

Always Been Yours Chapter 831

Chapter 831 Spoiled

“It’s nothing major.”

Tessa hesitated for a moment before telling Nicholas all about the phone call. “Sofia is a fantastic violinist. Despite her retirement, she continues to have a significant influence in the industry.”

She then purposefully paused and looked anxiously at him. “Of course, if you don’t like that idea, I will reject the invitation from Mr. Louis in a while.”

“Pfft. What makes you think I would hate that?” Nicholas found her words hilarious.

“I’ve mentioned that no matter what you want to do in life, I will support you wholeheartedly. So, spread your wings and fly high, my dear. You don’t have to be concerned about anything else,” he said, pulling Tessa to sit by the bed.

“Thank you so much, Nicholas!” She was overcome with emotion and dived into his arms.

The two showed their affection to each other for a while before they fell asleep in embrace.

...

The next morning, Tessa could not wait to call Louis after breakfast.

“I’ve considered it. I’ll return to Vienna tomorrow.”

“You’ve made the right decision.” Louis’ tone was light and cheerful.

They spoke for a few minutes before ending the conversation.

Gregory expressed his displeasure when he learned Tessa was returning to Vienna later that evening. Still, he was very sensible and quiet because he knew Mommy was going back to work, but he could not help but propose to tag along with her.

“Can I come with you, Mommy?”

“Of course.” She could not say no to such a well-behaved little boy as her gentle gaze fell on Nicholas after she finished speaking. Even without any words, he understood her by looking into her eyes.

“I’m sorry for not being able to accompany you this time; I’m preoccupied with some matters at the company.”

Oh... Tessa was disappointed at first, but she quickly recovered before saying, “It’s fine. You can take care of your business first.”

“Wonderful! I’ll have Mommy to myself.” Gregory was overjoyed to learn that his father was not going. As a result of this, Tessa was torn between laughing and crying. Nicholas, on the other hand, was rendered speechless.

As such, she took the little guy on the plane to Vienna the next day. Alongside them were bodyguards that Nicholas had sent to protect them.

Later, Stefania found out about Tessa’s trip to Vienna.

“I heard that Tessa brought Gregory back to Vienna. Am I right?” she asked angrily to Nicholas.

He then gave a slight nod in response.

“Why are you allowing Tessa to run around at this time? I really don’t get it. Why is she traveling instead of staying at home and preparing for the birth of her child?” Stefania screamed angrily.

“I told her she could do whatever she wanted and that I would not stand in her way of pursuing her dream.” Nicholas expressed his displeasure to this mother while explaining unequivocally.

“How can you spoil her so much? Sooner or later, she’s going to start messing with you!” After hearing his words, she became enraged and yelled.

“I’m willing to go to any length for her.” Nicholas’ face was lavishly pampered.

To that, Stefania was so furious that she could not utter another word.

Tessa, on the other hand, arrived in Vienna with Gregory with the intention of spending the day in the villa before heading to see Louis the next day.

The next morning after breakfast, she brought Gregory to meet Louis.

Louis scanned Tessa, who was in the living room. She especially dressed up for her visit with Sofia today. Her outfit was both warm and fashionable, consisting of an off-white woolen coat, a popular turtleneck sweater, and jeans.

Her palm-sized face was painted with elegant but delicate makeup and her jet-black hair was tied into a ponytail, giving her the air of youth and energy.

“I was worried that you wouldn’t be able to take it, so my mental and emotional state was very poor. Guess I was wrong,” Louis said with a satisfied nod as he looked at the lady full of light.

Always Been Yours Chapter 832

Chapter 832 You Must Pass the Test

“I’m sorry for making you worry. I’m fine now.” Tessa’s smile was brighter than usual because she could tell Louis cared about her.

Louis nodded, his gaze falling on Gregory, who had been standing obediently beside Tessa, and he inquired suspiciously, “And this is?”

“This is Gregory Sawyer, my son. You can call him Greg.”

She introduced her son to Louis before lowering her head and softly saying, “Greg, this is Grandpa Louis.”

“Good day, Grandpa Louis.” Gregory had a sweet voice and was well-mannered.

Louis looked surprised for a moment, clearly not expecting Tessa to have a son, but he smiled and said, “Your son is so adorable.”

Tessa smiled as she thanked him, seemingly happier than to receive any praise herself.

Following a brief conversation, Louis stated solemnly, “Please get ready. It’s almost time for me to take you to see Sofia.”

An hour later, Tessa followed Louis to a beautiful manor in the suburbs. The surrounding buildings were decorated in the Viennese art style.

She sat nervously on the couch in the luxurious and stylish living room while a beautiful and noble lady sat across from her.

Although the passage of time had left indelible marks on her face, the elegance of her youth could clearly be seen.

Sitting in front of Tessa was Sofia, an extremely old-fashioned and strict woman. She gave Tessa a serious look and approved secretly. Clearly, her first impression of Tessa was favorable.

Louis, who was sitting next to Tessa, smiled and introduced, “This is the talented violinist I mentioned; her name is Tessa Reinhart.”

“Good day, Miss Sofia,” Tessa politely greeted her.

Gregory followed suit and greeted, “Hello, Granny Sofia.”

“Hello.” Sofia cast a soft gaze at the little guy.

After a few simple greetings, Sofia changed the subject and stated seriously to Tessa, “Louis has repeatedly referred you to me, claiming that your talent is extraordinary. Moreover, I have seen your performance and you’re clearly an exceptional violinist. That is why we’re here.”

Hearing this, Tessa corrected her demeanor and nodded solemnly to demonstrate her comprehension.

Sofia’s satisfaction grew as she observed her calm demeanor. Very well. A calm person will be able to hold their temper.

“Despite Louis’ glowing recommendation, I am very picky about my students, so you must pass my test before I decide your enrollment.”

“Of course.” Tessa was not surprised by Sofia’s request. She looked at Sofia, blinked, and asked, “May I know how you’d like to test me?”

When Sofia heard this, she did not immediately respond to Tessa; instead, she requested that a pen and paper be brought to her. After she had finished writing and drawing on the paper, she handed it to Tessa.

Tessa retrieved the paper to find several musical notes on it and Sofia spoke at this point. "I've composed countless pieces in my life. Therefore, you must be able to do so if you want to be my apprentice." She took a deliberate pause after she finished speaking while observing Tessa's expression before continuing, "As long as you can write a piece that pleases me, I will consider accepting you as a disciple. Of course, you only have one day, so you must deliver a satisfactory piece of music to me by tomorrow at this time. Can you do it?"

Tessa could not help but take a deep breath when she heard this. This is a very strict and demanding test with only one day to compose!

Nonetheless, she would not back down.

Isn't it true that a magnificent master produces great apprentices?

"Miss Sofia, I want to learn from you and I am naturally prepared to take the test. As a result, I accept this challenge. I will undoubtedly send you the composition by this time tomorrow."

Sofia's heart was filled with goodwill when she saw the girl in front of her exuding confidence and courage and she could not help but wonder about Tessa's current situation.

Always Been Yours Chapter 833

Chapter 833 Done and Dusted

“I heard you left the orchestra. Do you still practise at home?”

“Yes, I practise for four hours every day,” Tessa responded honestly.

Sofia asked a few more questions before dismissing her.

On the way back, Louis wanted to encourage Tessa, but his words were a little prickly due to his personality.

“I’ve given you the opportunity and helped you to relay my words. You better not embarrass me, or else you can keep my name off your lips in the future.”

“Don’t worry. You will not be embarrassed.” Tessa nodded and smiled, unconcerned by his tone. This was because she was aware of Louis’ personality.

“Mommy, are you going to compose music now?” Gregory inquired when they returned home.

“Yes. Mommy only has one day, so I need to hurry,” she patiently responded to him.

He then smiled brightly at his mommy, cheering her on and saying, “Mommy, best of luck! You are free to ignore me and I will not bother you.”

Needless, Tessa felt incredibly warm when she heard this.

“Greg, how can Mommy ignore you? I need you by my side so that I can gain confidence and compose better music,” she said softly, ruffling his black hair.

“Really? Do you really need me, Mommy?” His doe eyes twinkled like stars as he looked at Tessa.

“Of course, it’s true. You are my lucky star,” she said affirmatively while nodding. When he heard this, he smiled broadly and his eyes curved into crescents.

Tessa settled down after a few minutes of laughter and began composing. Well-mannered and considerate, Gregory went about his business quietly so as not to disturb her.

After dinner that night, Nicholas made a video call. He was aware that Tessa had met her future mentor today, so he inquired about the situation with concern.

“How’s Miss Sofia? Is she nice?”

“Yeah, she is.” Tessa then summarized the events of the day, including the test Sofia administered to her.

Nicholas’ eyes were outrageously loving as he looked at the fighting spirit on his wife’s face.

“All the best! I’ll be looking forward to your good news.”

After a brief conversation with him, Tessa hung up the phone and returned to her composition.

The large desk was already covered in various materials at this point. She buried her face among them, writing and scribbling as she chanted words in her mouth.

“To make it smoother, the melody should be in allegro.”

“La, la, la...” While writing, she hummed the melody and before she knew it, it was midnight.

Tessa, however, had yet to compose a melody that she was pleased with at the time. While trying to play the melody on her violin, she kept pruning and changing it.

After a sleepless night, she finally finished composing a piece that she was happy with. Regardless, she was nervous. Despite the fact that she had previously attempted to compose and that her ability was solid, she had never been put to the test by others.

Furthermore, she had not received any composition lessons during her previous classes with Hathaway, so she was not sure if this song would catch Miss Sofia's attention. With such concerns, she lay on the bed and unknowingly fell asleep.

...

Tessa awoke the next day around noon, startled. She checked the time and was relieved to see that it was still two hours before Sofia's deadline.

Thankfully, she did not oversleep.

Subsequently, she got dressed and went downstairs.

Gregory trotted over to her downstairs as soon as he saw her and exclaimed, "Mommy, you're up! Do you want to eat?"

"I'm starving. Have you eaten anything? Would you like to have lunch with Mommy?" Tessa smiled as she turned to face Gregory.

Of course, he agreed.

During the meal, he was concerned about her progress and asked, "Mommy, have you finished your composition? Will we see Granny Sofia later?"

Always Been Yours Chapter 834

Chapter 834 Sofia's Test

“Yup. Let's finish our meal and then we can leave after that. Along the way, I'll show you the composition I made last night.”

“Does that mean I'm the first person to hear the piece that you composed?”
Gregory was delighted.

Tessa was happy to indulge him too.

Later on, they entered the car and Gregory impatiently requested Tessa to play the tune for him.

Naturally, Tessa fulfilled his request and she started to hum the tune gently.

“Mommy, it's great!” Gregory clapped enthusiastically.

Watching the little guy being so supportive, the worries she had initially were significantly alleviated.

Soon, she led him to Sofia's manor. They entered the living room and Tessa and Gregory subsequently greeted the lady politely.

Sofia noticed that Tessa's face looked slightly haggard and she realized that Tessa must have stayed up the entire night. At that moment, Sofia's impression of Tessa improved significantly. She's a hardworking child.

“Take a seat.” Sofia gestured for the duo to take a seat and instructed the servant to serve a glass of milk.

This little gesture left a great impression on Tessa and her adoration toward Sofia increased too.

Tessa took a sip of milk and then she handed over the tune she had composed to Sofia. “Miss Sofia, take a look at this and please share your comments with me.”

Sofia nodded before reaching out for the sheet music and studying it. Unexpectedly, she was quite surprised by what she saw.

The tune composed by Tessa had its own distinct originality and there were elements of classical music blended into the tune. It was refreshing and different.

Of course though, this was not an indication that Tessa’s composed piece was the best; it was an evidence that she had a solid foundation, proving that she had put in the effort in her musical background.

However, Tessa was unaware of Sofia’s thoughts at the moment.

She glanced at Sofia, who had been silent for a prolonged period, and she felt extremely anxious. She was worried that her composed piece would not meet the expert’s expectations.

Inside the quiet living room, Tessa glanced at Sofia anxiously.

At that moment, Gregory was affected too and he could not contain his anxiety.

After a moment, Sofia’s voice finally rang out in the living room. “It’s a bare pass.” She placed the sheet music down and looked at Tessa calmly. Despite her indifference on the surface, she had already acknowledged Tessa’s identity. This kid is an unpolished diamond and she’s worth cultivating.

As soon as Tessa heard that, she immediately heaved a sigh of relief and revealed a smile. Bare pass or not, I take the win!

Gregory caught on to their conversation and happily declared, “I knew that Mommy would succeed!”

Meanwhile, Sofia looked at the joyful mother-and-son duo and she could not find it within herself to burst their bubble. That was because the test had not ended just yet.

“You shouldn’t rejoice too soon. Although your composed piece passed the test—just barely—I do want to test you on how you play the violin.”

“How will you conduct the test?” Gregory expressed his concern quite anxiously once again.

However, Tessa remained unperturbed as she revealed a smile. “Miss Sofia, I’m ready for any test you have.”

Frankly, she was not too keen in her composing skills, but she was perfectly confident in her abilities as a virtuoso.

Sofia noted Tessa’s confidence and nodded with a pleased look. “Then, I would like you to play ‘Dance of the Fairies’ for me.”

‘Dance of the Fairies’ was the masterpiece of Revel Group and it was their most complicated piece.

The tune was aptly named and it required the performer of the tune to utilize their extraordinary skills to depict the scenario of dancing fairies. The rhythm and melody resembled a group of fairies excitedly having fun as they danced wildly.

Although it was not a long piece to perform, there were a lot of specific and high difficulty technicalities required to perform this.

As soon as Tessa heard that, she uncovered her violin calmly and in no time, the living room was filled with the carefree and melodious tune of her violin.

Sofia shut her eyes and listened carefully.

Undeniably, Tessa was very musically talented and her skills were impressive as well.

She finished performing the piece and her performance was impeccable. After that, she placed down her violin and looked at Sofia expectantly.

Naturally, Sofia was aware that Tessa was waiting for her comment, so she praised Tessa generously, “Your violin skills are exactly as described by Louis and it’s impressive, but—”

At that moment, Tessa felt her heart clench upon hearing the pause in Sofia’s words.

Gregory stared intently at Sofia while holding his breath too.

“Undeniably, your performance earlier is great, but there are some slight flaws.”

Always Been Yours Chapter 835

Chapter 835 Sofia's Discovery of Gregory's Talent

Despite Sofia's words, she had in fact fully acknowledged Tessa's skills. This girl is indeed an unpolished diamond and she's worth cultivating.

As soon as Tessa heard that, she was frankly disappointed. However, she maintained her composure and smile as she asked, "So, Miss Sofia, what's your decision?"

"Despite the flaws, I must admit that you're very talented, so I've made up my mind to accept you as my student."

Sofia kept her eyes fixated on Tessa and there was an exceptionally solemn expression on the mentor's face. "You will also be the last student I accept in this life. I will teach you every skill that I possess."

At that moment, Tessa was dumbfounded.

Sofia continued, "Don't rejoice too soon about this though. Although I will teach you everything I know, the level of success you achieve would be fully dependent on your ability to comprehend my teaching. Besides, you might not get the chance to perform in the near future, so will that be fine with you?"

"I'm fine with that." Tessa was significantly elated upon coming to her senses. She was not too fussed about the chance to perform as she much preferred to enhance her violin skills than anything else. By the time she got the chance to perform once again, she would be able to showcase her most perfect performance ever to the audience.

Then, she took some time to calm down before asking some questions about the schedule for her lessons.

Sofia was straightforward and responded, “Frankly, I no longer have the energy as I used to when I was younger. You just have to spare two hours each day and come over for practice.”

Naturally, Tessa was fine with the arrangement. They came up with a brief outline of the learning plan and started to make idle chat.

At that point, Gregory finally came to his senses after quite some time and happily asked, “Mommy, have you succeeded in gaining a master?”

“Yes, that’s right. From now on, I’ll come over for two hours every day to learn from Miss Sofia.” Tessa grinned and responded to Gregory.

It was then Sofia’s gaze landed on him.

She recalled that Tessa had brought this child along with her both times that they came over and Sofia smiled kindly. “You look quite young, so I didn’t really associate you with having a child this age.”

“Yeah. He’s my son.” Tessa wrapped her arms around Gregory proudly, but she did not continue the topic any further. Instead, she happily shared with Sofia, “In fact, Greg’s very gifted in music as well. His music inclination is as good as mine.”

“Is that true?” Although it was a question from Sofia, she was actually nonplussed. After all, he was just a child, so she was not too convinced of his talents.

Tessa was oblivious to her thoughts, so she solemnly nodded and responded, “It’s true.”

Noticing the seriousness on her face, Sofia could not help fixating her gaze back on Gregory as she asked, “Do you know how to play the violin?”

“Yes, Mommy taught me how to play.” Gregory nodded compliantly.

Meanwhile, Sofia was slightly surprised. “Could you play me something, then?”

He agreed and took Tessa’s violin in his hand as he performed a piece skilfully.

In no time, a joyful tune reverberated in the living room.

Although his skills were not honed, he had exceptional potential and he was much more talented than Tessa.

At that moment, Sofia was utterly dumbstruck.

She had yet to meet a child as musically inclined and talented as Gregory in ages. Instantly, she had the urge to take this kid under her wings as well.

After Gregory finished playing the tune, Sofia gestured to him. “Kiddo, come over to me.”

However, he did not walk over to her immediately but turned sideways and glanced at Tessa.

Finally, after Tessa nodded to signal her approval, he walked over to Sofia on his short, stumpy legs. “Miss Sofia,” he greeted her politely.

Sofia nodded with satisfaction and asked, “How old are you?”

“I’m five years old.”

“How long have you been playing the violin?”

“I started playing the violin after I got to know Mommy.” Though Gregory was unsure of Sofia’s intentions with the continuous questions, he responded politely.

However, his answer made her dumbfounded. What does he mean by that? He started to play the violin after he got to know his Mommy?! She could not comprehend the situation, so she directed her attention to Tessa.

Tessa understood the questioning look in Sofia's eyes and merely responded with a smile, "Greg has been playing the violin for nearly a year now."

"He's only started playing for a year?"

Always Been Yours Chapter 836

Chapter 836 A Precious Gift

Sofia was significantly stunned at that point. He had achieved such great results in just a year's time, so if she guided him carefully, then he would definitely achieve great things in the future.

For a moment there, she had a very strong urge to mentor him.

After further consideration, she turned to look at Tessa with a solemn look and said, "You're right. Gregory is indeed musically inclined. If he starts to play the violin at a young age, then he would have a bright future ahead of him. Would you consider letting me guide him as well?"

At that moment, Tessa was significantly stunned. Does Miss Sofia intend to take on Gregory as her student too?!

Dazed, she was sincerely happy for Gregory. However, she did not instantly agree on behalf of him.

Although she wished for him to continue pursuing music, she respected him as an individual to make his own decision.

"Greg, would you be willing to learn how to play the violin from Miss Sofia?"

Blinking, he finally comprehended the reason why the lady had asked him so many questions; she was interested to take him under her wings.

"Thanks, Miss Sofia." With the intelligence he possessed, he instantly confirmed their student-teacher relationship.

As soon as Sofia heard his childlike voice pipe up 'Miss Sofia', she instantly beamed widely.

She could not help herself from hugging Gregory tightly and her solemn expression became affectionate.

In fact, she had a son herself, but he was more into arts than music. He had told her from the start that he was not going to get married in his lifetime because he planned to dedicate his life to his art.

This was definitely her greatest regret in her life. Hence, Gregory's words struck a chord within her and she was touched by that.

“Greg, could you address me one more time?”

Knowing that she was fond of him, Gregory, being the witty kid he was, instantly used his most adorable and gentle voice to say, “Miss Sofia.”

“Ah...” Sofia melted upon hearing his soft voice and she thought to herself, It would be awesome if he was my grandson! Though full of regrets, she remained fond of Gregory.

She took him into her arms and spoke tenderly, “I was busy conducting the test for your mom yesterday when you came over and I forgot to prepare a present for you. I have something here for you today.”

As Sofia spoke, she gestured for her servant to head to the music room and retrieve a violin. Soon enough, the servant brought over a very special and delicately crafted instrument. The violin seemed to be an antique that had gone through times.

She stroked the violin affectionately and behaved as if the violin was her child. With a soft voice, she uttered, “This is one of the precious violins that I have treasured for many years. It's not a luxurious one, but the timbre from it is rather distinctive. So, this is my gift for you today. I hope that you'll be able to use this and achieve great things in your musical path.”

At that moment, Gregory glanced at the precious violin in front of him with a stricken expression. He turned around to seek help from Tessa, who had just come back to her senses from the surprising scene.

He might not be able to identify the violin, but she was well aware of the history of this violin.

This was the world famous 'La Font' violin that possessed a distinctive tone, worth up to millions.

“Miss Sofia, this gift is too luxurious.”

“It’s just a violin regardless of its worth and it needs someone great to play it.” Sofia instantly rebutted Tessa’s words and she did not even give her the chance to further reject. She firmly insisted, “Besides, this is a gift for the little student that I just took in here. Why are you the one rejecting it?”

At that moment, Tessa smiled as she could not come up with the words to respond. Finally, she nodded at Gregory. It was a sincere gift from Sofia after all; if she rejected it, then Sofia might feel hurt.

As a perceptive child that he was, he thanked Sofia politely as soon as he saw the indication from his mommy. “Thank you, Miss Sofia, for the gift. I’ll definitely practice well with the violin you bestowed me with.” At this point, she was completely overwhelmed by his cuteness.

She had fun teasing Gregory affectionately before starting the discussion about their upcoming practice schedule with Tessa.

“Since there’s Gregory to guide as well, then I reckon two hours a day will not be sufficient. Besides, the two of you are not on the same level of progress.”

“I’ll stick to your arrangements, Miss Sofia.”

Always Been Yours Chapter 837

Chapter 837 Becoming Sofia's Apprentice

Tessa answered her obediently.

“I’ll also follow your arrangement, Granny Sofia,” echoed Gregory in a sweet voice.

“Okay, you guys will follow my arrangement from now on.” Sofia smiled happily. At the same time, she revealed her plans, saying, “From now on, I’m gonna extend our daily lessons from two hours to four hours. That’s two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. You two may have lunch at my place during lunch break.”

Naturally, Tessa agreed to it. After finalizing the details, she had the maid bring her two cups of tea, after which she and Gregory performed a ceremony to formally acknowledge Sofia as their mentor. Of course, such etiquette didn’t exist in foreign countries, but she and Gregory did so nonetheless to show their respect and appreciation for their mentor.

When Sofia learned of the meaning of the ceremony, she became even more satisfied with Tessa.

At the end of the ceremony, Tessa and Gregory bid Sofia farewell. However, instead of going back right away, they went to Louis’ manor.

“I made it, Mr. Louis! Mr. Louis—” Tessa couldn’t help but cry out merrily before she and Gregory even reached Louis’ workroom.

Louis' face broke into a fond smile when he heard Tessa's cries of joy in the workroom. However, by the time he saw her, his smile was already replaced by a disapproving frown. "I could hear you shouting from far away. Where are your ladylike manners?"

Gregory covered his mouth while chuckling in secret.

Tessa didn't take Louis' words to heart either. Capering to his side, she replied sweetly with a note of childishness in her voice, "Let's forget about my ladylike manners today. I'm so happy." She didn't know why, but she'd inadvertently behave in a childlike manner in front of Louis. It was as if she treated him as an older member of her family whom she could act like a spoiled child and get close to as she pleased. At this very moment, for instance, she let out a chuckle and—with extravagant gestures—told him how she had become Sofia's final apprentice.

Louis looked at her fondly while she was talking. Not only that, but he was happy for her deep down. "That's nice. It's not easy to gain that old woman's approval."

Tessa replied, "It's all thanks to you. If you hadn't kept speaking highly of me in front of her, she wouldn't have been willing to see me." She didn't forget how Louis had acted as a go-between so that she'd get to know Sofia. It was only because of that that she had the chance to become Sofia's apprentice, so she decided to do her best to thank him. "When are you free? Let me treat you to a feast."

However, as soon as she said that, Louis declined her offer mercilessly, saying, "I don't like eating out. The food outside is dirty."

"Don't worry. I'll certainly find a fancy and sanitary restaurant," Tessa replied as she began to persuade him in every way possible.

At first, Louis wasn't swayed by her persuasion, but as time went on, her persistence began to wear him down. Knowing that she probably wouldn't stop today until he relented, he finally replied, "Alright, alright, I promise you, okay?"

Hearing the answer she wanted, Tessa immediately gave him a triumphant smile.

Gregory had never seen Tessa behaving so childishly before, so he was dumbstruck at the sight of the scene.

Just then, Louis recalled something and reminded her, saying, “Now that you’ve come back, remember to bring those three violins of yours to me for maintenance.”

Seeing his serious expression, Tessa couldn’t help but want to get into mischief. “It costs a lot to maintain three violins. Will you do that for free?”

Louis glowered at her in anger. “Are you short of money or something? How could you ask me to do it for free? That’s wishful thinking! You’re gonna pay me every penny!”

Tessa instantly burst into laughter.

After coming home that night, she couldn’t wait to call Nicholas and share the good news with him. “I made it! I’ve become Sofia’s apprentice!”

Nicholas was quite happy for her. “Congratulations on getting what you wished for.”

At this moment, Gregory also couldn’t help but brag, “Daddy, I also managed to become Granny Sofia’s apprentice. I can take violin lessons with Mommy every day from now on.”

Always Been Yours Chapter 838

Chapter 838 The Sawyer Family's Response

Nicholas was stunned. "You've become her apprentice as well?"

Seeing his response, Tessa smilingly told him how Gregory had become Sofia's apprentice.

Nicholas frowned slightly after listening to her story. "Doesn't that mean Greg is gonna live abroad for a long time?"

"That's right. It'll be just the two of us here in the future," Tessa replied with a grin.

Gregory also looked very happy beside her.

After formally acknowledging Sofia as her teacher, Tessa decided to settle down in Vienna with Gregory.

Of course, the older members of the Sawyer Family soon learned about this. They were very displeased, especially Remus, who was the angriest among them. "What is this Tessa lady up to? How dare she abduct Greg abroad and settle down there? She must have an ax to grind!"

After throwing a hissy fit at home, he had Ian summon Nicholas, Kieran, Tobias, and Stefania to the Sawyer Residence. "The Sawyer Family's eldest great-grandson is supposed to learn business management and inherit the family business in the future. But this Tessa lady let Greg take violin lessons to make him uneducated. The way I see it, she's up to no good!" he said while banging the ground with his walking stick to vent his anger.

Kieran was utterly speechless. All she does is let Greg take violin lessons. How is that making Greg uneducated? And how is that up to no good? Of course, he dared not say these words out loud.

Nicholas also knitted his brows, feeling that Remus' words were very uncomfortable to hear. "I've asked Greg about it. He's the one who wants to learn how to play the violin, so it has nothing to do with Tessa." He defended his wife without forgetting to argue for an opportunity for his son. "And besides, Greg has a considerable gift for music. Since he's interested in it, we shouldn't neglect his talent."

"I think Nicholas is right. Greg is still little right now, so it's not a big deal to let him learn what he's interested in." Kieran joined in the persuasion. He persuaded, "And besides, Nicholas and I also learned all kinds of skills together when we were little. We can arrange other lessons for Greg when he grows older, so he won't be kept from what he's supposed to learn."

Upon hearing this, Remus immediately glared at him grumpily. "What gives you the right to speak here? Shut up!"

Speechless, Kieran had no choice but to shut up in embarrassment. He felt aggrieved at being told off, but he dared not challenge Remus' authority either.

Remus' face showed a look of disgust after he finished reprimanding Kieran. "And besides, even if Greg has to learn something, he shouldn't be learning from that Tessa woman. What could she teach him?"

Unsurprisingly, Nicholas' face darkened the instant Remus said so. "Grandpa, Tessa is a great woman, and she's approved of by many well-known performers."

"So what if she's gained their approval? I've not seen her achieve anything whatsoever," Remus retorted with a snort. In any case, he despised Tessa in every regard.

At this moment, Tobias and Stefania, both of whom had been silent all this while, also came forward to express their opinion. “I also don’t agree to let Greg live abroad with that lady. She’s pregnant herself; how could she take good care of Greg?” asked Tobias.

Stefania also chimed in with a nod, “Greg usually lives with you, so I can visit him at Dynasty Gardens whenever I miss him. Now that he’s abroad, what should we do if I miss him? We can’t put our work aside and go abroad regardless of everything, can we?”

Pursing his lips slightly, Nicholas replied in an unwavering tone, “This matter is decided, so it can’t be changed. And besides, the one teaching Greg isn’t Tessa, but her mentor.” He paused for a moment before telling them how Gregory had become an apprentice. “That mentor also noticed Greg’s talent and wanted to appreciate it. Come to speak of it, that mentor is someone you like as well, Mom.”

Stefania was stunned. “Someone I like?”

Nicholas nodded. “That’s right. She’s Sofia Morris, your favorite performer.”

This time, it was Stefania’s turn to be dumbstruck. To think that Tessa has become the apprentice of this big name! In an instant, she dismissed her inner misgivings. After all, Sofia was a world-famous musician who wouldn’t necessarily agree to perform no matter how much she’d be paid.

Always Been Yours Chapter 839

Chapter 839 The Unrelenting Remus

If Greg becomes her apprentice, it'll only be good for him! thought Stefania.

Tobias and Stefania were convinced by Nicholas' words, but Remus was still against it. He ordered Nicholas, "I don't care how great that music teacher is; I'm not allowing Greg to stay abroad with that Tessa woman. Get him back from overseas now!"

"I won't do that," Nicholas refused; he didn't like Remus to interfere with his family affairs.

Remus' anger surged when he saw how Nicholas remained unmoved. He chided, "You have to go even if you don't want to! I'll never let that Tessa woman hold Greg back."

"Tessa won't hold Greg back. She'll only be even nicer to him," Nicholas retorted with a look of displeasure. Then, he added in an unwavering tone, "Grandpa, you're old now. I hope you'll enjoy a life of ease and leisure at home instead of still vainly attempting to control everything."

Remus was enraged by his words. "What's the matter with your attitude? You think I'm being a busybody? I'm telling you, I'm doing this for Greg's own good. He'll only be ruined if he stays with that Tessa woman!"

"In that case, your worries are completely unnecessary. As I said, Greg will only do better by staying with Tessa. Also, even if Greg leaves the country, he won't necessarily be worse off than while he was at home. I'll arrange for him to be taught by the best teacher." Nicholas looked as black as thunder in front of the unrelenting Remus. As his patience ran out, he added, "Don't worry; my son won't

be inferior to anyone in the future. I also hope that you can have some confidence in me. And besides, can't you see my determination after such a long time?"

Remus was about to continue his argument at great length, but he was stumped by Nicholas' words. "Well, well, well. You're a grown-up now. I can't do anything about you anymore, huh?" he said before storming off in a huff.

Tobias and Stefania were somewhat worried about Remus, so they urged Ian to go upstairs to check on him. After learning that he was fine, they finally turned to look at their eldest son, who was sitting sullenly on the sofa.

Stefania advised, "Greg has never left our side before, so it's normal for your grandpa to find it unacceptable. Do you have to make him angry? Can't you discuss it with him amicably?"

Kieran couldn't help but speak for Nicholas as he sat beside the latter. "Nicholas did want to discuss it amicably, but did Grandpa ever give him the opportunity?"

Stefania immediately shot him an angry glare. "When is it your turn to speak here? Just behave yourself and stay where you are!"

Speechless, Kieran felt depressed. Am I deemed worthless by my family or something? I don't even have a say anymore.

Facing his parents indifferently, Nicholas replied in a tone that brooked no argument, "I won't change my mind on letting Greg study abroad."

Tobias and Stefania exchanged a brief look, knowing that Nicholas wouldn't change his mind once he had made a decision. "Fine then. Since you've made up your mind, we won't say anything. In any case, you won't do Greg any harm. As for your grandpa, just give him some time. He'll accept it eventually," Tobias advised Nicholas.

Nicholas nodded.

The two men then talked about the arrangements for Gregory's life abroad. "It'll probably be tough for that lady to look after Greg now that she's pregnant. You should send more people there to look after them."

"I know that. I'll arrange for someone to go there and take care of them."

With that, the matter was decided.

On the other hand, Tessa was still unaware that the older members of the Sawyer Family had agreed to let Gregory live abroad with her. Worried, she asked about this during her video call with Nicholas that night. "I asked you earlier to tell your family that Greg's going to study abroad with me. H-Have your parents agreed to it?"

"Don't worry, I've dealt with them. Greg will be studying abroad with you in the future."

Gregory leaped with joy beside Tessa when he heard Nicholas' words. "Hurray! I can be with Mommy every day from now on."

Tessa and Nicholas looked at the boy, who was shouting and jumping for joy, with their eyes full of fondness.

Always Been Yours Chapter 840

Chapter 840 Gregory's First Violin Lesson

Tessa, in particular, felt warm inside. Pulling Gregory into her arms, she said with a chuckle, "Are you that happy to be with me?"

"Of course! I like you the most, Mommy," Gregory replied, professing his love for his mother in a childlike voice.

Listening to their conversation, Nicholas couldn't help but marvel at the magic of kinship. Greg and Tessa know nothing, but they're drawn to each other because of their natural ties. At the thought of this, he looked at the laughing mother and son with greater tenderness in his eyes. Seeing the boy's bright smile, he couldn't help but tease him, saying, "You're so happy to be with your mom. Don't you miss me?"

"I do miss you, but I miss Mommy even more," Gregory said while hugging Tessa in a clingy manner. Then, he continued in a sweet voice, "And besides, I've lived with you for so many years, so now I should spend more time with her. Daddy, don't be jealous of Mommy, okay?" With that, he gave Nicholas a look that said 'don't be unreasonable.'

Nicholas frowned in amusement.

Tessa couldn't stop laughing as she looked on. After a while, she suppressed her laughter and comforted Nicholas, saying, "Okay, don't be jealous of me. I'll take Greg back to see you when we're free."

"I'm not jealous. I just wanted to tease him," Nicholas explained. Then, he added tenderly, "And with Greg keeping you company over there, I can put my mind at rest."

Tessa nodded.

The family of three then chatted for another while before hanging up.

...

The next morning, Tessa took Gregory to Sofia's manor after having breakfast.

Sofia smiled affably when she saw the mother and son in the living room. She asked, "Have you two eaten breakfast?"

"Yes, we have." Tessa nodded.

Gregory also nodded like an adult, saying, "We've eaten breakfast, Granny Sofia. Have you eaten?"

"Yes, I have," replied Sofia. Then, she tenderly beckoned Gregory over, saying, "Come on, let me take you to the music room to take your lesson."

Gregory nodded before following Sofia to the music room.

As today was his first day learning how to play the violin, Tessa followed them to the music room, fearing that he might not get used to it.

After entering the music room, Sofia didn't start teaching Gregory right away. Instead, she tested his basic knowledge. She took out several short musical compositions of different levels of difficulty, asking him to play the compositions one by one. However, little did she think that the boy would surprise her again. Gregory already had no trouble playing simple musical compositions. He played the violin with the right technique, so it was clear that he had practiced assiduously. As for intermediate-level musical compositions, the boy's skills were still immature, but he once again displayed an amazingly fine ear for music. "Tessa, Greg is simply born to play the violin. He's a genius!" Shocked, she looked at Tessa with excitement while being somewhat unable to control her emotions.

Tessa was also happy that Gregory possessed such a natural gift.

Roughly figuring out what Sofia's words meant, Gregory asked in a cheery voice, "Granny Sofia, am I amazing?"

"Yes, you are, Greg. You're very talented." Sofia nodded with a smile. Then, she said, "Even though you're talented, you have to practice hard."

Gregory nodded enthusiastically. "Don't worry, Granny Sofia. I'll certainly practice as hard as I can."

Seeing how obedient the boy was, Sofia felt that she had come across a real treasure.

It was time for Tessa's lesson in the afternoon. As Sofia had figured out how skilled she was, she drew up a study plan for her and taught her with pertinence.

The lesson lasted for half of the day, during which time Tessa learned a lot from Sofia. At the end of the lesson, she and Gregory bid Sofia farewell, saying, "We gotta go, Miss Sofia. See you tomorrow."

"See you tomorrow, Granny Sofia."

"See you tomorrow." Sofia watched as the mother and son got into the car and left.

On their way home, Tessa asked caringly, "Greg, are you tired after today's lesson?"

"No, I'm not tired. Are you tired, Mommy? Did I behave well?"