Chapter 781 A Force to Be Reckoned With

Nicholas' heart felt warm as he saw the love of his life worry about him.

He hugged Tessa with his uninjured arm and consoled, "Stop overthinking. Didn't the doctors say that I'll be fine after some rest?"

She seemed to agree with him since his words reminded her that the doctors would have told them earlier on if something was wrong.

"Moving forward, I want you to be safe and take good care of yourself." She wrapped her arms around his neck with affection and told him coquettishly.

As he listened to her, he nodded. Under the dim lights, both of them locked eyes as they leaned in for a passionate kiss.

In the following days, Tessa had been focused on her training. As the date of the performance drew close, their training got more rigorous, and the sessions would go from morning to night.

Meanwhile, Rorion had not given up on getting Kathleen out. He had come up with numerous solutions, but somehow, the connections he previously had suddenly turned useless. All of them refused to help him, no matter what conditions he offered, which was puzzling.

That day, he visited Kathleen at the prison as he usually did.

When she saw her father, she questioned him impatiently, "Daddy, when exactly can I leave this horrible place?"

Since she was incarcerated, her condition hadn't been well, so he didn't blame her for her being agitated. The reason for her being agitated wasn't because she was

bullied, since Rorion had managed to get her a single cell so that she would be spared from being locked up with other inmates. However, the agony of being locked up in a narrow, enclosed space with no one to talk to and without internet access was enough to drive her crazy. He got nervous, looking at how much weight his daughter had lost.

"Hang in there a little more. Daddy is thinking of a way." He consoled her.

"How long exactly do I have to wait? You have been telling me the same thing every time, and yet, you never deliver on your promise!"

Kathleen was on edge because she couldn't stand staying there anymore. She craved to be released and to be free.

Having left with no choice, Rorion confessed, "I'm sorry I can't fulfill my promise. I have been seeking help from everyone one I know, but for some reason, they refused to help me with this matter."

"Why so?"

Upon hearing that, Kathleen was stunned as it sounded unbelievable since those connections that her father had were people of high ranking and authority. By right, they would be able to get her out just by giving instructions. How come... Suddenly, a figure popped up in her mind. Could it be him?

"What are you mumbling about?" Rorion asked as he couldn't hear her speak. With that, Kathleen told him about her thoughts.

"I have a strong feeling that Nicholas Sawyer has something to do with it. I heard Mommy mention that he is a force to be reckoned with."

After hearing his daughter's words, Rorion immediately got someone to investigate Nicholas after he left the prison.

"He's just a businessman. What's there to be afraid of?"

In a lavish hotel, after Rorion read through the investigation report, he felt that Nicholas wasn't a threat to him and didn't pay much attention. Little did he know that the investigation report was what Nicholas purposely wanted to show outsiders.

"I don't believe that he won't give in even if his wife and child are in my hands!"

Rorion narrowed his gaze as he was scheming to kidnap Tessa, thinking that Nicholas wouldn't have any choice but to release Kathleen because of that.

In a blink of an eye, the day of the performance came. Since it was a grand performance, the media and the patrons gathered even before nightfall. Luxurious cars were seen stopping on the sides of the road. Nicholas and Gregory saw how crowded the place was when they reached.

Chapter 782 She Noticed That Something Wasn't Right

Gregory was amazed. "Daddy, this place is packed."

Hearing that, Nicholas nodded and brought Gregory into the hall gladly as he was looking forward to Tessa's performance. Since he bought the box seats, both of them entered via the VIP aisle. When they reached their seats, Gregory looked at the empty stage before looking over at Nicholas and uttered with anticipation, "Daddy, I'd like to go look for Mommy backstage."

"We shouldn't because Mommy must be busy right now. It might cause her inconvenience if you go see her now."

Nicholas rejected his request without hesitation. Hearing that, Gregory instantly looked glum, but he didn't pester his father since he understood what he meant.

Looking at how disappointed Gregory was, he consoled, "You will be able to see Mommy once the performance starts."

"You're right, Daddy. I'll be able to see her later on." He cheered up as he anticipated the performance.

At the same time, everyone, including Tessa, had been busy with preparations before the performance. She did everything from putting on makeup and changing into a gown to checking her violin. After she was done with her part, she helped the other members out to ensure that no details were left out.

Just then, Scott walked toward them. He was dressed in a suave tuxedo with a black bowtie around the neckline of this white shirt. It made him look refined and dignified, like an aristocrat. While he glanced at Tessa, he smiled as he was mesmerized at how stunning she looked. That night, she wore a fitted black and

white dress that matched her glowing skin. Her natural makeup look made her seem elegant and charming.

"Mr. Brooks." Tessa and the rest of the members greeted him.

Scott nodded as he asked Tessa with concern, "The performance will begin soon. How are you feeling? Are you nervous?"

"I'm fine. Thank you for your concern." She smiled as she merely saw it as a friend's concern. Even so, her condition had been tip-top since she had been eating and sleeping well the past few days so that she could carry out the performance in her best condition.

While both of them were chatting, a male makeup artist approached her and said, "Miss Tessa, your makeup seems too light. Come to the makeup room with me. Let me touch up your look for you."

"Sure. Thank you."

Without any suspicion, she left with him after informing Scott about it.

When they got into the makeup room, he let her sit on a chair before grabbing some cushion foundation and applying it to her face. As he patted the powder on her face, it oddly smelled like medicine. She furrowed her brows and suddenly felt dizzy.

"Why do I feel dizzy?" She shook her head and tried to stand, but she couldn't stand still.

Seeing how she plopped herself down on the chair, the makeup artist smirked and pretended to seem concerned.

"Miss Tessa, what's wrong?"

"I don't know. I just feel dizzy."

Tessa massaged her temples, but she noticed that it made the dizziness worse, which frightened her. Would I be able to perform later on if my condition didn't improve?

He didn't know what was on her mind. Looking at the time, he went up and supported her. "Why don't I help you to the lounge so that you can get some rest? The dizziness might be due to low blood sugar since you're pregnant."

Upon hearing that, she nodded, thinking that it could be the cause. Soon, she noticed that something wasn't right. How would this man know that I'm pregnant?

The reason being this foreign makeup artist wasn't part of the orchestra, and she didn't even know him.

Realizing that, she got anxious, but she forced herself to calm down.

"Let's not go to the lounge. Please help me to the main hall to get some air. I'll probably be fine after a while."

Chapter 783 Do You Have a Death Wish?

Tessa instructed the male makeup artist calmly.

He squinted his eyes and looked at her suspiciously before rejecting her. "Miss Tessa, based on your current condition, I'd strongly suggest you rest at the lounge."

Immediately after, he brought her away from the makeup room without her consent, and the direction they were headed to wasn't the lounge. Tessa got anxious as she noticed that.

"I refuse to go to the lounge. Bring me to the main hall!"

She struggled to escape the man's grasp. Noticing that, he dropped his pretense since he knew that she must have realized something was wrong.

"You have no choice!"

He dragged her with all his might. On the other hand, Tessa tried to scuffle, but it was too late. The drug had come into effect, and her whole body felt limp. Even speaking posed a challenge. In the end, she could only helplessly let the male makeup artist drag her toward the back door.

At the same time, a black MPV was parked at the back door, and Rorion was smoking a cigar in it, looking pleased. Seeing that the makeup artist would be there soon after he glanced at the time, he commanded his men, "Open the car door and get her into the car when they are here."

Hearing that, his men nodded and opened the door, but no one came out the door after they'd waited for a while.

"What the heck is going on? What is taking him so long?" Rorion frowned in displeasure. Little did he know that the person he was waiting for had been intercepted.

"Who are you?" The makeup artist felt guilty and frightened when a few men suddenly turned up in front of him. His instincts told him that he might be in trouble.

Those men were actually Edward and a few bodyguards that Nicholas had sent to protect Tessa covertly. Since she told him about Rorion causing a scene at the theater, he had been on guard against that man. And now, something really did happen.

"You imbecile! How dare you hurt Miss Tessa? Do you have a death wish?" Edward glanced at the unconscious Tessa and then at the makeup artist with wrath in his eyes.

His expression turned grim, as he realized that they were the bodyguards sent to protect Tessa.

"Since everyone is working for the money, why not let me leave with this woman? I'll get my boss to pay you hefty hush money," he offered.

The makeup artist's words surprised Edward because he didn't expect him to counteract them. However, they might not live another day to spend the money even if they really got paid a hefty sum since he knew very well that Nicholas despised betrayal the most.

"There's nothing you can do. Let us leave with Miss Tessa, or else we will get into trouble." The next second, he shot a look at the bodyguards standing next to him. A few of them got the cue and started attacking the makeup artist.

"Be careful not to hurt Miss Tessa." Edward was concerned.

After hearing the words, the makeup artist planned to use Tessa to threaten them, but before he could do anything, one of the bodyguards took the opportunity and grabbed Tessa away from his grasp. Soon after, the makeup artist was captured.

"Lock him up and keep an eye on him. President Sawyer will deal with him later on," Edward instructed.

The bodyguards nodded and left with the makeup artist. Edward then carried Tessa to the lounge.

As soon as Nicholas received Edward's message, he immediately headed over to the lounge, but he didn't bring Gregory along, as he didn't want him to worry. When he stepped into the lounge and saw the unconscious Tessa, his expression turned grim. "What happened?" He looked at Edward coldly, and the atmosphere suddenly became tense.

Feeling the pressure, Edward felt his heart freeze, and he replied, "Miss Tessa is fine. She is just unconscious because she was drugged."

Even so, Nicholas was enraged about it.

Chapter 784 Shane Yates

Even though Edward was frightened by Nicholas' wrath, he tried to console him. "Don't worry, President Sawyer, for I have contacted Shane to come over, and I'm pretty sure Miss Tessa's performance wouldn't be affected."

Shane Yates was one of Nicholas' men, and he was also a world-renowned doctor. Edward's words helped to calm Nicholas down. In fact, he could bring Tessa over to the hospital, but he didn't want to see her upset for missing the performance and blame herself for it after she was awake. Just like that, Nicholas stayed by her side while waiting for Shane's arrival.

There was silence in the lounge. Nicholas stared at Tessa with a soft expression in his eyes. Just then, Hathaway rushed over after hearing the news.

"What happened to Tessa?" She was worried when she saw the unconscious Tessa.

"Rorion got someone to drug her, so they could kidnap her, but his plan was intercepted by my men." Nicholas stared at her coldly while recollecting the incident.

Hearing that, Hathaway felt her heart sink. Nevertheless, she was most concerned about Tessa's condition. "Mr. Sawyer, since she's drugged, you should send her to the hospital. I'll take care of the performance."

Because of her words, his expression softened as he thought that Hathaway was a reliable instructor.

affected. But the order of the performance will have to be adjusted."

"No worries. I'll make the necessary arrangements." Hathaway nodded and left the lounge.

Half an hour later, the door of the lounge was pushed open, and a man in a leather jacket walked in. He was a young man in his mid-20s who looked extremely handsome but with a slight evil vibe, and he gave off indescribable energy. This man was Shane Yates.

He was surprised to see how gentle Nicholas' gaze was, as it was his first time seeing it. He looked over at Tessa curiously and felt that she was a beautiful lady. Alas, I see this is Mr. Sawyer's cup of tea.

He then looked at Nicholas and greeted him. "Mr. Sawyer."

"Come over and check on her. I want you to wake her up without hurting her," Nicholas demanded as he moved over to make space for Shane.

After doing some simple checks, Shane turned over to look at Nicholas and said, "Miss Tessa was drugged with a substance in powdered form, which was inhaled through the nose. It's simple to wake her up, as I can just administer some oral medication that will not harm her body."

However, after he voiced his suggestion, it was refuted by Nicholas. "That won't work since Tessa is now pregnant, so we shouldn't simply give her any medication. Are there any other ways that don't involve the administration of medication?"

Upon hearing that, Shane was surprised. She's pregnant? That's quick! Although he was surprised, he quickly snapped out of it and nodded. "There's another way. We can use acupuncture to stimulate her acupuncture points."

As he was speaking, he started preparing to perform acupuncture on her. Nicholas then stood to the side and watched quietly as Shane did the needle insertion. After a few minutes, Tessa slowly regained consciousness. When she opened her eyes and saw Shane, who was a stranger to her, she was in shock.

"Don't touch me!"

She pushed Shane away in panic, then instinctively protected her stomach. Seeing that, Nicholas immediately went over and hugged the frightened Tessa in his arms. "Don't be afraid. He's the doctor I brought in, and you haven't been taken away."

When she heard his familiar voice, her flustered heart suddenly calmed down. She breathed a sigh of relief before withdrawing herself from Nicholas' arms and turning her head to look at Shane apologetically. "Sorry, I was too nervous just now."

"No worries. I totally understand," he replied and stood aside.

Just then, Tessa suddenly remembered her performance. She grabbed Nicholas' arms and asked nervously, "How long have I been unconscious? Has the performance started?"

"Don't worry. The performance hasn't started yet. I've asked Miss Hathaway to rearrange the performance order."

Chapter 785 Fortunately, You're Here With Me

Nicholas comforted Tessa. She was glad that she didn't miss out on the performance.

After her concern was addressed, she suddenly recalled that she was about to be kidnapped earlier on. "What happened to me just now?" she asked.

"Rorion was trying to kidnap you in order to save Kathleen." Nicholas didn't hide anything from her and told her the truth.

"They have gone overboard!" Tessa was furious but, at the same time, scared.

Looking at how mad Tessa was, he tried to comfort her again. "Don't be angry. I will take care of it for you. The most important thing for you to do now is to focus on the performance."

Indeed, the most important thing at that moment was the show. She nodded and looked at him gratefully. "Fortunately, you're here with me."

It was obvious that the reason why she was able to be saved in time was that all of these were within Nicholas' expectations. That was why he arranged for Edward to protect her secretly in advance. It warmed her heart, thinking about how thoughtful he had been.

As the performance was about to start, Tessa bid goodbye to Nicholas and rushed backstage while he went back to the box seat.

When Gregory saw him, he pulled a long face and questioned, "Daddy, what took you so long? Did you go look for Mommy behind my back?"

"I went over because your Mommy needs my help with something," Nicholas explained without telling him the whole truth. Of course, he could have chosen to make up an excuse, but he didn't want to lie to his son. Gregory wasn't aware of his father's kind intentions.

After finding out that Nicholas went to meet Tessa without bringing him along, he got unhappy. "Daddy, you're mean. I don't mind that you get to spend more time with Mommy, but it's just too much of you not to bring me along when you go to see her. I don't want to talk to you anymore." Gregory folded his arms and purposely looked away.

Just then, with the microphone in his hand, the host announced, "Let's give a round of applause for Hathaway's Group Two members and invite them to perform on stage."

Nicholas glanced at Gregory, who was angry and said with a smile, "Your mommy is about to take the stage. Are you sure you don't want to watch it?"

Upon hearing that, he forgot about his anger and stared at the stage. Soon after, he was able to locate Tessa, who was standing in the front row, and exclaimed, "Daddy, Mommy looks so beautiful tonight."

"Indeed." Nicholas had his gaze fixed on his wife as she looked dazzling.

Soon after, a beautiful melody was played. As expected, it was an auditory feast, especially Tessa's solo part halfway through the performance. The audience was impressed by her superb violin skills. The father and son watched the whole performance from the box seats on the second floor as their hearts swelled with pride.

Realizing that the performance had already started, Rorion couldn't help but feel anxious since his men hadn't brought anyone over. "Did something happen?" he mumbled.

The next second, he decided to personally find out what had happened. I must have her tonight! Tsk! So, very soon, he brought a few of his men and entered through the theater's backdoor.

"All of you go look for her right away. I don't care how you do it, but you must bring that woman to men," Rorion instructed his men as he stood in the corridor.

Hearing that, they nodded, and when they were about to start their search, Edward and a few bodyguards appeared from the side.

"Are you looking for Miss Tessa?"

He shot a cold glare at Rorion and smirked, "I'm afraid you'd be disappointed as Miss Tessa is currently performing, and she doesn't have time to see you now."

Rorion's expression immediately turned grim after he saw Edward. He recognized that Edward was Nicholas' assistant and realized his plans had been intercepted. However, he didn't take it to heart since he assumed that Nicholas was a mere businessman and there was nothing for him to worry about.

"It doesn't matter if she's performing now. I need to catch her tonight." He glared at Edward arrogantly.

Chapter 786 Fans

Edward wasn't enraged when he was faced with the haughty Rorion. He narrowed his gaze, seemingly unimpressed. "Is that so?" he asked.

"If you don't want Miss Tessa to be hurt, I'd suggest you get Nicholas to release my daughter. Don't say I didn't warn you." Rorion goaded, not knowing he was getting himself in danger.

"I'm curious about what you're going to do to us. Right... President Sawyer wanted us to relay a message to you."

"What is it? Don't tell me he's going to beg for mercy," Rorion chided.

Edward stared at him coldly since he was as good as dead and reiterated, "President Sawyer asked us to extend his greeting to you."

Right after, he shot a look at the bodyguards, and all of them surrounded Rorion and his men after getting the cue.

It startled Rorion, and as his gaze darkened, he asked, "Why, are you going to beat me up?"

Edward had gotten enough of Rorion's provocation and signaled the bodyguards to attack them. A fight instantly broke out between the two parties. Although Rorion's men looked tall and strong, they couldn't be compared to the well-trained bodyguards. Within a few minutes, the bodyguards defeated Rorion's man, and

finally, it was Rorion's turn. Unsurprisingly, he was battered. Finally, Edward asked the bodyguards to stop.

He then looked down at Rorion condescendingly and warned, "Keep in mind that these are the consequences for trying to harm Miss Tessa. If there's a second time, you'll get more than this!" Edward left with the bodyguards after that.

Rorion's bloodshot eyes were filled with hatred as he stared at their backs. "You b*stards! I'll get back at you next time!" he grumbled before asking his men to send him to the hospital.

Meanwhile, on the stage, Tessa was unaware of the commotion that happened backstage as she put her heart and soul into completing the performance. The result of the hard work that the orchestra members put in was displayed to the audience through their performance. Everyone was so in sync that the performance was smooth, and the transitions were done seamlessly, which resulted in a heavenly melody that completely entranced the audience. Among them, Tessa gave the most outstanding performance, which allowed more people to witness her talent.

That night, the more than two hours long performance ended with an ovation from the audience. Tessa and the orchestra members thanked the audience at the end of their performance. Then, as she was about to stand up, a familiar figure caught her attention. She was surprised to see Nicholas holding a bouquet of flowers and walking toward her.

"Congratulations! The performance is a successful and wonderful one."

He looked at her lovingly as he passed the flowers to her.

Tessa was stunned but then immediately let out a big smile and chirped, "Thank you!"

The next second, Nicholas pulled her into his arms and planted a kiss on her cheek.

He then whispered in her ear, "You look stunning tonight, and you're the brightest star on stage. Of course, you're also the most important person in my heart!"

Hearing that, she was so touched that she tightened her embrace around him and smiled from ear to ear. The scene of both of them embracing was so beautiful and touching that the audience gave another round of thunderous applause.

After the performance ended, there was a celebratory party at the hotel, where the members of the orchestras stayed. Tessa followed Hathaway back to the hotel, and as she got down the car, she was surrounded by a crowd.

"Miss Tessa, can you please sign this for us?"

"Miss Tessa, your performance was outstanding."

"Miss Tessa, can we please have a picture with you?"

Those were her fans that rushed over from the theater after seeing her outstanding performance. Tessa was surprised to see them as she never expected that her fans would come looking for her. However, she was patient with them and fulfilled each of their requests.

Chapter 787 I Have a Present for You

Of course, there were reporters among the crowd. After Tessa was done dealing with the fans, they immediately rushed toward her to get an interview.

"Miss Tessa, your performance this time is exceptional. It's apparent that your condition is much better than before. Do you have any comments about this?"

"Miss Tessa, what are your thoughts on the success of your performance?"

"Miss Tessa, could you please reveal the relationship between you and the man who gave you flowers on stage earlier?"

Tessa acted gracefully and was able to cope well in the face of the reporters.

"The success of the performance is inevitable because every member of our orchestra has put a lot of effort into it. As for my thoughts, my orchestra members and I will work even harder in the future to bring you a better performance. By then, we hope that everyone will give us your full support. As for the last question, it concerns my privacy, and I hope you will put the focus on our concert."

Seeing how calm and charming Tessa was when she handled the questions, the reporters were impressed. Instantly, shutter noises filled the air.

After dealing with the reporters, Tessa followed Hathaway into the venue. Their presence caught everyone's attention, and many big names in the music industry went over to say hi. During the party, many people praised Tessa's excellent performance and even envied Hathaway for having such an outstanding student. Whenever she was praised, Tessa remained humble and grateful for their kind words.

Not long later, Scott came over with a glass of wine in his hand. He gazed at her as he gave her his most sincere compliment. "Your performance tonight is wonderful! Congratulations, you are one step closer to achieving your dream."

"Right back at you."

She smiled as they clinked glasses. In her heart, she was really thankful for him because if she hadn't met him back then, she wouldn't be where she was.

When the party ended, Nicholas drove over to fetch Tessa. Once they reached home, the butler immediately brought out supper and placed them on the dining table. Tessa was so hungry that she could eat a horse, as she hadn't eaten much before the performance and also during the party because there were a lot of people there. After supper, the family gathered in the living room.

"Mommy, I have a present for you."

With excitement, Gregory brought out a gift box and presented it to her. "Mommy, open it up and see whether you like it or not."

"I'd definitely like it since it's from you." She smiled while looking at him as she unwrapped the present.

After the present was unwrapped, a delicate little robot was revealed. "It looks pretty. Thank you, Gregory. Mommy really likes it." Tessa leaned in and kissed him on the cheek.

He blushed as he pursed his lips shyly. "Mommy, this robot speaks too. You just have to press this button here."

While he explained, he pressed the button, and the next moment, the robot's gemlike eyes lit up, and a lovely voice could be heard. "Mommy, congratulations on your performance."

She could instantly tell that it was Gregory's voice, filling her with joy. She couldn't help but hug him and shower him with kisses. The living room was filled with laughter, and Nicholas sat on the side as he enjoyed the joyous moment.

After that, he brought out the present that he'd prepared and presented it to her. "I hope that you will put this on for your next performance."

"Aww, you don't have to. You always buy me presents after each of my performances, and I don't want you to spend too much on gifts." She was touched as she looked at the delicate diamond necklace.

Nicholas then removed the necklace from the box and put it around her neck. "To me, spending money on you is worth it because you are worth it. Let's see the presents as a way to commemorate each and every one of your successes."

Upon hearing that, Tessa smiled brightly as her heart swelled with happiness.

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The next day, Gregory ran over excitedly as Tessa was about to leave the house.

Chapter 788 You're on the News

"Mommy, you're on the news."

Hearing that, Tessa looked confused. "What news?"

"Online news," the bright-eyed Gregory explained.

Immediately, she took her phone out and went to the news site. Sure enough, she saw the news about herself that read, 'Hathaway Orchestra's new violinist—Tessa Reinhart, the next Hathaway!'

The headline was striking and bold at the same time. The article below depicted the positive reviews of Tessa's talent, and it also mentioned that she had surpassed Kathleen. Apparently, the recognition and praise that Kathleen garnered during her debut weren't as astounding as Tessa's. This time, Tessa's talent was indeed seen by others!

"That's great! I finally made it!" Tessa was overjoyed.

She kneeled down and pecked on Gregory's cheeks before exclaiming, "Thank you for telling Mommy about this good news." She couldn't wait to share this good news with Nicholas.

"Nicholas, did you see the news online? I made it!" She jogged over toward him as she beamed like a child.

Looking at how excited his wife was, he responded gently, "I saw it. You did great!"

As the whole family was overjoyed about the news, Timothy made a phone call to Tessa. He was supposed to watch the performance, but he couldn't make it in time and felt terrible about it. He never expected his sister to deliver such a terrific performance that she was featured in the online news and magazines.

"Tessa, congratulations to you. You're now one step closer to your dream."

"Thank you." She thanked him happily.

Timothy couldn't contain his happiness, feeling as if he was the one winning an award. "I know that someday your talent will be recognized. I'm really proud of you."

Looking at how excited his brother was, she remembered how they came through their hardships the past few years, and she got teary. "I'm proud of you too! In the future, things will get even better for us."

"Definitely."

The Reinhart siblings' emotional phone call was cut short as Timothy had some matters to take care of. After that, Tessa accompanied Nicholas and Gregory to have breakfast. Since the performance had ended, she was granted leave, and she decided to stay home to spend more time with her family. She had spent so much time on the training previously that she had neglected the father and son. At the same time, congratulatory messages from Group Two kept coming in.

Mona gave her a call and congratulated her. "Tessa, congratulations! Since you are now famous, you will be the star of our orchestra. Moving forward, we shall be riding on your coat-tail."

Hearing that, Tessa laughed. "You're so cheeky."

The call ended after they chatted for a while.

After all the excitement, Tessa calmed herself down. Although she received high praise from everyone, she wasn't overwhelmed by it at all. On the contrary, she knew clearly that the higher the praise she got, the harder she had to work so that she would better herself in order to be worthy of those compliments. Nicholas was proud of her when he noticed her calm disposition. It just showed how humble and motivated his wife was, no matter the praise that she received.

With that, he shared the news about Tessa on Facebook with the intention of showing his family how outstanding his wife was. In fact, the Sawyers had seen the news. Tobias liked his post after reading it.

Kieran liked the post and commented below. 'Nicholas, Tessa is stunning and talented.'

When Stefania saw that both Tobias and Kieran liked the post and that Kieran commented on it, she decided to click on the news. "Wow, this violinist from Hathaway's Orchestra is so pretty and talented simultaneously!"

Chapter 789 Please Have Mercy

'I heard her live performance before. It's not an exaggeration to say that her skills are heavenly.'

'I am in love! I've decided that from today onward, she's my idol.'

When Stefania saw the netizens holding Tessa in such high regard, she suddenly felt much better. She looked at the photo on the news. Tessa looks so... dignified. Actually, this girl has her own brilliance as well, and she isn't as terrible as I originally thought.

Meanwhile, at Sawyer Residence, Remus also heard about Tessa making the news. He saw Nicholas sharing the article on Facebook, so he curiously tapped in to read. After reading the article, Remus snorted but didn't say anything.

On the other side, Wanda also saw Nicholas' Facebook post, which put her in a bad mood. "So you went abroad just to attend her concert?" she muttered to herself.

Then, she thought about how hard she tried to go back so that she could get closer to this man. However, this man had gone overseas for another woman.

Also, he even shared it publicly on Facebook, like some sort of announcement. It was obvious that Nicholas was deeply in love with Tessa, so deep in love that even Wanda found it unbelievable.

After all, in her view, Nicholas was high and mighty, esteemed and untouchable. Yet, he was now actually moved by someone to this extent.

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For the next two days, Tessa stayed at home and spent time with Nicholas and Gregory. As for the orchestra, they stayed in Yvetlava for a few days before going back to Vienna as well.

However, Hathaway didn't leave. After the show that day, she knew that Rorion was defeated by Nicholas and was sent to the hospital in the end.

When she thought about how Kathleen was still in prison, and because of Rorion's outburst, this incident had turned into something she couldn't interfere in, she was furious at Rorion. That day, she came to the hospital, deciding to have a proper talk with Rorion.

"Why are you here? To laugh at me?" When he saw Hathaway, his expression was foul.

She stood coldly in the middle of the ward as she announced, "I'm warning you that if you still want to save Kathleen, don't cause Tessa any trouble again. She's not someone you can mess with!"

"Impossible!" Kathleen was sent to prison because of this woman!

Rorion was also beaten up because of Tessa. The grudges just kept adding on, so he couldn't just let Tessa and Nicholas off the hook.

He had never suffered such humiliation before. No matter what, he had to make Tessa and Nicholas pay! Looking at the stubborn man, Hathaway knew that nothing she said right now would work. In the end, she gave up on convincing Rorion and left the hospital right away.

Back in the car, Hathaway was in a terrible mood. Kathleen had been in prison for almost a week, and if this went on, her future would be in ruins. At that thought, she retrieved her phone from her bag.

She hesitated for a while, then humbled herself as she dialed the number.

"Mr. Sawyer, I want to have a talk with you."

For some time, there was only silence on the other end of the line. Then, Nicholas' cold voice went through. "Sure."

Later in the day, the two met in a café. Nicholas sat expressionlessly on the couch, and contrary to his indifference, Hathaway was anxious.

Nicholas noticed her nervousness, and he knew full well why she had come to him. Even so, he had no intention of speaking up, so it was deathly silent in the private room.

A few minutes later, Hathaway seemed to have decided as she gritted her teeth and begged, "Mr. Sawyer, can you please have mercy on Kathleen and let her go?"

"You should know very well that I have already let her off the hook a few times." Nicholas narrowed his eyes as he stared coldly at Hathaway.

An ashamed Hathaway couldn't say anything in return. Yes, they have let Kathleen off the hook a few times by now. "Mr. Sawyer, I know this may be asking too much, but she's the only daughter I have. I cannot—"

"She's the only daughter you have, but Tessa is also the only wife I have, and she's even pregnant with my child."

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Without waiting for Hathaway to finish her sentence, Nicholas interrupted coldly. "I know why you called me here, but this time, Kathleen had crossed the line. I simply cannot let her off the hook, and I hope you can be more reasonable about this."

Hearing the man's rejection, Hathaway felt upset despite having anticipated his final decision. If she were in his shoes and someone attacked her family, she wouldn't be able to forgive them either.

"I'm sorry for taking up your time, Mr. Sawyer."

"It's okay." With that, Nicholas got up and left Hathaway alone in the private room.

At that moment, Hathaway's shoulders fell. Moreover, she was even more worried that Group One couldn't function without Kathleen. If Kathleen had gone missing for too long, she feared that people might catch on.

In reality, her worries had turned into reality in the blink of an eye. In this performance, Tessa shone brilliantly in Group Two, but Group One's Kathleen was missing in action. Some of the more sensitive noses in the media could smell that something fishy was going on.

After all, save for the accident last time, Kathleen had never once been absent from Group One's shows. Because of this, many people in the media began carrying out investigations on this matter.

'Breaking news!! Kathleen, the renowned violinist in Hathaway Philharmonic, is suspected of attempted murder!'

As soon as news of this got out, it threw the entire internet into chaos as the netizens were in an uproar.

'Is this really the Kathleen I know? That's too terrifying!'

'I never knew she had such an evil side to her.'

'She's an artist, but she caused harm out of jealousy. I'm disappointed.'

Because of this terrible news, Kathleen's professional career was definitely ruined. However, a number of Kathleen's fans refused to believe that their idol would do something like that. They felt that someone was pulling tricks in order to defame their idol.

These people went to the official website of Hathaway Philharmonic and began raising their voices in protest for Kathleen's sake.

'Miss Hathaway, Kathleen would never do something so cruel. This must be part of a scheme.'

'Yes, this must be a scheme. Someone is trying to ruin Kathleen's reputation. Miss Hathaway, you have to investigate this carefully. You cannot let Kathleen be falsely accused for this; she's even your daughter!'

'I think this must be the work of that woman, Tessa. She's quite new to this orchestra, but now she's already the lead violinist of Group Two. She must have pulled some tricks to advance this quickly!'

'I agree with you. Miss Hathaway, conduct an investigation on Tessa right away so that Kathleen's name can be cleared.'

Hathaway quickly knew about the incident on the official website from her assistant. She was silent for a while, then said calmly, "Don't bother about this matter. They'll stop after a few days."

No matter how she responded to this situation, it would put Kathleen at a disadvantage. So, she decided to ignore it in order to lessen the damage. In truth, the fans' protests didn't make any dramatic waves. After all, there were also some reasonable fans who posted their analysis under the news articles.

'Hathaway Philharmonic never gave any response since the day this news came out. I think they're admitting to it.'

'Agreed. No matter what, Kathleen is Miss Hathaway's daughter. If Kathleen is really falsely accused, her mother, the director, wouldn't be able to stand Tessa's existence, so this leads to only one truth.'

'The news is real!'

Seeing those comments, the protesting fans quieted down. Indeed, Hathaway Philharmonic never gave any response, so Kathleen was obviously in the wrong. Tessa also knew about the events going on online, but she didn't pay it much heed.

She and Nicholas were still staying in Yvetlava. Nicholas' wounds hadn't recovered completely, so they weren't in a hurry to leave.

Tessa was also quite helpless in this matter. That evening, as she reapplied the ointment for Nicholas, she couldn't help but nag, "You got hurt here last time, and it's the same spot this time. Why can't you just sit still..."