### Chapter 1121 The Truth Revealed

After a moment, they realized that the lady was the reporter's wife. When the wife knew that her husband had been kidnapped and he could be in danger at any time, she immediately rushed to the police station to file a report and asked for help. Initially, the police were investigating this matter, so they immediately interrogated the wife. After some time, they realized they had gotten some new clues.

Firstly, it wasn't the Sawyer Group who had kidnapped the reporter. The reporter's wife suspected someone wanted to kill her husband and framed it on the Sawyer Group. The second matter was about Tessa hitting Amber. The truth was that the reporter had received some benefits from someone and intentionally framed Tessa!

When the netizens saw the news, they were dumbstruck.

'I told you guys that something was off about this, but none of you believe me.'

'Now that the reporter's wife has clarified the matter, what do you have to say for yourself, haters?'

No one had ever expected that things would end up this way, and the one to provide the evidence was the reporter's wife. Moreover, not only did she explain the whole thing at the police station, she even started streaming online to explain it to the public.

When the netizens heard the news, they rushed into the live stream and asked many questions. The reporter's wife, on the other hand, tried her best to answer each question that was sent her way.

"You guys asked how I'm sure that it wasn't the Sawyer Group who did it, right? That's because if it were them, they would have clarified it on the Internet as soon as they caught my husband and not posted a video."

"How long has my husband gone missing? He had never returned home ever since this matter has been exposed."

"What do I think about this matter? All I can say is that my husband can redeem his mistake, but he is in a critical situation right now. I don't know whether he is in danger or not, but I hope the police can rescue him as soon as possible."

"Did someone really instigate my husband? Yes. My husband was indeed being instigated by someone and framed Miss Tessa as a result. The video that you guys saw is not the truth."

"Do I have any evidence? Of course, I have. My husband has the complete video, and that is the evidence. As for the video, I have given it to the media. I believe that the truth will soon be revealed. All I hope right now is for my husband to return in peace."

The reporter's wife replied to each of the netizens' questions after reading them. When the netizens saw her reaction, they felt pity for her. At the same time, they were even more curious about what had really happened.

Thus, when the complete video was posted on the Internet at noon, the netizens immediately noticed it. When they watched the whole video, they were furious.

'F\*ck! Such a vicious old hag. She shouldn't still be living and should have died long ago!'

'Even a vicious tiger will not eat its cubs. Tessa is her great-granddaughter, yet she still curses and barks at her. What did Tessa ever do to deserve this?'

'Dang it. I want to slap her in the face so badly.'

'Me too! I have been plotted against!'

In the complete video, Amber was cursing and scolding Tessa's unborn child as she pointed at Tessa's pregnant bump. That was why Tessa had slapped Amber; she couldn't withstand it anymore. At that moment, the netizens were heartbroken to see Tessa in such a situation. Some of them that had scolded Tessa immediately started to apologize for their actions.

'I'm sorry, Tessa. I shouldn't have cursed you when I only know half the truth.'

'If I were in such a situation, I wouldn't stop after giving her just a slap.'

'Yeah. As a mother, I can't withstand seeing others hurting my children.'

'To be honest, I think Tessa handled this more maturely than all of us. This old lady had kicked her and Timothy out of the house when they were young. Logically speaking, they aren't a family anymore. However, Tessa was still willing to return from abroad and spent money to take care of that old lady when she had cancer. Even when such a scandal had occurred, she didn't give up on that old lady. I think Tessa has done enough.'

'I agree with you. I'm sure that most people won't be able to be as big-hearted as Tessa.'

. . .

At Dynasty Gardens, Tessa was relieved when she saw that the truth had been revealed on the Internet.

### Chapter 1122 I'm Not Jealous of Tessa

As long as the matter had been clarified on the Internet, anything the mastermind did would be pointless. At this moment, the netizens were still talking about it all over the Internet, saying that Tessa was too kind-hearted.

'If it were me, I would have left that old hag to death.'

'Tessa is too much of a sweet person; that's why that old lady would crawl all over her head. I hope she will prioritize herself more.'

Even many netizens were telling Tessa to brave it out and ignore Amber. Then, they were talking about the mastermind behind all this. As the netizens thought that they had been used, they were furious.

'I wonder who the horrible person is to frame a pregnant woman!'

'I suspect that it's someone whom Tessa knows. Otherwise, there is no such coincidence!'

'You don't say. I was thinking about the same thing too. Someone must have been jealous of her achievement and wanted to ruin her reputation. It's a common scheme in the entertainment industry.

'I'm impressed that Tessa and Timothy can take care of themselves in such a horrible family. Moreover, they've achieved great things. Timothy started a company and is a young entrepreneur, while Tessa stayed true to herself and pursued her dream. Now, she is a musician overseas!'

'Yeah. I heard her fans from overseas say that she has a promising future, and most of the tycoons have high hopes for her.'

'Even a big shot like Sofia had made an exception and took her as an apprentice. This alone is enough to prove how talented Tessa is.'

'However, such a talented person was slandered and brought to the mud. Who knows what horrible thoughts the mastermind had?!'

'I hope the police will hurry up and catch the mastermind behind this!'

'Me too. If they find it, I will surely bring a batch of rotten eggs and get my revenge. How dare they plot against me and make me bad-mouth a nice person!'

'That's right. They are treating us like fools.'

At that moment, Wanda's face was red from anger as she watched the netizens' comments, especially when she saw that they said she did it out of jealousy.

"Why would I be jealous of her? I am the young lady of the Muller Family. Why should I get jealous of a musician who can't have anything she wants? This is just ridiculous! So what if I had plotted against them? I'm not the one to be blamed for their stupidity!" Wanda snarled.

Glaring at the comments, Wanda was even more discontented when she thought the situation did not turn out as she had expected.

"Darn it. How did it go wrong?" Wanda was so enraged that she swept everything off the table, but she was still angry. She was even mad when she thought it was the reporter's wife who had spread the truth. She knew this had something to do with Nicholas, but she couldn't figure out how she did not notice anything wrong when she ordered someone to keep an eye out for the reporter's wife.

At that moment, she called her assistant and interrogated her, asking, "Didn't I tell you to keep an eye on her? How did she manage to get to the police station?"

"You said not to cause any trouble deliberately, Miss Muller. Hence, I only ordered our men to watch her in the dark," the assistant explained in distress.

When Wanda heard her explanation, she was baffled, but she was still upset since she felt she had dug her own grave for this. The reason she told her assistant to do it secretly was that she was afraid that Nicholas would notice if she had monitored the wife straightforwardly. However, she never expected the minor hiccup.

Thinking about it, she was upset that she had outsmarted herself. However, anxiety overwhelmed her since the police were watching her because of this matter. At this moment, she regretted that she had let someone have the chance to post the video of her kidnapping the reporter. Initially, she would keep the reporter locked up until things were over. Then, she would have released him. However, now that things were out of her control, she was unsure what to do either.

### Chapter 1123 Every Kidnapping Has Its Purpose

No. I can't just sit here and watch as things worsen, Wanda thought with all seriousness. Thinking about it, she immediately waved for her assistant and whispered, "Tonight, go to the manor and..."

When it was nighttime, Wanda's assistant arrived at the manor by the outskirts. In the basement, the reporter was lying on the ground lifelessly when he heard footsteps. Immediately, he scurried up and sat straight.

Click! With a sound, the dark room lightened up like daytime. In that split second, the reporter covered his eyes since he was not used to such bright light. After a few seconds, he uncovered his eyes and saw that Wanda's assistant was not far from him. "It's you!" he exclaimed in surprise. Since the assistant was the one who gave him the benefits, he immediately recognized her.

At that moment, he went hysterical and interrogated her, asking, "What is Miss Muller planning on? Why did she ask me to leave on one side and order you to kidnap me on the other?!"

"The Sawyer Family has high authority, so there's no way for a powerless reporter like you to hide from them. Hence, Miss Muller asked for you to be locked up," the assistant explained coldly.

Even though he heard the explanation, he wasn't too happy with it. "Even if she is worried that I will be caught, that doesn't give the right for you guys to lock me up in such a place without telling me—"

"That's why I'm here to let you go." The assistant cut off his unfinished words. "However, it could only be done under one condition."

"What is it?"

"Now that this matter has gone out of hand and alerted the police, you can't let Miss Muller get involved in this matter if you want to leave. Don't worry, though. We won't take advantage of you. Here are five hundred million dollars."

Hearing her words, the reporter accepted them without hesitation. After all, five hundred million dollars was a considerable amount of money. He wouldn't be able to earn that much his whole life.

. . .

On the other hand, at Dynasty Gardens, Tessa was in a good mood since things had been settled. Seeing that it was something worth celebrating, she decided to showcase her cooking skills, filling the place with a wave of mouth-watering scent.

"Your food looks tasty, Mommy." As Gregory spoke, he stared at the food and drooled.

When the soup had been placed on the table, Tessa called Nicholas and Gregory for dinner. As they were dining, Andrew entered carrying a message. "Master Nicholas and Miss Tessa, Master Kieran has arrived."

As his words fell, the trio saw Kieran enter the dining room. "That smells delicious. Judging by the smell, Tessa must have prepared the meal herself, am I right?" Then, he looked at Tessa with big eyes.

Looking at him, Tessa laughed cheekily. "Have you eaten yet? Do you want to have some?"

"Now you're talking. I'm here tonight for a good meal." As Kieran spoke, he sat on the empty chair without hesitation.

Soon, the servant gave him a plate and some cutlery. During the meal, he asked about the kidnapping. "Have you found the reporter yet, Nicholas?"

"Not yet. They are very cautious and left no trail behind," replied Nicholas as he shook his head.

Hearing his words, Kieran couldn't help but mumble, "What's going on in Southend? These kidnapping cases are rising. Is our public safety that bad?"

When Tessa heard his words, she recalled when Kieran was kidnapped. Hence, she asked concernedly, "Did you find out who kidnapped you?"

"No. I have checked on each of my rivals, but I couldn't find any clue," Kieran shook his head and explained in defeat.

Hearing his words, Tessa was rather surprised. "Could it be that you have missed out on anything?"

"That's impossible." Kieran shook his head and denied it. "That's another thing I can't figure out. The mastermind behind my kidnapping had requested not to hurt me, and they didn't do anything to me. It feels like they kidnapped me just for fun." As he spoke, he couldn't help but laugh.

However, Nicholas squinted his eyes when he heard Kieran's words. "Every kidnapping has a purpose. Why don't you try thinking about it from a different perspective? Did something else happen back then?"

### Chapter 1124 There Might Be a Connection

"Nothing seems to have happened," said Kieran, frowning with slight dissatisfaction. Suddenly, he paused to think for a few seconds. "Oh, wait, I remember something. If you must say, Tessa encountered trouble abroad after I had been kidnapped. However, I'm sure there's nothing to do with it, right?"

Hearing his words, Tessa also thought that her encounter had nothing to do with Kieran's kidnapping. On the contrary, she wondered whether Kieran's friends were pulling a prank on him on purpose since he might have offended them. Thinking about it, she felt there might be a possibility, so she asked aloud, "Could it be that it's your friends who are messing with you?"

"It... It might have been them." As Kieran spoke, he thought about it and felt that what Tessa said might have been true. After all, there was a high chance that his fair-weather friends would do this.

Feeling that he had discovered the truth, Kieran immediately grabbed his phone, planning to interrogate each of his friends. However, before he could phone any of them, he heard Nicholas' crisp voice.

"There might be a connection between these two matters." As his words fell, Tessa and Kieran looked at him in surprise. Kieran was restless and demanded, "What do you mean by that, Nicholas?"

Although Tessa didn't say anything, she was also looking at Nicholas anxiously in anticipation for him to explain his words.

Looking at them, Nicholas explained, "Just now, you said that Tessa had gotten into trouble not long after you were kidnapped. At that moment, Eunice was

plotting against Tessa, and I was on my way back. I was going to leave Vienna but didn't make it on time since you managed to escape quickly."

Listening to his words, Tessa and Kieran had thoughtful expressions on their faces. After some time, Kieran thought about the key to Nicholas' words and stared at him agape. "You are the one who kidnapped me?" Then, he mumbled to himself before anyone could say anything, "You make it seem like I'm being kidnapped, but in reality, you are using me as bait to bring you back from abroad. If that's the case, that explains why they didn't hurt me. After all, as a bargaining chip, I have to be unharmed."

When Tessa heard his words, she felt that he had a point. At the same time, she was worried and thought, If Nicholas was the one the mastermind wanted, would the mastermind retake action now that they were back?

As Tessa was in thought, Nicholas noticed her sudden change of emotions and knew that she was worried about him. Then, he reached out and grabbed her hand. "Don't overthink it. These are all just guesses when things are not investigated thoroughly yet."

Hearing his words, Tessa nodded. Then, Nicholas turned to look at Kieran. "I advise you to look into this matter."

Kieran nodded in understatement.

After they had finished dinner, Kieran knew it was time for him to leave as he saw Nicholas and Tessa being all clingy. "It's getting late, Tessa. I'll get going then. Remember to call me when you have cooked again." Then, he left in a hurry.

Seeing that Kieran was jumping as he left, Tessa couldn't help but smile. "You and Kieran are so different."

"He's been like that ever since he was young. I also hope that he can always stay true to himself." A glint of adoration flashed across Nicholas' eyes as he looked in the direction where Kieran had left.

Listening to his words, Tessa felt touched, knowing that Nicholas had put much effort into letting Kieran stay true to himself. Then, she rested her head on Nicholas' shoulder gently. "That's why Kieran likes you."

At that moment, Gregory looked at Tessa and then back to Nicholas. Although he didn't understand the meaning of Tessa's words, he knew they were talking about Kieran. Hence, he joined into the conversation happily, saying, "Uncle Kieran is the best, Mommy. He just promised me that he would give me a special gift for my birthday."

Seeing the bright smile on his face, Tessa couldn't help but chuckle. "You are being bribed just by having a gift? I wonder who was the one who said not to invite Uncle Kieran to dinner. If you think he is the best, I'll invite him over when I cook the next time."

Chapter 1125 The Journalist Reappears

"Mommy..." Gregory whined and approached Tessa as he knew that she was merely pulling his leg.

The three of them hung out together for a little longer before Tessa took Gregory to read while Nicholas went to the study to work.

A short while later, he received a call from Edward. "President Sawyer, we found that journalist."

"Where?" Nicholas asked with a stoic face.

"Our men discovered him. It seems like he was released by the kidnappers, and he went home straight away after his appearance," Edward reported honestly.

"The kidnappers released him?" Despite his surprise, Nicholas immediately instructed, "Catch him right now."

"I'm afraid that will be impossible," Edward said as he sounded sheepish.

Nicholas frowned. "What happened?"

"After the journalist returned, he originally wanted to leave with his wife and child, but the police had sent men everywhere to protect his family in the dark. So, they caught him the moment he appeared, and he's now in the police station," Edward answered and spilled the beans about the situation with the journalist.

Despite the truth, Nicholas wasn't bothered, and he responded in his husky voice, "I'm going over right now."

After that, he hung up, rose to his feet, and headed out of the study.

When he arrived at the top of the staircase, he heard Tessa's voice saying, "It's already so late, Nicholas. Are you still going out?"

Looking back, he saw Tessa standing at Gregory's door with a glass of water in her hands.

Nicholas' expression softened, and he strode over. "Something cropped up at the company at the last minute and I need to attend to it. Don't wait for me and head to bed early if you're tired," he said and planted a kiss on her forehead.

As for why he didn't tell Tessa the truth, it was because he didn't want her to worry.

She didn't suspect anything and nodded. "Go ahead, then. Be careful when you're driving and get things done quickly, so you can come home earlier. Don't tire yourself out."

Nicholas gave her a nod and turned to head downstairs. When he arrived at the police station, he got out of the car and brought along with him a gust of cold air.

"Where's he?" he asked, giving Edward a cold look.

"He's being held in the interrogation room," Edward reported quickly.

By the time they were at the interrogation room, the police were almost finished with the questioning and only needed to verify some details.

As unrelated people were not allowed into the room during questioning, both of them waited outside and an officer walked out when the questioning had ended a while later.

When he saw Nicholas outside the room, he solemnly greeted him, "Hello, President Sawyer."

Nicholas nodded in acknowledgment and asked indifferently, "Did that guy confess?"

"He did, and he said the one who instigated him is a person named Samantha."

After the officer revealed the instigator, Edward was the one surprised by it. "Did you say Samantha?"

"Why? Do you know this person named Samantha, Mr. Jackson?" the officer asked as he looked at Edward with suspicion.

At the same time, Nicholas turned to Edward as well.

Edward explained in a hurry, "I don't exactly know this person, but I do know a person with that name."

"Who's that?"

It was Nicholas who asked the question with a voice akin to the frost in the bitter winter—frighteningly cold.

"That's Wanda Muller's assistant," Edward answered honestly, not daring to hide anything.

Her? Does this have something to do with Wanda? Nicholas wondered as his face turned dark.

Seeing that Nicholas was silent, Edward took the situation into his own hands and asked the officer, "Since you've found out the truth, what punishment will this journalist receive?"

"He won't receive any severe punishment because he merely committed libel against Miss Reinhart after he received some benefits from others. By right, that isn't sufficient to put him behind bars because it isn't some heinous crime. At the most, he'll be detained."

After the officer finished speaking, he specifically took note of the grim Nicholas. Nobody could tell what was on Nicholas' mind, but he wasn't satisfied with the journalist's punishment at all.

Tessa was the one he held dearest in his heart, and he usually couldn't even bring himself to say a single harsh word to her, not to mention see a single tear from her.

### Chapter 1126 She's the Mastermind

However, this person allowed the woman whom he loved the most to be verbally abused by others! If the man was merely detained, Nicholas felt that it couldn't appease his anger at all.

"I'll get a lawyer to take care of this!" Having said that, he left the police station and his expression immediately fell after he walked out.

Recalling the conversation in the station, he tilted his head to Edward and coldly asked, "Do you think Wanda knows about this?"

"I think it's highly likely that she's the one who ordered this," Edward said, expressing his own opinion.

Frost formed over Nicholas' eyes. "Tell me what you think."

"Everyone knows about Miss Muller's feelings for you. Perhaps she realized that Old Master Tobias and Old Master Remus are beginning to accept Miss Tessa, plus the fact that Miss Tessa is about to give birth. That's why she might have panicked and wanted to hit two birds with one stone," Edward analyzed. "Using the assault incident, she wanted to destroy Miss Tessa's reputation so that the elders would detest her. Furthermore, I heard that the fetus might be affected if the mother experiences a huge mood swing."

Unexpectedly, right after he said those words, the air around him dropped a few degrees lower, and he saw that Nicholas was exuding a terrifying air of menace around him. There was also a thick layer of ice over his handsome face.

"What else?"

What else? Edward repeated in his head. Didn't I already analyze everything? Although he was stumped by Nicholas' question, he quickly racked his brain when he saw Nicholas emitting such a terrifying aura.

Suddenly, something popped into his mind and he said tentatively, "If Miss Muller has been thinking of ways to be with you, maybe she's connected to Master Kieran's kidnapping case."

Nicholas narrowed his eyes into an inexplicable expression. A few seconds later, he instructed, "Go and find out the truth behind this."

"Got it!" Edward answered with a nod.

Back home, Nicholas found Tessa seated in bed waiting for him as his heart turned soft and warm

"Didn't I tell you to go to bed early? Why are you still waiting?"

Gazing at him, she gave him a sweet smile. "I wanted to wait for you so that we can head to bed together."

At the sight of Tessa's beautiful smile, the things Edward said earlier about Wanda's plot went through his mind again, and Nicholas' face fell.

A woman's heart could be the most vicious. How could Wanda think about getting his wife and unborn child's life when they were so innocent?

Noticing that Nicholas didn't look so happy all of a sudden, Tessa was confused and worried as she asked, "What happened?"

He met her worried eyes and thought about it before telling her everything in the end.

"It wasn't because of work that I went out earlier. I had actually received news from the police that the journalist has been caught."

A surprised Tessa quickly asked, "He was caught! Did they find out who the mastermind is?"

Nicholas nodded. "They did, and the mastermind is Wanda Muller."

"How could it be her?!" Although she was a little stunned, she was puzzled at the same time. "I don't think I've ever offended her before. Not to mention, I've always been polite to her. Why is she doing this to me?"

Seeing the puzzled look on his wife's face, Nicholas decided not to say more. After all, he couldn't possibly tell her that Wanda acted this way because of him as that would only affect his relationship with Tessa.

"You don't have to care about this. I'll set things right for you," he assured.

Needless to say, Tessa had absolute trust in him, so she didn't ask more questions.

Meanwhile, Edward drove to the Sawyer Residence.

Kieran yawned as he came downstairs. "Mr. Jackson, are you here so late because my brother has some order and wants me to work overtime?"

Standing in the living room, Edward politely told him the purpose of his visit. "Master Kieran, the police just apprehended the journalist who was spreading the rumors. According to his confession, we think that this case may be related to your kidnapping case from before. That's why President Sawyer sent me here to investigate."

As soon as Kieran heard that, he immediately had a serious face. "What happened?"

"The journalist confessed that the instigator is Wanda Muller's assistant, so we suspect that Wanda Muller is the real mastermind, and her target is President Sawyer. Throwing your dramatic kidnapping into consideration, I reckoned that she's probably using you as the bait to lure President Sawyer back from abroad."

Chapter 1127 Did I Invite Everyone?

Edward told him his conclusions from earlier once more, and after Kieran listened to them, he found it reasonable as well and cooperated with Edward with the investigations.

Surprisingly, they found some clues when they continued their investigations with Wanda as the lead.

When it was almost midnight, the evidence that they had in their hands was enough to confirm that Wanda was also connected to the kidnapping case from before.

Early the next day, Andrew came knocking on the bedroom door a few minutes after Nicholas had woken up. "Master Nicholas, Master Kieran and Mr. Jackson are here."

"I got it. Take them to the study and wait there."

Nicholas knew very well that they were here so early because they had found something. Even so, he didn't get out in a rush. Instead, he meticulously took care of Tessa to wake up before heading for the study.

After he stepped in, he saw them seated on the couch, and he asked coldly, "Did you get to the bottom of it?"

"We did. The one causing the trouble is that woman, Wanda Muller." At the end of his sentence, Kieran gritted his teeth.

He thought, What a despicable woman! How could she do something like kidnap me just because of her selfish desires?

In contrast, Nicholas was calm as he peered at his angry brother. It was evident that he had already expected this outcome.

"Since that's what happened, use Grandpa's name to invite Wanda and Mr. Muller to dinner at the Sawyer Residence tonight," he instructed emotionlessly with lowered eyes.

Nodding, Kieran knew that his brother was planning to take care of this matter entirely, and while the three of them were discussing the details, a knock came at the door.

Courteously, Andrew stood outside and asked, "Master Nicholas, Madam Tessa is asking when you would like to have breakfast and if we should prepare the dishes for Master Kieran and Mr. Jackson as well."

"You don't have to specially prepare anything. We're coming now," Nicholas answered and turned to Kieran. "We'll do this according to what we discussed."

Kieran nodded, and they went downstairs for breakfast.

A while later at work, Kieran called Wanda using Remus' name and followed the plan that was agreed upon earlier.

"Miss Muller, my grandfather would like to invite you and Mr. Muller to dinner at the Sawyer Residence tonight. May I know if both of you will be available?"

"Of course, we are since it's an invitation from Old Master Sawyer," Wanda agreed without second thoughts. Then, she couldn't help but ask, "Kieran, will Nicholas show up tonight as well?"

"Definitely," Kieran answered with a snigger. Of course, Nicholas is going to be there since he wants to make a clean break.

Unaware that the journalist had been apprehended, Wanda thought that it was Nicholas who had covered up this matter, and after she found out that he would also be there tonight, she hung up the call with delight. That night, she chose a pretty attire and went to the Sawyer Residence with Horace.

On the other hand, Remus was very surprised to see them. "Why are you here all of a sudden?"

His words caught them by surprise as well. "Old Master Sawyer, aren't you the one who invited us?"

"I invited you?" Confused, Remus wondered, When did I send any invitation? I don't remember anything like that at all!

Just as he was about to ask the details, Ian came over again. "Sir, Master Tobias and his wife are here."

Right after the words left his lips, they saw Stefania and Tobias coming in with Kieran tagging behind them.

When Kieran was in the room, he was quick to notice that Wanda had carefully dolled up herself today and he sniggered. This woman really holds on to every chance she gets to attract Nicholas.

Oblivious to the sarcasm on his face, Wanda greeted Stefania and Tobias in a docile manner.

At the sight of Tobias and Stefania, Remus asked in surprise, "Why are the both of you here as well?"

"Didn't you tell us to come over for dinner tonight?" Stefania said, giving him an odd look.

Instantly, his eyes popped, and he asked, "When did I say such a thing?"

This time, it was Stefania and Tobias' turn to be surprised, and they shared a look before explaining, "Didn't you ask Kieran to inform us about the dinner here tonight?"

### Chapter 1128 We Found the Culprit

"When did I ask Kieran to..." Before Remus finished his sentence, he connected the dots and turned to Wanda next to him while asking, "Were you invited by Kieran as well?"

"Yes, he gave me a call and said that you invited me and my grandfather for dinner," Wanda answered with a nod. At that, Remus frowned slightly. The next second, his sharp eyes focused on Kieran as he questioned, "Out with it. What's going on?"

As Kieran had no plans of denying, he nodded and admitted, "It's true that I arranged the dinner tonight because I have an important announcement to make."

Seeing that Kieran was rarely this serious, Wanda couldn't help but tease, "You're being so cautious, Kieran. Could it be that you have someone you like and want to make an announcement?"

With a plastered smile on his face, he looked at her. "That's a secret."

On the other hand, it was Stefania, Tobias, and Remus who shot him an annoyed look.

"You made such a big fuss but still wouldn't tell us? Spit it out. What exactly is going on?" Stefania urged.

The patient Kieran assured, "No rush. I'll tell once Nicholas has arrived and everyone is here."

Out of wits, Stefania and the rest could only give up questioning for now and waited in the living room for Nicholas' arrival. Sure enough, he came a little later, but he was alone as Tessa and Gregory were not in tow.

Seeing that, Stefania asked in concern, "Where's Tessa and Greg? Why didn't they come along?"

"Tessa is home with Greg," Nicholas answered composedly.

However, their conversation sounded like nails on the chalkboard to Wanda's ears as she didn't imagine that the elders of the Sawyer Family had no opinions about Tessa even after what happened a few days ago.

After exchanging some pleasantries, they all proceeded to the dining room, and soon, the food was served.

During dinner, Remus glanced at Kieran and said solemnly, "Your brother is here now. Shouldn't you say what you wanted to say?"

"Yes, it's time now." Nodding, Kieran set down his fork and cleared his throat. "I gathered everyone here today because I've found the person who kidnapped me previously."

Right after he said those words, the fork slipped out of Wanda's hand and fell to the floor with a loud clang, which caused everyone to turn their heads in her direction out of reflex.

Sensing all eyes on her, she forced herself to remain calm and apologized, "Sorry, I didn't hold it well."

"That's alright. Ian, get another fork for Miss Muller," Stefania said, turning to Ian at the side and not noticing anything different with Wanda.

As Wanda took the new fork from him, her heart raced.

Meanwhile, Kieran could tell that Wanda was feeling guilty, and he teased with a half-smirk, "You better hold your fork well this time, Miss Muller."

"Thanks for the reminder, Kieran," she replied with a stiff smile.

Nevertheless, he didn't plan to let her off just like that and continued with the psychological attack to tease her. "Why do you seem a little panicky to me, Miss Muller?"

Wanda held her breath just as her hand, which was holding the fork, paled from the tight grip.

Don't panic and don't lose your head.

She kept telling herself as she tried her best to maintain a straight voice. "I think you saw it wrongly. Why should I panic?"

Despite what she said, her expression was vaguely livid, and Kieran snickered lightly. "You know the best whether you're panicking or not, but it's too early for you to start panicking."

His words sent a sense of unease through her. In contrast, the elders at the table were confused by his statement and they were even bewildered.

"Kieran, what are you trying to say?" Stefania asked.

"Also, why are you being so sarcastic?" Remus reprimanded.

Unbothered, Kieran chuckled. "Mom, Grandpa, you've lectured me in the right manner. I'll speak properly now and continue from where I left off." Then, he paused and fixed his cold gaze on Wanda before he continued with his words. "Apart from locating the mastermind of my kidnapping, Nicholas also discovered the real culprit who defamed my sister-in-law this time and caused her to be the target of cyberbullying since they even cursed her unborn child!"

Chapter 1129 Confronting Wanda

Wanda's face blanched. It was like those words had scrubbed all color from her cheeks. Stefania frowned. Turning to Kieran, she asked, "What do you mean by this?"

However, Kieran only smiled in reply. He stared at Wanda with a mocking, spiteful look in his eyes. When Remus saw this, his face sank like a pebble in the water.

He knew all too well that Kieran wouldn't do something like this without reason. The only explanation was that Wanda was caught up in these things.

Stefania and her husband were also no idiots. They were reaching the same conclusion as Remus, and they turned to Wanda in astonishment.

Remus was smart. He had already felt that something was not right when Kieran called them over, so everything made sense after he heard what Kieran had to say. "Wanda, you—"

He glared at Wanda but didn't know what else to say. Meeting Horace's exasperated gaze, Wanda felt her body freeze as she opened her mouth to explain.

Yet, Kieran interrupted before she got a word in. "Miss Muller comes from a prestigious family. Having manners and integrity should be as natural to her as breathing. Don't you know that my brother already has someone? How dare you try and take something that belongs to someone else!"

He did not hold back in exposing what she did.

Wanda was ashamed, but mostly she was afraid.

Clenching her fists, she forced herself to be silent.

Kieran was talking about things that she could never admit to.

"Master Kieran, I apologize if I've offended you, but please stop spreading these false accusations. You're destroying decades of goodwill between both families."

She decided to dodge all of Kieran's accusations and questions and chose to misinterpret his words instead.

Kieran saw through her flimsy ploy and snorted. "I'm glad to see Miss Muller still has her wits. It's a shame that she wastes her intelligence on such shameful ends."

Wanda's face fell when she heard the sarcasm simmering in Kieran's retort.

She was about to craft a reply when Horace cut her off.

"Not a word from you! Let Kieran finish speaking!" Glancing at both Nicholas and Kieran, he said, "Since Kieran has called us here today, he must have some goal in mind. Finish your piece. I want to hear what's going on."

Kieran was relieved when Horace was so amenable. "You're right, Mr. Muller. I've made sufficient preparations before calling you both here. The last thing I want is to tear apart the relationship between both families, but..."

He paused deliberately before he continued, "What Miss Muller did has brought shame onto her entire family."

Wanda's face tensed while her heart burned with turmoil when she met his hateful gaze.

Ignoring her panic, Kieran explained, "Miss Muller, you didn't hesitate to get someone to kidnap me, so my brother had no choice but to come and look for me.

However, you've underestimated the Sawyers. You didn't expect that I'd be rescued after a day or the fact that my brother didn't come and save me as you wanted. Your plan failed, so you made another one. A plan that was even more vicious and cruel!

You learned that my sister-in-law and her grandmother don't get along, so you had people stalking her. Once they managed to take a video of my sister-in-law arguing with her grandmother, you had it posted online to smear her name. You even hired trolls to curse the child in my sister-in-law's belly!"

Kieran inched closer toward Wanda. "When you did all these things, did you ever stop to think what might happen if something happened to my sister-in-law?"

Faced with his direct accusation, she didn't know what to do.

Looking at the hapless woman, he sneered. "Oh, I seemed to have misspoken. I bet you're hoping that something does happen to her, aren't you?"

"No, that's not it!"

Chapter 1130 Horace Steps In

Wanda finally snapped back to her senses and began to mount her defense. "Master Kieran, this is all a big misunderstanding. I have nothing to do with all these—"

Kieran did not wait for her to finish before he interrupted, "It's all a misunderstanding? You have nothing to do with it? Think over your next words carefully because I can back up everything I've said."

His words were like pairs of cold stilettos that stabbed into his heart while Wanda's eyes widened in disbelief. She thought, Where did he get the proof? I had painstakingly covered my tracks, though!

For a moment, she considered whether or not he was trying to trick her.

However, Kieran drawled, "Miss Muller, are you perhaps thinking I'm trying to trick you?" His voice dripped with condescension.

"That's not what I'm thinking." Wanda shook her head.

Nobody else in the room believed her.

Remus' face was as dark as a starless night.

Although he had never liked Tessa much, he had never wanted to see her hurt.

Stefania and her husband stared at Wanda with disdain.

The calmest person in the room was Nicholas and that was because he had learned the truth beforehand

Brushing aside Wanda's half-hearted denial, Kieran continued, "Only you know what you're thinking. I called you today because I wanted to say something to you."

"And what would that be, Master Kieran?"

Wanda clenched both fists tightly as she struggled to stay calm.

He remained courteous as he confessed, "I'll be frank; there's nothing wrong with wanting to be with the person you desire. What is wrong is how you've bent the rules. In doing so, you've disgraced yourself. Besides, my brother adores my sister-in-law. Do you think you can replace her if she disappears? Well, you're wrong. You're very wrong."

Confronted by Kieran's innermost thoughts, Wanda felt ashamed. It was like she had been stripped naked in front of the whole room.

However, her ordeal wasn't over yet.

Kieran continued, "Even if my sister-in-law isn't in the picture, you have no chance to be with my brother. He doesn't care about family connections. What he cares about is the person's character. He wants a partner who's just like him!"

The whole restaurant fell into silence.

Wanda bit her lip. Although she wanted to ask why she couldn't be with Nicholas, she held herself back with great difficulty.

She would have tacitly confessed to everything Kieran said if she had spoken. As such, she could never admit to what she'd been accused of. There was no way she could weather the fallout.

At this time, the others began to speculate.

Stefania looked at Wanda with barely concealed disdain. "Is everything he said true?"

Her question stunned Wanda.

She was about to defend herself when Horace slapped her.

Wanda was dumbfounded.

Horace stood up and addressed the Sawyers with a grave face. "I know Wanda has wronged you all terribly. You don't have to trouble yourself. I will punish her myself."

With that said, he slapped her across the face again. "How did I bring you up? How could you do something like this?"

Amid his furious rebuke, distress flashed across his eyes.

As a matter of fact, he wasn't angry enough to hit her. On the contrary, this was his way of protecting Wanda.

He knew the only way to stop the Sawyers from retaliating was if he made the first move.

Besides, it would hurt less if he was the one hitting Wanda.

Wanda also guessed at Horace's intentions. She covered her face and hung her head low while she did her best to look pitiful.

However, this little show did not fool Nicholas.

Nicholas stopped Horace before he could land another blow. In a monotone voice, he elaborated, "Please don't overexert yourself. After all, Wanda didn't hurt my brother, and my wife suffered only a few cruel remarks."