Chapter 891 A Big Challenge for Tessa

"I'm not aware of my mistakes. Could you please point it out for me?" Sofia was pleased with Tessa's humble attitude and pointed out each and every one of the mistakes that she had made during the performance.

"When you entered the second phrase, I remembered that it was a three-and-a-half-beat vibrato on your violin score. After that, it will transition into an allegro; however, at this point, your bow speed wasn't fast enough, resulting in a half-beat delay. Although it's not a big flaw, it is a silly mistake that professional musicians shouldn't make."

"I will practice more." Tessa nodded.

Following that, Sofia raised a few minor issues which would affect the overall feel of the music, and they were all noted down by Tessa.

By then, the concert was still ongoing. After the solo performances came to an end, it was followed by an impromptu performance. The emcee was warming up the crowd and asked them whom they'd love to see them perform together. It was no surprise that the crowd wanted Sofia's protegees to perform.

Tessa and her seniors had no complaints after knowing that they were asked to perform on stage. They then went backstage to get ready.

As Eunice looked at Tessa, who was ready to perform, she smiled. "Tessa, since this is your first time performing with us, do you feel nervous?" She couldn't help teasing this new junior of hers.

"Would you like to know how I really feel or the opposite of how I really feel?" Tessa blinked her eyes and asked.

"I want to know the opposite of how you feel," Eunice replied cheekily. The others smiled as they looked at them.

"Of course I'm nervous," Tessa replied.

Her answer was out of their expectation which surprised them.

"Tessa, are you that confident?"

"Suddenly, I'm looking forward to our performance." Hodgson looked at Tessa in awe. She really knows what she's doing.

"I'm anticipating it too. Good luck, Tessa. Let's see whether you can blend in with us."

Upon hearing that, Tessa smiled but didn't comment further. Since a few of them had been performing together for many years, they were well synchronized and could perform well together. However, Tessa was the recent new addition whom they didn't meet before the performance, let alone perform together. The upcoming performance was actually a big challenge for Tessa.

Very soon, they walked onto the stage after the emcee announced their names. The auditorium was filled with thunderous applause when they appeared. As Nicholas and Timothy looked at Tessa, who didn't seem inferior while she stood among talented musicians, they couldn't help but feel proud of her. Gregory, who looked up to her, clapped hard.

Soon, the performance started, but Tessa didn't play immediately. Instead, she stood aside while listening to the melody. The audience looked at her with admiration when they saw how calm she was. Sofia was especially impressed by her calmness, humility, and her ability to access her own abilities. If Tessa maintained such a disposition, she was on the right track to success and could possibly outdo her seniors. It was unknown to Tessa that she had scored extra points with Sofia because of the calmness that she exhibited on stage.

Just as they started playing the second phrase, Tessa finally started playing and joined in. As everyone held their breath and watched her intently, they realized that she was in perfect harmony with the group. It didn't look like it was her first time performing with them at all.

"Unbelievable. That's amazing."

"I'm impressed. She is so talented."

"Oh my, it's impressive that she could keep up with Marjorie and the other seniors."

At once, everyone was shocked at how Tessa, a newbie, could blend in seamlessly with a few of the maestros, as it wasn't easy at all. Sofia, who knew that Tessa had a vast repertoire, was pleasantly surprised as she had never thought that Tessa could improve by so much in such a short time frame and was able to keep up with the older members.

Chapter 892 Finalé

Marjorie and the others were in shock, let alone Sofia. It was totally out of their expectation that Tessa could really keep up with them without going off-key.

With this ability and talent, it was no wonder Sofia would make an exception to take Tessa in.

Within the audience, Susan looked at Tessa, who had grabbed everyone's attention with an extremely dull gaze. It was especially so when she heard the audience complimenting her. Dang! I hate her so darn much! Argh!

Initially, Susan joined Sofia Symphony to gain the team's respect and become a core member. But after Tessa's appearance, the reality was totally different from what she had imagined.

She turned into an insignificant side character, but Tessa was the subject of jealousy for everyone.

"Why? Why does this b*tch deserve that?" She was grinding her teeth, wanting to run up to the stage and kill Tessa right now, but in the end, she still calmed herself down

On the stage, the performance was still going on. Tessa was trying her best to cooperate with her seniors on the team.

When the piece ended, the venue was filled with thunderous applause.

Gregory clapped so hard that his hands were red. Likewise, Sofia was delighted with Tessa's performance.

When Tessa returned to her seat, Sofia complimented, "Great job! For the finalé later, I want you to perform with me."

Hearing that, Tessa was in shock. She didn't think that Miss Sofia would handpick her to perform together.

Surprised, she nodded nonstop. "Thank you, Miss Sofia. I'll definitely do my best."

When the members saw that, they teased Sofia on purpose. "I was just wondering why you didn't ask Tessa to join us during your finalé, so it turns out that you want to have a duet with her."

"Miss Sofia, are you biased toward the junior now?"

"Oh no! I'm not Miss Sofia's favorite anymore!" Kellen was the one who said this.

That funny upset action made everyone laugh.

As they were talking, the concert was coming to an end. It was time for Sofia and her students to perform.

When the audience saw them going onto the stage, they kept quiet immediately and were waiting for the performance.

Soon, a strong and majestic melody resonated around the hall. Sofia Symphony had the highest level of performance skills, after all, so the result of the performance was definitely extraordinary.

And with Sofia performing with six of her students beside her, it could be said to be a perfect auditory feast, leaving an endless aftertaste.

Tessa sat with the audience and felt passionate about listening to the piece.

Although Gregory had just started learning about music, his musical talent was extraordinary. He just felt that the piece that Sofia performed was the best music he had ever heard.

"Mommy, Miss Sofia is so good. I also want to be like her in the future." When the piece ended, Gregory set an ambitious target for himself excitedly.

When Tessa heard that, she nodded with affirmation. "I'll work hard with you."

As they were talking, the host came out once again, announcing the finalé of the concert.

When the audience heard that it was still Sofia performing with her student, the applause in the venue was so thunderous that it was going to rip the roof off.

Seeing Sofia perform once a year was already challenging, but they could see her perform twice tonight. How could they not be excited?

Soon later, Sofia went up onto the stage with Tessa. Their collaboration was absolutely perfect.

Tessa even felt an epiphany while they were performing together. When their performance ended, she was still immersed in the aftertaste and didn't feel like leaving the stage.

Despite that, the Christmas Gala still ended.

On their way home, Tessa and Gregory were still feeling the excitement. It was especially so for Gregory. "Mommy, you're so good tonight! Everyone is praising you!" he exclaimed happily.

Hearing that, Tessa smiled delightfully. "You'll become as good as me if you practice well."

On the other hand, Nicholas was watching their interaction affectionately while sitting on the side. Although he didn't say much, one could tell from his expression that he was proud of Tessa.

Timothy was also feeling happy for his sister, who was achieving her dream.

Chapter 893 Your Husband Really Loves You

Timothy returned to Brentwood right after Christmas, but Nicholas was still staying in Vienna to deal with some work.

Since it was the New Year, Sofia Symphony gave the members a few days off to let them have some rest.

At night, Tessa nestled in Nicholas' embrace and asked, "Can I invite Miss Sofia and my seniors over to have dinner tomorrow? I can introduce you to them too."

They didn't have time to greet the members after the concert because it was late. Hearing that, Nicholas lowered his head and stared at Tessa affectionately. "You're the hostess in this house. You can do whatever you want. I'll follow your decision."

"How can you be so nice?" She rubbed her face on his chest while feeling loved inside.

While looking at his wife's eyes, which became crescent moons from her smile, he was struck by them, and his expression became so soft, as though he could drown someone with that softness.

"Because you're my wife," he answered her with some sweet talking. "I wanted to thank Miss Sofia and the others for taking care of you throughout this period too."

. . .

The next day, Tessa invited Sofia and her seniors to her house for dinner, and of course, they agreed happily.

That night, Tessa told the chef at home what the guests liked. After marking down everything, the chef started preparing for the feast.

Sometime later, when Sofia and the others arrived, Tessa brought Nicholas and Gregory to the door to welcome them.

"Miss Sofia," Gregory looked at Sofia and greeted her passionately. Of course, he didn't forget to greet the others either.

When they heard his voice, all of them answered him with an affectionate smile.

After that, Tessa linked arms with Nicholas and went forward to greet them, "Welcome, Miss Sofia. Welcome, everyone."

Nicholas followed her to welcome the guests too.

When Sofia and the others saw the pair of lovebirds in front of them, their eyes were full of admiration.

It was especially so for the orchestra members. They were a little surprised.

Although they had met Nicholas at the concert previously, they just greeted each other in a rush at that time, so they didn't look closely. Now that they took a closer look, only then did they find out that their new member's husband had an extraordinary aura. He was definitely not an ordinary person.

However, Tessa didn't know what was on their mind. After some small talk, she smiled. "Dinner is not ready yet. Let's spend some time in the living hall."

The others had no problem with that, so all of them went to the living hall together.

When they sat down, Tessa and Gregory talked with Sofia and the other female members. On the other hand, Nicholas handled the male members.

Before this, Tessa was still a little worried that the whole occasion would be awkward since Nicholas was not close to the members. But her worry was unnecessary as he was having a good time with them.

Even when they talked about music, he could join in the conversation too, winning the hearts of almost everyone. While listening from the side, Tessa was quite surprised. I have no idea he knows a thing or two about music, but then again, he might have studied it for my sake. This thought warmed the cockles of her heart at once.

Likewise, Sofia noticed it too and teased Tessa with a smile, "Your husband really loves you." The other female members chimed in, teasing her too.

Hearing that, Tessa turned so shy that her face was blushing. "Stop it. Miss Sofia."

At this time, Gregory looked at her in confusion. "Mommy, why are your cheeks so red?"

The next second, the living hall was filled with joyous laughter.

After some time, Sebastian came over to make a report. "Master Nicholas, Madam Tessa, dinner is ready."

Nicholas nodded and held Tessa's hand before standing up and saying, "Let's go to the dining hall."

Hearing that, Sofia and the others nodded and followed the two of them.

When they sat down at the dining table, they found that most of the dishes on the table were the dishes that they liked. From that, they became even more attracted to this little junior of theirs.

"Thank you." Sofia looked at Tessa with satisfaction.

Tessa replied to her with a smile and asked everyone to start digging in.

Chapter 894 Flirtatious Eunice

Throughout the dinner, everybody was chit-chatting and smiling. The atmosphere was very harmonious.

Eunice's attention was on Nicholas all the while. She was staring at him with her sparkling eyes. In fact, when she first entered the manor, she was already attracted by his mysterious and lofty aura.

After having a sip of wine, she said in a delicate tone, "May I know what Mr. Sawyer does for a living?"

"Just a small business," Nicholas answered calmly while putting the fish that he had deboned onto Tessa's plate.

When Eunice saw his gentle act, her eyes sparkled even brighter. It was obvious that she was ignoring her little junior.

With her chin propped on her hand, she put on a seductive smile and said, "Mr. Sawyer is so humble. I suppose a young talent like you must have a successful business. After all, not everyone can afford to live in houses around this area." As she said that, she stared Nicholas straight in the eyes.

She was already beautiful, but now she was purposely displaying the unique charm of a mature woman, which was voluptuous and seductive.

Also, she believed in her taste very much and had a lot of confidence in her own charm since she had always been the focus of men. Previously, when she showed a little interest in them, they would take the bait immediately.

At this moment, Tessa and the others realized Eunice's change in attitude as well, and their faces darkened at once.

It was especially so for Tessa. Her impression of Eunice worsened instantly, making her uncomfortable with her actions.

Of course, Nicholas knew what was on Eunice's mind, so he chose not to look at her.

"I just got lucky." He gave a humble answer, but his tone was cold and distant, with a little unhappiness.

Sofia observed Nicholas' reaction and nodded secretly. She felt that this man was not bad, being so loyal to Tessa.

Then, her gaze landed on Eunice, and she was filled with dissatisfaction. She knew about Eunice's behavior of wanting to own everything she liked.

Sofia hadn't said anything previously because she thought that Eunice knew what she was doing. But now, Eunice was making her furious.

At this thought, she kicked her under the table and warned her to stay quiet with her gaze.

When Eunice received Sofia's warning, she pouted unhappily. Luckily, she restrained a little and took up the wine glass to apologize to Nicholas. "Sorry. That's rude of me."

Although that was what she said, there was still seduction in her gaze. She just did it secretly this time, not letting the others notice it.

When the others saw Eunice apologize, they heaved a sigh of relief. They were terrified that she would be a party popper and ruin the dinner.

On the other hand, Tessa's face wasn't as tense either, but only Nicholas still had his icy face on. He even ignored Eunice's apology.

At this moment, he was disgusted by this woman. There's something about her. I can tell that she has way more tricks up her sleeves.

Eunice looked at the man who was not planning to bother her and didn't mind him either. She shrugged her shoulders and finished the wine in her glass.

Throughout this episode, probably only Gregory didn't know what was going on. He just kept looking left and right adorably.

After dinner, they returned to the living hall to have tea, and Tessa was making tea for the guests personally. When the tea leaves were soaked in hot water, a unique aroma filled the air at once.

"This smells great!" Surprised, Sofia looked at the teacup in Tessa's hand. "What tea did you make? How can it smell so nice? It smells different from the tea that I made last time."

"This is the premium Earl Gray Citrus Black Tea. It's tough to find on the market. Try it out, Miss Sofia." As Tessa said that, she poured a cup of tea for Sofia.

Of course, she didn't forget about her seniors.

When Sofia drank the refreshing tea, her eyes sparked at once. "Such a delicate tea! It's really citrusy and creamy. There's a faint aftertaste too."

She then put her tea cup down, indicating for Tessa to refill it. It was obvious that she liked this tea very much.

Nicholas noticed that as well, so he called Sebastian over. "Pack all the premium teas at home into a few packets and give them to the guests when they leave."

Chapter 895 My Wife Decorated It

The second half of the sentence was meant for Sofia and the other members.

Satisfied by the gift, Sofia smiled and said, "Thank you."

The others thanked Nicholas too. In their hearts, their impression of Tessa and Nicholas grew even better.

After that, Tessa made other premium teas that she had for them and introduced them one by one. The atmosphere was very harmonious, but without Eunice in the picture.

Other than the violin, she wasn't interested in other elegant things. So, she didn't involve herself in the conversation and was wandering around in the living hall.

Soon later, she was attracted to a painting hanging on the wall. Her instinct told her that this painting was probably extravagant.

When Tessa came out of the washroom, she saw Eunice standing alone in front of the painting. Since she was the host here, she went over to her and took the initiative to introduce it to her. "This is the signature piece of the famous British painter John Constable's pastoral landscape painting, 'The Hay Wain'. It depicts the scene in Flatford, where Constable was born in. Most of the parts in this painting are covered by the sky, showing the calm rural scene."

"I know this is John Constable's painting." Eunice glanced at Tessa as though she was saying that Tessa was a busybody.

After that, she ignored Tessa and turned to another painting.

Tessa looked at Eunice's graceful figure from the back and frowned a little.

On the other hand, Eunice was walking in front. Other than the paintings on the wall, she showed an interest in the decorations around the hall as well. She felt that they were classy to the max.

Inadvertently, her gaze landed on a graceful man sitting on the couch. It seemed like something had come across her mind all of a sudden. She put on a flirty smile and walked toward him.

"Mr. Sawyer, I looked around the living hall just now and found out that the decorations are very nice. I really like all of the ornaments. Did you pick them out yourself?" As she said that, she leaned against the back of the couch as though she was boneless. Then, she flipped her hair and looked at Nicholas amorously, obviously showing her intention.

When Nicholas noticed that, his face darkened at once. "My wife decorated it." He emphasized the word 'wife'.

Eunice heard it too, and the smile on her face nearly collapsed. This was the first time she felt embarrassed by a man. However, her interest in him grew even deeper.

At this moment, Sofia and the other members looked at the difficult expression of the married couple and understood that they couldn't stay there any longer. Otherwise, no one knew what outlandish question Eunice would ask next.

"Tessa, it's already getting dark. I think we should leave now." Sofia suggested leaving, and the other members agreed as well.

Tessa wasn't in the mood to host them anymore either, so she agreed too. Since there was someone coveting her husband, no matter how good-tempered she was, there was still a bottom line. On the way back, Sofia's expression didn't look too good. She looked at Eunice in a fury and asked, "What's going on with you today? Don't you know that he's Tessa's husband? How are you going to spend time with her in the orchestra after making things so awkward?"

"I'm just joking. I think Tessa can take a little joke." Eunice pouted and didn't think it was anything serious.

When she said that, Sofia's brows knitted. The other members showed expressions of disapproval too.

"Don't you think your joke is a little over?" Kellen took Tessa's side. Since his age was similar to Tessa's, he had the most interaction with her. That was why their relationship was much closer than the others.

Jenny and Daniela nodded and echoed with Kellen, uttering, "Even the fox preys farthest from its hole, Eunice. No matter how you play outside, just don't touch people near you. It's no good, and Tessa is already married to Mr. Sawyer. No matter how playful you are, you should have a bottom line too."

Hearing the advice from the members, Eunice felt annoyed almost instantly.

Chapter 896 Why Must You Be So Good-Looking?

"Since when do I need all of you juniors to teach me what to do?"

Kellen and Jenny were getting furious, looking at Eunice, who still hadn't admitted to her mistake

Seeing that, Marjorie came forward and said unhappily, "Okay, they're not in the place to say anything, but I am, right? I don't care what you have on your mind. Just behave yourself in the future. Don't put Miss Sofia in a difficult position."

Eunice's expression was disgruntled. However, she didn't dare rebuke the eldest senior on the team, so she suppressed her anger and answered, "Okay, okay. I know what I'm doing. I don't need y'all to come here and teach me what to do."

When the others noticed her reaction, they shook their heads secretly.

They had been working together for so many years, after all, so they knew exactly what kind of person Eunice was. It was obvious that she didn't listen to anything they said.

Sofia noticed that too. She gave up on advising her and warned, "I don't care whether you're joking or not. Don't use whatever antics you have saved up on our members. Otherwise, don't blame me for the consequences."

The smart Eunice could hear that Sofia was really enraged, so she pocketed her bad temper immediately. "Don't worry, Miss Sofia. I'm really just joking. I just wanted to help Tessa to test whether her husband could be trusted."

Although that was what she said, she was still eyeing Nicholas deep down. She wanted to own such an outstanding man as well.

In the manor, Tessa's brows knitted as soon as she sent the guests off.

Flirting twice with Nicholas? Eunice definitely has a deep interest in him. She felt disgusted at this thought.

Likewise, Nicholas' expression was awful as well; his face was completely darkened. He pulled Tessa back into the living hall and embraced her before saying, "Stay away from that woman."

Hearing that, Tessa hummed and twisted herself out of his embrace.

She then lifted her head and looked at his good-looking face. Suddenly, she felt unhappy. "Why must you be so good-looking? This face attracts all the women. There are still women eyeing you even after we got married," she said in jealousy while reaching out her hand to pinch his cheeks.

When Nicholas saw her reaction, he didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He let her pinch his face and found his jealous wife really adorable.

When Tessa stopped, only then did he embrace her again and lower his head to have his face near hers. "You got one thing wrong. I don't care about other women. I just want to attract you..."

Tessa felt loved and blessed after hearing what he said. She then stared at his affectionate eyes and gave him a kiss.

. . .

The next morning, when the family was having breakfast, Nicholas told Tessa, all of a sudden, "You should go pack up after breakfast."

"Pack up? Are you leaving?" Tessa was a little stunned and felt the sadness rising from the bottom of her heart

Gregory looked at Nicholas sadly too, "Daddy, can you stay for two more days? I don't want you to go."

When Nicholas realized that they had misunderstood, he laughed and explained, "I'm not going back. It's a holiday. I just want to take you two out for a trip."

Hearing that, Gregory dropped his disappointment and said excitedly, "Yeah! Daddy's bringing us out to play!"

Likewise, Tessa heaved a sigh of relief as well. Then, she asked, "Where do you plan to take us?"

"What about Milan?"

"I like that." She smiled and nodded. "Oh, ya! I heard the orchestra members saying that it's fashion week in Milan these few days. We can go take a look when we're there."

Nicholas agreed happily when he looked at her eyes, sparkling with excitement.

With that, the family left for the airport after breakfast. Before they left, Nicholas had asked Edward to arrange the schedule.

Soon later, they arrived in Milan that afternoon. Nicholas brought Tessa and Gregory to start their trip officially after a full night's rest.

Their first stop was the Palazzo Brera. It was an art gallery built in the year 1776 with a collection of paintings by many Italian painters, including the masterpieces of Raphael, Tintoretto, Verona, and Caravaggio.

Chapter 897 Milan Trip

"These paintings are so beautiful, Mommy." Gregory happily tugged Tessa and shared his thoughts with her softly.

Tessa gained a lot from looking at the paintings too, since these masterpieces could always give the best inspiration to people.

On the other hand, Nicholas stayed beside the both of them quietly while protecting Tessa from bumping into other tourists.

After they finished looking around in the Palazzo Brera, it was already around noon.

Nicholas then brought Tessa and Gregory to a local specialty restaurant in Milan, and the family had a good lunch together.

It was most probably because the local dishes here matched Gregory's taste. His stomach was turning round after eating.

"Mommy, I'm so full." He looked at Tessa pitifully.

Looking at him, she didn't know whether to be angry or laugh. "I asked you not to finish it if you can't. Look, you're too full now." Although she said that, she still reached out her hand to rub the little guy's tummy.

Nicholas was laughing too. He asked the waiter to help them buy a box of digestive pills for the child.

In the afternoon, after resting for a while, they went to the next tourist spot—Milan Cathedral. It was located in the city's main plaza, with countless tourists visiting it every day. There were also a lot of doves at the plaza.

"Mommy, look! Dove!" Gregory pointed at the space in the plaza and shouted excitedly.

Tessa could see his desire through his eyes, so she said with a smile, "Should we go feed them?"

"Yes! Yes!" The little guy was so excited that he started clapping.

On the other hand, Nicholas followed behind them affectionately.

Listening to their joyous laughter, he felt as though he was infected by them, and a mere smile tugged at the corners of his mouth.

His smile, along with his good-looking features, caught the eyeballs of the tourists around him.

Of course, he noticed the gazes from all around him as well, but he was not bothered by them. He took out his phone and took several photos of Tessa and Gregory having fun.

For the next two days, the three of them visited all the famous tourist spots around Milan. Gregory had a lot of fun, and Tess also felt that days like these were blissful

After two days of traveling around, Nicholas brought Tessa to a private clubhouse in the afternoon.

In the private room, there was a good-looking man and a pretty woman seated at the table. They had the unique Milanese look and were dressed up extraordinarily, showing off their gentle and elegant aura. "Long time no see, Nicholas." When the man saw Nicholas, he went up and hugged Nicholas passionately.

Noticing that, Tessa stood aside virtuously.

After he hugged Nicholas, he noticed Tessa, who was standing at the side. "Is this your girlfriend? She's really beautiful."

"She's my wife, Tessa." Nicholas pulled Tessa into his arms and introduced the man to Tessa, "This is Warner, the founder of the internationally famous clothing brand, H&G."

Elegantly, Tessa nodded and greeted him. "Nice to meet you, Mr. Warner."

"Nice to meet you too," Warner answered with a nod and held his wife, introducing her. "This is my wife, Linville."

"Nice to meet you, Miss Tessa," Linville took the initiative to greet Tessa.

Tessa replied to her with a nod too.

After getting to know each other, the four of them talked while having lunch together.

Warner and Nicholas were talking about work while Linville and Tessa were chatting. The atmosphere in the room was very harmonious.

After Nicholas had finished talking about business, he suddenly remembered that he had promised Tessa to bring her to see the fashion show before this. So, he asked Warner, with a smile, "There's a fashion week in Milan these days. Your company is in charge of it, right?"

"Ya, we're in charge." Warner nodded and asked, "Why? You want to join the show?"

"My wife is interested in the fashion show, so I just wanted to ask you for some tickets."

"Oh, the ticket. It's just a small matter. I'll arrange it for you." Warner agreed right away.

When Linville heard that, she nodded and said in a friendly tone, "I'll bring you two in, so you can sit beside me during the show. My seat is the best place to see the whole show." She was really not joking.

Chapter 898 New Friend

Linville was a power icon in the fashion industry, and she was also the editor-in-chief of an international fashion magazine.

When Tessa heard that, she thanked her gratefully. "Thank you so much."

"You're welcome." Linville had a good impression of Tessa. She felt like spending time with this gentle girl was really comfortable, so she treated her as a friend.

Also, she didn't know why, but she had a feeling that she had met this girl somewhere before. But she just couldn't figure it out on the spot, so she couldn't help but ask, "Miss Tessa, have we met before?"

"I don't think so. This is my first time in Milan." Tessa looked at Linville in confusion.

Hearing her answer, Linville knitted her brows. "Did I remember it wrongly? But you give me a very familiar feeling."

When Nicholas heard that, something came to his mind, and he explained, "I think you might have seen my wife's performance or her interview in magazines. She's a violinist."

Linville was stunned for a moment and remembered immediately. She looked at Tessa in surprise and shouted, "You're the Virtuoso!"

Tessa was embarrassed by that title and quickly said humbly, "That's just the media's gimmick. I'm not that good."

"You're too humble. I've seen your performance footage. They're really brilliant!"

Linville gave Tessa a thumbs up and sighed. "If I knew you were the Virtuoso, I wouldn't have invited other guests to perform in the show. I could've just invited you. Your musical style matches exactly with our concept this time. Such a pity."

Since H&G always had a classical theme, the classic concept was the main theme of this time's fashion week too.

Hearing that, Tessa said with a smile, "It's okay. I can be your performance guest next time when we have the chance."

Everyone had a good time throughout the meal.

When they were leaving, Tessa even exchanged contact numbers with Linville.

Maybe it was because Tessa got to know a new friend. On their way back, the smile on her face hadn't dropped at all.

When Nicholas saw that, he pulled her into his arms and lowered his head before saying softly, "You're that happy?"

"Of course. I made a new friend today." She nodded with a smile.

His eyes were full of affection, and it was due to his wife's jolly mood.

That night, when the family was having dinner in their room, a knock resonated from outside the door.

"Hello. Is this Miss Tessa Reinhart?" A young man looking like a butler was standing at the door in a black suit.

Tessa was stunned for a moment before she nodded and asked, "You are..."

"Greetings. Madam Linville is in the middle of something, so she sent me here to give this dress to you," he explained and gave her the dress.

Hearing that, Tessa was a little surprised, but she still accepted the dress since Linville had specially prepared it for her.

She then closed the door and brought the dress back into the room.

When Nicholas saw the gift box in her hands, he took it for her immediately. "There are so many things. Why didn't you ask me to help you?"

Gregory, on the side, also went to Tessa with a curious look. "Did you buy presents for me, Mommy?"

"It's not a present." Tessa rubbed the little guy's black and soft hair and explained, "These are dresses sent by Miss Linville for tomorrow's fashion show."

As she was talking, she opened the gift box and found out that Linville was really thoughtful. Inside the box was not only her outfit but also Nicholas' and Gregory's. On top of that, there was a pair of exquisite flats coming together with her dress. It was obvious that Linville took Tessa's pregnancy into account.

"Miss Linville is a wonderful person. She's so thoughtful," she exclaimed while looking at the three dresses on the bed, which looked like matching outfits.

Nicholas went up to her and had his arms wrapped around her waist before saying with a smile, "Don't worry about it. We can thank her later."

"Right." Tessa nodded.

. . .

The next afternoon, Linville and Warner went to the hotel to pick Tessa and the two boys up to the fashion show venue.

Chapter 899 Fashion Show

Looking at the three of them coming out of the hotel, Linville felt it was a feast for the eyes.

Although Nicholas was still in a black suit, as usual, there was some difference from the usual ones he wore on the details.

There were dark embroideries on the collar and sleeves of the suit, making him look noble and mysterious. The suit, along with his extraordinary aura, attached the attention of everyone around.

Gregory was in a little suit as well, and the pattern was quite similar to Nicholas', but the style was completely different. It had the playfulness of a child in it.

On the other hand, Tessa was in a puffy, see-through purple dress. She had one arm linked with Nicholas and the other hand holding Gregory. Unsure whether it was because she was pregnant, but her aura at this moment had turned more elegant and gentler than before.

"When I saw this dress, my first thought was that it'll suit you well. It seems like what I thought was right," Linville complimented Tessa with a smile while studying her attire from head to toe.

Tessa was getting a little shy from the compliment, but Gregory said with a proud face, "My mommy is the most beautiful mommy in the whole world."

The next second, everyone was laughing at his comment. As they were chatting, they took the car and headed to the venue of the fashion show.

As expected from a well-known event, the place was vivacious and crowded, with many celebrities walking on the red carpet.

Tessa just took a look and kept her glance right away since she wasn't interested at all. Then, she followed Linville and Warner into the venue through the VIP channel. The venue was already all set up and decorated.

The runway was uniquely decorated with an aisle of oil paintings, and the seats were arranged beside the aisle. The elements' collision between the bold oil paintings and the classical decorations made the whole venue look posh and brought a whole new visual experience to the guests.

Linville brought Tessa and the others to sit in the front row. In fact, Nicholas and Warner didn't have much interest in this fashion show, so they started talking about business as soon as they sat down.

On the other hand, Linville introduced the fashion show to Tessa in detail, explaining, "The main design concept of the clothes in this show today is color blocking, combined with many classy elements. This will definitely be an astonishing show."

Hearing that, Tessa nodded and looked around the venue. Almost immediately, she was attracted to the oil paintings in the oil painting aisle.

"The oil paintings on the wall are very detailed and bold. Are they by famous painters?" she tilted her head and asked Linville.

With a nod, Linville answered, "Yes. To fit the show's concept, we've specially invited a few famous oil painting masters to create the paintings together. The paintings are a big highlight of today's show too."

"Luckily, I'm here for today's show." Tessa planned to look at the paintings in the oil painting aisle after the show.

As they were talking, people started to enter the venue as well.

Since Linville was a senior in the fashion industry, many people came to greet her. But, of course, they didn't leave Tessa out, either.

Although Tessa was not a familiar face to them, they thought that she was definitely an extraordinary woman to be able to sit beside Linville.

At the same time, Tessa reacted gracefully to their greetings too.

Meanwhile, Gregory was sitting beside her obediently.

There were many reporters at the venue as well, and they were taking all sorts of photos. It was obvious that they wouldn't miss Linville, who was a star in the fashion industry.

Linville didn't mind having her photos taken, either. She sat closer to Tessa and introduced her to the guests sitting opposite them. "That person is the fashion director of VOGUE. Their main focus is on modern fashion elements..."

Hearing her introduction, Tessa nodded and asked her questions about the fashion elements of designing. Although she didn't study fashion design, there were no boundaries in artistic expression after all. She also found out that there were beautiful stories behind each fashion element concept, which touched her a lot.

Both of them were having a deep conversation, but that scene surprised many people since Linville gave people a chic and stern image previously. This was the first time they saw her being so friendly with a person. At that moment, many of them were curious about who Tessa was.

Soon, it was time for the opening of the fashion show.

Chapter 900 Phoenix Flame

"Welcome to H&G's annual fashion show! I believe all of you can tell the concept of this year's show from the decorations around you..." the host stood on the stage and explained this year's fashion show concept in a humorous tone.

With that, the audience was not bored, but they were anticipating the show.

"I hereby announce that the show has begun." As soon as the host said that, the venue was filled with thunderous applause and melodious music.

Almost immediately, the first model walked elegantly onto the runway in an exquisite dress.

That was an airy blue off-shoulder long dress with a bold lace pattern. No other color could replace the tenderness of airy blue. The most special part of this dress was the thin, airy blue bowknot on the neck, making the model look like a sweet little princess.

When the silver light shone on the model, it was as though a halo was covering the dress. It was so beautiful that there were no words to describe it.

At this moment, the host's deep voice resonated in the venue once again, explaining the design concept of this dress.

Everyone in the venue was admiring the dress in silence.

Tessa was drawn into the dress as well, since no woman in this world could resist the charm of a pretty dress.

Throughout the whole show, it was unsurprisingly that all the designs were unique and astonishing.

The media were busy taking photos of the models on stage, afraid that they would leave a detail behind. There were discussions starting to rise around the venue as well.

Just then, Gregory tugged on Tessa's hand and told her softly, "Mommy, these dresses are all so beautiful."

"Yes. They're gorgeous." Tessa nodded in acknowledgment, but her eyes were fixed on the models.

Gregory noticed his mommy liked the dresses, so he stuck his body out and asked, "Miss. Linville, are these dresses for sale? I want to use my pocket money to buy one for Mommy."

When Linville heard that, she was stunned for a moment and couldn't help but laugh. "Aww, Gregory. How much pocket money do you have? Tell me. I'll see if I can buy one for you."

"I have a lot, a lot of pocket money. I can definitely buy it." He used both of his hands to make a gesture showing 'a lot '.

Tessa looked at this sensible and good boy and felt a warmth in her heart. "Greg is so nice, but I don't need these dresses now."

She hugged him on the shoulder and said gently, "Let's continue with the show."

The pieces were getting classier and exquisite.

However, from the pieces, Tessa felt that there should be backstories for them. Subsequently, the host's introduction proved her instinct.

Suddenly, she was growing curious about the designer of these pieces. She wanted to know which genius could integrate mythologies into clothes.

"Miss Linville, may I know who's the designer of this show?"

"This is our company's designer, Tabitha's, designs. She's very famous in the fashion industry nowadays," Linville briefly told her the profile of the designer.

Hearing that, Tessa said in realization, "Oh, it's her! No wonder all of the pieces are excellent."

She knew about Tabitha, the genius designer in the fashion industry. Every piece that she designed was unique, and the tickets for her fashion shows were always hard to get.

The time passed really quickly, and it was time for the final dress.

With a piece of uplifting classical music, a slender model stepped onto the runway in a red and gold dress.

Under the stage light, the embroidery of the wings on the dress looked real. On top of that, the hemline on the floor displayed its elegance and classiness. This caught the eyeballs of the audience at once.

The media personnels were pointing their cameras at the model and snapping photos like crazy too.

At this moment, the host started introducing the dress, "This is the last piece of the show and also Tabitha's proudest piece, 'Phoenix Flame'. It has the meaning of reborn..."

Below the stage, Linville was telling Tessa some stories about the details that the host didn't know. "This is the only piece in the whole world. It took half a year to make this dress.

Tabitha even visited Xerthania and stayed there for a few months for it. I heard that she researched the mythology of Xerthania. Take a look at the hemline. It was designed based on the phoenix in Xerthania's mythology."