps she had accumulated too many messages for the past few months, so it was stuck on the homepage for a while. By the time Hesper got in, she realized that there were more messages than she imagined.

Most of the messages were sent by Matthew, and the latest one was from that same day. Hesper lowered her head, but she did not dare to click and read them, fearing that Matthew might be waiting for her on the other side of the phone.

She had been enduring it for a long time, and she was finally making some progress in her career. She would never forgive herself if she allowed her own effort to go down the drain because of a few moments of hesitation.

Other than Matthew, Nathaniel was the one who sent her the most messages. Hesper read through his messages, and most of them were asking how she was doing. In addition, some of the messages were also about the Lanes as well as Matthew.

Arthur fell sick again after he learned that Hesper had left and gone off the grid. The silver lining was that it wasn't serious. Another piece of good news was that Wilfred did not manage to get any benefit after she left.

As for Simon, after he was released from his grounding, Arthur sent him into the company to assist Rachael in completing the projects that Hesper had left behind.

Hesper had already anticipated that Racheal would enter the Lane Holdings. After all, when they found her back then, she was sent into the Lane Holdings to familiarize herself with the business of the company.

It was just that compared to Hesper's dedication and quick adaptation, Rachael's performance was quite average.

However, Hesper did not really care about these things. It did not matter to her how the company was doing right now. Besides, she and Rachael were two different entities. When she was receiving education, Rachael was staying in a construction site.

Comparatively speaking, she might be luckier than Rachael.

Hesper paused for a moment when the thought surfaced in her mind. It took her a while before she continued reading through the message.

[Nathaniel: Matt has been working all day long. I hardly ever see him taking a rest. He's also investigating Uncle Theodore, but Master Lane keeps him in a place where we can't find him.]

'Uncle Theodore has gone missing too?'

This was the last message.

Hesper turned off the phone and frowned.

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According to Nathaniel, Arthur was the one who hid Theodore in a place where no one could find him. Did that mean that Arthur knew some secrets that other people did not? For example, her mysterious background that Theodore refused to tell.

There were too many mysteries regarding her background. Hesper closed her eyes. Now was not the right time to think about these things. She had to produce some results and then bring Renfrew back to her side.

That was what she wanted to do.

After a short while, Hesper opened her eyes, tapped on the screen, and looked down at the chat group called "Tear down the capitalist". When she looked closely, she realized that the group name had changed. It was called "We miss the capitalist" now.

Hesper was stunned for a moment. She clicked on it and saw that no one had sent anything in the group in a long time. The last message was sent half a month ago.

[Don't you guys think this new Ms. Lane knows nothing about our company?]

This was the last message. Hesper frowned and scrolled upward. Rachael was still in Emperion, so it should not have been her turn to manage the Lane Holdings at Genecity yet.

[I understand that this new Ms. Lane is the real Ms. Lane, but I feel a bit annoyed when she insists on telling us what we should do when we're working... She feels like a b*tch to me.]

[That's right. It's only been a while since Ms. Lane left, and she's already taking over her stuff? This may not sound appropriate, but I can't help but think she's trying to take over something that doesn't belong to her.]

[Besides, she hasn't even finished handling her stuff at Emperion, yet she's rushing to come here to manage us. You can't convince me she didn't mean to do it.]

Hesper's memories of Twiggy were somewhat vague, but Rachael was indeed the one who saved her life. She was scared and unable to speak when they were trapped together for several hours.

These memories were still fresh, but she could not match it with the person that everyone in the group was talking about.

[I don't know about you guys, but I kind of miss Ms. Lane. I remember that she would buy us midnight snacks whenever we worked overtime, and she always worked even later than us.]

[I used to think that Ms. Lane was too strict, but now that I think about it, that's the attitude you should have towards work, right?]

At first, Hesper was kind of surprised when everyone said that they missed her. After she read all of their messages, her eyes became wet with tears.

It turned out that there were still people thinking about her.

[Hesper will come back]

A message came in at this time. It was Rickard's alternate account. She did not expect that he

was still in the group chat.

Looking at the message, Hesper could not help but feel ridiculous.

Even she was not thinking of going back. She did not know why Rickard was so sure that she

would return.

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There were mixed feelings tugging at the bottom of her heart when she logged out of the account. It seemed that a lot had happened during the time she was away, but regardless of the Lane Holdings or Rachael, neither had much to do with her.

After thinking it through, Hesper went out to buy some groceries. As she passed by the refrigerated section, she saw a box of frozen peaches and suddenly thought of Stephen. "He did help me out a ton, so I'll consider it as repayment."

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Yellow peaches were very expensive there, but Hesper had already made some money and could afford it. She picked two boxes and planned to stew the canned peaches and give them to Stephen later.

As she walked out of the supermarket, a scream suddenly came from not far away. Hesper became alert and took a step back. In the next moment, a man fell directly in front of her from the direction where the scream came from, spitting out a mouthful of blood. He convulsed and soon stopped moving.

The crowd quickly scattered and ran away. Hesper was stunned for a moment. The man stared at her while bathing in his blood, unmoving before he bled out.

As the smell of blood tickled her nostrils, Hesper snapped back to reality and stumbled two steps back.

Hesper had already calmed down by the time Roberto brought her out of the police station.

Roberto sighed. "You must be terrified. Antellon does have some safety issues, but this is the first murder case in the downtown area this year."

It seemed to him that Hesper had pretty bad luck. How could that person have died right in front of her?

“I still need to wait for the final report from the police station,” Hesper shook her head. “When that person died right in front of me, his eyes were looking at me the whole time, and I thought of someone.”

“Are you suspecting that it’s Daybreak?”

Hesper nodded, her head a muddle mush.

“As you said, this is the first time it happened this year. Is it really such a coincidence that a terrorist appeared on that street and then coincidentally threw the body in front of me?”

The man’s eyes widened in horror as he looked at himself, reminding Hesper of the dead mouse in the box that night.

Upon hearing that, Roberto patted Hesper’s shoulder and comforted her. “Maybe it’s just a coincidence. Don’t think too much about it. Maybe this has nothing to do with you. Don’t worry unnecessarily.”

“Okay...”

Hesper nodded, and Roberto changed the subject, pointing to the pocket in her hand. “What are you holding onto? You’ve been holding onto it all the way.”

Hesper came to her senses when she heard Roberto’s question and realized that she had been tightly holding onto the yellow peaches she bought that day. She did not know where the vegetables she bought had gone.

Feeling a bit amused, Hesper shook her head. “It’s nothing. I bought some yellow peaches to make canned food... Have you ever tried canned yellow peaches, Mr. Sanchez? Should I make some for you to try?”

“Oh... Yuna used to like those too, and she said she would eat them when she was sick.” Roberto smiled. “But it’s been a long time since I’ve had any. I can’t find those kind of canned foods in

other places.”

Hesper didn’t expect this can of food to remind Roberto of his deceased wife. She apologized. “I’m sorry, I didn’t know...”

“Nah, it’s nothing,” Roberto interrupted before she could finish her sentence.

“Can you bring me some when you’re done making it?” Roberto smiled, rubbing Hesper’s head.” You don’t have to worry so much. You’re young and shouldn’t have so many worries and troubles.”

“Sorry, did I make you feel burdened?” Hesper sighed helplessly.

Realizing she was apologizing again, Hesper paused and looked at Roberto. Finally, she smiled.

“Alright. You’ve had a long day. You should probably go back and rest.”

Hesper nodded. She raised her head and looked at the westbound sun. The red hue fell on her eyelashes and covered all her emotions.

“Daybreak...” Hesper murmured. “It’s time for me to see what you’re capable of.”

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Very soon, Hesper had finished preparing the canned food. She had been planning to make one for Stephen, so she brought a bottle to him.

She filled a can and brought it over to Stephen’s place, guided by the map Stephen had drawn for

her.

“Is there anything I can help you today, Ms. Rivera?”

When she arrived at the gate, someone suddenly appeared out of nowhere. Hesper had not noticed anyone around before.

Looking at the man’s expressionless face, she blinked.

When she came here with Roberto last time, she did not see anyone other than Stephen. She only knew that there was a gardener here who helped Stephen take care of his garden.

“You’re the gardener?”

The man nodded, his face expressionless as he repeated, “Is there anything you need today, Ms. Rivera?”

“Well, there’s nothing urgent. Can I see Mr. Cyrus today?” Hesper asked. She felt the man’s attitude was a bit strange. If he was the gardener, why was he working as the gatekeeper as well?

The man did not say anything else and turned to leave, giving tacit approval for Hesper to enter. Although it was a bit strange, Hesper ignored it. After all, Stephen was not a

normal person, so it was not strange for those who worked under him to also be abnormal. She met Stephen without any further incidents and did not encounter anyone else on the way.

Stephen was surprised to see Hesper as well. He had been sick for a few days and had not been out for a while. It was the first day he came out, and the first person he saw was Hesper. "What brought you here today? Did something happen to your face? Let me have a look at it... It's only been a few days, so..."

Hesper took a step back and raised the bottle up, putting it in between both of them.

"I'm here to give you this."

Stephen frowned when he heard what Hesper said. Nevertheless, he was curious about what she had brought over, so he cleared his throat and said, "I won't accept it if it isn't any good."

"Really?" Hesper looked at Stephen's somewhat arrogant expression and felt that he was becoming more and more childish. She deliberately drew out her words and said, "Then, I won't give it to you."

Stephen turned around and glared at her. In the next second, he remembered that he was older than Hesper, so he said in a stern voice, "If you don't want to give it, then don't. I didn't want anything from you in the first place."

"Really?"

"Of course!"

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Hesper couldn't help but laugh, and Stephen realized that he had been fooled. He looked at Hesper with some annoyance, and said, "Don't you want me to give you a disguise next time? Don't forget that I'm your elder!"

"Yes, yes, yes, you're my elder."

Hesper shook the can in front of Stephen and said, "Is a bottle of canned peaches good enough to make this elder feel better and forgive me?"

Looking at Hesper, Stephen suddenly felt his vision go black. Countless scenes whizzed past his eyes. He tried to reach out but could not grasp anything that slipped past his fingers.

"Mr. Cyrus?"

Hesper waved her hand in front of Stephen. "Are you alright?"

Stephen closed his eyes, and after a moment, he opened them again.

“Mr. Cyrus?” Hesper called out to him again.

Stephen frowned. “I’m not dead yet. Stop calling my name like you’re calling my soul to come back.”

Although she knew that Stephen was just being stubborn, Hesper still felt an impulse to leave him behind and walk away.

“What are you still waiting for? Hurry up and help me to sit on the side for a while.”

Stephen sounded weak, and Hesper did not want to argue with a patient. She brought him to the side and asked, “Why did you suddenly become ill again? Did you think of something? Your face. suddenly turned very bad.”

“Yeah, every time I see you, I feel like I’m about to pass out.”

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Hesper clenched her fists and comforted herself, ‘A small concession can lead to greater success.

That being said, Stephen’s countenance was pale and Hesper was worried about him. “Last time the doctor said that the cause of your illness was unknown, and both times it was because of me. Will there be any problem?”

“What could go wrong?” Stephen replied impatiently. “Stop worrying. What could happen to me? It’s just that I thought of some things I couldn’t think of before. I’m used to it.”

Hesper suddenly felt that Stephen was pitiful. There were so many memories in his mind, but he could not remember them no matter what, and they kept haunting him...

“Leave the canned peaches and go,” Stephen said with a pout. “How did you know that this is one of my favorite foods? Anyway, don’t ever try to buy me off. I’m not that easy to please.”

‘Really?’

Hesper nodded with a suppressed smile.

It seemed to her that he was pretty happy to receive the canned peaches.

“You told me last time when you were sick. Did you grow up in Emperion? Before I went to Emperion, I didn’t know that we needed to eat canned peaches when sick.”

Hesper remembered the first year when she returned to Emperion. She fell seriously ill due to a relapse of the injury from her suicide attempt and could not eat anything. At that time, Arthur had the kitchen maid cook her some canned peaches, which she now remembered as particularly sweet.

She confirmed several times and made sure that Stephen was all right before she was swept out of the door by him.

Hesper did not know why she found Stephen so approachable. Even though he was a strange person, she just could not help but tease him.

After she left Stephen's place, she received a call from Pennleigh.

"You want me to go there now?" Hesper took a look at the time. Usually, if she did not have time, Pennleigh would not ask her to come to Eustoma since he knew that she had classes.

"Yeah. I have something to discuss with you," Pennleigh said calmly, "If you have time, come over now. If not, come when you're free."

"I'll go there now," Hesper replied as she hopped in the car since she was available. "It's just that I'm pretty far from Eustoma now, so it may take some time."

"It's okay, no rush. Take care on the road," Pennleigh replied.

When she arrived at Eustoma, Hesper went straight to Pennleigh's office.

To her surprise, there was someone else there besides Pennleigh. Seeing her, Pennleigh quickly blinked his eyes and cleared his throat before saying, "Hesper, you're here."

Hesper was stunned. Before coming, Pennleigh's tone on the phone was a bit off, but she thought it was just her overthinking things.

"Don't just stand there. Come over here," Pennleigh said as he walked toward Hesper. However, he was stopped by a woman beside him.

"Don't go near her, just say what you have to say here."

The woman was dressed elegantly and had a face that looked very similar to Pennleigh's.

"You're Hesper?" she asked, scrutinizing Hesper.

Understanding instantly dawned upon Hesper and she could not help but laugh inwardly. "Yes, madam, I'm Hesper. Has Pennleigh been talking to you about me?"

Pennleigh cleared his throat and Hesper signed helplessly. She walked to his side and wrapped her arms around his.

“You must be Pennleigh’s mother, right?” Hesper said before turning to Pennleigh. “Why didn’t you tell me that your mother is coming? I didn’t even have a chance to dress up properly.”

Pennleigh cleared his throat again. Facing Hesper’s gaze that was filled with amusement, he turned around and took a sip of the water. “Well... My mom didn’t want me to say anything. She was worried that you were just someone I found at the last minute to fool her.”

Hesper was tickled pink by his answer. She wanted to laugh, but she suppressed the urge. Turning around to look at Madam Pisano, she winked mischievously and said, “Pennleigh doesn’t seem very reliable, does he? He doesn’t really look like my boyfriend.”

“She’s a good girl,” Madam Pisano said as a smile appeared on her face. She gave Pennleigh a scolding gaze. “wouldn’t have made you go on blind dates.”

“If you had told your mom earlier that you had such a beautiful girlfriend, your dad

‘So he’s trying to run away from blind dates.’”

Pennleigh frowned, seeming a bit helpless as he let out a sigh. “Well, both of us don’t know where our relationship is heading, so I didn’t dare to say anything to you guys. What if you guys didn’t believe me after I told you about her?”

‘It seems like this isn’t going to end anytime soon... Hesper thought inwardly.

Pennleigh’s mother liked Hesper very much and felt that she could be a good match for her son despite the fact that she was just an average-looking girl now.

“Alright, alright. Make sure you bring her over to have dinner at our place when you have time.”

Pennleigh was a bit surprised. Although his mother seemed amiable on the surface, there were only a handful of people that she liked. This was her first time meeting Hesper, yet she invited her over to her house for dinner. Apparently, she liked Hesper very much.

Hesper did not know that she had Pennleigh’s mother’s approval. The woman seemed very friendly, so she nodded. “Sure. I’ll go pay you a visit next time.”

“Okay.”

After that, she sat quietly for a while and listened to the family chatter between Pennleigh and his mother. When approved Pisano decided to leave, she grabbed

Hesper's hand and asked her to come over to their house sometime so that she could cook her a good meal.

After finally seeing his mother off, Pennleigh sat behind his desk and let out a heavy sigh.

"I owe you one. I'll treat you to a meal."

Hesper had been holding back her laughter for a long time, and at his words, her lips curled up into a smile. "I never thought that the illustrious Mr. Pisano would also be pressured to get married. Luckily, I'm quick on my feet, or else you would have been exposed today."

Indeed, Pennleigh let out a sigh again, looking rather troubled. After a while, he said, "My parents strongly opposed my decision to further my studies in design. Later, when I established Eustoma with my own funds, I never used a single penny from my family. If it weren't for Mr. Sanchez's encouragement at that time, I might not have been able to persevere until now."

Hesper nodded. "I can see that you come from a rather affluent family.

Could it be that you were going to inherit the throne if you didn't study design?" Hesper teased, smiling mischievously.

Clearing his throat, Pennleigh said, "But you shouldn't have accepted my mother's invitation. It's a little bit complicated, but you left a deep impression on her."

"You'd be exposed if I didn't say yes," Hesper said. "Let's make up an excuse next time we have a chance. Say that I'm busy, do that a few times, and your mother's impression of me will definitely worsen. You can then say that we broke up."

"You've even thought of a backup plan for me?" Pennleigh chuckled.

They talked for a while, and Hesper checked the time. She needed to go back to the university, as she still had some assignments and papers to finish. She turned around and said, "I'll head back now, but feel free to contact me if there are any new projects."

"Okay."

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Hesper pushed open the door and walked out of the office, only to see Evon right in front of her.

"Hmm? Mr. Etienne?" Hesper looked at Evon's sneaky gaze and guessed that he was up to no good again. However, she did not have any evidence, so she could only force a smile on her face. Pulling a long face, Evon studied Hesper with an inquisitive gaze.

“If you don’t have anything to tell me, can you let me through? I’m going back home.” Hesper had a lot of things to do, so she did not want to waste her time there. She was pretty sure that she had never provoked Evon. She did not know why, but he kept making her hackles rise. He even went to the extent of destroying her work that she had been preparing for a long time.

Perhaps he was the kind of person who could not stand seeing others being better than themselves.

Hesper’s tone was not friendly, and Evon mumbled something. After a while, he let out a cold smirk. “It seems like you’ve finally decided to shed off your disguise. You’re just someone who utilizes your body to get ahead. What makes you think that you can talk to me like that?”

Hesper frowned and fell silent.

It turned out that the reason Evon was there was that he was eavesdropping on their conversation when they were inside the office.

“I finally understand why Mr. Pisano likes you so much. So, you guys are in that kind of relationship, Evon said. Even though he still sounded displeased, the disgust in his gaze had ebbed away a little. “If you had said so earlier, no one would have looked down on you.”

Evon’s words just made Hesper feel very confused.

“First of all, I got this position and won the bid based on my own efforts and ideas. I didn’t rely on anyone,” Hesper said, her face and gaze cold. “Secondly, Mr. Etienne, I’m absolutely sure that you’re the one who was behind what happened to my dress. Don’t get too comfortable; I’ll get the evidence and expose you.”

Hesper drew out her words toward the second half of her sentence, which sent a chill down Evon’s back.

“I have no idea what you’re talking about.”

Raising her eyebrows, Hesper continued, “Whatever you say, Mr. Etienne. But you’ve heard it too. Mr. Pisano and I have a special relationship. If I find out that you’re doing something fishy again, I won’t go easy on you. You’d better pray that day won’t come soon.”

Hesper was still pretty angry on her way back.

Even though she was able to temporarily intimidate Evon by emphasizing her relationship with Pennleigh, she was very certain that the longer she dragged on the matter regarding the destruction of her work, the less likely she was going to find any evidence to hold Evon accountable for his action.

Suddenly, Renfrew's face appeared in Hesper's mind.

'How could I forget about him? He was able to block the camera and ran away from home by himself last time. Since he has learned a lot of new skills recently, it shouldn't be a problem for him to look into this matter, right?'

With that thought in her mind, Hesper sent a message to Renfrew.

Renfrew replied very rapidly and told her that he could try to do something about it.

"Renfrew is the best!"

While Hesper was filled with delight, she felt proud as well.

[See? Renfrew is the best! There are no other kids who're better than my Renfrew! You can even help solve problems that mommy can't solve.]

Meanwhile, Renfrew's face blushed and turned around to look at Rickard.

"Mommy is praising me. Go away, Daddy."

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Rickard looked at Renfrew helplessly. It had been a long time since he had heard Hesper's voice.. If Renfrew did not play the voice message on speaker, he might not have heard it for a long time.

"Well, this program is easy. I should be able to fix it. I'll send it to you in a bit," Renfrew said.

As expected, the person splashing ink in the video was Evon.

"Isn't that the dress Mommy designed? Did this bad guy destroy your dress, Mommy?" Renfrew asked, his voice thick with rage. "Did someone bully you over there, Mommy? I'll go help you punish him!"

"Don't worry. There's no one in this world who can bully your mommy," Hesper said.

She was pretty sure that Evon was just jealous of her. The thing she did not understand was why Evon had to be jealous of her? He was Eustoma's chief designer, and she was just a rookie.

It was not like he was going to die from losing one or two projects, so why would he do that to her?

Hesper thought for a while, but she decided not to give the video to Pennleigh. After all, Evon held a pretty important position in the company. If she exposed him right away, it might make things ugly for everyone.

“What to do with you...” Hesper mumbled as she tapped her finger on the table. While she was deep in thought, her phone rang. “Mr. Sanchez?”

“Hesper, do you still remember the competition you participated in last time?” Roberto’s voice was laced thick with delight. Hesper had participated in quite a lot of competitions lately, so she did not know which one he was talking about.

“Did I win?”

“You won first place!” Roberto felt somewhat exasperated when he heard how calm Hesper was. That was no ordinary competition. If you’re able to obtain its pass, it means that your design is already top-notch among your peers.”

Roberto had participated in many competitions and fashion shows. Hesper felt helpless; she could not understand why he was so happy when she just won a small student competition.

Her goal was not to stand out among her peers but to do the best she could.

“Okay, I called to talk about this matter and also to let you know that I have found a good kickboxing instructor for you. The price is reasonable, and I heard that he has a good temper. Plus, he’s also a Halwanese, so it shouldn’t be a problem for you to communicate with him.”

In fact, Hesper could converse with Fredonians without any difficulty. However, she knew that Roberto must’ve gone through a lot of effort to find her an instructor that came from the same country as her.

“He’s a graduate student from our school, a very down-to-earth and handsome kid. He’s just a little quiet. I didn’t expect him to be so good at kickboxing. In your words, he’s not what he appears to be,” Roberto continued.

Hesper nodded. “Okay Thank you so much, Mr. Sanchez.”

After encountering 013 multiple times, Hesper realized that she had to learn how to defend herself. After all, she couldn’t always rely on someone else to save her.

She didn’t believe in anything else, but she was never graced by the goddess of luck.

Since Hesper had to take care of her work and studies, she could only schedule her kickboxing lessons on Saturday evenings.

Just as Roberto said, the price was really reasonable.

Following the location he sent her, Hesper found a dance studio with the lights still on.

“Is there anyone here?”

Hesper's voice sounded a bit soft in the spacious dancing room. There was nothing in the dancing room other than several walls covered in mirrors. Being alone, she couldn't help feeling a little

uneasy.

Although Hesper was not a superstitious person, she felt anxious in a closed environment like this. After some thought, Hesper turned around and tried to push the door open to leave.

Chapter 429

"Hey..."

Hesper did not see that someone was coming toward her, so she bumped into him. When she heard the grunt from that person, she took a step back and said, "I'm so sorry about that..."

"Ms. Rivera?"

A familiar voice rang out above her, prompting Hesper to raise her head. She saw someone who she did not expect to see at all.

"Seth?"

Leaning on the door, Seth frowned after he confirmed that the woman in front of him was Hesper. "What are you doing here? I thought you were in Emperion? Why did you come to Fredonia, and why do you want to learn kickboxing?"

Hesper's wildest dreams would she have thought she would run into Seth there. After the initial shock ebbed away, she suddenly realized something. "How did you recognize me?"

She had changed her face. Seth had only seen her once, so how did he recognize her?

"Umm... It's because of your smell," Seth said flatly. "I have a sensitive sense of smell. I didn't see your face either. I just recognized you through your body scent."

Hesper did not expect that her body scent would sell her out one day. But she did not even use her usual perfume or laundry detergent, so what kind of scent was he talking about?

"I'm sorry, if I had known from the beginning that the student Roberto mentioned was you, I wouldn't have taken the job," Seth said as he stepped back a couple of steps to keep his distance away from Hesper. "It's dangerous here, Why didn't you stay in Emperion, Ms. Rivera?"

It seemed to Hesper that Seth did not know what had happened recently.

“Nothing. Just some things happened, and now I’ve been studying abroad in Fredonia recently,” Hesper said. Then, she realized something. “You said it’s dangerous here. Do you know something?”

Seth shook his head and replied matter-of-factly, “Antellon is a high-crime city. Didn’t a murder case occur in the downtown area a few days ago?”

“Alright...” Hesper carefully observed Seth’s expression, but she could not detect anything unusual, so she had to give up in the end.

“Why don’t you want to take up the job? Do you hate me?”

Seth was stumped for a moment, for he found it difficult to answer the question. After a short while, he shook his head and replied, “Not really.”

‘That means he hates me.’

In fact, Hesper had noticed Seth’s slight hostility when they met for the first time. Therefore, she pressed on and asked, “Why do you hate me? Is it because I’m Nathaniel’s fiancée?”

Seth fell silent.

Seriously?

This time, Seth did not keep silent and nodded. “Nate is the most Important family member to me. Before you came back, he only cared about me because I was his most Important family member, But after you came back, he began to like you more.”

Hesper was speechless. She did not know how Seth would come to such a conclusion.

“But Nathaniel and I aren’t going to get married. Besides, I’m no longer his fiancée anymore. You may not be aware of what has happened recently, but I’m no longer a member of the Lanes.”

Seth frowned when he heard what she said. “What happened?”

‘Seriously? Nobody told him about what happened?’

“Aren’t you one of the Tuckers? Did no one tell you anything? Not even Nathaniel?”

Chapter 430

Seth shook his head. “Other than Nate, no one else thinks that I’m one of the Tuckers. Actually, we both lied to you last time. I’m not Nate’s cousin. I’m his adopted brother.”

Hesper was shocked. Both Nathaniel's parents passed away shortly after his birth, and Hesper knew that both of them were soldiers. It made sense for the Tuckers to adopt a poor child, given their economic power.

"After Mr. & Mrs. Tucker passed away, the Tuckers wanted to kick me out. It was Nate who stepped forward and protected me. He even sent me overseas so that I could continue my studies" Seth paused for a moment before continuing. "But sometimes, I feel sorry for him..."

Hesper did not expect the situation to be like this. Perhaps the reason Nathaniel did not tell Seth about his situation was that he thought Seth did not need to know about it. After all, these things basically had nothing to do with Seth. If it were not for this unexpected encounter, Seth might still be kept in the dark.

"Now you don't have any reason to reject me, right?" Hesper said, crossing her arms in front of her chest. "I no longer have anything to do with Nathaniel, and you're the most suitable kickboxing instructor I was able to find in Fredonia. If you still don't want to accept me, I demand a suitable reason from you."

Seth frowned and fixed his gaze at Hesper.

"You should go back. If you don't want to get hurt, only Nate can protect you."

Even though he sounded like he was worried about her, she could not sense any hint of worries in his voice. It sounded more like advice to her.

"If you don't like me, then why do you worry about me so much?"

"You have too many questions." Seth sighed. His beautiful slanted eyes lowered, looking as if he was tired or he was thinking about how he could talk Hesper out of it.

"Forget about it. I'll teach you, but you probably won't be able to learn it."

"You're so quick to judge me without even giving me a chance. That's too presumptuous, isn't it?" Hesper asked.

Seth fell silent.

Learning kickboxing was never easy. It required one to have a good physique. Hesper had never learned kickboxing before, and she did not seem to have very good physical condition either. It was better to not learn than to learn poorly. Hence, Seth did not believe that Hesper could really learn anything.

But as he looked into her bright eyes, even though her face was quite ordinary, he could recognize her just by those beautiful and unique eyes. Even without his nose, he was still able to recognize her through his eyes and heart.

“No news yet?” Matthew asked as he kept his eyes closed. Isaac shook his head and replied, “Not

Lane

We’ve investigated the entire database of Fredonian University, yet we still couldn’t find Ms.

“Could it be that Ms. Lane is no longer studying at Fredonian University and the information she gave us before was false?”

This speculation had been in Isaac’s mind for a long time. After all, Hesper had decided to go off the grid, so she probably would not tell them the truth.

Upon hearing what he said, Matthew opened his eyes. Before he could say anything, someone knocked on the door.

“Matt, are you in there?” Rachael asked carefully. “Today, I learned how to cook from a kitchen maid and I heard you were still working overtime at the company, so I brought some food for you

to taste.”

Matthew furrowed his brows imperceptibly and took a deep breath.