

Always Been Yours Chapter 136

Chapter 136 Enlighten Her

Trevor gave Tessa a gentle pat and comforted her.

“Thanks, Mr. Oswald, for coming over to visit me today. Be careful when you’re on the road.” Tessa nodded and thanked him.

Nodding back at Tessa, Trevor then got up and left.

As soon as Trevor opened the door, a tall figure in front startled him, and he nearly screamed.

That tall figure was Nicholas. As he stood at the door, he nodded at Trevor and made a ‘shh’ gesture.

Understanding Nicholas’ gesture, Trevor took another glance inside the ward and saw that Tessa and Gregory weren’t aware. So, he immediately closed the door and greeted Nicholas, “Good day, President Sawyer.”

Once more, Nicholas nodded. Then, he turned his body sideways, allowing Trevor to go first.

After taking two steps, Trevor stopped. Later, he turned his head back to look at Nicholas, hesitating. “President Sawyer...”

“Speak,” Nicholas ordered.

All of a sudden, Trevor was clueless on where to start his sentences, and he went silent for a while.

Upon seeing that, Nicholas simply frowned and did not rush Trevor.

After a while, Trevor said, “President Sawyer, I have a presumptuous request. I hope you can help me encourage and enlighten Tessa. I know her. She’s a girl who practices very seriously on a daily basis. While others pour in their 100 percent, she pours in her 120 percent. I know because I have noticed her effort. We all feel very sorry that this happened. This would have been her first orchestra performance as an assistant concertmaster, and not to mention, it’s a large-scale event. Now that she can’t participate in it, I fear it will hit her hard. Tessa has always taken things too seriously. I’m afraid she won’t be able to regain herself for a while...”

Upon hearing Trevor’s words, Nicholas remembered Tessa was crying secretly under the blanket by herself last night. Therefore, he understood what Trevor meant.

Accepting Trevor’s request, Nicholas nodded slightly. “Sure, I’ll help you.”

“Then, I shall leave her in your care. There are some other matters that I need to attend to in the orchestra, so I’ll take my leave first.” Trevor bowed to Nicholas, feeling grateful.

Not knowing the situation outside, Tessa sat on the bed and recalled her conversations with Trevor. She was still somewhat unwilling to accept what was going on.

The anger in Tessa’s heart stuffed up, making her a little overwhelmed. Right now, she had no idea what she was going to do in the future.

Seeing that Tessa was in a trance, Gregory became worried too. He understood most of the matters discussed by Nicholas and Tessa. Also, Gregory knew that Tessa probably could not play the violin anymore. Realizing that fact, he became upset.

“Miss Tessa, I’m sorry. It’s all my fault. If I hadn’t been playful and disobediently ran out of the orchestra, then you wouldn’t have come to find me, and you wouldn’t have gotten hurt.” Gregory’s eyes turned red as he said that, and he looked like he was about to cry.

Upon seeing this, Tessa felt her heart soften. Not bothering much about her own grief, she raised her uninjured arm and touched the top of Gregory’s head.

“Oh, silly boy. You have nothing to do with this, so you don’t have to apologize. I saved you out of my own will, and I don’t regret it at all. Despite knowing things would turn out this way, I’d still save you if given another chance. I would rather injure myself than see something bad happen to you. Don’t worry. I’m strong, and I’ll be fine after resting for a few more days. Soon, I will be able to hold you in my arms again.”

Meanwhile, outside the ward, Nicholas was about to open the door but stopped after he heard that. For some reason, Tessa’s words tugged at his heartstrings.

“Okay, Sweetheart. I’m really fine. I didn’t cry, so why are you crying? There, there, my cry baby. Don’t cry anymore. If you cry again, then I’ll cry too.”

Looking at the crying Gregory, Tessa felt slightly helpless for a while, yet she did not know whether to laugh or cry.

This child is superbly adorable. His original doll-like appearance is even more adorable now with his teary eyes looking dewy. He just makes me want to pinch his cheeks.

In fact, Tessa really did so. With her delicate fingers, she pinched Gregory’s face.

Feeling Tessa pinch him, Gregory was stunned for a moment. He forgot to cry and just let Tessa pinch and rub his face in a daze.

Tessa looked at him and could not help but chuckle.

Although he did not know what Tessa was laughing about, Gregory stopped crying after he saw Tessa chuckling. Then, he obediently wiped his tears away and giggled happily.

At this moment, the door of the ward was pushed open. In came Nicholas, who had changed into a tailor-fitted suit.

Chapter 137 Hungry? Let’s Eat!

“Daddy!” Gregory rushed forward with a smile and hugged Nicholas’ thigh.

As she could not believe that Nicholas actually showed up in her ward, Tessa did not quite know what to say. So, she could only say prosaically, “I’m really fine here. You didn’t have to specially come here to visit me.”

However, Nicholas merely took a glance at Tessa and did not answer. Then, he casually put the bag, which contained various imported fruits, in his hand on the table and asked, "What do you want to eat?"

Seeing that Nicholas did not take her words seriously, Tessa did not feel angry at all. Instead, she felt rather helpless. "I don't want to eat anything."

"This won't do. Miss Tessa, have some fruit. Grandma said that eating fruit is good for your health. Besides, you said it yourself that you want to get better soon," Gregory said as he gave Tessa a disapproving look.

Tessa was stunned for a moment. Am I actually being refuted by my Sweetheart?

Shortly after, Tessa smiled and said, "Well then, I'll listen to you and have some fruit."

Upon hearing that, Nicholas sat down with an apple in one hand and a fruit knife in the other.

Tessa always felt that a person like Nicholas would never get his hands dirty with chores and definitely didn't know how to do them. She had always thought that with a mere wave of his hand, someone would arrange everything for Nicholas whenever he wanted to eat or drink something.

However, at this moment, Nicholas completely subverted Tessa's cognition of him.

It was nothing like Tessa had imagined. Nicholas' fingers were very nimble, and the action of him peeling apples looked very skillful. There were no holes on the apple, and the skin peeled was not choppy at all. His slender fingers moved in an unhurried manner. Yet, it was a little unclear whether it was the apple or the knife that was moving.

Tessa could only see the extremely thin peel grow longer and longer. Shortly after, a perfectly peeled apple appeared.

Unexpectedly, there was no sense of peculiarity for someone as noble as Nicholas to peel an apple while wearing a suit. Besides, Tessa thought Nicholas was inexplicably good-looking while peeling the apple.

At that moment, Tessa suddenly felt that it was worth it for her to sustain this injury, seeing that she could witness such a scene once in her lifetime.

While Tessa was entertaining herself for a while, Nicholas had already pulled out and set up the dining table in front of her. Then, he put the fruit plate with apple pieces on top of the table.

"Thanks."

After thanking Nicholas, Tessa helped herself and started digging in. She directly took one piece and ate it. When she noticed Gregory was staring at her, she fed him another piece of apple.

Gregory's eyes were shining bright, and he was a little joyful. And so, he followed Tessa's example, eating a piece by himself and feeding Tessa a piece.

In a few minutes, the fruits on the plate were all gone.

Nicholas' usual sharp gazes gradually softened as he watched the interaction between Tessa and Gregory.

At noon, Timothy came over to the hospital, carrying a large insulated container.

“Tess, are you hungry? I have prepared your favorite food for you.”

As he said that, Timothy placed the dishes on Tessa’s table one by one.

Just by looking at it, one could tell that it was not the same grade as the takeaway from the hospital canteen. Not only did the color of the food look nice, it was also aromatic. One glance at the food was all it took to unlock one’s appetite.

Seeing as she had eaten apples earlier, she should not feel hungry. However, upon looking at Timothy’s food now, Tessa actually felt somewhat hungry again. So, she smiled. “Yeah, I’m hungry.”

“Told you to let me stay here. If I stay here, at least you could have your dinner earlier,” Timothy grumbled. He was still grudging about Tessa urging him to class.

At once, Tessa asked, “Then, will you stop attending your classes?”

“I... I can make up for them later.” Timothy smiled, feeling embarrassed.

Then, Timothy took out four sets of utensils and set them up one by one.

“If you don’t mind, President Sawyer and Young Master Gregory, you can try my cooking. Although it’s not as good as the master chef of the Sawyers, it should be edible.”

Accepting Timothy’s offer, Nicholas nodded. “Thank you.”

Upon hearing Timothy’s offer, Gregory nodded vigorously as he could not wait any longer. “Thank you, Mr. Timothy! Looking at this meal, I think it is perfect in color, flavor, and aroma. It must be scrummy!”

After finishing his words, Gregory moved the small stool very consciously. He sat on the side and waited for Nicholas to serve him the dish.

Chapter 138 Is Everything Fine in There?

The moment Gregory gorged on a piece of pork ribs, his eyes lit up. “Mr. Timothy, this tastes amazing! These ribs taste divine and are exactly like the one made at home by the chef!”

Upon hearing that, Timothy smiled at Gregory and said, “Young Master Gregory, your flattery is not suitable for a humble servant like me. Surely, I could not be compared to a five-star chef. Help yourself to some more of those ribs since you find it delectable.”

Gregory nodded vigorously and continued to eat. “I’m not sprouting nonsense here. Mr. Timothy, your cooking is truly delicious; these ribs can even bring the dead back to life!”

Upon hearing Gregory’s comment about the food, the adults burst into laughter.

After everyone enjoyed their meal, Timothy cleaned up the tableware and sat down immediately, not wanting to return to the university one bit.

Feeling slightly amused, Tessa glanced at the time. “Tim, don’t you still have classes in the afternoon?”

“Tess, don’t speed me up. I didn’t say I wouldn’t return to my classes. I’m merely hoping to spend some time with you. That’s all.”

Seeing he was busted, Timothy scratched his head with slight embarrassment.

After sitting for a while, though reluctant, Timothy was silently urged by Tessa to return to his classes. “I’ll be back soon.”

Tessa laughed yet slightly scolded, “You’d better hurry up and return to your classes instead of waddling like a child in the playground.”

Contented with the food and drink she had, Tessa felt more awake and spirited than when she woke up this morning.

After entertaining Gregory for a short while, Tessa felt a burning sensation of pain coming from her back.

Tessa managed to endure it for a while. However, the pain didn’t subside in the slightest. In fact, it was the opposite. The pain intensified, resulting in her forehead gleaming with sweat a little.

I suppose it’s about time to apply the medicine and change the dressing.

Fortunately for Tessa, the nurse left the medicine in the ward and noted to her that if the wound started to hurt, she should seek assistance from her family to apply medication or let the nurse do it when it was time to change the wound dressing.

Unfortunately, in her current situation, it was nearly impossible for her to wait for the nurse to arrive. There was only Nicholas available at the moment, but Tessa felt embarrassed to ask him for assistance.

The only solution to Tessa in dealing with the crisis was clear. Left with no choice, she took the medicine and went into the bathroom, thinking she could apply the medicine on her wound first to at least combat the pain she was feeling now.

Upon locking herself up in the bathroom, Tessa took off the hospital robe to only the crook of her hand. After removing the gauze, to her horror, she found that her back was painted and drenched in blood.

This was her very first time confronting her wounds, so Tessa took a deep breath of cold air to calm down. Her hands could not reach the wound, but at the same time, she could not delay the medication she so badly needed any longer. Thus, she took a Q-tip, dipped it into the medicinal liquid, and moved it in the direction of her wound.

However, the location of the wound made it very tricky for her to treat on her own. After spending so much time, all Tessa had was a sore arm instead of getting the job done.

Seeing this was going nowhere, Tessa took a short break. Then, she gritted her teeth for another attempt, yet she still could not reach it.

After several more attempts, some sweats dripped from the tip of her nose.

Right outside the door, Nicholas saw that Tessa had been in the bathroom longer than usual. He was a little puzzled, so he knocked on the door. “Is everything okay in there? Do you need any assistance?”

Despite being in an excruciating amount of pain, Tessa refused to let slip and worry anybody else. So, she gritted her teeth and said, "I'm fine. I will be out in a jiffy."

After giving Nicholas an answer, she continued trying again. However, she was still unable to reach the wound on her own.

Nicholas waited outside the door for more than ten minutes yet still caught no sight of Tessa coming out. Thus, he decided not to ask any more questions and just barged through the door and welcomed himself in.

At once, Nicholas saw Tessa's back facing the door; her clothes were half removed, displaying her whole back.

The sphenoid bone of the butterfly on her back was prepossessing and apparent. Also, the lifelike butterfly tattoo that appeared as if it was fluttering away looked even more delicate and charming at this moment. It was hard for one to take their eyes off such a beautiful tattoo. The blood of the wound on the pale white skin of her back created an extremely striking contrast to the sight. It was beautiful beyond words. Not to mention, the curves of her backside were perfectly beautiful. The strong collision yet harmonious merge between these sights dazzled Nicholas, and he was momentarily speechless out of astonishment.

Shocked by the sudden door opening sound, Tessa once again strained her injury, and the burning sensation of pain came back once more.

"Argh!"

Tears welled up and threatened to fall from Tessa's eyes due to her immense pain.

Seeing that it was only Nicholas, Tessa was slightly flustered. She did not know where to hide her hand that was holding onto a piece of Q-tip. Hence, she could only stay stupefied in place, not knowing what she was going to do the next moment.

The moment Nicholas heard Tessa cry in pain, he snapped back to his senses. Once he saw the Q-tip in Tessa's hand, he immediately took the hint on her shenanigan in the bathroom.

Chapter 139 That Scar

Calmly retracting his gaze, Nicholas asked, "Are you hiding here by yourself and attending to your injury?"

Although Nicholas had calmed down, Tessa had not. She hurriedly put on her clothes, turned her head around, and looked at Nicholas. "Go out first."

Taking a glance at the bloody wound after the gauze was removed, Nicholas uttered coldly, "If I head out, do you plan on applying the medicines all on your own without any assistance? How long are you planning to take to apply the medicine? Until the sky and earth desolate?"

"Turn around." Nicholas held Tessa down and forced her to face him in seemingly rude gestures. However, he was careful so as not to touch her wound again.

Once again, Nicholas pulled Tessa's clothes down to the crook of her hand, just enough to reveal the horrifying open wound on her back.

Tessa was in a state of shock. "I..."

"If you do not wish to get injured twice, be wise and stay still." Nicholas' ice cold voice hovered above her head.

Before tending the wound, Nicholas made sure to wash and sanitize his hand. Then, he took the medicinal liquid that Tessa placed aside, and by the looks of things, it seemed like Nicholas wanted to apply the medicine for Tessa personally.

Blushed with embarrassment at such thoughts, Tessa stuttered, "Y-You don't have to resort to doing it yourself. Just summon the nurse for me, and let the nurse assist me instead."

"Stop talking." Nicholas had no intention of heeding her suggestion.

Shortly after, the hand that was rubbed with the medicinal liquid came into contact with her wound.

The icy cold mint feeling came, soothing the burning hot wound, and Tessa instantly kept silent. She stopped putting up a fight, her face crimson red.

Suddenly, Nicholas saw the scar on Tessa's lower back and paused.

That scar...

Could Tessa be who I think she is?

When they were at his house before, he wanted to confirm it. However, her reaction was a bit too much to handle at that time, so the confirmation of her identity was not successful.

Now... it's a good chance for me to find out.

Uncontrollably, Nicholas reached out his hand and touched her scar.

Due to Tessa feeling that the burning pain on her back was getting much better, she was not aware of the shift in movements of the person behind her.

The moment the fingers came into contact with and sneaked around the back of her waist, Tessa was startled. She immediately grabbed the hand on her back and questioned, "What are you doing!?"

Nicholas' hand touched the scar on Tessa's waist. His pupils suddenly dilated. This scar... The touch, feel, and even the shape of her scar were seemingly similar to the one on the woman back then.

Even so, there seemed to be a slight difference.

Staring at the scar, Nicholas' gaze became deep in trance with a mixture of suspicion.

Could it truly be her?

However, Nicholas dared not to directly ask the question that could probably confirm his suspicion. He wanted to take a deeper look to confirm his suspicion at least, so his hand touched Tessa's scar once again.

At this moment, Tessa was alarmed. She immediately turned around and grabbed his hand.

Due to her sudden aggressive movement, Tessa accidentally ripped open her wound once again. In that instant, she felt the burning pain from the wound that had calmed down from medication earlier. The pain made her gasp loudly.

She gritted her teeth and looked at Nicholas. "What the hell are you doing!?"

Angered, Nicholas immediately withdrew his hand and blurted, "You're still in the midst of having medicine applied to your wound. Why are you even struggling? Do you honestly think the wound would heal instantly with the snap of a finger?"

Unsure if it was because of pain or anger, Tessa's eyes started to well up with tears. She put her guard up against Nicholas and took a step back. "It's your fault. What were you doing apart from applying the medicine on my wound? I think you're very clear of your motive. Isn't that right, you hooligan?"

On the other hand, Nicholas was also angered to the point he started laughing.

For the very first time in so many years, someone even dared to utter that to him.

Me? Behaving like a hooligan? Do I look like a guy who would act like a hooligan?

Does she even know just exactly how many women are after me? Yet, I don't even bat an eyelash at them. So, why would I inflict thuggish behavior on her?

Surely, if it wasn't to ensure she was the woman in my memory, I would not even think of touching her one bit.

Nicholas said coldly, "Don't get your head clouded just yet. I am not at all interested in you."

With a look of disbelief, Tessa gritted her teeth and cautiously stepped back again. "Is that so? Then, do you care to explain your actions earlier? Can you confess truthfully that you did not touch me elsewhere other than just the wound?"

Hearing Tessa questioning his motive like this, Nicholas could not help but sneer sharply. "I have no such intention. Besides, you are a half-disabled patient, so it is impossible for me to even have any sexual intentions toward you."

Chapter 140 Tessa, That Woman?

"It's just that I saw the scar on your back and felt like touching it to see how it felt. Don't think any more than that."

Upon hearing that, Tessa looked at him suspiciously. Judging from his righteous and dignified appearance, Nicholas doesn't seem to be such a man. There's no flaw in his speech, and he doesn't look guilty either. Perhaps, it was me who misunderstood him.

But, what was he doing though, touching my scar? He's acting strange indeed.

With an impatient tone, Nicholas urged, "Do you still wish to apply the medicine? If you do, turn around."

As she could not think of a possible reason for Nicholas' action earlier, Tessa was slightly dispirited. Since he has said so, I think Nicholas will be more mindful so as to not simply touch me again.

Hesitantly, Tessa spun around and allowed Nicholas to continue tending to her wounds.

Behind her, where Tessa could not see, Nicholas' gaze turned deep as his deep eyes stared at the back of her head.

Though Nicholas did test Tessa once or twice, it did not bring any substantial results at all. Instead, the answers confused him even more.

Precisely five years ago, Nicholas clearly saw a butterfly-shaped tattoo on that woman, but she claimed that she got the tattoo three or four years ago.

Still, it was hard for Nicholas to ignore how similarly the scar was located and how it felt.

So, is Tessa the woman stored in my memory?

There were dozens of doubtful thoughts dancing around Nicholas' heart, but there were no immediate answers to be given to him at the moment. This gave him an unsettling feeling.

Both parties had unsettling doubts buried in their hearts, yet none of them dared to utter a single word. In the silence of the bathroom, there was only the sound of Nicholas applying the medicine and tending to Tessa's wound.

Soon enough, Tessa's wound was painted with medicine.

After getting dressed, the two returned to the ward together.

Gregory was getting a little impatient from all the waiting. Upon seeing both Nicholas and Tessa coming out from the bathroom, he rushed forward and clung onto Tessa's leg. "Miss Tessa, what happened to you earlier? Why were you gone for so long? Daddy too. Why did Daddy disappear for so long?"

Flashing back to the scene where both of them were in the bathroom, Tessa blushed like a tomato as she was not certain on how to answer Gregory's question. She could only glance at Nicholas with some embarrassment.

Meanwhile, Nicholas showed a meaningful smile and said calmly, "I was applying some medicine on your Miss Tessa's wound."

Hearing the word 'medicine', Gregory looked at Tessa worriedly. "Miss Tessa, are you still in pain? Do you want me to give you a helping hand?"

As he spoke, he climbed onto Tessa's hospital bed, lay his head on her shoulders, and huffed softly.

"I'm fine. Thank you, Sweetheart."

Once again, Tessa was struck by Gregory's thoughtfulness and had forgotten about the embarrassing moment earlier.

After disturbing Tessa for a while, Gregory lay beside her and fell asleep.

A knock on the door interrupted the moment.

Edward walked in. "President Sawyer, this is the document meant to be reviewed and processed today."

Taking the document, Nicholas just nodded. "Anything else?"

"Except Lionel, all the other kidnapppers had spat out the truth and admitted their guilt. They said that they were instructed by Lionel. They did it because they thought that since it involved the son of a rich family, the family of the kidnapped child wouldn't publicize the issue so as to not disturb the stability of their stock market and image of the company. More importantly, they thought the family would certainly not dare to contact the police at all. They also mentioned that although they kidnapped Young Master Gregory, they didn't cause him any substantial harm. So, they're hoping you will forgive them and let this slide."

In an instant, Nicholas' facial expression turned cold. "Tell them they can dream on."

I really am not afraid that this incident would affect the Sawyer Group's stock market. In my eyes, Greg's safety is far more important than anything else. And if these kidnapppers dare to lay their hands on even a single hair on Greg, I will never let them go.

At once, Edward felt that the surrounding air in the room seemed to be condensed. He had worked for Nicholas for so many years, so he naturally knew what was in Nicholas' mind. This time, it's very fortunate that Young Master Gregory was not injured.

Yeah, sure, these kidnapppers tried to make it sound nicer than how it was. They did not harm Young Master Gregory? How about the psychological effect of the kidnapping inflicted on Young Master Gregory? If Tessa hadn't arrived at the right moment, who could have imagined the level of harmful impact the bat could have brought to Young Master Gregory's tiny body!

Swallowing his saliva, Edward then added, "As for Lionel, Detective Lawrence said it's inevitable that he will subsequently face imprisonment as the evidence against him was solid."

Upon hearing that, Nicholas nodded.

After explaining the company's affairs, Edward left.

Chapter 141 Plans Turned Into Uncertainties

Tessa heard everything he said, and it filled her heart with a mixture of emotions.

Lionel was a rascal, a rogue. He had obviously done something wrong, yet he blamed others for not helping to hide it.

He even vented his anger on a five-year-old kid, and he complained when he got caught. How shameless.

Although Tessa didn't regret saving Gregory, she still felt uncomfortable when she thought about her injury.

Due to these strange incidents, she didn't know if she could return to the state she was in pre-injury, or if she could go on stage again.

Originally, her future was bright, but now, all her plans had turned into uncertainties.

At this thought, she felt pained and tormented.

It would be a blessing if she could recover and perform on stage again, but what if she couldn't perform anymore in the future? What if she couldn't be on the stage of her dreams anymore? What should she do then?

How was she supposed to carry on in the future?

Tessa felt a little troubled thinking about her future, but in the end, she got tired and fell asleep in a daze.

By the time she woke up, it was already past 6.00PM.

Seeing that she was awake, Nicholas walked to the bed. "What do you want to eat tonight?"

Although she had slept for a while, Tessa still remembered the incident, which made her lose her appetite. However, she didn't want to reject Nicholas' kindness, so she answered, "Anything's fine."

Nicholas nodded, then left the ward and called Andrew before ordering him to prepare a nutritious meal and have it delivered to the hospital.

While waiting for the meal to be delivered, Nicholas received a call, and his face changed subtly.

He turned back to look at Tessa and Gregory. "There's something I need to attend to at the office, so I won't stay for dinner. If you need anything, just tell Andrew."

Upon seeing this, Tessa figured that something urgent must have happened at the office, so she didn't retain him. Nodding, she said, "Okay. Hurry over, then."

Afterward, Nicholas packed up the documents Edward had brought and hurriedly left the hospital.

Nicholas had always been busy, so Gregory was quite accustomed to it and didn't urge him to stay. He stuck by Tessa's side and told her a story he hadn't told her before.

After the two played for a while, the ward door was pushed open.

Andrew had arrived, and Stefania was with him.

When Gregory saw Stefania, he immediately rushed up and hugged her leg, then asked in his childlike voice, "Grandma, what are you doing here?"

"Madam Sawyer."

Tessa was a little surprised to see Stefania. After thinking about it, she figured that Stefania must have missed Gregory, so she simply gave a polite nod.

Stefania returned the nod, then took the lunch box from Andrew's hands and set it down while saying, "This is a bone broth specially stewed by the chef at home. It's helpful for the repair of bone fractures."

Tessa responded politely, "Thank you, Madam Sawyer."

Stefania exuded extravagance, but her behavior was gentle. "This is nothing. In fact, I have to thank you, Miss Reinhart. If it weren't for you saving Gregory..."

As she spoke, she shook her head, as if she didn't want to mention the matter anymore. "Anyway, thank you, Miss Reinhart."

"Madam Sawyer, there's no need to be so courteous."

Tessa felt ashamed.

After all, she was the one who had lost Gregory.

Stefania nodded, then seemed to hesitate before saying, "Miss Reinhart, there are some things... that I wanted to discuss with you in person."

Tessa saw the look in her eyes and knew that she had something to say, so she gave a slight nod and turned to Gregory. "Sweetheart, I want to eat grapes. Will you and Andrew please go down to buy some for me?"

When Gregory heard that she wanted to eat despite having no appetite before, he immediately stood up. "Okay! What else would you like to eat, Miss Tessa?"

"That's all."

Tessa shook her head, then looked at the butler and said, "Andrew, I'll have to trouble you to take care of Greg."

"All right." Andrew nodded, then left the ward while holding the hand of a bouncing Gregory.

As soon as they left, Stefania sighed and stated outright, "I'm here today mainly to ask you to resign, Miss Reinhart."

Chapter 142 Take the Initiative to Leave

For a moment, Tessa was taken aback. "Resign?"

Stefania responded with a slight nod. "Although it's a bit sudden, but... Greg had always been independent and had never been so clingy, but he's too dependent on you, Miss Reinhart. In the future, if you leave, where are we supposed to find someone to replace you?"

When Tessa heard this, she was reminded of the fact that she thought about a similar reason when she resigned last time.

Stefania continued, "Besides, you know what kind of status Nicholas has. He's not the son of an ordinary family. As the president of Sawyer Group, he cannot be emotional in terms of marriage choices. What he needs is the right wife, not someone of your status, Miss Reinhart."

Tessa instantly knew that Stefania had misunderstood.

She frowned. She didn't want to climb her way up to Sawyer Group, nor was she trying to make use of Gregory.

Previously, when she stayed despite wanting to leave, it was because of Gregory.

No matter what unpleasant things were said, she could tolerate it, but this kind of misunderstanding must never exist.

So, Tessa pointed out, "Madam Sawyer, I think you've misunderstood—"

Stefania interrupted her. "Miss Reinhart, I don't want to know what you're thinking, and there's no need for me to know. You don't have to explain anything to me. Although there's currently nothing between you and Nicholas, or you and Greg, that might not be the case in the future. Greg is already too dependent on you, and Nicholas loves this child too much. As long as Greg doesn't agree, he will definitely try to keep you. You're a ticking time bomb, so I can't let you stay by their sides. I hope you can understand the concerns of a mother. I know that you're the one who rescued Greg from the kidnappers. I'm not such an unreasonable person; I know that the kidnappers targeted Greg from the start. This matter has nothing to do with you, so I won't blame you. No matter what, you saved Gregory. Since this is considered a favor the Sawyer Family owes you, I can give you a sum of money. I hope you can take the initiative to leave."

Tessa's heart felt inexplicably uncomfortable, as if someone had grabbed her heart and was taking her strength away, suffocating her.

She never had the intention of currying favor with the Sawyers. She just couldn't bear to leave Gregory.

After taking a few deep breaths, Tessa said, "Madam Sawyer, I signed an agreement with President Sawyer to be Greg's teacher, so I can't leave yet."

Stefania suddenly snorted and replied, "Miss Reinhart, let me remind you that you've injured your shoulder, so you can't play the violin anymore. In this case, you can't be Greg's teacher. Although our family's well-off, we don't support idlers. If you accept my proposal, I can find a way to help you void the agreement."

Tessa once again felt as if her heart was being pierced by a sword, causing it to ache terribly. Her face turned pale, and she couldn't even say a word at the moment.

Stefania patted her uninjured shoulder, then immediately signed a check for three million and put it on her bedside table. "I hope you'll think it through."

With that, she picked up her bag and walked out of the ward.

"Miss Tessa, I'm back!"

As soon as Stefania left, Gregory cautiously carried a pile of food into the ward before happily placing them in front of Tessa's table.

"Miss Tessa, which one would you like to eat?" he asked while blinking and smiling at Tessa.

Tessa's heart was already in a mess, and she had long lost her appetite. Despite that, she forced a smile. "I'm not hungry now, so I'll eat later. You can have some first, Sweetheart."

Gregory shot Tessa a strange glance. "Miss Tessa, what's wrong?"

"I'm fine. You can eat first, Sweetheart." Tessa patted his head in assurance.

In the evening, after Nicholas returned to the hospital, he saw Tessa staring out the window in a daze, and he instantly sensed that something was wrong with her.

Chapter 143 I Want to Go Home

He walked forward and asked, "What's the matter?"

Coming back to her senses, Tessa took a deep look at the man in front of her. "Just feeling a little discomfort. It's nothing."

She paused, then continued, "President Sawyer, I want to get discharged and go home tomorrow."

Nicholas contemplated it for a while. Tessa's injury wasn't in serious condition now, and there was no need to hang drips. As long as the medication was applied on time, there was nothing else to worry about.

He figured that she had previously been staring out the window because she wanted to go home after staying in the hospital for too long. If she stayed any longer, he was afraid that it would affect her mood and hinder her recovery process.

At this thought, he nodded. "If the doctor agrees, then let's go back."

Tessa nodded gratefully. "Thank you, President Sawyer."

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Early the next morning, the doctor came in to check on her.

Tessa asked, "Doctor, can I be discharged from the hospital?"

After taking a look at the state of Tessa's wound, the doctor nodded. "Miss Reinhart, you're indeed recovering well now, so you can be discharged from the hospital. But, after you go back, don't carry heavy objects, don't do housework, and pay more attention to resting. Just make sure to come back regularly for a checkup."

Tessa answered gratefully, "Thank you, Doctor."

After receiving the news that Tessa was going to be discharged from the hospital, Timothy stopped by the hospital after school. "Tessa, can you really be discharged?"

Tessa smiled. "The doctor said I'm fine. I'm not that pretentious. I'm not used to living here, so it's better for me to go back and recuperate."

She paused, then looked at Nicholas and said, "President Sawyer, I want to go back to my own home. I won't go back to Dynasty Gardens with you."

Initially, Gregory was happy, but after hearing that she was going back to her home, he was stunned. "Miss Tessa, aren't you going home with me?"

"Sweetheart, be good. I want to go back to my own home," Tessa explained while patting his head.

When Gregory heard the words 'my own home', his face collapsed, and his eyes turned red as he held Tessa's leg in a tight grip. "My home is also your home. Will you please go back with me, Miss Tessa?"

"Miss Tessa, don't go home, okay? Mr. Timothy needs to go to school, so he doesn't have time to take care of you. Go back to Dynasty Gardens with us. There's Andrew, Daddy, and me. We'll definitely take care of you, Miss Tessa."

Seeing that Tessa didn't answer, Gregory grew anxious. "Miss Tessa, I can't bear to not be with you. Aren't you happy living in Dynasty Gardens too? Why do you want to go back?"

Tessa forced a smile. "But, Sweetheart, you have your own home, and so do I. I haven't been home for a long time, so I miss it. I'll go visit you later, okay?"

Gregory was silent for a moment, then all of a sudden, his eyes lit up. "Then, how about I go and live with you? I promise I won't cry or create any trouble. I won't disturb you from resting. I'll be good."

He had been staying in the hospital with Tessa for two days, so what difference would staying somewhere else make?

Since Tessa was going back to stay in her own house, he could just follow.

This way, he wouldn't need to separate from her.

He blinked at Tessa, looking at her with hope.

However, Tessa wasn't as happy as he thought she would be, but looked a little calm instead.

As he was puzzled, Tessa spoke. "Sweetheart, that won't do this time. I'm injured, so I can't take care of you, and there are no servants at my place. Be a good boy. When I'm free later, I'll go find you."

Gregory was a little disappointed, but after thinking about it, he figured that Tessa was indeed injured, so much so that she didn't even have the strength to eat. He reckoned he was a little ignorant for wanting to go over and have her look after him.

Feeling helpless, Gregory could only nod. "Then, when you get better, I'll go visit you, Miss Tessa."

Tessa opened her mouth, then eventually nodded and said in a hoarse voice, "Okay."

Nicholas had sensed that something was wrong with Tessa since the night before, and now, it seemed like there were still some problems with her emotions.

However, it was possible that she had yet to accept the fact that she could no longer perform, so he figured it was better to let her be alone for a while.

Nicholas didn't say anything as he drove Tessa and Timothy home. "If you need anything, just call me."

Tessa nodded. "Thank you, President Sawyer." With that, she entered the house without looking back.

Upon returning home, Tessa breathed a sigh of relief and thought, That was close. Earlier, when she saw the look in Gregory's eyes, she nearly relented and brought him home. Now, this outcome was pretty good.

She sighed, then smiled and said to Timothy, "It's been a long time since I came back. Our own home is always the most comfortable."

Not noticing anything strange, Timothy smiled. "You don't say. You haven't been home for so long that it's starting to accumulate dust, yet you're saying that it's comfortable. Go outside and sit down. I'll clean up the room for you."

Tessa chuckled, then obediently sat aside. "It's been a hard time for you, Tim. When I've recovered, I'll cook a grand meal for you."

"Since you've said that, you can't go back on your word. You always lie to me," Timothy responded with a laugh.

Tessa leaned against the sofa and smiled. "Okay. Thank you for being so kind, Tim. By then, I'll cook whatever you want to eat. Do you want a full banquet like they had during the olden days?"

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Early the next morning, in the cafe, Stefania looked at Tessa. "Miss Reinhart, have you considered it?"

"I have," Tessa answered.

Tessa had indeed thought about it all night since Stefania said that.

"So, have you decided to leave Greg, Miss Reinhart?" Stefania asked.

After she got to know that Tessa had been discharged from the hospital, but instead of following Nicholas and Gregory back to Dynasty Gardens, she returned to her own home, she already knew what Tessa's decision was. She had been waiting for Tessa to contact her, then take the money and leave the Sawyer Family.

Tessa nodded without hesitation. "Yes, I'll propose my resignation to President Sawyer. I won't trouble you, Madam Sawyer."

Stefania was right. Indeed, it wasn't suitable for her to stay by Gregory's side. He was unwilling to mix around with strangers and was too attached to her. This wouldn't help Gregory's growth. He must learn to have contact with the outside world while he was still young. The first step to take was for her to leave the child and give him the opportunity to mingle in the outside world.

Stefania smiled. "So, I guess you're not a teacher anymore. On behalf of the Sawyer Family, I thank you for knowing what's good. After you take the money, I'd like you to also keep your promise."

Tessa interrupted her, her attitude indifferent. "Madam Sawyer, you should take back this check. I will only take the salary that belongs to me. I don't want anything more. Besides, I was the one who lost

Gregory, and I saved him willingly, not for any other purpose. This can't be measured by money, and I don't need any tokens of appreciation." With that, Tessa stood up, picked up her bag, and left the cafe.

After leaving the coffee shop, Tessa felt emptiness inside her. She took several deep breaths, trying to dispel the discomfort. But, after a few times, there was still no relief. Now, she really had to draw a line with Gregory...

In the past few days, she had been thinking about this matter, and now the dust had finally settled. Since it was her own decision, there was no need to hold on to the past. She could only hope that Gregory would thrive somewhere she couldn't see. That was all.

After Tessa made those remarks and left, Stefania stayed seated for a while. This matter was solved so easily that she had yet to react. Tessa actually didn't want money, and she took the initiative to leave Greg?

Stefania thought, Since she doesn't want any compensation and offered to resign, then this matter can be regarded as completely solved. Soon afterward, she packed her things and left the cafe.

After she left, a woman emerged from the cubicle behind the seat where the two were talking. It was none other than Roselle.

Chapter 145 Denied Entry

As Roselle watched Stefania's retreating back, her lips twitched.

Originally, she thought about finding a way to drive Tessa away, but she didn't expect that God would help her. Before she could make a move, her opponent took the initiative to withdraw.

She knew about Gregory's accident, so initially, she thought of performing a heroic act.

In the end, she didn't get to save him. Although she felt a little regretful, someone got injured in place of her, and that person left without accepting any kindness. To her, this was a good thing.

Now, her rightful opportunity had come.

In the afternoon, Roselle brought gifts to Dynasty Gardens, walking with a spring in her step.

Andrew was a little surprised when he saw Roselle. "Miss Gingham, what brings you here?"

"Ah, I heard that Gregory had an accident, so I wanted to visit him. He didn't suffer anything serious, did he?"

Roselle gave Andrew a gentle smile.

Andrew paused, then said, "Thank you for your concern, Miss Gingham, but the young master is fine."

"Nicholas is quite something too. He should've told me about such a huge incident as soon as possible. Although the Gingham Family had left Brentwood City for many years, we can still help," Roselle complained indignantly.

"Thank you for your kindness, Miss Gingham." Andrew smiled.

When Roselle noticed that Andrew hadn't invited her in yet, her smile stiffened, and she prompted, "Andrew, how's Gregory now? Can I go in and see him?"

Andrew kindly answered, "I'm sorry, Miss Gingham. The master gave the order that you can't enter."

Roselle's face collapsed slightly, but she quickly went back to smiling. "Andrew, I came all the way here just to see Gregory. Just let me in."

Seeing that Andrew stood firm on not letting her in, she felt angry and resentful.

However, she was helpless. She couldn't possibly let go of her pride and cause trouble. That would be too unsightly.

Roselle bit her lip and gave Andrew a pleasing look. "Andrew, I'll just take a look at Gregory and leave when I'm sure he's okay. There won't be any trace of my presence. Nicholas won't know either. Let me take a look at him. I'll feel more at ease."

"Miss Gingham, I don't have the authority to do that. Go back first. Young Master Gregory must be looking for me by now." With that, Andrew cast the bodyguards a look before striding into the villa.

"Andrew! Andrew! Don't leave yet. Will you please let me in?" Roselle shouted, feeling anxious when she saw him leaving.

However, Andrew didn't stop.

She was about to walk in, but was stopped by the bodyguards around her. "You can't go in."

No matter what she said, the bodyguards were unperturbed. Their expression clearly meant, 'You can say whatever you want. If I let you in, I'd consider I had lost.'

Helpless, Roselle could only give up and leave Nicholas' villa.

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Inside the house, Gregory sat in front of the easel, painting while mumbling.

When he heard the commotion outside, he ignored it, knowing that it wasn't Tessa.

However, he kept looking outside.

He looked at the bodyguards at the door and thought to himself, I have to be the first one to notice if Miss Tessa comes, and I have to bring her in. I can't let her be denied entry.

Tessa said that she would come and see him within these few days because they were separated, but it had been a day. Why hasn't Miss Tessa come yet?

When he saw Andrew coming in, Gregory looked up and asked, "Andrew, have you seen Miss Tessa?"

Andrew sighed. "Miss Reinhart hasn't come yet. She probably hasn't recovered yet."

Gregory's eyes were filled with disappointment, and he immediately stopped talking. In a desolate manner, he picked up a drawing pencil and began to doodle on the drawing paper.

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After dark, Nicholas got off work, and as soon as his car arrived at Dynasty Gardens, someone jumped out.

Nicholas frowned subconsciously and got out of the car, only to discover that it was Roselle.

“Nicholas.” The moment she saw Nicholas, her eyes lit up.

They hadn't seen each other for a long time, but Nicholas was the embodiment of youth and good looks as always.