

Always Been Yours Chapter 491 - 500

Chapter 491 At this time, a black Rolls Royce was parked on the street.

The door of the car opened, and a pair of polished leather shoes was seen stepping on the ground.

As one looked up, one could see long legs wrapped in suit pants and Nicholas' flawless handsome face.

As always, there was a lack of expression on his delicate facial features.

His entire being emitted an aristocratic aura.

The next person to get off was Gregory.

Gregory looked like a little gentleman wearing a white shirt with black overalls and a black bow tied around his neck.

He was cool yet cute.

In the meantime, Timothy got off from the other side of the car.

He was also wearing a black suit.

Unlike the oppressive feeling possessed by Nicholas, his appearance was gentle and harmless, with a refined temperament.

In an instant, these three caught many people's attention the moment they showed up.

Some people recognized Nicholas' identity and stepped forward to greet him.

Annoyed, Nicholas impatiently dealt with these people.

Then, he carried Gregory and went into the theater through the VIP channel.

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Timothy followed behind closely.

Because it was a VIP ticket, their seats were in a private room located on the second floor with the best view.

"Daddy, can I go find Miss Tessa?

" As soon as he was seated, Gregory could not wait to go backstage to look for Tessa.

Nicholas glanced at him lightly, then rejected him by saying, "No, you can't.

She's busy with the performance now and has no time to watch over you.

" Gregory let out a disappointed sigh when he heard that and sat sullenly on his seat.

When Timothy saw this, he felt slightly bad for him.

So, he ruffled Gregory's soft black hair and coaxed him, "Greg, be a good boy.

The performance will start in a while, and you can see Miss Tessa.

" Gregory nodded obediently and rested his

chin on his hand.

Then, he stared at the stage below without blinking.

In his heart, he wished the performance would start soon so he could see Tessa.

At the same time, in three private rooms away from them, Stephania was sitting on a chair in a blue evening dress with an unreadable expression.

Ever since she knew Tessa had returned, she had been paying attention to her movements.

Because she knew Tessa had been living with her son, she never found a suitable opportunity to ask her out for a chaat.

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She wanted to come over and check her out when she discovered that Tessa had a performance tonight.

I want to see what capability does this woman have to be able to enchant both my son and grandson.

At 8 o'clock at night, the emcee officially announced the start of the musical concert.

In the meantime, everyone was ready backstage, and they were just waiting for the emcee to queue them to go up the stage.

Tessa stood at the forefront wearing a black dolman sleeve evening dress.

Her black hair was tied in an updo, revealing her snowy fair swan neck.

The pair of delicate ear studs she wore added a unique charm to her exquisite face.

However, one could see that her mood was very unstable at this moment through the constant heaving of her chest.

This was her first time performing as a concertmaster on such a big occasion, after all.

Hence, there was no doubt that she would have butterflies in her stomach.

"Relax, take it easy, Tessa.

Just treat it like a normal practice.

" Annie stood beside her and comforted her in a warm voice when she noticed how nervous Tessa was becoming.

When the others saw this, they also came to comfort Tessa.

Tessa felt a warmth flowing through her heart, and her emotions gradually eased up a little.

At this time, Hathaway also came over, patted Tessa's shoulder, and smiled.

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"Believe in yourself.

You can do it.

" Tessa nodded firmly when she heard those encouraging words.

At this moment, the emcee announced loudly from the stage, "Next, we will invite the famous Hathaway Philharmonic on stage to bring you a fascinating musical performance.

" Tessa took a deep breath in the midst of the thunderous applause and led the band onto the stage.

As the spotlight on the stage fell on her at this moment, she looked eye-catching and was instantly charged with self-confidence.

"Daddy, look!

It's Miss Tessa!

" On the second floor, Gregory shouted excitedly when he saw Tessa standing at the front of the band.

Nicholas nodded in response as he stared at the girl on the stage intently with his eyes.

It was the same for Timothy, who was sitting next to him.

On the stage, Tessa picked up her violin and played the first note after she brought everyone to bow toward the audience.

The first piece to be played was Hathaway Philharmonic's masterpiece, 'Concerto in E minor The music had a noble and gentle tone, especially during its second movement, as it gave off a sense of artistry toward the people.

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Chapter 492 Tessa's control over the violin, in particular, had a way of pulling one's heartstrings she was able to manipulate her bow in a way that produced an extremely soothing and gentle tone.

So, it was no surprise that her exceptional violin skills came to the rest of the crowd as a shock.

Once the song was over, the audience erupted into applause that seemed louder than thunder.

Gregory leaped off his seat in excitement.

"Miss Tessa is so impressive, Daddy.

" The young boy was clapping so hard that his palms were turning red.

Nicholas didn't respond to the boy immediately-his loving gaze was too focused on the girl who seemed to outshine everyone on stage.

Timothy was clapping just as hard as everyone else, and a look of pride was in his eyes.

He seemed genuinely glad that his sister was one step closer to fulfilling her dreams.

However, compared to the joy they were experiencing, things were much more complicated on Stefania's end.

She gazed at Tessa's outstanding figure on stage.

This was Stefania's first time looking at Tessa, and she had just realized that Tessa wasn't as bad as she had thought.

"Could I have had too many biases in the past?

Is that why I thought of her that way?

" Stefania couldn't help but question herself.

Unfortunately, for her, there was no one there that could give her an answer.

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Meanwhile, Hayley, who was sitting in the audience, was just as stunned as she watched Tessa.

Both Hayley and Stefania knew that Tessa would be performing that night—they both showed up because they wanted to find out what it was about Tessa who left Nicholas so starstruck.

So, when Hayley saw the confident woman on stage, she couldn't help but turn around to look at Nicholas, who was sitting on the second floor.

As expected, Nicholas was watching the performance with a loving expression on his face.

He looked nothing like the stone-cold man he was when he spoke to Hayley.

Hayley couldn't explain how horrible she felt at that moment.

After the rest of the performances came to an end that night, Tessa led her group of people out to bow to the audience before they headed off the stage.

Once they returned backstage, all of the performers seemed much more relaxed.

They began to talk about the performance they had just put up.

Eventually, the topic of conversation turned to Tessa, and everyone showered her with their praises.

"I didn't expect you to show so much improvement during today's performance, Tessa.

"Yeah.

I was worried that she wouldn't be able to follow the melody during the D Major section, but I'm surprised to see that she didn't struggle at all," someone commented.

"I believe she has the right to have a lead role in the orchestra now," another one said.

"Why don't we get the music director to arrange a position for her in the next show?"

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"I think Tessa would do well on stage.

"Tessa quickly waved their compliments off humbly and she felt shy after receiving so many compliments.

"I still have a lot to learn from my teachers, and I'm not as great as you guys claim me to be.

Stop complimenting me!

I'm about to lose my mind.

"However, the moment Tessa finished her words, Hathaway let out a playful chuckle from beside her.

"What's wrong with celebrating your achievements for a moment?

Today's show was complete because of you.

"Miss Hathaway," everyone greeted when they saw her.

W Hathaway gazed at the people around her before giving them an approving nod.

"You guys worked really hard, and many people witnessed your stunning performance today.

Tessa, in particular, did a great job.

She performed really well.

"After she briefed the orchestra members about the performance, she saw Nicholas entering from the back door with a bouquet of white flowers before she could make an announcement for the afterparty they were about to have.

Both she and Nicholas exchanged glances with one another.

"Is anything the matter, Mr.

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Sawyer?

"I'm here to give my girlfriend some flowers.

"He fixed his gentle gaze on Tessa as he spoke.

"Ohhhhh, so you're here to give her flowers, huh?

"The rest of the orchestra members teased them playfully while some of them made faces in Tessa's direction.

A few female orchestra members crossed their arms in front of their chests.

"Why don't I have a handsome boyfriend who can give me flowers?

"Tessa felt herself blushing as she heard everyone's playful comments.

Then, finally, her bright eyes glanced toward her man, and a thick layer of romance and sweetness seemed to separate them from the world.

The man strode over with white roses in his hands and a tender expression on his face.

When he got closer to her, he reached his arm out to hand her the flowers.

"Congratulations.

It was a great show, and everyone really enjoyed it," he praised.

"Thank you!

"Tessa took the flowers over before she lowered her head to sniff them.

The pleasant scent of flowers made her feel even happier than before.

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She looked up and beamed at the man in front of her.

"Where's Gregory and Timothy?"

" she asked.

"I told them to return to the hotel first," Nicholas said before turning to look at Hathaway.

"I had been too busy with my work previously, so I didn't get a chance to treat your colleagues.

So this time, I got my men to prepare a proper celebration, and I'd like to invite all of you to it.

" Tessa didn't seem surprised upon hearing this news-Nicholas had told her about it beforehand, anyway.

The rest of the orchestra members didn't seem to mind-they could have a celebration anywhere.

Hathaway was the only one who gazed at Nicholas with a complicated look in her eyes as she clearly knew that the man's actions were all for Tessa.

Nicholas didn't seem bothered by Hathaway's gaze, for he simply continued talking.

"This is my way of showing gratitude for all your care toward Tessa.

" Hathaway couldn't bring herself to reject his kind offer—Nicholas was simply too much of a gentleman.

In the end, she had no choice but to agree with him.

The celebration wasn't too grand-it was hosted in the hotel where the orchestra members stayed.

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However, the food and drinks at the feast were prepared with exclusive ingredients and sent over from another five-star restaurant.

A huge drinking party was happening in the hotel ballroom.

When Gregory found Tessa, he began to follow her around.

Initially, many of the orchestra members assumed that Gregory was Tessa and Nicholas's son.

Only later did they find out that it was a misunderstanding.

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com However, when they all saw how close the young boy was to Tessa, they couldn't help but tease her for it.

"Look at the both of them!

I would think they were lying if they claimed they weren't mother and son," one said.

"I know, right?

The boy's eyes look really similar to Tessa's," another one said.

"They do look alike.

" When Gregory heard everyone else saying that he looked like Tessa, a big smile spread across his face.

He wrapped his arms around Tessa's neck before speaking in his childlike voice.

"I think I look like her too.

She likes the violin, and I like the violin.

I like her the most!

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"Everyone melted at the young boy's cuteness.

"Gregory is way too cute, Tessa.

I wish I .

could bring him home," someone commented.

A proud look surfaced on Tessa's face when she heard all of her colleagues praising young Gregory.

The adorable and obedient boy was part of her family.

It wasn't just Gregory who was popular among the orchestra members-the gentle and soft-spoken Timothy also received a lot of attention.

Some of the members even asked Tessa about Timothy.

"Does your brother have a girlfriend, 'Tessa?

What do you think about me?

Do you think I can be your sister-in-law?

"So naturally, they all began crowding around Tessa for information about her brother.

Tessa let out a laugh.

"My brother is single now.

I don't mind if you guys go after him, but I won't offer you guys any help.

It's all up to my brother.

"The girls were disappointed for a while, but they soon lifted their spirits once more.

Throughout this period, Nicholas was always beside Tessa.

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Although he had a quiet and elegant demeanor, he didn't seem like an unapproachable person.

During the peak of the celebration, Nicholas wrapped an arm around Tessa while he gave a simple speech.

"I'm delighted to have met all of you, and I would like to thank everyone here for all the care you guys have given to Tessa.

" After finishing his speech, he held his glass up to everyone before finishing his drink.

All of the orchestra members clapped and cheered for him, and some of them even let out sighs of admiration.

"What should I do?

I feel the sudden urge to be in a lovey dovey relationship after seeing Tessa and her boyfriend," someone said.

"I'm tempted as well," another one added.

"He's such a perfect man.

Tessa probably saved the whole universe in her past life," someone commented.

Tessa couldn't conceal the happy smile on her face after hearing all the comments around her.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the party, Hathaway had found herself a quiet spot in the corner of the hall where she sipped on her wine.

She wasn't in the mood for a celebration, but she didn't want to dampen everyone else's spirits, so she chose to hide in a corner.

Later that night, after the celebration was over, many of the orchestra members were either tipsy or drunk.

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Nicholas was thoughtful enough to arrange for the hotel staff members to send the people back to their rooms.

Soon enough, it was just Nicholas, his father, Tessa, Timothy, and Hathaway, who had yet to leave.

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Hathaway walked over to Tessa to tell her about her future plans.

"Now that the performance is over, you can stay home for a while.

The orchestra will head home first, but I'll have to wait for Kathleen to come out, so you can follow me back.

"Tessa's eyes lit up upon hearing Hathaway's words.

"Thank you, Miss Hathaway," she uttered gratefully.

Hathaway beamed at her and gave Nicholas and Timothy a polite nod before seeing herself out.

A while later, Nicholas and the rest of them also left the hotel.

Tessa was extremely happy on their ride home.

She wrapped both her arms around Nicholas's waist as she grinned happily.

"Perfect.

I'll be able to stay with you guys for a while more.

"Nicholas patted her on the head as he curled his lips into a faint smile.

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He was clearly happy as well.

When Tessa felt the warmth of his palm against the top of her head, her smile was so wide that her eyes had turned into crescents.

As she inhaled the man's scent, she realized the heavy stench of alcohol on him.

"Do you feel light headed?

" she asked worriedly.

Nicholas had been the only one taking all of the drinks—Tessa hadn't had a single sip of alcohol to drink that night.

"A little," he replied honestly.

For some reason, his voice sounded deeper and raspier than usual, perhaps because of all the drinks he had.

It made his voice sound especially magnetic, and Tessa felt her ears tingling when she heard his voice.

"I'll give you a massage once we're home," she offered.

Her large, limpid eyes were fixed on his face as she spoke, and his expression softened as he nodded in response to her.

Both of them seemed to give off a sweet, loving aura that filled the entire vehicle.

Timothy, who was sitting in a corner with Gregory in his arms, felt like the couple had unintentionally turned him into the third wheel once more.

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[com](http://www.allworldbeauty.com) He could feel his heart aching as he watched the sweet couple in action.

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In the past, Tessa would always check if he was doing fine after he drank alcohol, but she only paid attention to Nicholas right then.

At that thought, Timothy couldn't stop himself from speaking up in a pitiful tone.

"You should check on me too, Tessa.

I drank a lot, and I feel really dizzy now.

I need a massage, too," he whined.

Tessa turned to see Timothy looking like a young child craving his mother's attention.

There was a somewhat jealous look in his eyes.

She could not help but laugh at the sight of her brother.

She laughed so hard that her entire body trembled as she curled up in Nicholas's arms.

Even Nicholas smiled a little when he saw how amused Tessa seemed.

Then, he reached an arm out to hold onto the girl's back-he was worried that she would slip and fall to the ground of the car if she laughed any harder.

Although Gregory didn't know what Tessa was laughing about, he began giggling with her when he saw how happy she seemed.

The black Rolls-Royce took a slow drive home, and sounds of laughter filled the car on the way back.

Timothy felt somewhat embarrassed when he saw how much his sister was laughing at him.

He had never been one to whine or act cute, so he felt incredibly frustrated when Tessa laughed at his rare attempt to act cute.

"Tessa!

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" he protested.

"Fine, fine.

I'll stop laughing.

" Tessa stopped laughing, but the same amused expression remained on her face.

"I can't believe you're getting jealous about this.

Fine.

I'll give you a massage later.

" "That sounds better," Timothy uttered.

Although it was embarrassing, he did manage to get the answer he wanted in the end.

So, he spread his lips wide grin before turning to look at Nicholas.

It was almost as if Timothy was trying to show off to Nicholas.

Nicholas noticed the other man's childish actions, but he merely raised an eyebrow without playing along with the man.

Tessa wasn't aware of the two men's interaction, for all her attention belonged to Gregory at that moment.

"I want a massage too, Aunt Tessa!

" Gregory leaped out of his seat before looking at Tessa with a bright, anticipatory look on his face.

The small boy clung to Tessa's knees as he looked up at her.

His eyelashes fluttered like butterfly wings, and his chubby cheeks were like a chipmunk's.

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Tessa felt like squishing his cheeks every time she saw him.

“Okay.

Let’s give you a massage now.

” Tessa slipped out of Nicholas’s arms before pulling Gregory onto her lap and kissing the young boy.

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Chapter 495 Gregory gave her a smile that went all the way to his eyes.

When Nicholas saw his girlfriend being stolen away by his son, his’expression darkened a little.

I knew it.

My son is, indeed, my love rival!

Timothy could sense how dejected Nicholas felt, and he couldn’t help but chuckle in schadenfreude.

It was late by the time they arrived at Dynasty Gardens.

Tessa addressed her brother the moment they got into the hall.

“I’m going to shower Gregory and put him to bed first, but I’ll come down to give you a massage later.

” To her surprise, Timothy rejected her offer almost immediately after she finished speaking.

“It’s fine.

I was just kidding in the car,” he said.

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Then, he moved to carry Gregory before Tessa could do the same thing.

"I'll take care of the boy tonight.

You and Nicholas should go and get some rest," Timothy suggested, then brought Gregory upstairs upon finishing his words.

After all, he knew that it wasn't right to disrupt his sister and brother-in-law's night.

Gregory took a while to process the situation, but he began to wriggle his way out of Timothy's arms when he realized what was happening.

"Let me down, Uncle Timothy.

I want Aunt Tessa to put me to bed," Gregory whined.

"You're a good boy, aren't you, Gregory?

Why don't you let Aunt Tessa put your daddy to bed tonight?

" Timothy coaxed the young boy while he sped up his pace.

Timothy was afraid that Tessa would grow soft-hearted when she heard Gregory's wails and that she would abandon Nicholas for Gregory.

Timothy's predictions weren't wrong-Tessa did feel the urge to go after Gregory when she heard the boy whining.

However, Nicholas held onto her wrist before she could go anywhere.

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Timothy will take good care of him," Nicholas said.

He knew what Tessa was thinking, so he reassured her before bringing her back to their room.

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Well, I guess Gregory is pretty close to Timothy.

Furthermore, Timothy's a gentle and patient man, so I'm sure he will be able to take care of Gregory, Tessa thought.

So, she ended up going along with Timothy's initial plan.

"I'll go run a bath for you.

You should soak in it for a while to relax," Tessa suggested as she walked toward the bathroom.

She had only taken a few steps when Nicholas suddenly swept her off her feet.

She cried out in surprise as she instinctively hooked her arms around his neck.

"What is it?

" she asked in a soft voice.

"You wanted me to soak in a bath, right?

So, let's do it together.

" He lowered his head to give her a seductive look as he spoke.

Tessa's face turned beet red when she heard his words.

"I don't want to be in a bath with you!

Let me down!

" She hastily tried to escape from Nicholas' grip, but all of her efforts were in vain.

How could he possibly let her go just like that?

Soon enough, a string of interesting noises came from inside the washroom.

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About an hour later, Nicholas carried Tessa out of the bathroom before gently positioning her on the bed.

Once she was free to move, she immediately curled up under the sheets before glaring at him resentfully.

He chuckled as he knew that he might have gone overboard earlier.

That was why she was so mad at him.

Tessa's cheeks were still blushing a little under the dim light of the room-this, paired with her grumpy expression, made her seem more adorable than ever.

Nicholas gulped saliva as he gazed at her.

"Didn't you say you wanted to give me a massage?"

" he asked in a thick voice.

He sat on the bed for a while before lying beside Tessa.

She glared at him for a moment as if she were saying, Oh, do you only feel dizzy now?

However, she didn't end up saying those words as she realized a slight tension between the man's eyebrows.

Perhaps he's really not feeling well, she told herself.

So, she pulled the sheets aside and sat beside him before placing her fingers on his temples.

Then, she rubbed them in a clockwise motion to soothe his dizziness.

Her body was relatively close to hers, so he could smell the scent of her body wash from her shower earlier.

The girl had a unique scent that belonged only to her, and it tempted the man to act in various ways.

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So, all of a sudden, Nicholas grabbed onto her hand and flipped around to press her body under his.

Before she could protest, he had already pressed his lips against hers.

After that, she found herself mesmerized by the man's impressive kissing skills, and she no longer felt the need to push him away.

The air around them turned warmer with every second.

They had a long night ahead of them.

On the other hand, Stefania returned to the Sawyer Residence after the show.

When she entered the luxurious hall, someone had turned all of the lights on.

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Tobias felt the need to question Stefania when he saw her coming home at such a late hour.

"Where did you go? Why are you home so late?"

"Tessa had a performance at Silverscapc Theater today, so I went to watch her," Stefania explained. Then, she placed her handbag on the coffee table before sitting beside Tobias. He gazed at his wife puzzledly. "Did you go there to meet her?" he asked.

"No. I just went over to watch her performance. But, unfortunately, Nicholas was around, so I couldn't find the chance to talk to her," she said in a rather conflicted tone.

"What do you think of her after seeing her performance?" Tobias asked curiously.

"Are you asking for my opinion?" Stefania thought about it for a while before answering him. "To be honest, I realized how Tessa might not be as horrible as I thought her to be in the past. That was my conclusion after watching the performance," she concluded.

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“What do you mean by that?” he asked. He was visibly interested in this topic. He had never been fond of Tessa in the past, yet his son insisted on being with her, so he decided that he would simply step out of this matter.

Stefania wasn't aware of Tobias's decision, so she simply told him about her observations at Silverscape Theater that day. “Tessa turns into a whole new confident woman when she's on stage—you have to witness it for yourself in order to understand what I mean. She's like a completely different person! She's nothing like the other plain, rich girls we used to introduce to Nicholas. While I was on the way back, I reflected on my past actions. I was wondering... Was it a mistake to stop them from being together?”

Tobias tried his best to provide an impartial opinion as he gazed at the contemplative look on his wife's face. “I had previously guessed that Tessa has a different side to her since Nicholas seems to be so madly in love with her. Anyway, Nicholas is a well-educated young man—we should have more trust in his taste.”

Although Stefania could agree with her husband's logic, she still felt rather suspicious of the whole situation. “I won't deny that Tessa outshines everyone else when she's on stage. However, her family background is simply too terrible.” Tobias could tell that his wife was someone who cared about reputation and status, but he personally felt like this wasn't a huge issue.

“I think that her family background isn't a primary concern we should have. What matters the most is that Nicholas likes her. Dad is clearly biased against Tessa, but we know our son best—we know that he's not going to change his mind after deciding on something,” Tobias said as he tried to convince Stefania not to be involved in this matter. “Look at how tense things are between Dad and Nicholas right now. You don't want to end up in that position, do you?”

Stefania shook her head when she thought about the hostile relationship between Remus and Nicholas. She didn't want her relationship with her son to end up like that as well.

“If you don't want that to happen, then you should stay out of this. Regardless, what matters the most is Nicholas's happiness, right?” Tobias let out a somewhat guilty sigh after finishing his sentence. “Throughout these years, we have been too focused on training Nicholas to become the heir of the business. We placed so many restrictions on him—we shouldn't do the same thing when it comes to his marriage.”

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The same guilty look formed on Stefania's face when she heard her husband's words. She parted her lips to say something, but all her words merged to form a single, long sigh. Tobias is right. We've given him so many restrictions across the years—it's true that we shouldn't take his freedom away in this aspect of his life.

Both Tobias and Stefania were troubled by these thoughts as they sat in the brightly lit hall. Right then, a loud gasp caused both of them to jump in their seats. They were surprised by Kieran's sudden appearance. "Kieran!"

Tobias raised his hand and pretended to hit the boy. Kieran immediately raised his hands in surrender. "It's my fault, dad. I was too loud. I didn't mean to scare you guys."

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Kieran changed the topic almost immediately after that. "Mom, did you just say that you guys will stop meddling with Nicholas's marriage from now on?" He gazed at his mother expectantly.

Stefania gave him a side-eye before responding in a cold tone, "I might not meddle with his business, but that doesn't mean that I support his decision."

"Was that what you guys said just now? You said that you guys would stop pressuring Nicholas," he uttered in a disappointed tone. "Are you wary of Tessa because you are worried that she wouldn't treat Gregory well?" He was trying his best to speak up for his brother.

Both Stefania and Tobias were silent for a long while after that, but the looks on their faces gave them away. When Kieran saw their expressions, he figured that they were overthinking the situation. In the past, I used to be worried about the same thing. But after seeing how Tessa interacts with Gregory, I now know that my concerns were all for nothing. Tessa and Gregory are so close—Gregory is almost like her biological son! Likewise, Gregory is so attached to Tessa—it'd be impossible for them not to be close to each other.

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Kieran felt the need to speak up on behalf of Nicholas. “Mom, Dad, I don’t think you guys need to be worried about that. Gregory is really fond of Tessa because she’s really good to him. She cares for him as much as you guys do.”

Then, Kieran began to give examples of all the things that Tessa had done for Gregory.

His parents were dumbfounded after hearing what he said. They had no idea that Tessa had done so much for Gregory. When Kieran saw that his parents were starting to change their minds, he hastily added to his previous points. “Tessa isn’t just nice to Gregory. She also genuinely cares for Nicholas. Ever since Nicholas began dating her, he has been a lot healthier. You guys know what Nicholas was like in the past—he used to be a workaholic. He practically lived like a robot. Sometimes, his joints would be sore and his body would ache on rainy days. This may be a minor issue, but Tessa’s the only one who takes notes of these things. She always makes sure to prepare medication for Nicholas, and she even reminds me to do it when she’s not in the country.

Think about all of the things she does for him! I bet all the rich girls that you guys introduced to Nicholas have never done such a thing in the past, am I right?”

Kieran couldn’t seem to stop talking once he got started. Both his parents sat silently for a long while before Tobias spoke up. “If whatever you said is true, then Tessa sounds like a thoughtful and mature woman.”

Although Stefania didn’t make any comments, it was clear from her expression that she was starting to warm up to the idea of Tessa dating her son. Kieran cheered to himself when he noticed the change in his parents.

He decided to stop talking after that, knowing he shouldn’t overdo it. Things might end up appearing fake if he were to go overboard with his compliments for Tessa. Later that night, he recalled his conversation with his parents and decided that he would call his brother to celebrate a little. “Hey, Nicholas. You need to really thank me—”

Before Kieran could finish his sentence, he noticed something odd about his brother’s sound on the other end of the line. Nicholas was panting a little even as he wasn’t speaking.

It took a while for Kieran’s mind to realize what was happening. “I’m sorry for disturbing you.” Kieran ended the call immediately after he realized what was happening. Oh no! I

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disturbed Nicholas while he was in the midst of enjoying his night! He's going to murder me tomorrow!

The next morning, Tessa woke up to an empty bed as Nicholas had already left the room. She didn't mind this as she simply stretched her limbs before massaging her waist area. I have to start establishing boundaries when it comes to our nighttime activities. If this goes on, I'm going to die of exhaustion someday.

Tessa had washed up and was about to head downstairs when she received a call from one of the orchestra members. "Are you awake, Tessa?"

"Yeah. Is anything the matter?" she asked.

"Oh, it's nothing much. We just wanted to ask whether you know any fun places to travel around here. We thought we would go sightseeing today." The orchestra members had a flight to catch in three days' time, so they all wanted to explore the area before leaving.

Tessa smiled upon hearing the other person's words. "Why don't I bring you guys around?" Tessa offered.

"It's fine. You should stay home with your family since it's rare for you to be back here." The orchestra members were considerate people who often looked out for Tessa and their words touched Tessa, so she thought about it for a moment before responding, "Hold on. Let me prepare a guide that I can send to you guys," she offered.

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"Sure, I'll count on you for that."

After the call ended, Tessa walked into Nicholas' room while holding her smartphone as she wanted to borrow his computer.

The itinerary was actually simple to compile as a more detailed version could be found online. The only troublesome part was translating it from Xerthian to English.

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However, it wasn't an issue for Tessa. Within half an hour, she managed to compile the itinerary and send it to orchestra members. Then, she gave them a call and asked, "Have you guys received the itinerary?"

"Yes, we have received it. It's really detailed, and it's in English. That's so thoughtful of you," one of the orchestra members replied.

Tessa pursed her lips and smiled lightly. "Do let me know if you guys have any questions about it."

"Sure." The call ended right after.

After she put her phone down, she walked out of the room in a good mood. But much to her surprise, she suddenly saw Nicholas walking toward her.

"You haven't left?" she asked in surprise.

"I want to have breakfast with you before I leave." He walked up toward her and naturally held her right hand. As they walked down the stairs hand in hand, he asked, "You seem to be in a good mood. Did something good happen?"

At that moment, Tessa was delighted, and she told him everything about how she helped the orchestra members with the travel itinerary.

Toward the end, she couldn't help but sigh. "Besides the incident with Kathleen, this is by far the most harmonious orchestra I've encountered."

"Everything will be fine." Nicholas squeezed her hand in assurance and smiled.

Tessa nodded.

After breakfast, he looked at her as he asked, "What are your plans for today?"

Timothy and Gregory looked over at her when they heard his question.

"I'd like to visit Timothy's company," Tessa spoke her mind. As she turned, she blinked her eyes cheekily and jokingly asked her brother, "Mr. Reinhart, would you bring me around for a grand tour of your company?"

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He smiled and agreed. "I'd be glad to."

Afraid that he would be left behind, Gregory looked around and immediately raised his hand while exclaiming, "Miss Tessa, I want to go too."

Nicholas couldn't help but tease him when he noticed his son's eagerness. "In that case, you'll have to ask Uncle Timothy whether he is willing to bring you along."

As soon as Gregory heard that, he blurted,

"Uncle Timothy, I'd like to visit your company too."

He blinked his dark, sparkly eyes, which resembled the starry sky. That look on his face, combined with his chubby cheeks, made him irresistibly adorable.

Timothy, who had zero resistance to his cuteness, agreed immediately.

After a round of laughter, Nicholas left for his company. Meanwhile, Tessa went with her brother and Gregory.

Once they reached Timothy's office, Tessa noticed that his company was even bigger than she had imagined.

The current company had upgraded from just one floor to three floors, and the company's staff had increased in numbers by a few times. However, they were currently all busy at work in their office attire.

"This floor is mainly for the sales and marketing department; the second floor is the research and development department, and the third floor is where the higher management and my office are located."

Tessa looked around, feeling proud of her brother. She had never expected that he could expand his company by this much in less than half a year.

Meanwhile, Gregory obediently followed Tessa as he looked around the office. The company's staff looked at them curiously as they were touring the office.

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“Do you think this is Mr. Reinhart’s girlfriend and son?”

“If he had a son, shouldn’t he address her as his wife?”

“So, is Mr. Reinhart already married?”

“No way. Isn’t he still in university?”

“Who said that you can’t get married while you’re still in university?”

“But this child doesn’t bear a resemblance to Mr. Reinhart.”

Everyone had their own two cents on the matter. So, although the staff was just whispering, too many of them were participating in the discussion. Thus, it brought their gossip to Timothy’s attention.

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When Gregory heard it, he instantly protected his Daddy’s status in his life with pouty lips.

“I’m not Uncle Tim’s child. I’m Daddy’s child.” His sweet voice, coupled with his cute little face, instantly stole the heart of all female employees within seconds.

Tessa was almost killed by his cuteness too. While she brought him into her arms, she smiled and said, “Greg, why are you so adorable?”

Gregory wrapped his arms around her neck and smiled shyly while lowering his head when he heard that. As Timothy looked at the interaction between Tessa and Gregory, his heart felt pure joy.

At this moment, he could hear the whispers of the employees again.

“Look at President Reinhart’s expression, so gentle.”

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"I bet with one bag of chips that even if the child is not our President Reinhart's, that girl is definitely his girlfriend."

"She has to be! I've never seen him so gentle to any other girls before. By the way, she's beautiful."

As Timothy listened to the discussions around him, he couldn't help laughing.

Just then, he clapped his hands and let everybody pause their work on hand. "Allow me to introduce my sister, Tessa Reinhart."

Tessa gracefully greeted the employees with Gregory in her arms when she heard her brother introducing her to his staff, "Hello, everyone."

Everybody was shocked by such an introduction. But almost immediately, they regained their composure and replied, "Hello, Miss Tessa."

She only smiled and nodded at their greetings.

With that over and done with, the three looked around until they reached the office.

On the other hand, after Henry knew that Tessa was in the office, he started to run to her merrily.

"Tim, you're so mean! You didn't even tell me that Tessa is back," he grumbled at Timothy, then greeted her, full of smiles. "Tess, when did you come back? Oh, Greg is here too."

"Mr. Henry," Gregory greeted him politely.

She smiled and replied while carrying Gregory in her arms, "I just came back a few days ago. How is your family?"

"They're all fine," Henry replied, feeling guilty. He knew that his family was part of the reason she left in the first place.

At this thought, he couldn't help asking, "Tess, you should come to my house for dinner tonight. My parents always wanted to treat you to a meal and kept talking about it."

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She was startled and glanced at her brother reflexively. After all, she was not that close with Henry's family.

When Timothy saw the look in his sister's eyes, he gave her a faint smile and nodded.

He knew the reason why Henry was inviting her for dinner. If she didn't show up at the Tompkins Residence, Henry would forever feel guilty for what happened before.

After she got her brother's signal, she agreed to Henry's invitation. At the same time, she sent a text to Nicholas to inform him about it.

When Nicholas got the text from Tessa, he was in the midst of a meeting with all the executives in the Sawyer Group.

His cold face turned gentle as he glimpsed at the message on his phone, making the executives stare at him in stunned silence as they had never seen such a soft side of him before.

So the rumor about President Sawyer dating someone is accurate?

Nicholas didn't know what was in the executives' minds. So, he just lowered his head and replied to the text.

'If that's so, I'll visit Grandpa in the hospital tonight. You guys have fun.' As soon as he sent the text, Tessa replied with an okay and reminded him to have dinner later.

He smiled and put away his phone in a good mood. But, when he looked up, he only realized that all the executives were staring at him in surprise. Even Kieran was also winking at him, trying to make fun of him.

"If there's something wrong with your eyes, make an appointment with an eye specialist," Nicholas glanced at his brother and said coldly. Then, he turned to the others and commanded, "Proceed with the meeting."

The executives felt a twinge in their hearts when President Sawyer returned to his usual self.

President Sawyer, must you be so unfair? They wanted the nicer version of him too.

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In the evening after work, Henry brought the Reinhart siblings and Gregory back to the Tompkins Residence.

Surrounded by a gorgeous environment, the house was located in a high-end residential area in the city center, and it was spacious with four bedrooms and two living rooms.

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Only after his business succeeded did Henry buy this house for his parents so that they could live in a better place.

“Morn, Dad, this is Tessa.” After the Reinhart siblings and Gregory went into the house, they sat in the living room where Henry introduced them to his parents. “This is the child of Tessa’s boyfriend. His nickname is Greg.”

Henry’s parents greeted them affectionately.

“Miss Reinhart, Greg.”

Tessa also greeted them respectfully, “Mr. Tompkins, Mrs. Tompkins.”

Gregory immediately followed her example and politely greeted them, “Hello, Mr. and Mrs.

Tompkins.”

“Hello,” they replied while smiling with their eyes, obviously in a good mood.

Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins weren’t old and only seemed to be in their forties. However, maybe it was because they had really devoted themselves to work for nearly half of their lives that they looked older than their age. However, they were still healthy.

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After everyone got to know each other, the atmosphere in the living room became harmonious where Tessa and Gregory were treated very well by their generous hospitality.

“Miss Reinhart, Greg, have these fruits. These are all brought by my husband this morning.” Mrs. Tompkins handed the fruits to Tessa and Gregory and they took the fruits while thanking her.

Henry stood by the side, smiled at the scene, and teased his mother, “Mom, you’re letting them eat so many snacks now. How are they going to have dinner later?”

As soon as she heard that, Mrs. Tompkins patted her forehead and blamed herself. “Oh, look at me; I’ve forgotten we were going to have dinner later!”

“It’s okay. We can just have the fruits after

dinner.”

When she noticed Tessa looking at her so gently, Mrs. Tompkins started to adore this kind girl.

After some time, Mr. Tompkins finished preparing dinner before he laid the big table with plenty of dishes.

Once he was done setting the table, he invited the Reinhart siblings and Gregory to start eating. “This is just a home-cooked meal. I hope it suits your tastes.”

“Oh, it’s been such a long time since I last had some home-cooked food. I’ll definitely love it!” In fact, Tessa really liked the atmosphere the Tompkins Family had because she felt that this was how a true home should be.

Meanwhile, Henry’s parents treated her amicably and kept asking her to eat more.

At first, they just felt thankful to Tessa for what happened before, but now that they got to know her, they genuinely liked this kind girl.

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Everyone was enjoying themselves throughout the dinner, especially Gregory, who stole Henry's parents' hearts with his cuteness, politeness, and sweet persuasion within seconds.

Toward the end of the dinner, they even wanted to give him all the snacks and candies in the house, but they finally gave him some pocket money.

As Henry observed the scene, he leaned against Timothy's shoulder and whispered, "Oh no, look at my parents. They will pressure me to get married after this, for sure."

Meanwhile, Nicholas went straight to the hospital after he finished work.

Remus was in a stable condition and felt much better after the treatment. However, he started to think about many things after he made a full recovery.

And the one thing that he was most worried about was Nicholas' marriage.

At the thought of Nicholas rejecting the granddaughter-in-law that he favored for a gold-digger, Remus' blood started to boil since he just didn't understand what was so great about Tessa. She was from an ordinary family, and her character was substandard too.

At this thought, Remus' face turned gloomy once when he saw Nicholas entering and he felt that everything about Nicholas had irritated him to no end.

When Nicholas entered, he didn't know what was going on with Remus. So, he ignored his grandfather's darkened face and asked, "Grandpa, how are you feeling today?"

"Not dead yet," Remus replied with a cold grunt.

Nicholas disregarded his bad temper and raised his eyebrow when he heard the reply. He nodded and agreed with Remus by saying, "I thought so too. It'll be difficult to die with Ashton by your side."

"Nicholas Sawyer!" A furious Remus stared at Nicholas with the feeling that Nicholas was just

here to infuriate him.

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When Nicholas noticed that Old Master Sawyer was actually upset, he was surprised and said solemnly, "I know you haven't given up on the thought of letting me marry Hayley, but that is just impossible."

"Why not? You rejected her even before you got to know her. Do you think it's fair for her?" Old Master Sawyer took Hayley's side as he wasn't willing to give up meddling in Nicholas' marriage.

As Nicholas stared directly at him, his tone became grave. "Relationships are never fair. Plus, do you really know what kind of person Hayley is, Grandpa?"

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