

Always Been Yours Chapter 841

Chapter 841 You Two Are Even

As Gregory spoke, he couldn't help but stretch out his tiny hand to touch Tessa's belly.

Tessa smiled. "I'm not tired."

As soon as she finished her sentence, her cell phone rang; it was a phone call from Mona. "Tessa, I heard that you've come back. Let's get together for dinner this evening."

"Sure."

"Let's meet up at the restaurant, then."

Tessa agreed before hanging up the phone.

Half an hour later, the three of them met up outside the restaurant.

When Mona saw the exceptionally good-looking mother and son coming toward her, her eyes instantly lit up. "Greg! I wasn't expecting to see you." She trotted to Gregory's side as she liked the cute and adorable kid very much. "Can I hug you?"

"Yes, of course." Gregory made a special effort to do her the favor, knowing that the woman before him was his mother's close friend.

The more Mona looked at Gregory, the more she liked him. She hugged him while lamenting with a sigh, "What should I do, Tessa? I feel like having such a cute son all of a sudden."

“In that case, you can get yourself a boyfriend and get married to him as soon as possible,” Tessa joked with a smile.

With that, the three of them laughed and joked as they entered a private room and ordered food.

Tessa hesitated for a moment over dinner. Still, she asked, “How is the orchestra?”

Even though she merely asked about the orchestra, Mona knew that she was actually worried about Hathaway. “Don’t worry. The orchestra is now back to normal, and Miss Hathaway has returned to the orchestra, too. She looks a little pinched, but she’s gotten back in shape.”

Tessa nodded. Initially, she was somewhat worried deep down, but now she was totally relieved.

Seeing that she was relieved, Mona purposely changed the subject, saying mysteriously, “Do you know who took over as Group Two’s concertmaster after you left?”

Puzzled, Tessa shook her head, asking, “Who?”

“It’s Cindy.”

Tessa was startled for a moment before recalling the woman. “Ah, it’s her. She does have such capabilities.” She and Cindy had been on bad terms over the position of concertmaster at the time. Objectively speaking, however, she thought Cindy was quite skilled as a violinist.

Mona curled her lips. “She’s quite skilled, but she’s of questionable character.”

Upon hearing this, Tessa surmised that something had probably happened. She asked with concern, “What happened?”

“That woman has gotten all cocky since Miss Hathaway promoted her. Not only that, but she—” Mona quickly broke off mid-sentence, feeling that her close friend’s mood would be affected if she finished her sentence.

Still, Tessa noticed that something was wrong. She asked, “Is she still saying that I have something to do with Kathleen’s death?”

Mona looked embarrassed; she was somewhat at a loss for a reply. At the same time, she was also somewhat vexed at herself. Why do I have to be such a buzzkill by mentioning these unpleasant people in such a nice atmosphere? In the end, she replied, “In any case, you’re not part of the orchestra anymore, so you don’t have to care about these people.”

Seeing that Mona didn’t want to talk about it, Tessa nodded lightly, though she no longer smiled as much as she had just now. Although Mona didn’t talk about it, she was more or less able to figure out what had happened.

Noticing the change in Tessa’s mood, Mona knew that there was no way she couldn’t figure it out with her cleverness. She gave a secret sigh, knowing that her close friend was probably upset deep down. After all, many people blamed Tessa for Kathleen’s death after such a thing happened. However, in her opinion, Tessa really shouldn’t be blamed for these things. At the thought of this, she couldn’t help but advise, “You don’t have to care about what those people think. Besides, now that you have a better place to go, you should stop dwelling on the past.”

Tessa pursed her lips before saying slowly, “Actually, I’ve gotten over Kathleen’s death long ago. It’s just that I still feel sorry for Hathaway after all.”

Understanding what she meant, Mona curled her lips. She couldn’t help but speak up for her, saying, “Come to speak of it, what Miss Hathaway did to you was quite cruel. That’s a good thing, anyway. Now you two are even.”

“Yeah. We’re even.”

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Chapter 842 Gregory's Godmother

Tessa spoke with a sigh. The next instant, she changed the subject and said with a smile, "Okay, let's not talk about these unpleasant things anymore. Let's chat about something else."

Naturally, Mona agreed to it. After they finished having dinner a while later, she suggested with a smile, "It's still early right now. How about we go for a walk?"

"Sure!" Tessa gladly agreed.

With that, the three of them went to the commercial street nearby.

Since it was evening, there were quite a lot of people walking along the street. Seeing the people coming and going around them, Gregory stayed by Tessa's side along the way, protecting her like a little knight. Not only that, but he asked about her condition from time to time. "Mommy, are you tired from walking? Do you want to rest for a while?"

Mona was instantly overwhelmed by how caring and adorable the little boy was. "Aw, Greg, you're so adorable!" She couldn't help but rub the little boy's plump cheek affectionately. Not only that, but she took him to a store for kids, where she bought him tons of presents and clothes.

Tessa was shocked by what Mona was doing. "It's enough, Mona! It's enough. You've bought so many things that Greg can't use them all." She hurriedly stopped her close friend from going on a shopping spree.

Mona didn't care about it at all, though. She replied with a wave of her hand, "It's okay. Even if Greg can't use them all, you still have a baby in your womb, right?"

Tessa looked helpless as she was at a loss for a reply.

Gregory sensibly stopped Mona, saying, “Miss Mona, thank you for your kindness, but I don’t want you to spend a lot of money again.”

“Alright, I’ll listen to you and stop shopping.” Mona’s heart melted when she saw the little boy’s eyes, which were as bright as a pair of black grapes. What should I do? How I wish I could have such an adorable and clever little boy! Well, it’s unrealistic to get a husband and have kids right now, but there’s another way. “Tessa, does your son have a godmother? Can I be his godmother?”

Tessa was startled for a moment; she never thought Mona would bring up the idea all of a sudden. Coming to her senses, she replied with a smile, “Don’t ask me about it. I’m fine with it as long as Greg doesn’t object to it.”

Upon hearing this, Mona immediately looked at Gregory expectantly. “Gregory, can I be your godmother?”

Being a clever boy himself, Gregory immediately said in a sweet voice, “Godmother—”

Mona beamed from ear to ear when she heard Gregory’s sweet voice. Sweeping the little boy into her arms, she said happily, “Let’s go with me so that I can buy some presents for you as your godmother.”

Tessa looked tenderly at the woman and the boy who were laughing together. She only thought that it was great to live such an uneventful and yet full life.

After they finished shopping, Tessa and Gregory bid Mona farewell.

They went home and washed up. Perhaps because he was tired, Gregory fell asleep shortly after going to bed.

Looking at the little boy's smiling face under the dim yellow light, Tessa couldn't help but lower her head to kiss him. Then, she tucked him in and crept out of the room.

She returned to the master bedroom. Shortly after she lay down, she got a video call from Nicholas.

Dressed in his usual black suit, the man looked handsome and a bit stoic in the video. Even though Tessa had seen this for many times, she couldn't help being captivated by his good looks, and she missed him very much.

Naturally, Nicholas noticed the glazed look in her eyes. The smile on his lips became even more charming, and his dark eyes were full of tenderness. "How's your first lesson today?" He knew that today was the first day of her and Gregory's violin lessons. He asked with concern, "Did you and Greg get used to it?"

"Well, we're fine. Greg and I learned a lot." Tessa smilingly shared with Nicholas what she and Gregory had learned during their lessons.

Nicholas didn't understand her words, but he nodded in agreement nonetheless. Then, he asked, "Did you have fun with your friend this evening?"

"Yeah, we did." Tessa summarized what they had done that evening. Before she realized it, she had begun to talk about Gregory's education. "Should I sign Greg up for other courses apart from the violin lessons? I remember that you'd arrange for him to be taught at home back in the country."

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Chapter 843 A Business Collaboration

When Nicholas heard this, his smile deepened somewhat. Tessa doesn't know her actual relationship with Greg, but she really has his interests in mind at the moment, he thought. "You don't have to worry about this. I've had everything arranged. The teacher will probably be there tomorrow."

Tessa was surprised. On the other hand, she felt it was quite tough for the man to take everything into consideration. "Thanks a lot." She gave him a sweet smile.

Nicholas replied with a tender expression, "It's part of my duty."

The two then chatted for another while before Nicholas urged, "It's getting late already. Hurry and go to sleep."

Worried, Tessa said, "Remember to have a good rest, then. Don't get too busy and skip your meals."

Nicholas nodded with a smile. After hanging up, he put down his cell phone and began to deal with the documents.

A while later, Edward knocked on the door and came in. He reported respectfully, "President Sawyer, Miss Muller is here."

Nicholas frowned with a look of annoyance in his eyes. "What is she doing here again?" Even so, he had Edward lead her inside.

Wanda scrutinized her appearance in the mirror inside the quiet elevator. The more she looked at it, the more satisfied she was, and her fiery red lips curved into a beautiful smile. She had made a special effort to go home and change into a dress in order to see Nicholas today. Although it was a winter dress, its figure-hugging

design set off her attractive figure. As a result, she looked graceful, intelligent, and charming while appearing even gentler and more delicate than usual.

She attached such importance to the meeting because she knew that Tessa had returned to Vienna with Gregory a few days ago. Now that the eyesore was gone, she knew that now was her chance. “No matter what, I’m the only person who can stand by Nicholas’ side. I’m the best person for him!” she vowed with determination in front of the mirror.

As soon as she finished her sentence, the elevator door opened with a Ding!

Standing upright outside the elevator, Edward said politely, “Miss Muller, this way, please.”

Wanda nodded slightly before gracefully following him to the president’s office in her high heels.

When she entered the office and saw the man who looked as noble as an emperor behind the desk, she almost failed to conceal the look of adoration in her eyes. Luckily, the instant he looked up, she quickly suppressed her feelings. “Sorry for bothering you again, Nicholas,” she said, greeting him with a giggle while trying her best to show her best self.

Nicholas nodded coldly before asking in a businesslike tone, “What brings you here today?”

Wanda would be lying if she were to say she wasn’t hurt by the fact that the man was unmoved by her beauty. Inwardly, she was greatly disappointed. Am I that incomparable to that Tessa woman? Despite her inner exasperation, she kept smiling. “The thing is, I’ve negotiated a few business deals lately, but I think these business deals might be too much for my company, so I’d like to collaborate with you.”

Ever since her father knew that she had started her own company in the country, he had pulled some strings and helped her secure quite a few projects. It was just that

these projects were huge, so it was impossible for her company to develop them independently with its current abilities. Because of that, she thought of developing these projects with Nicholas. Not only would she and Nicholas be able to get in touch more often, but Nicholas and the older members of the Sawyer Family would also see her capabilities.

Nicholas was unaware of these things. However, seeing how Wanda proposed a business collaboration between them with a straight face, he slowly suppressed his impatience. “Did you bring the project proposals with you?”

“I did. Please take a look at them.” Wanda’s beautiful eyes flickered as she handed the proposals she had brought with her to him.

Nicholas read the proposals carefully with his head down. After all, not every project would be accepted by the Sawyer Group. To his surprise, though, the business deals secured by Wanda’s company were huge. There were already many business groups that had sought to collaborate with the company, but Wanda turned them down in the end.

A few minutes later, he finished reading all the proposals. Taking the profit into consideration, he thought he could collaborate with her.

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Chapter 844 Having an Ax to Grind

Seeing how the man put down the documents, Wanda got somewhat impatient. She asked, “What do you think? Would you agree to the collaboration?”

Nicholas looked her straight in the eye. “I can collaborate with you, but I have two conditions.”

Wanda was delighted. “Tell me about your conditions.”

Nicholas made his demands right away without the slightest hesitation. “I hope you’ll provide a more complete execution plan for these projects. Also, I hope that the Sawyer Group can hold the leading position in our collaboration.”

At first, he thought Wanda would hesitate for a moment. After all, his second condition was somewhat harsh. This was because it meant that if any disagreement were to occur during their collaboration, Party B would have to give priority to Party A’s demands—a condition that ordinary companies wouldn’t agree to.

To his surprise, Wanda agreed to it without thinking. “I have no problem with it. It’ll save me a lot of trouble if the Sawyer Group takes the leading position.”

Nicholas narrowed his eyes. “Miss Muller, aren’t you gonna think about it again?”

“No, it’s not necessary. I have faith in you and the Sawyer Group,” Wanda replied, expressing her wholehearted confidence in him. Of course, she had an ax to grind. By letting the Sawyer Group take the leading position in the project, she’d do the company a special favor. This would also cause her company to be backed by the Sawyer Group, which was better for her company’s future growth.

The two then talked about the details of their collaboration, during which time Wanda jotted down the main points.

A while later, Edward came to report on his work; there was a meeting that Nicholas had to preside at.

Being a sensible person, Wanda took her leave, saying, “That’s all for today. I’ll come again tomorrow to discuss the follow-up details with you.”

For the next two days, Nicholas busied himself with this matter, which caused him to spend significantly less time talking to Tessa over the phone.

Knowing that he was busy, Tessa was very understanding, but she was worried about his health. After all, this guy would always forget to eat and sleep whenever he got busy. Seeing that he seemed to have lost some weight over the past few days, she became even more worried.

On this day, she pondered for a moment after ending her phone conversation with Nicholas. Then, she called Edward, saying, “Mr. Jackson, I have a favor to ask of you.”

Edward found it strange, but he agreed, saying, “Please tell me about it, Miss Tessa.”

“I hope you can help me watch Nicholas’ diet and remind him to eat regular meals these days.”

“I got it. I’ll remind President Sawyer on time,” Edward promised with a nod. Inwardly, he was somewhat envious of Nicholas for having Tessa to care about him. “Seems like I should get myself a girlfriend to care about me,” he mumbled to himself before burying himself in his work soon afterward.

It was noon. Inside the president’s office, Wanda was discussing with Nicholas while holding the newly revised proposal. Seeing the good-looking man beside her, she couldn’t help but give an inward sigh. Men are even more charming and handsome at work indeed, she thought. In particular, she had been able to spend several hours with Nicholas every day over the past few days, which made her feel incredibly sweet. Although they only talked about work when they were together,

they'd never been alone like this before. Moreover, she believed that if this went on, she'd definitely be able to replace Tessa and stay by his side.

Just when she was imagining her future with Nicholas, Edward knocked on the door and came in with a boxed lunch in his hand.

At the sight of the scene, Nicholas asked, "What's the matter?"

"Miss Tessa asked me to urge you to eat on time," Edward replied honestly without hiding anything.

When Nicholas heard this, his lips curled into a gentle smile.

On the other hand, Wanda's expression froze somewhat. Why is Tessa still sticking around like a ghost now that she's left? She gnashed her teeth inwardly, but her face gave nothing away. She asked with a smile, "Did you prepare my lunch then, Mr. Jackson?"

"I'm sorry, Miss Muller, but I didn't know you'd stay, so I only prepared lunch for President Sawyer."

"It's okay. I'll order takeout later."

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Chapter 845 The Only Woman Who Is Good Enough for Him

Despite saying so, she cursed Edward at full blast inwardly. What a tactless moron!

Edward was unaware of what she was thinking, so he thought that she didn't mind. After nodding slightly, he set the table for Nicholas, saying, "Your meal is ready, President Sawyer."

"I got it." Nicholas nodded. Then, he put aside his work and started eating.

Wanda felt disturbed when she saw that the man had started eating. Nicholas wasn't like this in the past, but he's willing to change his habits for a woman. The more she thought about it, the more she found it unacceptable. She purposely asked, "Nicholas, I heard that Miss Reinhart took Greg to Vienna. Won't you be reluctant to part with them now that you guys are living apart from each other?"

Nicholas frowned slightly; he didn't like to discuss his private affairs with someone else. Still, he replied flatly out of courtesy, "I won't."

Naturally, Wanda noticed the note of displeasure in his voice, but she pretended not to notice it. Propping her chin in her hand, she said in a grave tone, "If it were me, I wouldn't be willing to live apart from the person I love. And besides, I hear that it's difficult for long-distance relationships to stand any tests most of the time."

Hearing her meaningful words, Nicholas looked vaguely displeased. Furthermore, he didn't feel like talking about Tessa with this woman, so he replied coldly, "That's a matter between my wife and me, so it's none of your concern, Miss Muller." With that, he immediately took out his cell phone and gave Tessa a video call.

Tessa and Gregory had just finished their evening practice. When they got a video call from Nicholas, they were very happy. “Daddy, you’re free at last! I miss you so much,” Gregory said.

“I miss you too.” Nicholas looked at Gregory tenderly before resting his eyes on Tessa. He asked caringly, “How are you these days?”

“We’re fine. Miss Sofia even praised Greg for making great progress today.” Tessa summarized how their daily life had been over the past few days.

Nicholas listened to her story with great interest. Then, he said with a smile, “Greg, since you’ve made progress, why don’t you play a tune for me?”

“Give me a minute, then,” Gregory replied. With that, he turned around and ran to the music room to get his violin.

Soon after that, a cheerful melody flowed from the phone.

Contrary to the family’s cozy atmosphere over here, Wanda was totally ignored. However, she was preoccupied with what Nicholas had said just now. My wife and me?! Did he just refer to Tessa as his wife?! No, I don’t believe that they’re married. I feel that this is more like a warning he gives me. Even so, I won’t give up. I’m the only woman who’s good enough for him!

Nicholas was unaware of these things. After Gregory finished playing the tune, he clapped his hands and praised the boy, saying, “You’ve indeed improved a lot compared to the past.”

Gregory looked at him delightedly with dark, starry eyes. “I’ll play even better in the future. When that happens, I’ll play the violin for you again.”

Just when the family of three were having a pleasant conversation, Wanda’s voice sounded deliberately from behind Nicholas. “Nicholas, are you talking to Greg and Miss Reinhart over the phone? Can I say hi to them?” As she spoke, she came to Nicholas’ side and leaned close to him on purpose.

Nicholas' face instantly darkened with a frown. "What are you doing?" He stood up with a grim expression and distanced himself from Wanda with the phone in his hand.

The smile on Wanda's face froze somewhat when she saw how cool and distant the man was. Is he so anxious to stay away from me because he fears that Tessa might get the wrong idea? In an instant, she was inwardly jealous of Tessa. She couldn't understand what made her inferior to Tessa. The more she thought about it, the more unhappy she was. However, she pretended to be apologetic, saying, "Sorry, but I don't mean anything else. I just wanted to talk to Greg for a second just now. I hope that Miss Reinhart won't get the wrong idea."

Tessa and Gregory were startled for a moment over the phone.

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Chapter 846 Saving the World in Her Previous Life

Coming to her senses, Tessa was a little surprised.

On the other hand, Gregory pouted his lips in displeasure.

Nicholas did pay attention to their facial expressions. Seeing that Tessa didn't seem displeased, he breathed a soft sigh of relief. "Miss Muller, your takeout has probably arrived. Why don't you go out and ask your assistant?" With a frosty expression, he asked Wanda to leave, not wanting the woman to disturb the three of them again.

Of course, Wanda also knew his purpose in saying so. She was very upset, but she had no reason to stay. As a result, she had no choice but to leave bitterly.

After stepping out of the office, she turned around and stared at the door to the office while gnashing her teeth in hatred. At the same time, though, she knew she couldn't resign herself to this anymore. Otherwise, she wouldn't be able to win Nicholas' heart.

Tessa didn't ask about Wanda after the latter left. She roughly figured that Wanda had probably shown up in Nicholas' office for work-related matters.

Although she didn't ask any questions about Wanda, Nicholas explained the matter on his own initiative. "The lady just now was Wanda Muller, whose family and mine are old friends. She's recently started her own business in the country, and her company and mine are collaborating with each other."

Hearing the man's explanation, Tessa smiled sweetly. "Don't worry, I'm not overthinking it. I still trust you, so you don't have to explain it to me. I know it."

Nicholas nodded.

At this moment, Gregory squeezed his way in and lectured mischievously, “Daddy, you have to be good. Don’t let other women get close to you. You can’t let Mommy down.”

Tessa couldn’t help but smile as her heart warmed. She felt that she must’ve saved the whole world in her previous life to have such an adorable son and a husband who cared so much about her in her present life.

Nicholas looked fondly at the woman and the boy in the video. Then, as his tender eyes fell upon Gregory, he raised his eyebrows slightly and replied impassively, “Do I need you to remind me of that?”

Gregory wrinkled his nose with a soft snort. “I’m just worried that you’ve forgotten about it.”

Nicholas felt helpless. “You’re just a kid, so stop worrying about these things. Just protect your mom over there. Got it?”

Gregory proudly puffed out his little chest. “Of course I know that. Also, I’m not a kid. I’m already a man.”

Tessa and Nicholas were amused by the little boy.

A while later, Nicholas urged Tessa to go to sleep as it was getting late. After all, there was a time difference between the two countries.

On the other hand, Wanda finished having lunch. Instead of taking a break, she knocked on the door to the president’s office. “Nicholas, can I come in?” In reality, she came over in such a hurry on purpose. She didn’t know if Nicholas was still talking to Tessa over the phone at this moment. Of course, it’d be best if he wasn’t, but if the two of them were still talking over the phone, she naturally had to end their phone conversation on the excuse of work. In any case, she wouldn’t allow Nicholas to focus his attention on another woman while she was present.

After entering the office, she saw the man sitting behind his desk and handling work-related matters, and her lips curved into a beautiful smile. Thinking that she sounded virtuous, she said, “Since you’re busy, I’ll wait until you finish your work before we continue our discussion.”

“It’s not necessary,” Nicholas refused directly while walking out from behind his desk. Then, he picked up the documents for the projects and started to get into work by continuing the earlier conversation between them. He wanted to finish dealing with the projects sooner so that Wanda would stop coming to him every day.

Being a clever person, Wanda naturally understood Nicholas’ purpose in doing so. She felt so upset that she clasped her hands together. Unfortunately, she had no other choice but to discuss work-related matters with him again.

She tried to chat with Nicholas while they were taking a break, but he continued working in a businesslike manner as though he didn’t hear her.

Upon seeing this, Wanda was inwardly displeased. She felt that her conversations with Nicholas seemed to be strictly about work. This guy seemed to have nothing else to talk to her about apart from work-related matters.

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Chapter 847 A Sense of Danger

Am I so incomparable to Tessa? The more Wanda thought about it, the more bitter she felt. She had always been a well-respected young lady her entire life. She was flattered and praised wherever she went, but now, Nicholas paid no attention to her.

A while later, she and Nicholas finished discussing work-related matters. Not believing that she'd be rejected, she continued to invite him, saying, "Nicholas, let's have dinner together this evening."

"I have something else to do this evening," Nicholas refused apathetically. Then, he called Edward in and ordered, "See Miss Muller out of the office."

Edward nodded before making a gesture to Wanda to signal her to leave.

Wanda was very disappointed, but she had no other choice but to leave.

The instant she stepped out of the Sawyer Group, her face clouded over. At this very moment, a strong sense of danger arose in her. This is bad. I have to do something.

Nicholas was unaware of this. Currently, his mind was all focused on Tessa aside from his work. He even had a vague idea in mind: he wanted to visit her and Gregory at the end of the month. Having been separated from them for so many days, he missed his wife and son very much.

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For the next few days, Tessa started to get busy as an apprentice.

Sofia was very strict with her, so much so that she'd latch onto her flaws and correct them bit by bit. "This part is wrong. You played the note for half a beat more than it's supposed to. Also, your fingering is stiff when you switch to another musical note. Play it again... You've got a musical note wrong. Play it again... Play it again..." The music room was filled with Sofia's stern voice every single day. However, she really taught Tessa diligently.

Of course, Tessa also practiced very diligently. Not only that, but whenever she made a mistake or was confused about something, she'd modestly ask Sofia for advice. When she made a mistake, she'd acknowledge it and improve herself in a polite manner. Even if she was reprimanded fiercely sometimes, she wouldn't appear to be in a bad mood. Instead, she was energetic and optimistic.

However, Sofia couldn't help being worried at the end of their lessons.

On this day, she stopped Tessa at the end of their lesson. "How do you feel these days?" She looked at Tessa caringly before she asked, "Do you feel that I'm very strict with you or that your training is a little too tough?"

Tessa didn't understand why Sofia would ask such a question. Nevertheless, she replied meekly, "The training's pretty good; I can adjust to it. As for your being strict with me, that's for my own good. After all, a strict teacher would produce outstanding students, right?"

After hearing this, Sofia was very satisfied. Also, she liked how Tessa was able to bear hardships and practice hard. "It's good that you understand my purpose. Take Greg home for a rest." She waved her hand to signal Tessa to leave.

Tessa nodded and said goodbye to her.

Gregory also waved his hand sensibly. "See you tomorrow, Granny Sofia."

"See you tomorrow."

As Sofia knew that Tessa wouldn't mind her being strict with her, she became even stricter with her afterward. Moreover, she set a high standard for Gregory as well.

Gregory was only four years old, but he was very willing to endure hardships. He was very disciplined. Even if he was already tired from playing the violin, he would grit his teeth and continue as long as he didn't meet the standard Sofia had set for him.

At first, they had agreed to practice for four hours per day, but their lessons were sometimes extended to five or six hours.

On this day, Tessa prepared to leave with Gregory at the end of their training.

Just then, Sofia stopped them, saying, "Wait, Tessa, don't go back just yet."

Puzzled, Tessa asked, "Is there anything else, Miss Sofia?"

"I have a dinner gathering with friends this evening, so you and Greg will be going with me," Sofia said, revealing her plans without hiding anything. "Both Greg and you are my apprentices. I should've introduced you two to my friends when I took you two in as my apprentices, but our schedules hadn't matched, which was why I put it off until today."

The dinner gathering was held that evening at a high-end restaurant. After entering the restaurant, Tessa and Gregory followed Sofia and met many big names in the industry.

The two of them obediently greeted Sofia's friends while staying by her side.

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Chapter 848 Meeting Hathaway Again

Everyone was very friendly to Tessa and Gregory. In particular, Gregory was cute and adorable, so he was liked by many.

At this moment, Sofia brought Tessa to a silver-haired gentleman. “Tessa, this is Simon. I guess you’re familiar with him; you played one of his compositions a couple of days ago.”

Hearing Sofia’s introduction, Tessa was startled for a few seconds. Then, realizing Sofia’s purpose in doing so, she suppressed her excitement and greeted the gentleman meekly, saying, “Nice to meet you, Mr. Simon.”

As a matter of fact, Simon was a famous world-class composer who had written dozens of classic violin compositions. If she were able to receive advice from such a master, she’d definitely benefit a lot from it.

Looking at the steady young lady before him, Simon nodded lightly; his first impression of her seemed to be pretty nice. “I’ve heard about you from your mentor before. She said you’re quite talented at composing.”

“Miss Sofia flattered me by saying that. Actually, I’ve not learned systematically how to write music, so I’m not good enough in many ways.” Tessa was modest. Moreover, she was eager to learn, so she couldn’t help but mention some problems that she had come across while writing music.

“I often feel that the melodies I wrote aren’t in harmony with the feelings I was trying to achieve, especially when I was writing harmonies. There were many times when I felt there were some differences.”

Simon answered patiently, “Violin compositions are part of classical compositions, so there are many things involved in this. In your situation, you lack an understanding of the musical theory regarding the musical forms of harmonies.

If you want the musical notes to sound grand and melodious but not messy and monotonous when they’re grouped together, you should read more books about musical theories and understand those theories before learning systematically how to write harmonies. Doing so will improve your compositions a lot.” Tessa had only asked a question, but he could tell that the lady before him had worked hard on the basic skills of writing music.

Tessa nodded before asking Simon for advice regarding some knowledge about musical theories.

Simon answered her questions one by one.

With that, the two had a pleasant conversation.

Not only did Tessa ask Simon questions, but she’d also share some of her understanding of musical theories.

As Simon was impressed by Tessa’s unique views, he rained praises on her at the end of their conversation. “Sofia, you’ve gotten yourself a treasure of an apprentice.”

Sofia was inwardly happy, but she looked modest on the outside, saying, “She’s only learned a little, so there are still a lot of things that she has to improve. Teach her more when you’re free.”

Upon hearing this, Tessa chimed in sensibly, “Mr. Simon, please teach me more about how to write music in the future.”

Looking at the old woman and the young lady before him, Simon couldn’t help but chuckle. “Did you call me here tonight to have me teach your apprentice how to write music?”

Sofia looked at him smilingly without denying it. “That’s right. Are you gonna teach her, then?”

Even though she sounded like she was joking, Simon could tell that she was serious. Narrowing his eyes slightly, he looked at Tessa again with scrutiny.

Tessa noticed it as well, but she let him scrutinize her without feeling uneasy.

After a moment, Simon withdrew his gaze and said slowly, “It’s not that I can’t teach her, but I’ll be very strict with her. You have to be able to withstand that.” His last sentence was intended for Tessa.

Delighted, Tessa nodded vigorously and promised, “I can persevere no matter how hard and tiring it is. Also, I’ll practice earnestly.”

Tessa was indeed outstanding, plus there was a honey-tongued Gregory around her, so the atmosphere was very harmonious with everyone talking and laughing.

Just then, a large group of people came to the table beside theirs.

Tessa was sharp-eyed enough to notice that those people were from Hathaway Philharmonic. Surprisingly, they were led by Hathaway.

At this moment, Hathaway seemed to be in good spirits, save for the fact that she was unusually thin. Standing behind her were Mona, Cindy, and other members of the orchestra.

When Tessa saw this, her expression changed slightly; her eyes were dark and unfathomable.

At this moment, Mona also noticed her, and her face showed a look of surprise.

Always Been Yours Chapter 849

Chapter 849 Put the Past Behind You

Other members of the orchestra also noticed Tessa, and they began to whisper among themselves.

“Isn’t that Tessa?”

“Why is she here? And those sitting beside her, they look so familiar.”

“How could this woman have the cheek to show up in Vienna?!”

“Oh, my God! The one sitting next to Tessa is Miss Sofia! There’s also Mr. Simon, the famous composer...” someone exclaimed in surprise as they recognized Sofia and the others.

Because of these voices, Hathaway noticed Tessa and was startled for a moment. When her eyes fell upon the people around Tessa, she looked even more surprised. Why is Tessa with these seniors? Although she was puzzled, she went over and greeted the seniors out of courtesy, saying, “It’s been a while, Miss Sofia and Mr. Simon...”

“It’s been a while indeed, Hathaway,” the big names replied one after another.

Tessa also stood up politely and said respectfully, “Good evening, Miss Hathaway.”

Hathaway was stunned for a moment, as though she never thought Tessa would still call her ‘Miss Hathaway.’ After coming to her senses, she looked at Tessa with

a complicated look in her eyes. Still, she nodded, asking, “What brings you here as well?”

“I...” Tessa hesitated. In the end, however, she explained honestly, “I just got myself a new mentor, so I came with her today for dinner.”

It was impossible to say that Hathaway wasn’t upset when she heard this. However, there were some things that couldn’t go back to the way they had been before.

On the other hand, the other members of the orchestra were indignant when they heard Tessa’s words.

“What an ingrate she is! To think that she’s found herself another mentor so quickly.”

“I’d say Miss Hathaway shouldn’t have accepted this ingrate at the time. If it weren’t for her, Kathleen wouldn’t have died, and our orchestra wouldn’t have gotten into its current situation.”

“That’s enough, you guys! What happened to Kathleen has nothing to do with Tessa at all.” Mona couldn’t help but speak for her close friend.

Hathaway was unaware of the argument over here. After collecting herself, she asked in a tone of concern, “May I know who your mentor is?”

Just then, Sofia replied impassively, “Tessa is now my apprentice. I brought her here today to introduce her to my friends.”

The instant she said so, Hathaway was very surprised. Tessa actually became Sofia’s student!

When the other members of Hathaway Philharmonic heard this, they were dumbstruck, especially Cindy, who stared at Tessa with her eyes full of jealousy

and hostility. To think that this ingrate became the apprentice of this big shot! What qualifies her to do so?

Of course, Tessa noticed her venomous gaze, but she ignored it.

This was because Hathaway spoke to her at this very moment. “Miss Sofia is one of the leading authorities in the field of music. There are many advantages for you to learn from her, so I hope that you’ll have a bright future ahead of you,” she said, sincerely giving Tessa her best wishes. Actually, she felt guilty after severing all ties with Tessa. She knew that Tessa was innocent, but she really couldn’t get over it.

Tessa also noticed Hathaway’s emotions. She replied impassively, “Thank you. Please take care of yourself, too.”

Hathaway left soon after the exchange of pleasantries.

Tessa got more or less emotional as she sat back in her seat.

Upon noticing that, Sofia patted her on the shoulder and comforted her, saying, “What you should be doing right now is to put the past behind you and look forward to the future. As for Kathleen, I’ve met her before. She was arrogant, headstrong, and selfish.” She paused for a moment. Then, she continued earnestly, “I’ve learned about the inside story. Her death has nothing to do with you, so you don’t have to feel guilty.”

Tessa was surprised; she didn’t expect Sofia to have learned about this long ago.

At this moment, the others also chimed in and advised her, staying, “We’ve heard about what happened to Kathleen. This has nothing to do with you. Just pull yourself together and learn from your mentor for now so that you can give a slap in the face with your achievements to those who look down on you.”

Kathleen’s death had provoked much discussion in Vienna back then.

Always Been Yours Chapter 850

Chapter 850 Slander Party

Since only the people in the know were privy to what had happened, the people here thought Tessa was not at fault. Although Gregory did not understand much of what had happened, he was certain of one thing: His mommy changed mentor because Hathaway didn't want her anymore. "Mommy, don't be sad. We'll become much better from now on and make those people that don't want Mommy to regret it."

The way Gregory comforted Tessa like an adult would was just too cute in Tessa's eyes. He had succeeded in cheering her up and livening up the atmosphere, as the others around were amused with him.

In comparison with the cheerful atmosphere Tessa and the others were in, Hathaway's one was gloomy. Even so, she pulled herself together and welcomed the group members to the meal.

During the dinner, Cindy watched from afar in jealousy as Tessa was getting along with those tycoons. "People that have wealth going for them really are different. How capable of her to become such a big shot after leaving us for only a few days," she sneered with her eyes observing Hathaway's expression.

With a slight frown, Hathaway kept her silence. In truth, she didn't want to talk about Tessa, as doing so would sadden her once more. However, Cindy misunderstood and thought that Hathaway shared her dislike for Tessa, so she started a slander parade about Tessa.

"Tessa truly is a shameless person for her to be alright even after causing the Hathaway Philharmonic to be so miserable."

"Right? For her to find a strong backer so quickly and shamelessly, her very existence insults the pedigree of music."

“Say, do you guys think that Tessa had deceived Sofia?”

“Isn’t it obvious? Otherwise, why would Sofia accept such a questionable person into her group?”

As the members were extremely jealous of Tessa, their remarks about her grew vicious with each one, as though they would feel better about themselves by doing so.

Although Cindy enjoyed listening to the member’s disparaging remarks about Tessa, she still felt bitter about it. No matter what they were saying about Tessa, it remained an indisputable fact that she had gotten a prestigious person as her mentor. Cindy was puzzled over how she, who was not in any way inferior to Tessa, could only manage to become concertmaster after working hard. She was jealous of the fact that not only Tessa was first accepted as Hathaway’s mentee, but she was also now a mentee of one of the most prestigious people in the music industry and was surrounded by a group of famous musicians.

Listening to the members degrading Tessa with every passing remark, Mona became furious and was especially displeased with Cindy who had started it. “Haven’t you all said enough? If you’re jealous of someone, then you should directly say it to them and not be so shamelessly talking behind their backs.”

She glared at each of the members who had made snide remarks and sneered as her eyes went to Cindy, “Not only is Tessa talented, but she’s also of a good character. That is why she is favored by all these people. Don’t you know that talent is everything now? She’s unlike some who only knows how to look at others bitterly without ever trying to improve themselves even though they’re not as capable.”

Unable to realize that she was the said person, Cindy flared in anger and berated Mona. “Just who are you talking about?”

Unafraid, Mona countered, her voice stern, “Whoever’s shoes fit. I’m talking about the ones who would make the most noise, snide remarks, and act the most bitter about Tessa.”

Embarrassed as she was seen through by Mona, Cindy immediately exploded with anger, “Who do you think you are for speaking to me that way?!”

Then, she paused for a brief moment, as though she had thought of something to say, and sneered, “Oh, I’ve almost forgotten how much of a lapdog you were when Tessa was still with us. Tsk, you should stop putting on an act now that your master isn’t even here anymore. Not only can Tessa not see your little performance, but even I feel disgusted with you.”

“What do you mean by an act?! I’m not putting on a performance!” Mona retorted with a twisted expression.