

Always Been Yours Chapter 871

Chapter 871 You're Wasting Your Time

The next afternoon, Tessa brought the song she had composed to Simon's house in the afternoon.

"Please have a look, Sir. This is the homework you gave me yesterday." She handed Simon the manuscript, then waited anxiously at the side. He lowered his head to check, but the more he read, the more surprised he became. He had purposefully given her a preliminary test because he had decided to teach her. So, he was well aware of how poor her fundamentals were. But now, even if her songs weren't up to his standards, they were good enough for a passing grade. He had extremely high standards for even a passing grade.

"Not bad. You improved quite a lot. You pass."

He laid the manuscript down with satisfaction.

Tessa looked stunned as if she couldn't believe it. She couldn't help but ask for confirmation, "Did I really pass?"

"Yes, you passed." Simon nodded in affirmation.

Tessa was overjoyed when she realized she had passed.

He didn't want to ruin the girl's mood by saying anything, but he did say sternly, "Passing is only the first step. In the future, I will only set higher standards for you."

"I know. I will do my best to learn."

Seeing that, she immediately stopped smiling and nodded earnestly.

She kept her word about learning diligently. Furthermore, because she was a quick learner, whenever she came across something that baffled her, she only needed a hint from Simon to fully comprehend it. In this regard, Simon repeatedly praised Tessa in front of Sofia, even claiming that it was his first time teaching with such ease.

In an instant, the end of the month was approaching.

Almost every day, Nicholas would spend the entire day at work because he was still swarmed with work. Tessa had noticed all of this, and she knew he had become so preoccupied simply because he wanted to spend time with her and Gregory. Her heart ached for him.

When they were on a video call at night, she couldn't help but remind him, "Please don't overwork yourself. You may arrive a few days later than promised if you cannot complete your work on time. Focus on your health."

"But I want to see you and Gregory as soon as possible."

He looked at her with a gentle gaze, his voice filled with an indescribable warmth.

Tessa was moved to no end. Actually, she also wanted to see Nicholas as soon as possible.

She knew she couldn't persuade this man to change his mind, so she told him quietly, "Take care of yourself, no matter what. Don't make me worry."

Nicholas nodded, smiling.

In the days that followed, he became even busier.

Soon, Wanda also found out that he had been toiling away recently. She felt it was a good opportunity to demonstrate her caring and thoughtful nature. Henceforth,

Wanda would make desserts and healthy soups and deliver them to Sawyer Group daily. Nicholas' patience grew thinner by the day as she visited him daily. However, she was oblivious to this fact.

She came over today with desserts, as she had done for the past few days. When she walked into the office, she noticed the handsome man working intently at the office desk. She smiled with her red lips curled.

“Nicholas, why don't you take a break? I learned a new recipe for soup today, so please have a try.”

Wanda opened the lunch box she was holding on the coffee table as she spoke. She then carefully poured some soup into a bowl for him.

Nicholas frowned, his patience finally running out.

He sat at the office table, exuding a cold aura rejecting everyone. “Miss Muller, I think you're wasting your time doing all this. Also, if there's anything I want to eat, I can ask my chef at home to prepare them.”

Hearing that, she felt the smile on her face freezing.

Nicholas did not notice that as he continued, “Also, compared to trivial things like this, I remember that you still haven't fixed the problem with the proposal last time. I hope you can use your time more beneficially.”

Now, these words hurt a little.

Wanda looked at him with a pitiful gaze. “I... just want to take care of you.”

She had expressed it so obviously, so how could this man not understand her intentions?

Always Been Yours Chapter 872

Chapter 872 Thank You for Taking Care of Wanda

Of course, Nicholas noticed. He simply refused to acknowledge it and continued his senseless act, hoping that this woman would give up. However, he did not expect Wanda to read the room so poorly.

Finally, he said flatly and coldly, “Miss Muller, I believe you are caring for the wrong person. I’m already married, and your behavior is clearly inappropriate. I hope you remember this.

Wanda was deeply hurt when she heard the cruel words. She was particularly upset when Nicholas revealed that he was married, but she didn’t entirely believe him. She suspected he said it on purpose to reject her.

When she was about to speak, he called Edward and said in a commanding tone, “Send Miss Muller off.”

Edward immediately escorted her outside because he dared not to defy his words.

Wanda felt deeply wronged after leaving Sawyer Group. At the worst possible moment, Horace called her. Her emotions erupted right away.

“Grandpa...”

“Wanda, what happened? Why are you crying? Did someone bully you?”

He became concerned upon hearing his granddaughter’s sobbing voice, and his tone was tinged with worry.

Horace and his assistant arrived at Southend Airport the next morning. He came here overnight because he thought his precious granddaughter was being bullied. He went straight to Wanda's office when he arrived at Muller Group. Wanda was taken aback when she saw her grandpa, who had unexpectedly appeared.

“Grandpa, why are you here?”

“Why did you think I came? You were so upset last night that you remained silent when I asked you to tell me what happened. How can I not worry?”

Horace looked concerned as he motioned Wanda to sit on the couch, inquiring, “Tell me what happened. Were you bullied?”

Wanda was extremely touched by his words.

She didn't want to tell the truth, so she shook her head and said, “It's nothing major, just that I've been having some work problems.”

“Is that all? Just work problems?”

Horace frowned as he looked at her in disbelief.

Wanda could sense her grandpa's suspicion. She took his hand with a few hints of coddling and smiled lightly at him. “I truly mean it. Don't think too much.”

Horace was somewhat dubious after hearing that, but he said nothing. Following that, he stayed at the company and assisted her with company matters.

When it was almost time to leave work in the evening, Horace pulled out his phone and dialed Remus' number.

“I returned to Southend to see my granddaughter, so why don't we have a meal together tonight, and you can invite Nicholas?”

Since it was a rare occasion, Remus naturally agreed.

That night, Nicholas followed Remus to a private dining restaurant.

Horace and Remus drank two glasses of wine at the table before slowly turning the topic to the evening's objective.

“Thank you so much for taking care of my granddaughter all this while.”

“Oh, I cannot take the credit. Nicholas was the one helping out most of the time.”

Remus said it on purpose with his eyes glinting.

Nicholas sat on the side with a slight frown.

On the other hand, when Horace heard what Remus said, the smile on his face deepened.

With hints of satisfaction in his voice, he said to Nicholas, “Thank you for taking care of Wanda.”

“You're too kind, Mr. Muller. I'm just following my grandpa's orders.”

Nicholas knew what Remus was plotting, so he pushed the credit back to his grandpa. Horace didn't mind, thinking that Nicholas was just being modest.

He spoke as if he was leaving Wanda in his care after a few thanks. “My granddaughter has never been involved in our family's business, so she will need your assistance in this matter.”

“Yes, of course.” Without waiting for Nicholas to respond, Remus agreed to the sentiment right away.

Nicholas' expression turned cold in an instant.

Horace was oblivious as he offered a cordial smile and said, “Then, Nicholas, you have my thanks. Also, our sweet Wanda was spoiled from a young age, so please

be patient with her if she doesn't understand something. She can definitely learn if you teach her.”

Always Been Yours Chapter 873

Chapter 873 Contempt

Wanda looked at Nicholas shyly when she heard what her grandpa said to him. Of course, he noticed her gaze and had a deeper frown.

“You’re too modest, Mr. Muller. Actually, Miss Muller is still quite capable, and I think if she focuses more on her work, she can do even better.”

Horace was taken aback by Nicholas’ icy detachment of tone. Naturally, he also understood what he was implying. He looked at Wanda with doubts before realizing that his granddaughter had a sullen expression and appeared to be in a bad mood. Something had clearly happened between the two. Remus, too, came to the same conclusion.

The atmosphere seemed to freeze in the brightly lit restaurant. Horace looked curiously between his granddaughter and Nicholas.

“Nicholas, did Wanda do something she wasn’t supposed to?” he asked with a frown.

“No, I’m just giving a suggestion.” Nicholas had no desire to elaborate further.

Horace intuitively comprehended this, so he did not inquire further. The atmosphere became awkward once more. When Wanda saw this, she abandoned her gloomy disposition and took the initiative to relax the tense atmosphere.

“Nicholas is right. I will devote all of my future efforts to work.”

Horace’s heart ached for her as he saw her humility and eagerness to learn. Simultaneously, he began to be dissatisfied with Nicholas. On the other hand, Remus seemed to have guessed something, and he felt sorry for Wanda. He

smirked at Nicholas, warning him not to say anything stupid again. Seeing that, Nicholas didn't give it any thought as he carried on eating.

When Remus saw that, he stopped paying attention to him and switched to a friendly smile. "Don't mind him, Wanda."

Wanda looked at Nicholas, who had a frown on his face. She nodded slightly but was incredibly upset on the inside.

They left the restaurant after they finished their meal.

"Nicholas, send Mr. Muller and Wanda home," Remus instructed him.

She looked at Nicholas expectantly after hearing that.

Nicholas, however, was indifferent.

He was well aware of what his grandpa was planning and declined coldly. "I still have some work to do. I'll arrange for a driver to send you two home."

He had intended the last sentence to be directed at Horace and Wanda.

Wanda was disappointed, but she also knew that her recent actions had incited Nicholas' rage, which was how things had come to be the way they were now.

Attempting to alleviate the tension, she politely declined and said, "Thank you for your generosity, Nicholas and Mr. Sawyer. However, I just arranged for a driver to pick my grandfather and me up."

"If that's the case, I'm returning to work right now."

With that, Nicholas left straightaway.

Remus was enraged when he saw this. If not for the presence of his old friend, he would have called Nicholas and given him a stern talking-to.

Horace sat in the car on the way back with a solemn expression. He frowned deeply when he remembered Nicholas' demeanor at the restaurant entrance. Logically speaking, he should not have behaved in such a manner.

As he reflected, he remembered Nicholas' poignant words at the table. He turned around and asked, "Wanda, did anything happen between you and Nicholas?"

She was stunned for a few moments, her eyes gleaming. "Why do you ask, Grandpa?"

Horace gave her a look that confirmed his suspicions.

"What exactly happened?"

Wanda pursed her lips slightly before revealing Tessa's existence.

"In fact, Nicholas always had a woman by his side. Even though she is currently abroad, she is the person he loves. It's because of this woman that there are no more chances between Nicholas and me," she said, her voice tinged with disappointment.

He had never before witnessed his granddaughter so crestfallen, so his discontent with Nicholas turned into anger.

Horace felt that Nicholas did not know what was best for himself. Wanda didn't mind that Nicholas had a son, but he regarded her with contempt and even fell in love with another woman.

Always Been Yours Chapter 874

Chapter 874 Did Not Have the Heart to Tell the Truth

“Don’t be sad, Wanda. I’ll take care of this.”

He comforted Wanda, saying with a dark look in his eyes, “Tomorrow, I’ll pay Remus a visit. I’ll make sure he gives you a satisfactory answer.”

Hearing that her grandfather would be standing up for her, Wanda did not intend to stop him.

She felt that with the help of Remus, she might still have a chance to get married into the Sawyer Family even if Nicholas didn’t like her.

As she thought that, she wrapped her arm around Horace’s arm and said in a spoiled manner, “I knew you will always be there for me, Grandpa.”

Horace was glad as he promised her. “Don’t worry about this. I’ll definitely help you to deal with this matter and make your dreams come true.”

Wanda nodded. Of course, she trusted her grandfather, but...

“Grandpa, when you visit Mr. Sawyer tomorrow, can you be a little nicer? I don’t want to give Nicholas another reason to hate me.”

Seeing how careful his granddaughter was, Horace had a complicated expression in his eyes.

His granddaughter was really invested in Nicholas.

...

The next day, Horace went to the Sawyer Residence pretty early in the morning.

Remus was quite happy to see his good friend.

The two exchanged greetings, then went to the garden to play chess while they chatted.

As they did so, Horace turned the subject to Nicholas.

“I heard that Nicholas has this girl with him. Even though she’s overseas now, Nicholas claims that she’s his girlfriend. What is going on?”

Remus was stunned for a moment, but he wasn’t surprised at all. He had even foreseen the arrival of this day.

“Nicholas chose that girl of his own volition.”

He stopped hiding and explained briefly, “I never approved of this girl, but Nicholas insisted.”

Hearing that, Remus was very upset. He felt as if he had been cheated.

However, his granddaughter was so devoted to Nicholas, so he couldn’t say anything more. He could only probe as he asked, “Nicholas insisted, but are you really going to accept this girl who popped out from nowhere?”

Remus knew what his old friend was hinting at. He sighed in exasperation.

“This is no longer a matter I can intrude in.”

“You’re Nicholas’ grandfather; he shouldn’t be defying you.”

Horace’s tone was instantly filled with dissatisfaction.

Remus knew he wasn't making sense, but he ignored it and explained, "You don't understand Nicholas. He hates anyone meddling in his affairs. So, even as his grandfather, I cannot interfere in his relationships."

Horace frowned deeply, reluctant to give up.

Be it familial background or capability, Nicholas was deserving of his granddaughter. Most importantly, his granddaughter also loved this man.

Also, he had promised his granddaughter that he would make her dreams come true, so how could he leave just like that?

"So, you mean that the marriage between our families is now canceled?"

He looked at Remus, refusing to back off.

Remus sighed. "I know what you mean, but I've already tried it before. Also, that girl is pregnant now, so I can't just ask her to get rid of the child, can I? That child belongs to the Sawyer Family!"

Stunned, Horace fell silent as well.

This was way out of his expectations.

If it were so, then he could understand how his old friend felt.

But what about his granddaughter?

Meanwhile, ever since Wanda knew that her grandfather had gone to the Sawyer Residence, she was no longer in the mood for work.

In the end, she stayed behind at home and waited for her grandfather's return.

However, as the seconds ticked on, she felt even more anxious. She didn't know if Horace managed to convince Remus.

Later in the day, she saw her grandfather coming back, so she instantly got up from the couch and walked up to him in anticipation. “Grandpa, what did Mr. Sawyer say?”

Seeing his granddaughter’s expectant gaze, Horace suddenly didn’t know how to have the heart to tell her the truth.

He feared that it would break his granddaughter’s heart.

However, he still had to come clean.

“Remus couldn’t force Nicholas to do anything. Also, that girl Tessa is already pregnant with Nicholas’ child.”

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Chapter 875 Over Here!

He told Wanda the situation in detail.

The look in Wanda's eyes immediately darkened. There was a sullen air all around her.

Horace was heartbroken to see that, so he advised, "What if I look for another man for you? Nicholas isn't the only outstanding man in this world."

"No, none of them is Nicholas. I won't like them at all."

Wanda rejected without hesitation. "Also, I've already fallen for Nicholas' allure, so how could I fall for another?"

With that, she looked firmly at her grandfather. "As long as they aren't married, I'll still have a chance."

Hearing that, Horace frowned, disagreeing with the sentiment a little.

However, when he saw the persistent look in his granddaughter's eyes, he knew that no matter what he said, his granddaughter wouldn't listen. He had complicated emotions at that moment.

He never thought that his granddaughter would be so stubborn, but still...

His granddaughter truly deserved the best man in the world.

As for Nicholas, he originally held the man in high regard.

However, this man refused to consider his granddaughter, choosing to fall for a girl who meant nothing. Horace was very upset about that!

In terms of both family and capability, his granddaughter was so much better than Tessa!

Wanda didn't know what her grandfather was thinking.

At that moment, she gritted her teeth, jealousy raging in her heart.

Tessa actually got pregnant! How dare she!

Meanwhile, Nicholas also knew about Horace visiting Remus at the Sawyer Residence.

As for the reason for that visit, he didn't even have to guess.

However, he simply didn't want to deal with it.

Because no matter what they were plotting, Nicholas wanted no one aside from Tessa!

Also, no one could force him to comply!

While he was deep in thought, Edward knocked on the door and came in, reporting respectfully. "President Sawyer, President Reinhart is here."

A little taken aback, Nicholas nodded and told Edward to bring the visitor in.

A few minutes later, Timothy walked into the office, wearing a straight black suit.

He had gotten even more mature now, and he exuded elegance and nobility with every movement as if he were a noble from the past century.

Nicholas gazed at the young man, who was getting even more outstanding as days passed, a comforted look in the depths of his eyes.

In a way, he had witnessed Timothy's growth with his own eyes as well.

Also, Nicholas would also love the people close to Tessa, so a faint smile appeared on Nicholas' cold face as he asked, "What brings you here today?"

As he spoke, he invited Timothy to have a seat on the couch.

After Timothy sat down, he smiled and answered, "There's a recent partnership between my company and yours, and I also have something to talk to you about, so I came here myself."

Nicholas nodded. "So, do we talk about work first, or that other matter?"

"Work, please. We have to set clear boundaries between work and personal life, right?"

Timothy teased before he produced a folder.

Nicholas, of course, had no objections.

Hence, the two began to enter into business talks.

After about an hour, Nicholas lazily leaned against the couch and smiled as he said, "Now that official business is over, let's move on to personal matters, shall we?"

"About that, it's almost Christmas, and since my sister and Greg are both overseas, I've decided to go and spend Christmas with them. Would you like to come with me?"

Hearing Timothy's words, Nicholas frowned slightly. "Do you even have to ask? Of course I'm going."

Hence, at the end of the month, the two went to Vienna right away.

Outside the airport, Tessa had received the news early on, so she brought Gregory with her to fetch them.

The two stood at the VIP aisle and looked searchingly all around them.

Suddenly, Gregory waved his arms in excitement as he shouted, “Daddy! Uncle Tim! Over here!”

Tessa looked in the direction of his voice to see the two tall and handsome figures walking toward her. Her face immediately bloomed into a brilliant smile.

Especially when her gaze fell upon Nicholas, her long-suppressed longing for him began to wriggle out of control.

Nicholas also looked passionately at his wife, who was standing a short distance away. He hastened his footsteps.

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Chapter 876 I Am Still My Sister's Brother

He walked to Tessa and pulled her into his arms. "I'm here."

She nodded lightly and hugged Nicholas back.

Looking at the two people embracing each other, Timothy and Gregory stood quietly by the side.

At this moment, Timothy could understand his sister's excitement when she saw his brother-in-law.

To his relief, his sister's complexion was obviously much better than before.

When he saw that the two were not planning to let each other go after some time, he began to feel a little jealous.

He pretended to feel sorry for himself and said jokingly, "It's over now. Now that my sister has a husband, she doesn't care about her younger brother anymore. I've been standing here for so long, yet she didn't even spare me a glance."

Hearing this, Gregory couldn't help but snicker.

"Don't be sad, Uncle Timothy. Mommy and Daddy haven't seen each other for a long time. You have to understand them, and I'm still here with you."

He patted Timothy's arm lightly, comforting him in a soft voice.

At this time, Nicholas' slightly annoyed voice sounded. "Timothy, you are an independent adult. Don't be like a child and pester your sister at every turn."

“Nicholas, what you said is wrong. Even if I am an independent adult, I am still my sister’s brother,” Timothy retorted unhappily.

Seeing the two competing for her favor like children, Tessa felt amused in her heart.

They continued on like this as they chatted, laughed, and returned home.

Since they could rarely reunite, Tessa planned on cooking by herself.

However, Nicholas was worried that she’d be tired, so he asked the chef to assist Tessa and forbade the woman from touching the knives.

Not long after, Tessa prepared a table of dishes and called Nicholas and the others to the table.

The atmosphere in the room was very warm, and Nicholas served Tessa attentively. “You should eat more.”

He put several pieces of meat into her warm bowl.

Tessa gave him a sweet smile and urged, “You should eat quickly too; don’t keep looking after me.”

Nicholas nodded with a smile.

Meanwhile, Timothy took a piece of his favorite meat and narrowed his eyes in enjoyment while chewing on it. After a while, he couldn’t help but sigh. “As expected, the dishes made by my sister are the most delicious.”

“Of course. Mommy’s food is the best.”

Gregory nodded in agreement.

As she watched them eat happily, Tessa felt a sense of accomplishment and liked the feeling of being with her family.

After their meal, Timothy looked on as Tessa and Nicholas cuddled together. He felt that if he stayed, he would be blinded by their romance.

“Let’s go, Greg. I will take you out to play.”

With that, he took Gregory and left in a flash. Only Nicholas and Tessa were left alone in the living room.

Looking at the direction in which her brother disappeared, Tessa laughed a little.

Of course, she knew that her brother was leaving with Gregory on purpose so that she and Nicholas could be alone.

Nicholas also saw through Timothy’s intention, and there was a trace of satisfaction in his eyes.

He’s a good kid, and I made the right choice by pampering him.

He retracted his gaze and turned his head to look at his wife beside him. He smiled, and his eyes were filled with warmth immediately.

“It’s just the two of us now.”

For some reason, Tessa couldn’t help but blush when she heard his words.

Although she was a little shy, she still winked playfully. “We are the only ones left, so what do you want to do?”

Looking at his wife’s charming cheeks, Nicholas swallowed.

“I want to do this...”

While speaking, he stretched his hand out and pulled her into his arms. Then, he gripped her slender waist gently and lowered his head slowly.

Meanwhile, Tessa raised her head and gradually closed her eyes as the two kissed affectionately.

It was a long time before Nicholas let go of Tessa with much determination.

Tessa's face was attractive as she leaned against Nicholas weakly, and it took a while for the two to calm down.

Always Been Yours Chapter 877

Chapter 877 You Should Go Back

Nicholas pulled Tessa toward the sofa. “I haven’t had a chance to hold you yet. No one is bothering us now, so I can finally take a good look at you.”

Then, he held Tessa and made her sit on his lap.

Feeling the softness in his arms, he felt that his heart, which had been empty all this time, was instantly filled.

He gently stroked Tessa’s belly, and his expression was gentle.

“How are you and the child lately?”

“We’re fine.”

There was a happy smile in Tessa’s eyes, and she snuggled in Nicholas’ arms obediently.

Meanwhile, he nodded and continued to hold her quietly.

The sun shone in from the outside and onto the two of them, making the scene indescribably warm and beautiful just like an oil painting.

After a while, the two got tired of it.

Tessa turned around, gripped Nicholas’ neck affectionately, and asked, “How long will you be staying here this time?”

“I can spend time with you until the end of the New Year, and then I will stay for a while longer.”

Nicholas raised his eyes and looked back at Tessa with a very peaceful expression.

Tessa's eyes lit up at once. "There is still more than half a month until the New Year, so you can stay here during this time, right?"

She looked at Nicholas in delight.

Nicholas nodded lightly, tidied her hair scattered on her cheeks, and asked with a smile, "Are you happy?"

"Yes!" Tessa nodded vigorously.

This was her first time spending the New Year with Nicholas, and it was very meaningful to her.

However, she only felt thrilled for a moment before she became worried again. "Did your parents agree to you staying here for the New Year? Will they be unhappy?"

Seeing his wife's worried expression, Nicholas couldn't help but want to tease her.

"I want to accompany you here for the New Year. Whether they agree or not will not affect my decision."

Hearing this, Tessa was anxious.

Of course, she hoped Nicholas could accompany her for the New Year, but she didn't want to make his family unhappy because of her.

In the end, she reluctantly gave up the idea of celebrating the New Year with Nicholas and persuaded him, "You should go back to celebrate the New Year instead."

Nicholas couldn't help laughing when he saw that she was obviously very reluctant to part with him, but she pretended not to mind as she tried to persuade him.

Hearing the man's deep and pleasant laughter, Tessa turned her head to look at him, puzzled.

"Why are you laughing?"

"You dummy—I was just teasing you."

Nicholas hugged Tessa, his voice indescribably doting as he said, "Don't worry. I've already told my parents about it, and they don't mind."

Tessa was taken aback for a moment, and she immediately stared at him in annoyance.

"Gregory is right! You're too evil for teasing me about such things."

She angrily hammered his chest.

Meanwhile, Nicholas let her hit him while he continued to laugh.

The two laughed for a while before Nicholas hugged Tessa again. He rubbed her neck gently with his chin and said warmly, "This time, I want to accompany you and watch our child grow up slowly."

He had missed out once when Tessa was pregnant with Gregory, and this time, he didn't want to miss anything again.

Naturally, Tessa knew nothing of this.

As she listened to the man's words, she felt that her heart was blossoming with happiness.

"With you by my side, the baby will be very happy." She snuggled into Nicholas' arms and spoke softly.

When Nicholas heard this, his expression was extremely tender. “I will witness every moment of the baby’s growth with you.”

Tessa nodded lightly, feeling extremely joyful today.

...

The next day, Tessa got up early because she had to attend orchestra practice. After washing up, she and Nicholas went downstairs holding hands.

In the living room, Timothy and Gregory were already up.

“Good morning, Mommy and Daddy.”

When Gregory saw his parents, he greeted them in a soft voice.

Then, as if offering a treasure, he trotted to Tessa’s side and said excitedly, “Mommy, do you think my clothes look good? Uncle Timothy bought them for me.”

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Chapter 878 Don't Let People Carp You

Tessa's eyes filled with adoration at the sight of the little guy's delight, and she nodded while praising, "It does look cute, but I still think you're the cutest."

Hearing so, Gregory smiled even brighter.

At that, the family of four went to the dining room merrily.

Right after breakfast, Tessa got ready to take Gregory to the orchestra.

"I'll drive you and Gregory over," offered Nicholas as he took Tessa's violin case from her.

To that, Tessa smiled and accepted his offer.

Meanwhile, Timothy tagged along as he wanted to check out his dear sister's new orchestra.

Other than that, he also planned on following his brother-in-law to Sawyer Group's sub-company to deal with work after dropping Tessa off.

While they were on the road, Gregory recounted the interesting events he experienced in the orchestra with great enthusiasm, and cheerful laughter could be heard coming from inside the car every now and then.

They arrived at the orchestra in no time, but Tessa and Gregory unexpectedly ran into Sofia as soon as they got out of the car.

"Miss Sofia," Tessa and Gregory greeted.

Sofia nodded with a smile when she saw the two.

Then, she noticed the two men standing next to Tessa. She could tell they were certainly no average Joe and couldn't help asking, "These two gentlemen are..."

"This is my husband, and this is my brother," Tessa introduced at once, smiling blissfully.

While Tessa was introducing the two, Nicholas sized this new teacher up subtly before he went up and thanked her courteously, "Hello. Thank you for looking after Tessa and Gregory."

Sofia nodded subtly as she looked at the gentlemen in front of her, having a great impression of Nicholas in their first encounter.

"You're really good at picking out a husband for yourself." She turned her head to Tessa and praised, causing the other woman to smile bashfully. "He really is great."

Sofia nodded in agreement.

Seeing so, Timothy went up and greeted Sofia as well.

After a few exchanges of pleasantries, Tessa had Nicholas and Timothy head back while she and Gregory followed Sofia into the orchestra and began training for the day.

Time would always fly by when one got busy, and in the blink of an eye, the day had come to an end just like that.

Inside the practice room, Tessa was packing up and getting ready to leave after a day of practice when Sofia knocked on the door and entered.

"Miss Sofia," Gregory greeted at once.

Sofia nodded in reply before shifting her gaze to Tessa, who then asked, "Is there something I can help you with, Miss Sofia?"

“I have something to tell you.” Sofia nodded and proceeded to explain her purpose for coming. “It’s almost Christmas, and we’ll be having a Christmas concert. By then, all of Group Five and Group Six will attend the concert. I plan on officially introducing you during the event. What do you say?” she asked.

“I’m good with that.” Tessa nodded after listening, thinking it wasn’t a big deal. She then asked, “What piece do you think I should perform during the concert?”

At that, Sofia pondered for a moment. “Haven’t you been learning to compose with Simon? I think you can try performing your own piece.”

“My own piece?” Sofia’s suggestion stumped Tessa for a split second before she felt somewhat bashful. “I don’t have any pieces that are performance-worthy yet, and I’ll only be embarrassing myself.”

“Don’t underestimate yourself. Simon told me that you’ve made immense progress lately.” Sofia tried to comfort her beloved, insecure protégé. “Besides, this isn’t a formal concert. It’ll just be all of us from the orchestra. Also, don’t you want to see how far you’ve come?”

Tessa thought Sofia was right. It was just a concert among their own people anyway, and it was a good time to see how much she had progressed.

“Of course, even if it’s just a concert for ourselves, I still expect you to be at your very best,” said Sofia upon seeing that Tessa had come around. “Don’t let people carp at you. Got it?”

Always Been Yours Chapter 879

Chapter 879 It's Thanks to That B*tch She's Like This

“I got it.” Tessa nodded as the determination toward this challenge surged within her.

She would also like to find out how well she could do if she went all out after studying for so long.

Following that, Sofia gave Tessa a few more admonishes before letting the mother and son leave.

Outside, Nicholas had long been waiting by the street, and his model-looking appearance caught the attention of many passersby.

However, none dared to approach him due to the aloofness he exuded.

“Daddy!” Gregory waved his tiny hand merrily upon seeing his father.

Likewise, Tessa beamed when she saw the tall, handsome gentleman standing not far from her, and she couldn't help quickening her pace while taking Gregory with her.

“How were things at work today?” she asked during their journey home.

“Pretty good.” Nicholas briefly told her about the situation in the company and changed the topic. “How was practice today? Are you tired?”

“No.” Tessa shook her head. Then, she remembered about the upcoming concert and thought she should share it with Nicholas. “Miss Sofia hopes that I can compose a piece to perform during the concert. I might not be able to spend a lot of time with you for a while.”

“No worries. What matters is that you’re by my side.” Nicholas held her hand, unbothered by it. However, he had his concerns. “Will you be able to handle the stress? I mean, you have practice during the day, and now you have to work on your piece after going home.”

Tessa shook her head and said with a smile, “Don’t worry. I know what I’m doing.”

Simultaneously, Susan found out about the Christmas concert during the team meeting.

“Although this concert is just between us, I hope everyone can treat it seriously. After all, this would be Group Six’s first performance ever since its formation.”

While Kellen relayed his expectations for the concert in front of everyone, Susan’s thoughts had already drifted far away.

She thought this was a good opportunity for her to show herself and let the whole orchestra see what she was made of during the upcoming concert.

Though the notion was good, she did not forget her biggest problem at the moment.

She kept Sofia’s remark toward her in mind, so she had been adjusting her performance style lately. However, the results were less than promising, and it troubled her to no end.

“Perhaps I should find an instructor,” Susan mused as her brows locked into a tight furrow. “Who should I look for, though?”

Now, she was just an average musician. With no connections, it would be nearly impossible for her to ask a notable instructor to teach her or even receive their help.

Also, she now realized the advantages of being under Hathaway’s wings.

Susan was given ample opportunities due to the woman's connections, and she never had to worry about something like this.

Should I return to Hathaway?

Though it was inchoate, she overturned the thought at once.

Her new identity aside, the possibility of seeing Hathaway already posed itself to be a problem. More importantly, she didn't want that woman to know she was still alive.

That woman is so partial toward Tessa; if she finds out that I'm still alive, the other woman will learn about it too. How will I carry out my vengeance by then?!

That night, Rorion noticed Susan was in a foul mood as soon as she returned home.

"What's wrong, sugar? Why do you look so down? Has someone in the orchestra bullied you?"

"It's not that. I'm troubled by something else." Susan shook her head and slumped onto the couch irritably.

Seeing so, the man instantly went up to her. "What's troubling you? Why don't you tell me? Maybe I can help."

"I'm just an average musician now. I can't even get a good instructor without any connections."

Susan's tone grew exasperated at the mention of the topic, and she loathed Tessa even more so.

It was all thanks to that b*tch that she ended up in this situation.

Always Been Yours Chapter 880

Chapter 880 Birthday Party

“That’s it? I’ll find you one,” said Rorion, reflexively comforting his angry daughter.

“You? Who are you going to look for? Hathaway?” Susan looked skeptically at her father. He was a mere businessman, and he barely knew any musicians.

To that, Rorion nodded in affirmation. “That’s right, we’ll go to her. She knows so many notable maestros anyway. Since she can be of help, it’ll be a waste not to use her.”

“No way!” Susan rejected the idea at once. “I don’t want her to know that I’m still alive!”

“Relax, I won’t do anything you don’t want to. We’ll find a way to have you appear before her without blowing your cover,” Rorion cajoled his daughter, leading her to sway.

After all, why look far and wide when there was a shortcut right in front of her?

“What do you have in mind, Daddy?”

“My birthday is in two days, isn’t it? I’ll send your mom an invitation. Then, I’ll hire some musicians to perform at the party, and you can join them. We’ll let everyone see your outstanding performance. With how much your mother cherishes talent, she’ll definitely notice you.”

It was only then Susan remembered her father was indeed having his birthday party in two days, and her mood instantly lifted. After all, the plan did seem doable.

“What would I do without you, Daddy?”

Rorion held his birthday party in one of Vienna’s five-star hotels two days later.

Many guests had already arrived at the resplendent hall at this point, and everyone enjoyed themselves amidst the clinking of champagne flutes.

Meanwhile, Rorion had his gaze on the entrance as he entertained his guests, for Hathaway had yet to show up even though the party was about to begin.

Is this woman not going to show up? He furrowed his brows, displeased. If she’s not coming, I’d have planned all of this for nothing!

Just as he was wondering if he should contact Hathaway, someone came through the door—it was none other than the woman herself.

However, he frowned upon seeing the gaunt woman approaching his direction, for she was a totally different person from the ever noble and elegant woman in his memories.

Meanwhile, everyone who saw Hathaway was stumped by her presence.

“What is Hathaway doing here?”

“Strange, isn’t she at odds with Rorion? To think she’d attend his birthday party.”

“Say, don’t you guys think Hathaway’s condition lately is less-than-stellar?”

“She might still be dwelling on the loss of her daughter.”

Though all of them were whispering, many gossiped as well. Hathaway inadvertently caught a word or two, and when she heard someone mentioning Kathleen, her gaze dimmed while haunting sadness surged beneath her eyes.

But very quickly, she pulled herself together and walked up to Rorion.

“Happy birthday,” she said as she handed him a present.

She had come because she felt guilt-ridden, or at least she believed so. After all, she hadn’t done what a mother should have before Kathleen’s passing. On the contrary, Rorion did everything in his power for their girl, and it touched her. As such, she no longer felt much hatred for the man.

Rorion, on the other hand, didn’t embarrass her and accepted her gift.

Instead, it was the guests who were rendered flabbergasted as they all knew the former couple was like fire and water. They would surely start fighting after barely a few words, but now, it was rare to see the two behave this calmly.

Rorion and Hathaway naturally sensed the surrounding gazes, but they didn’t care, only going their separate ways after a nod.

The party officially began in a short while, and the emcee had Rorion come up to the stage to give a speech after livening up the atmosphere. “Thank you all for taking time off your busy schedule to come to my party. I’ve invited a few musicians to open the party with a performance, and I hope all of you will have a wonderful night.”