

Always Been Yours Chapter 441

Chapter 441 Family Outing

“The strings of your violin are unique and made-to-order. They’ll require a special order. And procuring the materials will also take time, so it will take at least one month in total to complete.”

Although Tessa felt that the time needed was too long, she didn’t say anything. After all, soft fire made sweet malt.

When they left the manor, Nicholas could tell from Tessa’s glum expression that she was brooding over her failure to take good care of the violin.

Suddenly, he put his arms around her and lowered his head to kiss her gently, cajoling, “Don’t blame yourself. The damage to the violin has nothing to do with you, and since Louis promised to repair it, he’ll definitely restore it to its original appearance for you.”

The hot touch on Tessa’s forehead seemed to warm her heart as well, and she stretched out her arms to wrap them around Nicholas’ waist, saying happily, “I’m so glad to have you.”

When they returned to the villa later, Nicholas saw that it was still early, so he proposed to take Gregory out to play. Although he successfully coaxed Tessa, he could see that she still had a weight on her shoulders. Gregory didn’t know what his father was thinking, but he was happy when he heard that they were going out to play.

“Daddy, Miss Tessa, where are we going to play?”

Nicholas looked at Tessa lovingly and asked, “Where do you want to go?”

She hadn't expected him to ask for her opinion, so she was rendered speechless briefly, not knowing how to answer. Then, she glanced at Gregory who was standing next to her and smiled softly. "Let's go wherever Greg wants to go."

In the end, they went to an indoor children's orchestra in the city with Gregory. During their time there, their extremely good looks attracted a lot of attention. Nicholas in particular had changed from his usual leather suit and wore casual clothes instead. His elegant yet relaxed appearance mixed with a tad of languidness made him look irresistible. However, neither of them cared about the looks they were getting.

After playing with Gregory for a while, they went to walk around at a nearby shopping mall. When they entered a children's clothing store, Tessa picked out several striking clothes for him.

Looking at their good looks, the clerk couldn't help but recommend, "Madam, our main line of this season is a series of matching family outfits. Would you like to take a look at that too? They are all styles for a family of three."

Tessa's cheeks flushed red in an instant, but just before she could explain, she heard the man's deep and attractive voice. "We'll have a look."

"All right, sir. This way, please." The clerk nodded happily.

Tessa glared at Nicholas poutily and said in embarrassment, "Why didn't you let me explain? I haven't married you yet."

He wrapped an arm around her waist and replied with a soft smile, "You will soon."

"....."

She had nothing to say to that, but her heart swelled with delight.

Meanwhile, Gregory trailed along by their side and looked around excitedly as his big, round eyes darted from left to right and back to left, making for an adorable sight.

By the time they walked out of the store, Nicholas had many bags in his hands. In addition to the clothes Tessa originally chose for Gregory, they also got one of each matching set that was recommended by the clerk. It was already dark outside when they exited the mall.

After handing off the bags to Edward for him to bring back to the villa, Nicholas took Tessa and Gregory to a high-end restaurant nearby for a hearty dinner. Once they were finished with their meal, they did not rush back home, but went to the surrounding park for a walk. Under the dark night sky, Tessa walked with Nicholas in one hand and Gregory in the other. The faint yellow street lights cast long shadows on their bodies, and the sight was warm and beautiful, as though it came straight out of a painting.

Later, when they returned home, all three of them were a little tired. After all, they had walked a lot that day, and Gregory in particular kept insisting on walking by himself. Hence, once Tessa was done helping him to take a bath, he didn't need any coaxing before he went to bed and fell into a deep sleep.

“Good night.” Tessa gently kissed Gregory's forehead, then walked to the door with soft steps and turned off the lights before she left.

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Chapter 442 Everlasting Happiness

When she returned to the master bedroom, Tessa saw that Nicholas had already washed up, so she took a change of clothes into the bathroom. By the time she came out again, she saw him sitting on the couch with a serious face and his computer on his lap. Walking over curiously, she found that he was looking at the company's status on the stock market.

"If I'd known you had to work overtime after coming back so late, I wouldn't have agreed to go out in the afternoon and wasted your time."

Nicholas heard the worry in her words, and his originally stiff face broke into a small smile. Turning sideways, he said, "But I wanted to."

As Tessa stared into his warm eyes, her heart throbbed fiercely, feeling a little moved.

Just then, his dark eyes fell on her wet hair, and he asked with a slight frown, "Why didn't you dry your hair?"

"It's fine. I'll just wait for it to dry naturally." Tessa looked down at her wet hair, not paying much attention to it.

However, Nicholas showed a look of disapproval at her words. "What do you mean it's fine? The weather is getting cold, and you'll get sick easily like this."

Saying that, he put down his laptop and got up to go to the bathroom, where he retrieved a clean towel. "Come here, I'll dry your hair for you."

Under the light, his exquisite facial features were full of fondness. Tessa couldn't find the words to refuse, so she walked over with a sweet smile tugging at the corner of her mouth.

She sat in front of Nicholas, feeling his unfamiliar motions on her scalp, and a sweet warmth spread inside of her as though her heart had been dipped in honey. He had never wiped someone else's hair, but if it was for her, he would be willing to try anything for the first time. After patting out all the dampness from her hair, he took out the hair dryer, patiently and carefully drying her hair.

"Even if I'm not here in the future, you have to remember to dry your hair after taking a shower so that you won't catch a cold." Nicholas' attractive voice sounded.

Tessa was moved, but she couldn't help but burst out in laughter.

Nicholas looked down at her and raised his eyebrows slightly. "Did I say something wrong to make you laugh like this?"

After giving it some thought, Tessa replied, "When I first met you, I thought you were a cold and aloof president, but now, I don't think that you're cold at all."

"Are you saying that I nag too much?" Nicholas' face darkened slightly, and he looked at her unhappily.

Tessa was dumbfounded. It seemed that her words could indeed be taken that way. She hurriedly mollified him and said with a smile, "No, no, I was just kidding."

Seeing the girl's flattering smile, Nicholas scoffed softly and continued to dry her hair. After a while, when her hair was completely dry, he turned off the hair dryer.

Just as he was about to leave, Tessa suddenly wrapped her arms around his waist and sighed. "Days like these are perfect. It'd be great if we could stay like this forever."

Hearing that, Nicholas hugged her back and lowered his head slightly, replying in a soft voice, “We will.”

Tessa smiled happily at his answer, then released him.

After Nicholas put the hair dryer back, he returned to the couch to continue watching the stock market. At the sight, Tessa frowned. She walked over quickly and crouched down before him, staring at him intently while propping up her chin.

“What’s wrong?” Nicholas sensed her gaze on him and turned to look at her.

As Tessa looked at his handsome face, there was a hint of distress in her coaxing voice as she said, “Let’s go to bed. Don’t work overtime anymore. You can get up early tomorrow to finish the rest of your work.”

Their eyes met, and as Nicholas looked down at her, his gaze gradually darkened. “Okay,” he agreed.

Suddenly, an evil smirk curled the corners of his lips, and he bent over slightly before scooping Tessa up. She subconsciously wrapped her arms around his neck.

After regaining her senses, she realized that Nicholas had misunderstood her, and she felt embarrassed yet amused. “I didn’t mean it that way.”

“It’s fine as long as I do.”

Tessa was rendered speechless.

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Chapter 443 Kathleen's Unexpected Change

Tessa couldn't rebuke, but she still attempted to save herself. "Why don't you just continue with your work?"

She was now truly terrified of Nicholas' energy. If they continued indulging themselves like this every night, she was genuinely afraid that she would die of exhaustion on this bed one day.

"It's already late." Saying that, he gently placed her down on the bed and trapped her body underneath his. Tonight was destined to be another wonderful night.

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Early the next morning, the golden sunlight streamed into the room through the window.

Tessa slowly opened her eyes. When she subconsciously glanced sideways, she saw Nicholas' flawless slumbering face close to hers. She didn't have the heart to wake him up, so she lightly got out of bed and washed up before going downstairs to make breakfast.

After a while, Nicholas and Gregory woke up as well.

"Good morning, Miss Tessa." Gregory scurried down the stairs with his short legs, greeting Tessa energetically.

"Good morning." Tessa responded with a sweet smile on her face. Her bright eyes fell on the handsome man walking by, and she said softly, "Morning."

“Morning.” A low, magnetic voice came from Nicholas’ mouth, sounding as melodic as a cello.

After the three enjoyed their breakfast like a family, Nicholas sent Tessa to the orchestra.

“I’ll pick you up after I get off work.” When they arrived at the entrance of the orchestra, Nicholas turned to help her unfasten her seat belt, explaining while asking for a parting kiss. Naturally, Tessa didn’t refuse. She got out of the car and entered the orchestra with a sweet smile on her face.

Along the way, the members of the orchestra and the staff greeted her one after another.

“Tessa, you’re back. Are you feeling better?”

“I am. Thank you for your concern.”

Tessa knew that her teacher had said that she fell sick as the reason why she had taken a leave.

Just then, Hathaway and Kathleen exited a practice room together and bumped into Tessa.

“Tessa, you’re here. How are you feeling? Do you feel better?” Hathaway stepped forward and sized her up, her face filled with genuine concern.

Tessa smiled lightly. “I’m much better. Thank you for your concern, Miss Hathaway.” As she said this, her eyes inadvertently swept to Kathleen who was standing by the side.

Kathleen noticed Tessa’s gaze, and her eyes flickered a little with guilt. She stepped forward with a smile, and for the first time ever, she expressed concern for Tessa. “It’s good that you’re feeling better. You have to take better care of yourself next time.”

When the others heard this, they were stunned. Doesn't Kathleen dislike Tessa? Why is she showing concern for her all of a sudden?

As though she didn't notice the surprised glances cast at them, Tessa replied with a smile, "Thank you."

If someone took a closer look then, they would notice that Tessa's smile had dropped slightly. However, their attention was completely on Kathleen, so nobody noticed the change in Tessa.

Back in the country, in the Stone Residence, once Hayley found out that her father's targeted schemes toward Timothy had been stopped by Sawyer Group, she became even more anxious and frustrated. If Nicholas' protected Tessa's brother like this, it was clear that his love for that woman had extended to her family as well. If Hayley didn't come up with a plan soon, she might really not have a chance anymore.

Her parents had also realized this, and they sat in the living room with displeased expressions. The atmosphere in the bright room became heavy all at once.

After a momentary silence, Sonia slowly spoke up. "I think that it's important to separate Nicholas and Tessa for now, then make him come back to the country. Otherwise, no matter what we come up with, it'll be useless if he isn't here in person."

Nero nodded in approval.

Hayley's brows furrowed. "But how can we make Nicholas come back? When Old Master Sawyer personally went to Vienna before, he couldn't even bring him back."

"What if something happened to the Sawyer Family? For example, if Old Master Sawyer gets hospitalized..." Nero's eyes narrowed ambiguously.

Hayley and Sonia looked at him dubiously.

“Don’t even go there, Nero. If the Sawyer Family finds out, our ten years of friendship would be gone in an instant. Remember what happened to the Gingham Family last time?” Sonia was shocked, thinking that Nero wanted to harm Remus.

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Chapter 444 Old Master Sawyer Is Sick

On the other hand, Hayley didn't say anything but only looked at her father quietly. She felt that he must've come up with the perfect idea if he could say something like that, and that was indeed the case.

Nero glanced at Sonia and said meaningfully, "Look, I'm not planning to do anything. I'm just worried about Old Master Sawyer, so I'll send some supplements to him."

Between the lines, Hayley grasped the real meaning behind her father's words.

...

Early the next morning, Hayley went to Sawyer Residence with a large amount of supplements in her hands.

"Old Master Sawyer, I'm here to see you." After following the housekeeper into the living room, she greeted Remus obediently.

When Remus saw that she was carrying a lot of supplements in her hand, he nagged her like a loving elder, "I'm happy that you came to see me. But why did you buy so many supplements? I can't finish eating all of them."

"It's because the doctor said you needed these, so I wanted you to get better soon, of course. If you can't finish it, you can eat it slowly." As she spoke, she handed the supplements to the housekeeper and didn't forget to remind him, "Make sure that Old Master Sawyer eats these. They're good for his body."

The housekeeper was also worried about the old man's body and promised, "Don't worry, Miss Stone, I'll definitely make sure of that." Saying that, he left with the supplements.

As Hayley watched his retreating back, she curled her bright red lips into a creepy smile. At a glance, the supplements looked fine, but if someone who was well versed in medicine saw them, they would be able to tell that these supplements actually had conflicting properties.

That night, the housekeeper asked the kitchen staff to prepare a medicated diet for Remus, who followed it for a few days in a row. One day, he had just finished his meal and was about to go for a walk in the garden, but as soon as he stood up, his chest suddenly began to ache. Then, he began coughing violently, and his red cheeks instantly turned pale.

"Old Master Sawyer!" The housekeeper was frightened. He rushed forward to support Remus who had fainted and shouted, "Hurry, call an ambulance and notify Master Tobias and the others!"

Amidst the chaos, the old man was finally sent to the hospital and underwent emergency resuscitation. Not long after, Tobias, Stefania, and Kieran had rushed over in a hurry. They surrounded the housekeeper and asked about Remus' condition.

"Ian, what happened to my dad?"

"Ian, what's the situation with Grandpa?"

Ian, the housekeeper, looked at the three concerned and anxious people in front of him and said apologetically, "I'm not sure about Old Master Sawyer's condition. He was going for a walk in the garden after eating as usual today, but as soon as he got up, Old Master Sawyer clenched his chest before he collapsed and fell unconscious."

When they learned that Remus had fainted, Tobias and Stefania's faces turned solemn. In the quiet hallway of the hospital, the atmosphere was heavy as they waited outside the door with worried expressions.

A little while later, the operation that lasted a few hours was finally over, and the doctors and nurses pushed the unconscious Remus out. After he was settled in the ward, the Sawyer Family surrounded the doctor.

"Doctor, how's my father's condition?"

"The patient had an acute heart failure and is only temporarily out of danger, but his condition is still critical, and he needs to be hospitalized for observation." The attending doctor reported Remus' condition, shocking everyone in the Sawyer Family.

"Why did he have an acute heart failure?"

"Yeah, why? Our father was discharged from the hospital not long ago, and the doctor didn't say that he had this problem at that time."

Tobias and Stefania hurriedly pressed for answers.

The doctor explained, "Acute heart failure is categorized as a sudden symptom that isn't traceable, and there are many reasons for this factor. You should try to accommodate the patient during these few days and don't let him get too emotional."

After saying a few words, the doctor left the ward.

Tobias looked at the unconscious Remus in the hospital bed. As if he had thought of something, he ordered with a serious expression, "Kieran, go and contact your brother and ask him to come back as soon as possible. The old man is sick, so he'll definitely want to see him and Greg. Besides, the company will surely be unstable. I need to take care of the old man in the hospital, so I have no time to handle the company's matters. I can only leave it up to you and your brother."

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Chapter 445 Something Isn't Right

Kieran nodded and turned around before leaving the ward to contact his brother.

Meanwhile, it was already midnight in Vienna. In the dark and quiet room, a bright light came from the phone on the bedside table; it was persistently vibrating and making a buzzing sound.

“Turn it off.” Tessa let out a groan and pulled the blanket over her head.

After coaxing her for a moment, Nicholas picked up the phone with an irritated expression. When he saw that it was a call from his brother, he answered gloomily, “You’d better be calling for something urgent.”

“Nicholas, something bad happened to Grandpa. He’s in the hospital right now.”

Tessa, who had already woken up next to him, sensed his heavy tone and got up to turn on the lights, looking at him in concern.

On the phone, Kieran told him everything he knew. “Grandpa had an acute heart failure. Although he was rescued, he’s still in critical condition. Dad thinks that Grandpa would definitely look for you when he wakes up, so he’s asking you to come back with Greg as soon as you can. Besides, there may be changes in the company due to Grandpa’s hospitalization, so we also need you there.”

“I understand. I’ll ask Edward to book a flight now. Please arrange for someone to wait for me at the airport.” Saying that, Nicholas hung up with a solemn expression.

Seeing that, Tessa quickly sat up and asked, “Are you going back? Did something happen?”

“Grandpa had an acute heart failure. He was rescued just now, but he’s still in critical condition. I need to bring Greg back immediately.” Nicholas did not hide anything and told her Remus’ situation truthfully.

Tessa was shocked by the news as heart failure was a very dangerous condition and might even cause sudden death. “Then, when are you leaving? I’ll help you pack your bags.”

She was about to get out of bed when Nicholas suddenly grabbed her wrist, and she was pulled into a soft embrace. “I’m sorry. I said I’d stay with you for a few months, but now I can’t do that anymore. Remember to take good care of yourself when I’m not around.”

His apologetic voice in her ear warmed her heart. She assured him with a light smile, “You don’t have to apologize to me. It’s an emergency, so I understand. When you go back, just take good care of your grandfather and don’t worry about me.”

That night, Nicholas rushed back to the country with Gregory. After getting off the plane, it was only evening in the country, and the two went straight to the hospital.

In the ward, Remus was still in a coma. Tobias, Stefania, and the housekeeper, Ian, had been watching over him the entire time. Hayley and her parents had also rushed over to pretend to care about Remus after receiving the news in the afternoon. When they saw Nicholas returning with Gregory, their eyes shone with victory. As for Tobias and Stefania, their heavy expressions eased a little upon seeing Nicholas. In particular, when Stefania saw Gregory, the gloom that had been hanging over her because of Remus’ condition dissipated a lot.

“Come here, my lovely grandson. Give Grandma a hug.” She stretched out her arms to Gregory.

Gregory obediently took the initiative to wrap his arms around Stefania’s neck and asked in concern, “Grandma, will Great-Grandpa be okay?”

“Don’t worry, he’ll definitely be fine,” she assured him.

Nicholas glanced at Remus in the bed. With a frown, he asked, “Dad, there should be a reason for Grandpa’s acute heart failure. What did the doctor say?”

“The doctor said that it might be because your grandfather was too anxious, which caused him to get a heart attack.”

Tobias explained the doctor’s analysis, but Nicholas felt like something was wrong. Even if Remus fell ill with a heart attack, it was impossible for his condition to deteriorate so much. Besides, Remus had always been healthy, and even if he had fainted from anger before, he was fine after staying in the hospital for two days.

“Ian, you spend time with Grandpa every day. Did you notice anything unusual?” Nicholas asked again.

Ian replied truthfully, “Master Nicholas, Old Master Sawyer’s sickness did come a little suddenly. Although he was a little angry previously because of your refusal to come back, he did not show any signs of discomfort.”

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Chapter 446 Dodged a Bullet

Hearing this, Nicholas furrowed his brows deeply. He couldn't shake off the feeling that something was off, and that he was missing out on a crucial detail. After some thought, he asked again, "Since his health was fine, what about his diet? How is Grandpa's appetite these days, and what does he eat?"

At his words, Hayley and her parents, who were standing aside, felt their hearts race. They hadn't expected Nicholas to probe so much.

Ian replied, "Old Master Sawyer has a good appetite these days, and he can eat one and a half to two bowls of rice every day. The dishes are also made according to the menu formulated by the nutritionist, followed by some supplements."

"Supplements?" Nicholas frowned and pressed, "What kind?"

The moment he said that, both Hayley and her parents' faces showed a trace of panic. Nero hurriedly glanced at Hayley.

Noticing his nervous look, Hayley suppressed her anxiousness and stepped forward, saying, "Nicholas, I think that since it was something Old Master Sawyer could eat, Ian must have checked it beforehand, so there's probably no problems with his diet."

Her words caused Ian to think that Nicholas was suspecting him of being negligent, and he hurriedly defended himself, "Master Nicholas, I strictly control what Old Master Sawyer usually eats in strict accordance with the nutritionists' and doctors' instructions. Before I took the supplements to Old Master Sawyer, I even asked the doctor in advance."

Hayley's heart jolted. She hadn't expected that those supplements would be checked before they were given to Remus, but she soon relaxed. After all, Remus' current condition made it clear that the doctor did not find anything strange about the supplements.

At that thought, she spoke for Ian again, saying, "Nicholas, in my opinion, no matter what the reason for Old Master Sawyer's illness is, the most important thing now is that he can get better safely."

Nicholas glanced at Hayley coldly, but did not ask any more questions. Finally, the Stone Family was able to breathe a sigh of relief.

Suddenly, Nicholas' phone rang. It turned out that Tessa was worried about the situation, so she gave him a call after considering the time difference.

"I'm going to take a call." Leaving these words behind, he grabbed his phone and turned around, leaving the ward.

As Hayley watched his retreating figure, her expression darkened. She had accidentally seen the caller ID on his phone's screen, and realized that it was Tessa who had called.

Meanwhile, the atmosphere in the ward eased a lot as Nicholas left. Tobias and Stefania sat on the sofa with Gregory in their arms and asked about his life during his time abroad. "Has your daddy brought you anywhere while you're overseas these days?"

"Daddy took me to see Wiener Musikverein, and we watched many concerts. He even brought me to Filisburg to see the painting exhibition," Gregory briefly explained what he had been up to. Because of his agreement with Nicholas, he did not mention Tessa. Gradually, his excited and adorable voice brought some cheerfulness back to the heavy atmosphere in the ward.

However, the smile on Hayley and her parents' faces didn't reach their eyes. Hayley's eyes in particular were chillingly cold as she stared at Gregory. It was no

wonder he was that b*tch Tessa's son if he could lie at such a young age. Others didn't know, but how could she not? In Vienna, those two were obviously living with Tessa!

As she watched Tobias and Stefania being deceived by that brat, Hayley felt that if she stayed any longer, she would definitely explode. Besides, she wanted to know why Tessa had called Nicholas, so she stood up and said with a smile on her face, "Nicholas has been on the phone for so long. I'll go check on him."

After speaking, she turned and walked out of the ward, but did not see him. Fortunately, she managed to find him on the balcony at the end of the hallway. She approached with light steps, only to see a gentle expression on Nicholas' face that she had never seen before. At the sight, she clenched her teeth in jealousy.

Meanwhile on the balcony, Nicholas had no idea that Hayley had found him.

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Chapter 447 An Unexpected Return

Nicholas was telling Tessa about the situation on his end. “Grandpa is still in a coma, and his condition is not looking very optimistic.”

“How could this happen? Wasn’t he fine just a while ago? He could even come to Vienna.” Through the video call, Tessa looked at Nicholas worriedly. “Did the doctor say what was the cause?”

“According to the doctor, he had too much weighing on his mind,” Nicholas replied truthfully.

At that, Tessa became even more worried. If that was the case, Remus’ illness had a lot to do with Nicholas’ refusal to marry and his leaving. She looked at Nicholas, her gaze anxious and distressed. “Are you alright? Did your parents blame you?”

At the same time, she began to blame herself. Why wasn’t she better? If she were better, Nicholas wouldn’t have to bear so much pressure by choosing to be her. At that thought, her eyes turned red.

Upon seeing that, Nicholas knew that she was worrying about unnecessary things again, so he coaxed her gently, “I’m fine, don’t think too much about it.”

Tessa sniffled and nodded, trying to control her emotions. She didn’t want him to worry about her on top of his grandfather’s condition.

After the two talked for a little longer, Nicholas said, “I still have things to deal with here, so I’ll call you later when I have time.”

“Okay. You have to take care of yourself and Greg,” Tessa reminded him with a nod before hanging up the phone. However, her heart still felt a little heavy.

“I hope Old Master Sawyer will get well soon.” Tessa put her phone away and prayed for Remus. Soon after, she collected her emotions and continued to practice her violin.

A while later, Hathaway came over to visit. As she watched Tessa, who was playing her violin, she did not immediately step forward to interrupt but stood quietly at the door and listened instead. She had always felt that Tessa was the only other person she had seen besides Scott with a very high talent for music. When she saw Tessa put down the violin after she finished playing, she clapped with a satisfied smile on her face.

“You’ve improved a lot. The emotions in your melody are a lot stronger than before.”

When she heard Hathaway’s voice, Tessa looked up in surprise. “Miss Hathaway, when did you get here?”

“Not long ago. I saw that you were practicing, so I didn’t want to bother you.” Saying that, Hathaway walked into the practice room and informed her, “Previously, the performance in Xerthania kept getting postponed, but this time it has finally been confirmed, so I came to tell you that the performance is set for next week. By then, you can go with the orchestra and visit your relatives while you’re there.”

“Thank you, Miss Hathaway!” Tessa was instantly rejuvenated by the news, and a gleeful smile appeared on her face.

Although she was forced to leave at the beginning, she thought it would be okay to return now. After all, Remus already knew that she was staying with Nicholas. Besides, she was also very worried about Remus and Nicholas, and it was great to finally have the opportunity to go back and check on them.

After getting off work that night, Tessa didn’t rush back home, but went to the largest shopping mall in the city instead. Going home was a rare occasion for her, so she had to make some preparations.

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Early the next morning, Nicholas brought Gregory to visit Remus in the hospital.

“Daddy, when will Great-Grandpa wake up?” Gregory sprawled out on the edge of the bed, looking at the unconscious old man with concern.

Unexpectedly, as soon as he spoke, Remus, who had been in a coma for two days, finally woke up. The Sawyer Family was finally able to let out a sigh of relief as they called the doctor over for an examination.

“The patient is temporarily out of danger, but there may still be some complications, so you must not agitate him. And try to make his meals as light as possible.” After the doctor completed his examination and gave them a few instructions, he then left with the nurses.

As Tobias and Stefania stepped forward one after another to care for Remus, Remus was still looking quite amiable.

However, when it was Nicholas’ turn, Remus’ expression darkened and he said angrily, “So you’re finally willing to come back?”

Nicholas felt a little helpless.

When Gregory saw Remus’ unhappy expression, he thought that Remus had gotten angry again, so he quickly broke away from his father’s hand and rushed toward the hospital bed.

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Chapter 448 Forced Marriage

“Great-Grandpa, don’t be angry. The doctor said earlier that you’ll get sick if you’re angry, and then you’ll have to get an injection and eat bitter medicine. I’ll feel sorry for you, Great-Grandpa.” He grabbed Remus’ wrinkled and old hand and persuaded him with an adorable voice.

Remus was extremely relieved, and a loving smile gradually appeared on his face. “I’m not angry, Greg, don’t worry.” Saying that, he glanced at Nicholas again, his weak voice full of disgust as he chided, “Look at Greg, then look at yourself. Even a child is more well-behaved than you.”

Nicholas glanced sideways at Gregory, the corners of his lips curling slightly. There was a trace of pride in his voice when he replied, “Well, he’s my son.”

Remus was rendered speechless. Just as he glared at him and was about to say something, Nicholas interrupted, “Alright now, I didn’t come back this time to argue with you. I’ll take charge of the company again, so you can focus on recovering with peace of mind.”

Remus’ dissatisfied expression subsided a little as soon as he heard that. After Nicholas and Remus stopped butting heads, the atmosphere in the ward turned lighter, and Remus was able to chat with his grandson again.

During their conversation, Nicholas asked Remus if he had realized anything when he fell sick.

After a moment of thought, Remus shook his head. “There were no symptoms. I just suddenly felt my chest tightening.”

Nicholas’ brows furrowed.

Remus glanced at him and suddenly lamented, “Sigh. I wonder how much time I have left...”

“I’ve already asked a famous medical team from abroad to fly over for your treatment. They’ll definitely nurse your health back to tip-top shape.” Without waiting for Remus to finish speaking, Nicholas interrupted him. He knew very well that if he didn’t cut him off, his grandfather would definitely try to force him to marry again.

Naturally, Remus knew that Nicholas had interrupted him on purpose, and he shot him an unhappy glare, which the latter took no notice of.

Seeing this, Remus couldn’t do anything about it either, so he ignored him and turned his attention to Gregory. “Greg, did you have a good time abroad with your daddy recently? Did anyone make you feel unhappy there?”

“It was fun! I had a great time there!” Gregory replied jubilantly, before telling Remus about the interesting things he had seen abroad. His childish stories put a smile on Remus’ face.

When Hayley arrived, she heard the cheerful laughter coming from the ward. She stood by the entrance, and through the glass on the door, she saw Gregory excitedly talking to Remus. Then, she plastered a small smile on her face and knocked on the door before entering.

“Old Master Sawyer, I heard that you woke up, so I came to see you,” she called out to Remus obediently, then greeted Nicholas and Gregory.

When they saw her, the expressions on Nicholas and Gregory’s faces faded at once. Even so, they still responded to her politely.

“Miss Stone.”

“Miss Hayley.”

When Hayley saw the identical indifferent expressions on their faces, her chest ached, and she almost couldn't even maintain her smile. She took a deep breath, suppressed her inner indignation, and forced a smile on her face as she exchanged a few pleasantries with them before she shifted her focus to Remus. Since Nicholas and Gregory did not like her, no matter how much she buttered up to them, it would be useless. Hence, it was better for her to befriend Remus. As long as she got into Remus' good books, she could still get a chance to marry Nicholas.

Of course, it was just as she had planned. After she stayed by Remus' side for half a day, his affection for her improved greatly. Remus looked between Hayley and Nicholas. The more he looked at them, the more he felt that they were a good match, and that it would be a pity if they missed out on each other. In the end, he couldn't help but bring the issue up again.

"Nicholas, Hayley is truly a good girl that's hard to find nowadays. I think that you both can..."

Without waiting for Remus to finish his sentence, Nicholas interrupted coldly, "Grandpa, you should prioritize taking care of yourself now. Don't worry about anything else."

Always Been Yours Chapter 449

Chapter 449 Examination Result (1)

Remus' cheek flushed with displeasure after Nicholas' implied warning in his tone. In the end, he did not continue to insist on it.

As a result, Hayley's eyes dimmed, for disappointment filled her heart.

Nevertheless, her spirits were quick to bounce back as she was already joking around with Remus.

During the afternoon, the famous foreign medical team—the ones Nicholas had invited—had arrived.

With the ding, the elevator doors opened to reveal a group of doctors dressed in white coats stepping out of the elevator.

Unexpectedly, the one in the lead was Ashton Sloan.

Naturally, Nicholas would not doubt Ashton's capabilities.

Furthermore, Ashton was one of the best friends whom he trusted, which was why he had specially invited these people here from abroad.

When Nicholas saw Ashton walking toward him, he took a step forward toward Ashton as well. "As per your request, I have asked my men to move all of the needed equipment into the examination room."

"Nicely done." Ashton nodded before taking a glance behind Nicholas. "Where's the old man?"

“He was just sent to the examination room to make preparations.” Nicholas replied before deliberately adding, “Do help me check his health properly this time.”

“Don’t worry, just leave it to me.” Ashton nodded.

Hayley became nervous as her heart was thumping while she listened to their conversation beside them. She had heard of how much of a medical genius Ashton Sloan was, and knew just how skilled he was in the medical industry. She became a little worried about what this man would find out during his examination.

It might have been that her stares were too intense, for Ashton turned his attention toward her at this moment.

When she realized his gaze on her, Hayley stayed calm as she greeted, “Hello.”

Since she hid her emotions well, both Ashton and Nicholas remained unaware of her state of mind.

It was at this time Ashton’s assistant came over and reported, “Doctor, everything is ready now.”

Ashton nodded and gestured at Nicholas before entering the examination room.

An expressionless Nicholas stood inside the inspection room. His upright posture was like a tall tree as he gave off a majestic aura around him.

As Hayley watched how he was acting, she tried to break the dreary tension in the air by finding a topic to talk about. “I know Ashton Sloan. He’s one of the best doctors in the world. With him around, I believe Old Master Sawyer will be fine.”

He gave her a cold glance in response as an indication that he was not going to pay her any more attention.

While watching the man ignoring her, Hayley became aggrieved and annoyed. Just what does Tessa has that I don’t for him to look at me this way? Thinking back on

the scene she witnessed on the balcony, she became much more discontent. Nicholas is someone I fancy. I will never allow any other woman to steal my man!

...

In the examination room, Ashton had conducted a thorough examination on Remus.

Remus was fully cooperative throughout the examination. It took them a few hours before the examination was finally completed. The old man was then escorted back to his ward by the nurses.

Nicholas, on the other hand, stayed back as he wanted to meet with Ashton.

As for Hayley, she had also wanted to find out what Ashton found, which was why she followed Nicholas in waiting outside the examination room.

It took a little while before Ashton came out in slow steps from the examination room.

Nicholas immediately went over to the doctor the moment he saw him and asked, "How is it?"

Hayley followed suit with concern written on her face. "Doctor Sloan, how's Old Master Sawyer's result?"

Ashton raised his eyebrow subtly at the sight of Hayley's worried expression.

He knew that Hayley had always wanted to marry his best friend, and had heard that the marriage talks between them broke down not too long ago. However, looking at her right now, Ashton could see that this woman still had not given up on his best friend.

With such thoughts on his mind, he turned his attention away from her and looked at Nicholas with a serious expression. "Old Master Sawyer's heart condition isn't

serious, and it's still only on the lighter side. It shouldn't be life-threatening as long as he gets proper rest and doesn't get agitated any further."

"Thank you," Nicholas replied as his stiff handsome face relaxed a little from the report. Since Ashton has said so, then Grandpa should be fine now.

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Chapter 450 Examination Result (2)

“However...” Ashton added abruptly as his eyes narrowed with a touch of dread inside them. He then gestured a look at Nicholas.

Nicholas was stunned as his heart tightened once more.

Hayley, on the other hand, did not notice the look the doctor gave Nicholas. Nevertheless, she was once again shaken up by what Ashton said. Unsettled, she asked, “However, what? Is there something wrong with Old Master Sawyer?”

“It is unrelated to Old Master Sawyer. It’s only a personal matter of mine,” Ashton replied before turning his attention back to Nicholas with a twinkle in his eyes. “I’ll take my leave here. Give me a call if anything happens again.”

Nicholas nodded.

Relief washed over Hayley as she watched Ashton leave the area. Ashton Sloan isn’t all that great after all. Why was I even worried to begin with?

Thinking that, she turned to the handsome beside her before feigning virtue in comforting the man. “Since Doctor Sloan has said that it’s not serious, Old Master Sawyer will definitely get better as long as he recuperates properly. Don’t worry too much about it.”

Yet, Nicholas only gave her an indifferent glance as a reply before leaving her side.

Hayley’s smile stiffened with both her hands clenched tightly into fists. Furious, she turned toward Nicholas’ back and watched him leave with fury in her eyes.

Why? Why?!

Why won't you look my way? Is nothing I do or say enough for you?

Even though I am the person right beside you at this moment!

Am I really that inferior to that woman?!

...

Back in the ward, Nicholas' family asked him about Remus' examination result the moment Nicholas came back.

"Grandpa's fine. His heart condition is on the milder side. Just make sure that he doesn't get agitated and has proper rest."

Everyone sighed in relief after hearing Nicholas repeat what Ashton told him.

"I'm glad he's okay." Stefania smiled.

Nicholas glanced around the room before looking at Kieran. "Look after Grandpa for me. I still have something to do back at the company."

"No problem." Kieran nodded in reply.

Nicholas then left them in the ward without looking back.

Unexpectedly, just when he left the ward, Hayley had just come over. She had composed herself before coming over, which was why she was late.

She was about to say something to the leaving Nicholas, but he walked past her without so much as a glance at her. At this, her anger that she'd tried hard to suppress rose once more.

Naturally, Nicholas remained unaware.

Just as Nicholas left the hospital, he found Edward had parked his car by the roadside. He entered his car and was not surprised to see Ashton already inside.

With the car on the road, Nicholas asked, “What were you trying to say just now?”

Ashton glanced at him before fully disclosing his findings. “I’m afraid the reason for Old Master Sawyer’s heart failure is man-made. Someone gave him something that he shouldn’t have eaten.”

When Nicholas heard that, his expression turned dark as suspicion filled his mind. With a frown, he asked, “There’s always a physician and a specialized nutritionist overseeing Grandpa’s diet. Wouldn’t they be able to notice if he ate something he shouldn’t have?”

“With how advanced technology is nowadays, there are many things that are able to trigger a heart failure, including those that are virtually undetectable. My advice is to investigate this matter, specifically going to the Sawyer Residence and checking if there are any problems with the food.”

Ashton voiced his opinion.

Nicholas—who was wearing a darkened and frightening expression right now—agreed with Ashton as he ordered, “Edward, to the Sawyer Residence!”

After all, Ashton had absolute authority in this matter.

10 minutes later, the black Rolls-Royce came to a stop at the entrance of the Sawyer Residence.

Ian welcomed them as soon as he heard of their arrival and respectfully greeted the two. “Master Nicholas, Doctor Sloan.”

Nicholas nodded in reply before leading Ashton into the living room.

Seconds later, the maids came to serve them tea.

