

Always Been Yours Chapter 116

Chapter 116 Picky

It had been days since they met, and since he was here, she could take the chance to talk to him. However, it was already midnight before she knew it, and it was already late night when they were done with the discussion. Tessa couldn't hold it and had already fallen asleep on the couch.

"Why is Tessa sleeping here? She's going to catch a cold." Timothy frowned when he saw his sister on the couch.

He was about to wake her up and tell her to go to the bedroom, but Nicholas stopped him. "Don't wake her up."

Tessa looked at him curiously. "But we can't let her sleep here."

"I'll do it." Nicholas picked her up before Timothy could react.

Tessa didn't notice it, and she even huddled closer to him so she could be more comfortable. A smile curled Nicholas' lips, and he took her to the bedroom.

Timothy looked at them in surprise. He didn't know what he should do, though he thought they were being a little too intimate.

Tessa didn't even wake up when Nicholas put her on the bed. Instead, she slept soundly, and when she woke up the next day, she realized that she was in her room, much to her surprise. When did I fall asleep? How did I get back anyway? She turned around and saw a lump on her bed. It was Gregory, and he was wearing his cow-patterned pajamas. For some reason, he was on her bed, and she was amused by that. Tessa woke him up. "When did you come here, Greg?"

Gregory rubbed his eyes groggily. "Morning, Miss Tessa. I had a nightmare earlier and it scared me, so I came to your room. You were sleeping, and I didn't want to wake you up."

Goddammit. Why did I have to sleep so soundly? I didn't even notice that. She picked him up lovingly. "It's alright, Greg. If you have a nightmare next time, come to me and wake me up. I'll beat those monsters with you."

Gregory smiled happily and rubbed his head against her shoulder. "Thank you, Miss Tessa. You're the best."

"We should get up now and have breakfast."

Gregory nodded quietly and asked Tessa to wash his face and change his clothes for him. That used to be Nicholas' job, but it became hers ever since she arrived. Nicholas turned a blind eye to that, and he said nothing.

"Are you up, sis?" Timothy knocked on the door.

"Yes. Come in," Tessa said.

Gregory smiled politely at Timothy. "Hi, Mr. Timothy."

Timothy smiled at him as well, but when he realized how skilful Tessa was at changing Gregory's clothes, he started having doubts. Tessa is being a bit too close to them. They look like a family. He wanted to know what was going on, but in the end, he chose to keep that question to himself, since he didn't know how he should even bring it up.

The three of them went down after Gregory was dressed.

Nicholas was already up, and Kieran was sitting beside him. Two different but incredibly handsome men appearing right before Tessa in the morning was an impactful event for her. She panicked a little before she greeted them. "Good morning, Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Kieran."

Timothy greeted them as well. "Good morning, Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Kieran."

Nicholas said, "Everyone's here. Let's have breakfast."

They went to the dining room, and breakfast was typical. Gregory drank his milk, chewed on his toast, and had a bite of eggs. However, when he saw the bacon, he frowned and gave them to Tessa. "I don't like this, Miss Tessa. You can have them."

Chapter 117 Mixed Feelings

Tessa stared at the bacon on her plate. But I don't like bacon either. Hm, Nicholas doesn't seem to hate it. It's his son's bacon, so I guess he can eat it, right? So, she put the bacon on Nicholas' plate.

Kieran could not believe what he was seeing. Nicholas is a particular guy. He never eats anything that's been touched by someone else, and he hates it when women try to get close to him. "Hey, don't—" He was about to tell Tessa not to do it, but before he could finish his sentence, Nicholas ate the bacon without even complaining, much to his horror. Did an alien abduct him and replace him with another guy?

Timothy had mixed feelings about it. Before this, his sister would give what she didn't want to eat to him, but now, she was giving them to someone else. They're weird. Kieran and Timothy looked confused, and they lost a little appetite.

The men were about to go to work after breakfast, but before they left, Timothy held Tessa's arm. "Take care of yourself, sis. I'll see you later."

Tessa nodded. "Sure. Don't be nervous, Tim. You're a brilliant man. You can do it."

"Okay." They smiled at each other.

Since the Reinhart siblings were having a little chat, Kieran took Nicholas to a corner and whispered, "What is going on, Nick? I thought you were going to chase her out after you confirmed your relationship with her? What's with you acting so close to her?"

Nicholas pursed his lips. "Just shut up. I know what I'm doing, so stay out of this."

Kieran said, "But I'm curious. What do you want from her? You keep her around, and you let Gregory get along with her. Aren't you worried she might get attached?"

Nicholas paused, and he had a pensive look in his eyes, but he didn't answer. He did think about that, but he didn't delve too deep into it. He loved to let things unfold naturally, though he wouldn't tell Kieran about that, so he just said, "Shut it."

Kieran muttered under his breath, Man, I can't talk to this guy.

The men left a while later.

Since Tessa was packing up, Gregory followed her around. "Are you going out to practise, Miss Tessa?"

Tessa nodded. "Yes."

"Can you take me along then? I don't want to stay at home alone. It's boring."

Gregory was giving her the puppy pout, and Tessa's heart melted. I can't say no to that. He looks like Puss in Shrek 2. "Then you have to promise me you won't run around."

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Tessa and Gregory reached the orchestra at nine o'clock, sharp.

Her colleagues were very interested in Gregory, and they asked, "Hey, where did this boy come from? God, he's cute. Tessa, did you pop a child out overnight? Are you a god or something?"

"He's so adorable. I want to take him home."

"Alright, enough." Tessa chased them away in amusement. "You guys are scaring him."

They left in laughter, and they didn't realize that the boy was the Sawyers' young master. Only Trevor did, and he was shocked. "Why did you bring the little Prince here?"

Chapter 118 Crisis

Tessa smiled. "He wanted to follow me and I couldn't say no, but I promise he won't disturb us."

Trevor looked at the boy who was hugging Tessa tightly, and he had mixed feelings about it. Tessa's really lucky the boy likes her so much. He couldn't chase the boy away, so he agreed. "I see. I'll get someone to look after him. You go and practise."

Tessa was surprised that Trevor wasn't angry, and she heaved a sigh of relief. Then, she quickly took Gregory to one of the crew members. "Keep an eye on the boy." Before she left, she told Gregory, "Don't run around. I'll come back during my break time."

Gregory nodded.

At the same time, a few men in black skulked around the center's entrance and stared inside. One of the men was on the phone. "The Sawyers' young master is in the Heavenly Chorus Orchestra. There are no bodyguards."

The man on the other side said, "Take him to me. I want him alive."

Gregory was still blissfully unaware about the impending danger, and he waited in the guest hall, just like what Tessa said.

The crew members adored him, since he was quiet and obedient. They got him some toys to play with and some snacks to eat.

Gregory took it calmly. "Thank you, miss," he said.

The crew member's heart melted, and she smiled. "It's alright. Tell me if you need anything."

Gregory thought about it for a moment, then he asked, "Can I watch the practice, then?" He wanted to see Tessa practising with her colleagues.

The crew member hesitated. Trevor's a grumpy man. If someone just waltzed in there, he's going to kill us all. Oh, but the boy is so adorable. I can't say no. The crew member gritted her teeth. "I'll ask Mr. Oswald. If he says yes, I'll take you there."

Delighted, Gregory said, "Thank you, miss." He played with the toys as he waited for Trevor's reply to stave off the boredom. A while later, his phone rang. It was from Nicholas, and the boy took it immediately, "Hi, Daddy."

Nicholas said, "What are you up to?"

Gregory said honestly, "I came to Miss Tessa's orchestra, but I haven't disturbed her. I'm waiting in the guest hall right now."

This boy just won't stay still, huh?

Gregory thought Nicholas was angry, so he said, "Please don't tell me to go home, Daddy. There's only me and the butler. It's so boring. Just let me stay with Miss Tessa. I'll be good, I promise."

Sigh. What will I do about him? "Then promise me you won't run around. I have something to settle today, so I can't have lunch with you guys. Tell Miss Tessa to take you somewhere."

Gregory was delighted. "I'll be good, I promise! You're the best, Daddy."

Nicholas smiled and hung up.

Gregory was left alone. After a while, he was filled with the urge to pee, so he wanted to use the restroom before the crew member came back. However, he couldn't find the loo after walking around, so he asked the receptionist, "Where's the restroom, lady?"

The receptionist was on the phone, so she pointed in a direction. "Walk straight down."

Gregory thought it was outside, so he came out of the center. The street was right outside, and it was bustling. He looked around, but he didn't see any restroom signs. Did I go the wrong way? He was about to ask the receptionist again, but before he could turn around, a man in black came up behind him and covered the lower half of his face, then he picked the boy up.

Gregory gasped in reflex and tried to struggle free, but he was just a child. He was too weak to fight against an adult. A moment later, he was taken into a car, and the kidnappers left immediately.

After the crew member got Trevor's permission, she went back to take Gregory to the practice hall, but he wasn't in the guest hall. She looked around, but he was nowhere to be found, so she asked the receptionist. The receptionist said Gregory went to the loo. The crew member shrugged and went to work on other stuff.

Half an hour later, Tessa got her break, and she came out to see Gregory, but he was nowhere to be found. She thought he went somewhere else to play, so she searched the area, but she still couldn't find him. Concerned, she asked the crew member where Gregory was.

The crew member paused for a moment, and only then did she realize something was off. "Oh no, I forgot because I was too busy! Where is he? He's been in the loo for a long time now. I haven't seen him."

Tessa looked horrified. For some reason, she had a bad feeling about the case. She quickly went to the loo to look for Gregory, but he was not there.

The crew member was shocked as well. She searched for the boy, and everyone else helped, but he was nowhere to be seen.

Tessa started to panic. If he's not here, then he must have gone out. She ran to the surveillance room. "I want to see the security camera's footage."

The crew member in the room didn't stop her. A moment later, he showed her the footage, and they saw Gregory being taken away by a man in black after he went out.

Tessa's heart almost stopped right there and then. Trevor was shocked as well. That's the Sawyers' young master! "Don't just stand there! Call the cops! Tessa, call the boy's family."

Tessa snapped out of it and called Nicholas at once.

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Nicholas and Timothy had just finished the meeting for the product introduction and were walking out of the meeting room. Nicholas was talking about the contract signing. "I'll get Edward to draft the contract. Once you sign it, the partnership will begin. We'll be counting on you for the technical difficulties."

"No problem," Timothy answered happily, and he looked confident. The meeting had gone smoothly, and he wanted to share the news with Tessa.

Just then, Nicholas' phone rang, and when he took the call, his face fell. "What? Greg is missing? I'll be right there."

Timothy froze up as well. "What happened?"

Nicholas had a dark look on his face. "Tessa said Greg's missing. The signing will have to be delayed. I have to leave now."

“What? I’ll go with you then.” Timothy was worried too, since Tessa was involved.

Nicholas nodded. When they went into the elevator, they met Kieran. Kieran was shocked to find out about the news, so he went with them as well. They arrived at the center as quickly as they could. The moment they came in, they saw Tessa in tears.

“What happened?” Nicholas sounded dark.

Tessa teared up. “I’m sorry. It’s my fault for not keeping an eye on him. I never thought this would happen.”

Nicholas looked furious. “This is not the time for crying. Tell me what happened.”

“Calm down, sis. Tell us how Gregory went missing,” Timothy told her gently.

Tessa told everyone what happened.

Nicholas said, “Show me the footage.”

Trevor was already prepared, and he handed the laptop to him. “They seem to have planned this out. The kidnappers had been waiting outside for a while. Take a look.”

Nicholas watched the footage sullenly, and he knew roughly where the kidnappers had taken Gregory even though the event happened in less than one minute. “They went north. Kieran, go to the cops and get the footage of the streets.”

Kieran nodded seriously. “Okay.”

Kieran turned to leave at once, but before he could, the receptionist hurried in. “Sir, Trevor. The officers are here.”

Don’t just tell us! Trevor yelled, “You imbecile! This is not the time to stop them! Don’t just stand there, let them in!”

Gregory had gone missing in his center, and that was a disaster. Everyone was searching for the boy now, so they didn’t have time to question Trevor. If his staff got in the way of the search, he would have to face even graver consequences.

Chapter 120 Solution

Trevor gave up his seat after the officers came in so they and the Sawyer siblings could come up with a solution. “I’ve told my men to extract the footage, Mr. Sawyer. I’ll bring your son home, so don’t worry,” the captain told Nicholas the moment he came in. After they received the call and realized that the young master of the Sawyers’ was kidnapped, they quickly gathered a team to look into this case. They had called the traffic officers immediately after that and asked them to help with the investigation.

“Thank you, Detective Lawrence.” Nicholas nodded.

He and Lawrence went way back. Detective Lawrence was a veteran and had cracked a lot of kidnapping cases, so he knew what to do.

Since the officers had gone to take the footage, Kieran stayed back.

Tessa was still blaming herself, and Timothy held her hand. "It's alright, sis. The officers are here. Gregory will be back in no time," he assured her.

Assurances were empty, however. No assurance could bring Gregory back, and Tessa could not rest easy until she saw the boy in one piece.

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Gregory's mouth was taped the moment he was brought into the car so that he wouldn't shout and attract people's attention.

"How much is this kid worth, boss?" One of the kidnappers held Gregory's chin roughly and forced him to look up.

"Beyond your wildest dream." The kidnappers' leader chortled. "He might be a kid, but he's worth so much, we can all live the rest of our lives lavishly." He smacked his lackey's hand away. "Don't hurt him, or it'll bring his value down."

"I got it. The customer is king. I won't do anything until we get the money."

The other kidnappers said, "What a loser."

The kidnapper glared at his accomplices in displeasure. "I bet you guys think the same way."

Gregory didn't shout or scream, but he was just a kid, so he did panic at first, but now that he heard the conversation, he calmed down and looked at them coldly. They won't hurt me for now. If it's just for the ransom, then that's easy to deal with, but these guys are villains. Even if we are rich, I won't let them get away with it.

Gregory was coming up with an escape plan, and he thought about the tips his father told him. Daddy said there's a GPS tracker on my watch. I can press the button whenever I'm in danger, and he can receive the signal. Good thing these guys only tied my hands behind my back. They didn't think the boy could escape, after all. I can reach the watch. Gregory pressed the button immediately.

The moment he did that, Nicholas' phone rang. "Got him. Get the car!" He synced the GPS tracker to Lawrence's phone. "I'll be counting on you for the surveillance camera footage, detective."

"Leave that to me." Lawrence nodded.

Nicholas turned to leave at once.

"I want to go as well." Tessa quickly held his hand and gave him a pleading look. "Greg was kidnapped because of me, and I can't ever make up for that, but I want to see him rescued. Take me with you."

Nicholas looked at her darkly. "Wait for the news here."

"I won't get in your way. I'll just be a passenger. We have no time to waste, so don't dwell on this anymore." She teared up and was persistent about it.

Nicholas didn't want to waste any time on this matter either, so he said, "Suit yourself."

Chapter 121 Mastermind's Call

Nicholas then got in the car.

"Thank you, Mr. Sawyer." Tessa sat in the back as well.

Since Tessa was going, Timothy followed her. He was worried about her, as she would be blamed for Gregory's disappearance. He couldn't let his sister face the accusations all by herself. I need to be by her side. Also, he thought he could come in useful.

Nicholas said nothing about Timothy tagging along. He told the driver, "Drive."

The Maybach roared, and they went toward where Gregory was according to the GPS.

About an hour later, the kidnapers received a call, and a person with a cold voice said, "Toss out all of the kid's communication devices right now."

Gregory started to panic. His smartwatch was a communication device as well, but he was counting on it to pinpoint where he was. If it was tossed out, his father would be left with no way to find him. His mouth was taped and he couldn't say anything, so all he could do was pull his hand closer to himself and pray the kidnapers didn't notice it.

However, the kidnapper saw what he did, and he tore the watch away from him and held it in his hand. "Smart kid. Were you using this to lead the cops to us?"

Gregory was scared, but he didn't cry. Instead, he looked at the kidnapper calmly.

The kidnapper scoffed. "Smart brat. He won't even cry. Don't worry, we won't hurt you. We just want money. I'll toss this watch out for now. Your daddy can get a new one for you." He tossed the watch out the window right in front of the boy.

A while later, Nicholas' driver noticed that the tracker wasn't moving. "Sir, the tracker's been in one spot for a long time."

"Stop talking and get us there immediately," Nicholas said coldly. He wasn't sure if Gregory was there, but even if there was only a sliver of hope, he would go all out.

But when they got there, they saw no houses around. There was only asphalt, and Nicholas quickly got out of the car to look around. All he saw was a broken smartwatch on the ground, and there was Gregory's favorite sticker on it. Not far from the smartwatch's remains lay a small red light that kept blinking.

The kidnapers' car had already blended into the traffic and was nowhere to be found. Nicholas had a stormy look on his face. It's been more than an hour since Greg was kidnapped. If they tossed the watch out, they must have realized something. Nicholas couldn't be sure if the boy was fine.

The traffic officers' update came to a halt at the same time, and they lost their only lead. Nicholas gnashed his teeth and punched the steering wheel. He looked furious, as if he could kill everyone around him, and the air seemed to become even colder.

Nobody said a thing. Nobody knew what kind of suffering would fall upon Gregory, and Kieran looked worried. He was under a lot of pressure now—he had to find Gregory ASAP, but he also had to hide Gregory’s disappearance from his family. If the folks knew, they would be worried sick. Kieran mumbled, “Which b*stard took Greg away?”

“The family is being targeted. We’ve had a lot of successes these few years and a lot of people want to get something from us. We also got in the way of some people, so the range of suspects is too big. Where on earth are we supposed to start looking?”

Tessa almost started crying. The boy is still so young. It’s going to be a disaster now that he’s fallen into the kidnappers’ hands. If anything were to happen to him, she wouldn’t forgive herself even if she took her own life.

Just when everyone was waiting for the latest update, someone called Nicholas, but it was an unknown caller. The kidnappers. Nicholas took the call, and a cold, monotonous voice sounded. “Good morning, Mr. Sawyer. How are you doing? Are you wondering who I am?”

Chapter 122 Conditions

“I don’t care who you are, and let’s just talk about the conditions. What do you want in order for you to release my son?” Nicholas asked.

“Good, you’re straightforward. I like dealing with people like you who don’t beat around the bush. Ten million in cash to be put in several bags, and I guarantee that nothing will happen to the young master. If not, well, as you know, we are not some good Samaritan.”

Upon hearing that, Kieran who was standing nearby shouted angrily, “We can give you the money, but you better make sure that Gregory is safe and sound! Otherwise, don’t blame us for what we will do.”

Nicholas tried to calm his enraged brother. He then said over his phone, “Okay, give me the address.”

Within seconds, he received a few messages containing different addresses. The kidnapper then said, “You better not have any tricks up your sleeves, President Sawyer, or else I cannot promise that Young Master will not be hurt.”

“I can agree to your request, but let me talk to Gregory now,” he requested.

“Not a problem. Young Master, they’re asking for you.” The man on the other side of the phone ordered Gregory to answer the phone while tearing off the tape on his mouth.

“Daddy,” Gregory said after getting the phone. His voice, which was originally mellow, now seemed hoarse as a result of not speaking for a long period of time.

Nicholas’ brows furrowed when he heard Gregory’s voice. “Are you alright? Did they hurt you?”

“I’m okay. They didn’t hurt me.”

Gregory wanted to say more, but the man in black took away the phone before he could. “President Sawyer, do you believe me now? I’m not a patient person. Get me the money within an hour.”

“Okay, don’t hurt him.”

After ending the call, Nicholas said to his assistant, “Prepare ten million.”

“Yes, sir,” replied Edward. He then left right away to get the money.

“Kieran, check with the police if they have found anything,” ordered Nicholas while looking at Kieran.

To him, paying them did not imply that he would simply let them off. Kidnappers never kept their promises, so even if they got the money, they would most likely kill the hostage in order to conceal their identity. Thus, before that, he must do everything that was possible to stall them.

Nothing was allowed to happen to Gregory, and at the same time, these men must pay their dues. A cunning person would have more than one hideout, and these kidnappers would never stay and wait in just one place. Even if they had dictated five different locations, these locations were only given to distract Nicholas’ own people, and Gregory would most probably not be in any of them. To locate Gregory, they needed to use other ways.

After a while, Kieran came back to Nicholas, looking depressed. “Nick, the police attempted to locate the kidnapper’s signal area during the call earlier, but they failed.”

Tessa’s face turned pale immediately after she heard what was said. Failure in locating the area meant that the clues they had obtained with much difficulty came to a halt once again, and that Gregory’s location still remained unknown.

“What should we do now? Even if we pay them the ransom, they’re most likely going to...” Tessa blamed herself for this, and she was on the verge of breaking down.

Her mind was filled with images of Gregory smiling at her shyly with his rosy cheeks. Hugging her legs, the chubby and tender little guy called out to her, “Miss Tessa, I want a hug.”

Despite the fact that they had only known each other for a month, she felt deeply for Gregory. She would rather be the one who was kidnapped, and she would never want Gregory to be hurt in any way.

“Tessa, Gregory will be fine. At the very least, they won’t hurt him before they get the money,” Timothy gently comforted.

Chapter 123 Hope

Suddenly, an idea flashed through Timothy’s mind. He immediately looked at Nicholas and asked, “President Sawyer, did you record the phone call earlier?”

“Yes,” Nicholas answered with a solemn face.

This recording was their only clue leading them to Gregory’s location now, as well as being crucial evidence in identifying the perpetrator. It was impossible for Nicholas to not do so.

All of Sawyer Group’s IT experts had set aside their usual tasks and were working on cracking the recording to see if they could find anything useful.

However, they didn't find anything yet.

"Let me have it. I might have a way," Timothy said while starting his computer.

He then entered a code using some details he found in the anonymous phone call. Within minutes, an analysis of a portion of the call appeared.

Seeing this, Timothy felt encouraged. He continued to enter the remaining information, and a tiny red dot appeared on the map displayed on the computer screen. "The outskirts!"

"What?" Nicholas immediately leaned closer to him.

"Young Master is now at one of the hilltops in the outskirts! Go and get him now!" Timothy shouted.

Nicholas glanced at him, then immediately ordered his driver, "Get the car."

Soon, a fleet of cars hurtled down the tar road.

In the car, Kieran felt slightly relieved since they had a relatively clear path forward. He looked at Timothy curiously and asked, "Are you sure?"

"Yes, I am certain that that is the place."

Timothy felt awkward being questioned, but he remained calm and answered with certainty.

"How are you so sure?" Kieran asked again.

"I developed this software previously which can track anonymous calls. Even though it might get blocked, there is still a chance that it will be able to crack the calls. Not only that, this software can also analyze the background of the caller to improve its accuracy. In that phone call, there was a distinct sound of the wind swishing in the mountains and birds chirping. All of these were recorded, and hence, I am fairly certain."

While Timothy was speaking, his eyes seemed to be filled with tears.

It was just a random idea of his when he built this software, and due to a variety of other factors, this software had yet to be used on a daily basis even though it was completed.

It was out of his expectation that he could be of some assistance, and what was more, he was faster than all of the leading experts in determining a more precise location.

The two brothers of the Sawyer family looked at each other. Both of them thought that Timothy's deduction was right.

They did, in fact, hear sounds similar to birds chirping. Despite the other party's use of a voice-changing device, the distinctive sound of the birds was easily identifiable.

Brentwood City was one of the busiest cities in the country, and no matter how well the urban greening was done, it was impossible to have birds staying here, let alone birds chirping one after another.

Such a situation would only occur on the hilltops.

Hearing what Timothy said, Kieran couldn't help but give Timothy a thumbs up. "I didn't know you were this good! Work for me from now on, and I guarantee that you will have a good salary."

"Not all of the credit goes to me; it all goes back to President Sawyer's recording. I wouldn't have reacted that swiftly upon getting the call." Timothy smiled embarrassingly.

"Further, it appears that the kidnappers are not skilled. They used professional tricks to conceal their location, but there are still some loopholes. I wouldn't have found Young Master as smoothly if it hadn't been for that."

Nicholas nodded in agreement. "Anyhow, it's true that we have some hope now, but don't get reckless. There is still room for mistakes, and for prudence sake, we still have to abide by their request."

"Nick, just let me handle the matters for the payment of ransom. I'll complete the task well. Those fugitives will never be able to get away from me," Kieran declared.

Regardless, Nicholas said, "Also, contact Detective Lawrence."

"Don't worry. You trust me, right? It's merely a matter of apprehending some petty thieves, and such a minor issue doesn't even necessitate my personal attendance. I will arrange for it, don't worry."

Chapter 124 Don't Worry

Kieran seemed like he was prepared for a battle.

How dared these people lay their hands on Gregory? Were they tired of living?

He was going to make sure that they wouldn't be alive to spend the money!

In a short span of time, Kieran had arranged everything that was required.

Following that, the fleet of cars dispersed to the different locations previously agreed upon, each with a portion of the money.

Whereas for Nicholas' group, they proceeded to get Gregory out, following the path marked by Timothy. To avoid raising suspicion on the part of the kidnappers, they took the most covert and hidden routes.

Halfway through, Nicholas' phone rang. He was slightly stunned when he saw the caller ID. After a while, he regained control of his feelings and answered the phone. "Mom? What's the matter?"

"Nicholas! How dare you have the audacity to ask me what's the matter? You should be the one telling me what is happening now! What happened to our Gregory? Why was he kidnapped?" Stefania asked angrily.

Even though she had retired and spent most of her time in the house, the connection she had built over the years remained. Additionally, there were also many people who fawned over her in light of the Sawyer family's growing influence.

As a result, she was informed of Gregory's kidnapping within a short period of time.

When she first heard about it, she assumed that they were just kidding. However, as more people approached her for the same matter, she began to believe their words, which caused her to be so worried that she nearly fainted.

Nicholas knew that he couldn't keep this matter under wraps any longer, and it was within his expectation to receive her call. Hence, he didn't panic for long.

He, too, knew that this matter was a big blow to Stefania. He didn't want anything to happen to her, especially when Gregory was still missing.

Thus, he comforted her, "Mom, it's alright. We know his location now and we are going to get him out. I promise I will bring Gregory back in one piece."

Hearing Nicholas' seemingly calm tone, Stefania was furious.

"Gregory was kidnapped, so how do you expect me to be calm? He's my grandson! Let me tell you, I'm not going to let these people go easily. If Gregory was hurt, no matter how slight it is, they'll suffer! And what's wrong with that Miss Reinhart? She was the one who brought him out, but she neglected him, causing him to be kidnapped and to suffer unnecessarily. This is the one thing that Yana is right about—Gregory will suffer as long as this woman is around. Does she hate Gregory or something? She's really a jinx! I don't care; when we get Gregory back, that Reinhart girl must go!"

All this fuss made Nicholas' head hurt, and he couldn't help but pinch the area between his brows.

Feeling slightly annoyed, he said, "Mom, calm down. We can talk about this after Gregory returns. It's pointless to talk about it now. Throwing a tantrum wouldn't solve the problem or save Gregory."

Despite the fact that he did not use the speaker mode, Tessa was able to hear what Stefania said, which made her even more upset.

Her face, which was already pale, became even paler.

She wanted to defend herself and say that she was not a jinx, but she was indeed the one who brought Gregory out, and she was also the one who left him in the guest hall. Gregory had run out on his own also because she was not present...

Remembering these, she couldn't think of anything to say to explain herself, no matter how much she wanted to.

It was all her fault.

And no matter what, she was the one to blame.

When Timothy saw Tessa feeling guilty, he felt sorry for her. He held her hands tight as if he was trying to pass on his strength to her.

"President Sawyer is right, Tessa. Stop blaming yourself and having these useless thoughts now. You are only making things worse for yourself. The most important thing now is to find Gregory. Don't worry, the location I've found is correct, and President Sawyer has also made all necessary arrangements. As long as they remain at that location, it's just a matter of time before Gregory is rescued. Believe me, will you?"

Hearing Timothy's words of comfort, Tessa felt better and nodded. In truth, she was still filled with guilt, but she didn't dare to express it anymore.

Chapter 125 Mountaintop

They're right. Gregory won't come back just because I'm crying. This is not a dream. Everyone's just going to get annoyed if I keep this up.

They eventually came to the mountaintop, and the driver stopped at the plateau. There was an abandoned factory on the mountaintop, and the signal was blinking quickly.

Timothy sat up. "This is it. This is where the signal is the strongest. The young master should be in this factory."

Detective Lawrence and his team got out of the car and surrounded the factory. A few officers charged inside, but it was an empty factory, so they saw everything with one glance. Aside from a few men in black, there was nobody there.

The men in black panicked when they realized what was happening. They started screaming and flailed their wooden bats around. They caused a ruckus by banging their bats against the wall, and the moment the officers came near, they swung their bats in front of themselves to keep the officers at bay, but they couldn't stop the experienced cops. The officers raised their arms to block the attack and took the men in black down with a single kick. Then, they cuffed their hands and pinned the men in black down. "Where are you keeping the boy?"

The men in black refused to answer.

One of them glared at the officers hatefully and sneered. "You want the kid? Sure. Someone will send him over in a moment."

Kieran destroyed the factory's door with a single kick. "B*stards!"

Sh*t. They won't give up that easily, and they were knocking on the walls. They were probably telling their friends that we're here. They'll know we're on the mountain now. Greg's in danger. Kieran kicked the man in black. "Where is he? Tell me, or I'll break your leg!"

"Do it then. Your precious Greg will get his leg broken too." The man in black scoffed.

I can't even do anything. Furious, Kieran shot them a glare and looked at Nicholas. "What now?"

Nicholas' phone rang, and Nicholas took it, but he looked upset.

The mastermind chortled. "Never thought you would break your own promise, Mr. Sawyer. I thought you're a man of your word, but now I see we're the same kind of people."

Nicholas ignored his taunt. He wanted to hang up, but Gregory was still in danger, so he couldn't do that. He held his anger back and asked, "What do you want?"

Timothy was surprised when he heard the call, as he never thought he would make a mistake. He didn't expect the mastermind to separate the boy and the phone. That's a fatal mistake. Am I actually stupid?

Tessa trusted her brother, however. They only got to where they were because of the tracker. She held his hand and assured him quietly. She trusted him because the men in black were captured here, so the location was correct. Tessa stared at the computer's screen. The dot is nearby. These men couldn't have called their boss.

Did we miss someone? No, there's no time to think about this. We need to save Greg. She looked at Nicholas. He's still talking. Good. Greg is fine for now. She heaved a sigh of relief and got out of the car to check out the surroundings. Suddenly, from the corner of her eye, she saw a man in black in the forest, and it was obvious that he was the kidnappers' accomplice.