### Chapter 1147 Targeted

King appeared before Mistem in a mask. "Mistem, how were things going when I wasn't around?" King questioned. Mistem positioned his right hand before his chest and half-kneeled before King. "All arrangements have been made. However, Ms. Helma might be affected if we were to force Natalie into danger."

King scoffed. "Geert's two daughters are just like him, all pride with no capability. That's the case for his eldest daughter, and that's also the case for his younger daughter. If I had managed to marry her back then, our daughter could have been someone like Natalie Nichols."

At that, Mistem lifted his head to look at the masked man. Mistem had seen King's face before, and he knew that no one would ever expect that certain man to be the one leading Blaze all these years.

The wind was strong that day. After three days and three nights on the sea, the shipment finally arrived at Yaleview's port and entered Dream Corporation's warehouse.

Yandel was staring out the window, daydreaming. When Natalie stood up to pour herself a glass of water, she filled a glass for Yandel as well. "Yandel, what's on your mind?"

Yandel took the glass from Natalie and said without any reservation, "I'm thinking about how our collaboration with the Leitz family is going a little too smoothly. There hasn't been a single hitch, and that doesn't make sense. But I can't figure out what's amiss."

After saying that, Yandel realized he was not making any sense.

"Boss, you don't really understand what I'm talking about, right? Honestly, it feels like I'm speaking in tongues, and I'm confusing myself too."

"Well, I have to admit it's a little confusing." Natalie patted Yandel's shoulder. "But it has nothing to do with the way you're expressing it. Something is up about this matter. Maybe the hitch you're waiting for will pop up soon."

A look of surprise manifested on Yandel's face when he heard her.

"Boss, you know what problem is going to pop up already?"

"I don't." Natalie blinked and shrugged before chuckling.

"Then why are you still laughing?"

"Why shouldn't I be laughing?" Natalie threw the question back at him. "I'm a changed woman. Even if I'm in some kind of danger, you guys will think of a way to fish me out of it. Moreover, do I look like a doormat?"

Danger was coming, but Natalie found herself feeling more at ease than before.

There were many things in life she could not avoid, so she saw no point in worrying about them.

Furthermore, she did not need to bear the burden of everything by herself anymore.

Natalie's words stupefied Yandel for a while. Once he registered her response, he started chuckling too. It was then he realized that Natalie had changed over time without his knowledge.

She had become even more brilliant and stronger.

"Boss, if you're a doormat, you might hurt someone's foot," Yandel teased.

"Let's wait for a little longer."

Speak of the devil, and he shall come.

Before the two of them could even finish their glass of water, a group of uniformed police officers came to Dream's office. They seemed like they were in a hurry, and they were clearly coming for Natalie.

Yandel drew his brows together. "This is..."

Natalie glanced at Yandel before turning to look at the leading officer.

"Are you Natalie Nichols?"

"I am," she calmly answered.

"The police have reason to suspect that you're involved in a drug dealing case. Please come with us now," the leading officer said as he took out handcuffs. "Please cooperate with us. If you do not, we'll have to resort to force."

Hearing that, Yandel moved to stop them, but Natalie shook her head at him.

"Remember what I told you earlier?"

Yandel was upset about it, but he knew what Natalie meant.

Evidently, Natalie and Dream Corporation were now someone's target.

This was unavoidable. Instead of trying to flee from the problem, what they should be doing was thinking of a way to resolve it.

With a click, Natalie was cuffed.

## Chapter 1148 Work With Each Other

Bad news travels fast. News spread like wildfire in Yaleview when the cops arrested Natalie for drug dealing. There was a point in history when drugs had nearly destroyed Loang. That was why the royal family and citizens hated drug traffickers to the bone.

No matter how prestigious a person was, he or she would be sentenced to death if they were found to be associated with drugs. After handcuffing Natalie, the cops led her into the patrol car and sat beside her.

"You're young, gorgeous, and the chairwoman of a company. Yet, you chose to be a drug dealer. You must be out of your mind, huh?" One of the female cops tilted her head, studied Natalie from head to toe, and made a sarcastic remark.

"No one is above the law. Anyone who gets involved in drugs is just courting death. Be prepared to face capital punishment once you're convicted!" another cop said. Natalie glared at them before giving them a calm response. "I didn't do it."

"Still feigning ignorance when all the evidence and witnesses are against you?" One of them snorted. "You think you can get away with it just because you're rich? Listen carefully, missy. Deny all you want, but trust me, we have ways to get you to confess your crime."

Natalie had thought she would go through a proper trial, but upon hearing that, she began to feel that something was amiss. Her eyes darkened. The witnesses, evidence, and the trial... It looks like the person had everything planned out.

It was clear that the mastermind wanted to pin the crime on her. Natalie felt a surge of emotions in her heart, as she knew justice would not be on her side once she was taken to the police station.

Instead of paying attention to the female cops' sarcasm, she shut her eyes and pretended to be asleep. We can only see through a person when we're in dire straits. The fact that the Leitz family could sneak suspicious items into the stockpile meant that there was a traitor in Dream. Perhaps it's the right time now to weed the rat out.

Soon, Samuel learned that Natalie had been detained at the police station.

The expression on Emma's and the five children's faces stiffened when they heard about the news. They were mad that she had been made a scapegoat, but at the same time, they were also worried she would be gone for good.

Samuel pressed his lips as his eyes darkened. He looked away, as he could no longer hide the bloodlust in his eyes.

"Daddy, will Mommy..." Sophia gently pulled the corner of his shirt and started crying. "Will Mommy come back?"

Samuel was in an utterly bad mood, but he pulled himself together and said to the five children, "I'll think of a way to rescue your mommy. She'll return safely, I promise. But I need all of you to stay home and listen to Mrs. Bunton."

The children wished they could help, but they knew there was nothing much they could do.

Causing a commotion would not do any good and might even add to Samuel's burden. The children were aware of the consequences.

"Daddy, don't worry! We'll listen to Mrs. Bunton! You must bring Mommy home."

The children were exceptionally thoughtful.

Emma bobbed her head in response. "Don't worry, Mr. Bowers. I'll take good care of the children."

After squatting down and giving each of them a peck on the forehead, he bade them farewell, turned around, and left the house.

Billy was already waiting for him by the door in his Hummer.

"Billy," Samuel called out.

"Mr. Bowers," Billy greeted him respectfully.

Once he got into the back seat of the Hummer, Samuel said, "Billy, Mrs. Bowers and I are now in a quandary despite being miles apart. But from now on, we have to work with each other to turn things around."

## Chapter 1149 I Am Innocent

Over at Luna Palace, Cynthia was practicing calligraphy when she learned about the news from Demi. Her hand froze instantly. The excess ink in her pen seeped through the paper. After a short pause, she regained her composure and gave Demi a baffling look. "Are you sure?"

"Absolutely," Demi replied. "Her arrest hasn't been announced publicly, but I got this information from a reliable source. I wouldn't have told you if it was an unverified rumor, Lady Cynthia." "Got it." Cynthia put aside her pen.

Beneath her deadpan expression, she was overwhelmed by emotions on the inside. If Natalie is found guilty of drug trafficking in Loang, she'll face capital punishment. The fact that the cops have nabbed Natalie means they have evidence against her. At this point, nobody will care if the evidence is credible or fabricated anymore.

Cynthia was pleased with the outcome. It's time for Natalie to pay back what her mother had done to me. A few seconds later, Cynthia started laughing hollowly.

Somehow, Demi could feel that Cynthia was laughing to vent her hatred and she could not wrap her head around it. "You can leave now."

"Understood." After trying to process her thoughts for a few seconds, Demi came to her senses and left the room. Cynthia picked up the stained paper and glanced at the words she had written on top.

Overwhelmed by mixed feelings, she crumpled the paper with intense hatred in her eyes. Jen, I'm surprised you survived the ordeal and sought refuge in Chanaea. You chose to stay in a faraway land instead of returning to your home country. But in

the end, your daughter still returned to Loang—the country you escaped from years ago!

Cynthia continued squeezing the paper so hard that her fingernails sank into it. She gritted her teeth and muttered, "I won't let her off the hook. Just you wait!"

Meanwhile, the cops did not lock Natalie up at the police station. Since her arrest was related to drugs, she was put away in a special interrogation unit.

After changing into the outfit provided by the cops, Natalie was locked within four walls with no light and windows.

Not only did the cops cuff her limbs, but they also removed her accessories and confiscated her communication device. Clad in a grey outfit, she could only sit quietly in the confined space.

There was not even a clock she could refer to in the pitch-black room. It was so quiet that she could hear her breathing, heartbeat, and the sound of her swallowing the fluid lodged in her throat.

She was all alone in total darkness.

After a long time, she finally saw a glimpse of light when two uniformed men entered the room.

"Your name," the leader asked with an unamused expression. He sounded as though he was about to draw his gun and point it at her forehead.

Natalie lifted her head and shot daggers at the man. "Natalie Nichols."

"When we're carrying out our routine inspection, we found controlled substances in Dream's warehouse." The man then tossed a few photos and raised his voice. "I can call it controlled substances, but we all know they're illegal drugs! How dare you smuggle drugs to Loang? Do you know drug trafficking is punishable by death?"

The interrogator exerted intense psychological pressure on her.

Besides being confrontational, the man adjusted the table lamp and aimed the light at Natalie's eyes. The intense light beam caused her to shed tears uncontrollably since her eyes had been accustomed to the darkness.

Refusing to answer his question, Natalie kept her eyes shut.

The man slammed on the stainless steel desk. "Natalie Nichols, we found evidence in your warehouse. What say you?"

Natalie remained silent. Is this all they can do? Why should I plead guilty if I didn't do anything? No one can force me to confess a crime I've not committed.

The teary-eyed Natalie opened her eyes and glared at the man. She refused to give in. "The photos may be real, but I didn't do it. I'm innocent."

### Chapter 1150 Why Am I Panicking

Natalie showed no sign of fear or weakness, although tears had welled up in her eyes. "Based on our investigations, Dream Corporation in Chanaea is involved in the pharmaceutical and entertainment industries," the interrogator said.

After a short pause, the man carried on with his assumption. "Is your pharmaceutical business involved in producing those illegal substances? Did you sneak them into Loang in the name of expanding your jewelry business in our country?"

Natalie responded with a cold snort. "What are you laughing at?" the man questioned her.

"I'm laughing at the assumption you made based on the limited information you gathered." Natalie stopped smiling and pulled a straight face. "Pharmaceutical is a noble industry. You can make deductions from the available evidence, but please stop making unsubstantiated allegations against me!"

"You..." The man was taken aback by how steady Natalie was. W-Why am I panicking? After putting the lamp back on the table, the man sneered, "You think you can get off scot-free just by denying it?"

"You arrested me because you're performing your duty," Natalie said nonchalantly. "I'm also exercising my rights by telling you the truth. You can't force me to admit something I didn't do."

Bang! Upon hearing her remark, the man once again slammed the desk. "How dare you deny when the evidence is against you? Stop playing with words!" "I didn't play with words. I was just telling you the truth."

"It's all just sophistry!" The man stared at her from the corners of his eyes. "Since you refused to confess your crime, I have no choice but to do something to make you spit the truth!"

Natalie licked her dry lips. I should keep my mouth shut since the answer I gave was not what they were looking for, and I couldn't provide them with the response they wanted.

The cops had not offered her a glass of water since they locked her in the room. When are they going to give me some drinking water though...

Natalie continued to ignore him, and he exploded, "F\*ck! Say something!" Natalie still gave him the cold shoulder. "Okay! I guess we have to do it the hard way!" The man gave his partner an eye signal, and the latter went out of the room.

A few minutes later, his partner returned with two carts of instruments of torture, like a blunt knife and a chain whip. The man walked up to Natalie and lifted her chin.

"Speak!" He inched closer and whispered in her ear, "Confess your crime right now. You can't escape the death sentence, but we can spare you the suffering while you're still alive. You're a lady, and I'm sure you don't want to go through hell. For your information, the person outside has given me permission to do anything to you."

Natalie's eyes narrowed when she heard that. Who's the person? Is the person the mastermind behind this? Is he or she from the Leitz family?

Yandel and Natalie had taken all the precautionary measures when they decided to work with the Leitz family, as they were aware of the risks. Yet, she had still fallen victim to their scheme. We have a traitor lurking around, and I'm sure this traitor is someone holding a high-rank position in Dream.

"Is the person waiting outside Helma Leitz?" Natalie asked.

"The Leitzs can't make me do anything." The man snorted and expressed his disdain.

Natalie began to wonder who orchestrated this. Who else if the mastermind is not Helma or the Leitzs?

She still could not figure out who the person was after pondering for some time.

"I'm giving you one more chance to confess your crime right now!" The man picked up the chain whip from the cart and started swinging it in the air.

Natalie glared at him and responded, "I'm innocent!"

Upon hearing that, the man lashed her with a whip.