

## A Cue for Love chapter 772

### Chapter 772 The Secret

In the meantime, a man was seated atop a towering chair toying with the cat in his lap in a quiet garden in Loang.

“Benjamin escaped? What about the child?” The man narrowed his eyes dangerously as he stared at the quaking figure of the woman on one knee before him.

“The maid who had helped the child escape bit her tongue and died on the spot after being caught by our men before we could force her to reveal the girl’s whereabouts.” The woman’s hand was lightly placed on her left shoulder. Her fearful, bulging eyes were kept firmly on the ground. “Rest assured, Your Majesty, we will renew our efforts to locate the child in Chanaea.”

“I’m sure you’re aware of the importance of locating this child, Zophie,” the man said coldly, “and of the meaning behind the jade key she carries with her.”

“I do.”

“You and Gale were always my favorites to delegate my most important tasks to.” The man suddenly stood up from his throne and caused the cat to jump off his lap with a yowl. He walked to Zophie and lifted her chin with a cruel finger. “I’m growing tired of disappointments from the both of you,” he said. “I will not allow your careless blunders to undo years of intricate planning just when it is about to come to an end!”

Despite the deliberate slowness in his tone, the chilling menace emanating from his words made Zophie shudder.

Not daring to move a muscle, Zophie did all she could to express her loyalty to her liege. “I understand, Your Majesty. I will leave for Chanaea tonight and bring you that child.”

The man relinquished his grip with a grunt of satisfaction. “If you fail to locate the girl within a month, I’ll be expecting you to carry out your own punishment.”

Blissfully ignorant of the complications surrounding Yumi, Natalie returned to the Bowers residence with her newly adopted daughter.

Gavin was a little surprised at the sight of the pretty newcomer. “This child is...?”

Natalie made the introductions. “I’d adopted Yumi from the orphanage. Yumi, this is Gavin, our butler. You can call him Mr. Gavin.”

Yumi demonstrated her obedience by curtsying to Gavin. "Hello, Mr. Gavin. My name is Yumi."

"Pleased to meet you, little one." Though Gavin liked Yumi immediately, he felt obliged to question Natalie, "Have you discussed this with Mr. Samuel and the children?"

"Not yet. I understand your concerns, Gavin, but I will explain things to them in time. From now on, Yumi will be a part of the family. Please care for her as you do for the others."

Gavin's reservations had not gone unnoticed. However, Yumi was touched by how Natalie stood up for her decision.

Taking her hand, Natalie led Yumi into the living room.

The four children ran down the stairs as quickly as their short legs could carry them when they heard Natalie's return.

To their surprise, they found that their mother was accompanied by an unfamiliar little girl.

Like a pretty little doll by the window of a toyshop, the girl took in her surroundings with her beady eyes as she clung to Natalie's arm.

The quadruplets exchanged puzzled glances before asking in unison, "Who is she, Mommy?"

Natalie bent down to address the children. "This is your new sister," she announced. "Though she is not related to you by blood, she's part of the family now. I'm very fond of her, and I hope that you will be too."

Especially you, Franklin, Xavian, and Clayton," Natalie added, turning to the older ones. "Sophia is not your only sister to care for anymore. You have Yumi now!"

The four children merely gazed at the newcomer without a word.

"Don't start thinking that I have a new favorite!" Natalie said patiently. "The two of you who have grown up with me have been accustomed to the inclusion of the other two, haven't you? With or without Yumi, I still love you all the same."

## **A Cue for Love chapter 773**

### **Chapter 773 Jade Key**

The children were initially silent not because they disliked Yumi, but because they feared exactly what Natalie assured them will not happen.

Emboldened by her mother's promise, Sophia stepped forth and patted her chest. "As I'm not the youngest anymore, Mommy, I will do my best to care for my little sister Yumi. We will include her in our games and share all of our delicious food with her!"

Yumi gazed at Sophia and found her anxiety disappeared instantly despite being initially intimidated that the latter was a little older than herself. Instead, she returned Sophia's toothy smile.

"Thank you, sister."

Xavian and Clayton also gathered around to introduce themselves.

"I'm Clayton, the second oldest out of the four."

"I'm Xavian, and I'm only seven minutes younger than Clayton."

Yumi nodded after each introduction, earnestly trying to match the name with the face.

Franklin's turn came last. With a wary glance at Yumi who was as good-looking as his sister Sophia, he said slowly, "My name is Franklin."

Though she was aware that Franklin treated her differently than the others, Yumi still smiled sweetly at him. "Hello, Franklin. You must be the oldest."

Natalie had Gavin prepare a set of clothes for Yumi.

As the four children were at that point still sharing one bedroom, Natalie decided that since the boys and the girls would have to have their own separate bedrooms anyway. With that notion in mind, she had Gavin prepare a room and move Sophia's things in next to Yumi's.

After Gavin brought the clothes, Natalie took Yumi into the bathroom.

"Did you give birth to all four of them, Mommy?" Yumi asked curiously as she sat in the bathtub.

"I did," Natalie said with a nod. "They were born at almost the same time. Only Xavian and Clayton lived with me at first. Franklin and Sophia have only come back to me recently."

"How lucky of them," Yumi sighed. "I can't see my mother anymore."

Natalie froze in her act of rinsing the girl's hair. "Yes, you can," said Natalie slowly, careful to shatter her innocence. "Didn't you tell me that she became a star in the heavens? Whenever there are stars in the sky, it's your mother missing you and dropping by to check up on you in secret."

Yumi nodded vigorously. "She does! She winks at me!"

As Natalie was toweling Yumi dry after the shower, she caught sight of an ancient-looking jade in the shape of a key hanging around her neck.

The pattern engraved on this jade was exquisite. At the spot where the handle was sat the sculpture of a phoenix. The inclusion of a tiny ruby in its eye sockets was all it took to bring it to life.

The dragon is the emblem of Chanaea while the phoenix is the emblem of Loang. This is no ordinary jade. The phoenix totem is auspicious to them.

Natalie was stunned at the realization that Yumi hailed from Loang.

Moreover, she could tell that the jade key was not of ordinary quality at first glance. The near-universal custom of entrusting a child with a valuable artifact was definite proof of her noble parenthood.

Unlike Chanaea, the system of monarchy had not been abolished in Loang. Absolute power still lay in the hands of the king.

A thought flashed in Natalie's mind. Whoever she is, Yumi is definitely of no ordinary birth.

"Mommy," Yumi called, conscious that Natalie had been staring at the jade key around her neck.

Natalie grabbed Yumi's shoulders. "This key looks very valuable, Yumi," she began seriously. "It must be of great significance to you. I would hate to see it lost or damaged. How would you feel about entrusting it to my care? When the time is right, I'll return it to you."

Yumi's little hands clenched around the jade key in response.

After a long time, she stammered, "Can I... can I trust you?"

Natalie's eyes twinkled with determination. "Yes, you can. You have become my child from the moment I signed the papers."

## **A Cue for Love chapter 774**

### **Chapter 774 Lovely Braid**

Yumi regarded Natalie's warmth for a moment before removing the jade key from her neck meekly. "Here you go."

Natalie solemnly accepted the jade key, helped Yumi into a clean pair of skirts, and dried her hair before concluding the ritual by putting on a little blue headband that held her hair neatly of her brow.

The quadruplets were already standing in wait outside the bathroom when Natalie emerged with Yumi.

Except for Franklin, who remained a little unapproachable, the other three surrounded her enthusiastically. "Are you hungry, Yumi? Let's have dinner together! Our chef makes delicious food!"

Yumi felt Natalie's warm hospitality shining through her children. As a result, the nervousness that had accompanied her from the moment she first arrived began to be gradually replaced by a sense of complacent security. She beamed and accepted their offer to dine gratefully.

As one, The five children thundered down the stairs to the dining table in boisterous anticipation for a hearty dinner.

Natalie, on the other hand, slipped away to the bedroom and carefully placed the jade keys entrusted to her into the safe.

The reason why she wanted to take the jade key away was that, on the one hand, Yumi may damage the precious jade key. More importantly, Natalie was worried that the jade key would bring danger to Yumi. I'm sure there are people out there who are aware of the special meaning that the key might hold. Such a valuable artifact will undoubtedly drive people with ulterior motives to obtain it with every means necessary. In addition, the recent turmoil in Loang makes this coincidence even more unsettling. This complication does not change the commitment I have made to raise Yumi and keep her safe. I will return it to her when she is in need of it.

After a double-check on her safe to placate her sense of foreboding, Natalie went downstairs to join her children for dinner.

Five ravenous children seated around the slightly cramped table made for a lively scene.

Instead of being irritable at the noise, Natalie savored the commotion by watching her own children satiate their curiosity with the newcomer.

To her surprise and pride, Natalie noticed that her own four must have come to a private agreement against asking sensitive questions about Yumi's past. Their efforts seemed to have paid off as Yumi appeared very relaxed, even more so after having a larger dinner than the other four.

Natalie retired to the study at the conclusion of one of the best dinners she had ever been a part of.

As per their custom, the four children retired to the playroom they shared.

Sophia wanted to review medical books while Clayton was working on learning a new language.

On the other hand, Xavian delved into system management.

Once the three little ones were focused, they took no further notice of their surroundings.

Yumi did not know how to engage with them, so she got up and went into the corridor. and when she looked up, she saw the quiet night outside the window.

In the vastness of the dark sky above, there seemed to be one or two stars emitting a bright and dazzling light.

"I met a very nice person, Mommy, Yumi stood on tiptoe, wanting to see the stars more clearly.

A boy's voice rang out. "What are you sneaking around for?"

Yumi was startled. She turned her head and found Franklin beside her. "Sneaky? That's not very nice, is it? Why would you say that to me?"

"My mother is a very good person, as are my younger siblings." Franklin put one hand in his pocket and warned with his eyebrows raised. "They like you very much. Don't hurt them."

Yumi stood her ground and met Franklin's gaze. "I know," she said stubbornly, "you don't need to remind me."

"I'm glad I made myself clear." Franklin's gaze turned sharper. "I'll be watching you. Don't let me catch your little braid where it's not supposed to be! Otherwise, I will drive you out of this house!"

After speaking, Franklin turned around and left.

Biting her lip, Yumi looked back at the night sky and muttered to herself.

"Should I tell them that I'm a jinx, Mommy? Daddy doesn't want me and you are too far away from me. Even Shannon shed a lot of blood to save me!"

“I-I don’t want them to get hurt,” she continued sadly, “I really like this family. Watch over them from the skies, will you?”

## **A Cue for Love chapter 775**

Chapter 775 Reward Applicable Only Here

Samuel came back a little late that night.

Knowing that Natalie was in the study, he took off her coat and headed straight there.

When he arrived, Samuel found that the door of the study was opened a crack as opposed to being fully closed. He raised his hand and knocked on the door before walking in.

Hearing the knock on the door, Natalie smiled at the sight of Samuel.

“You’re back?”

Samuel walked to Natalie’s side and found several books on Loang’s history and architecture on the desk. He picked one up at random. “When did you suddenly become interested in Loang?”

“I’d lived in Loang for a year,” Natalie said with one hand on her cheek. “The local customs appeal to me very much. “Dream’s presence in Chanaea is already a little saturated, in my opinion. As a groundwork for future plans, I’m thinking of expanding overseas by getting started in Loang. On the one hand, Loang and Chanaea share an origin to have similar cultures and traditions. On the other, I am relatively familiar with there...”

There’s another reason. The key.

Natalie flipped through these books in an attempt to find some clues about the jade key.

Having the instinctive feeling that the key was more than just a beautiful artifact, she was curious to find out what it opened.

As her inferences were still preliminary, Natalie did not feel comfortable sharing them with Samuel.

Samuel put down the book in his hand and rested them on both sides of Natalie’s hips. “Gavin told me you adopted a little girl today,” he said as his eyes twinkled.

“I was about to talk to you about this,” Natalie explained, “I went to the orphanage with Diane today and I signed the papers as soon as I met Yumi. I’m sorry, I should have discussed it with you instead of making this decision without authorization, I-”

“Thought you did something wrong?” Samuel asked in a low voice.

“It’s just... Though I stand by what I did, I feel guilty for neglecting your feelings,” Natalie admitted.

Samuel kissed the top of Natalie’s head gently. “You don’t need to feel that way. If you are happy, I will be happier than anyone else. As I said, I will not let you be my caged bird. If you ever want to do anything you like, you have my full approval.”

Natalie’s heart throbbed at his love. She reached up and kissed Samuel’s thin lips forcefully.

“It’s nice of you to take the initiative tonight, Nat,” Samuel said croakily.

“You can think of this as a reward,” Natalie said with a grin.

“Can I have some more?”

Though visibly startled, Natalie nodded under the man’s expectant gaze.

The next second, Samuel swept the books off the desk. They scattered to the ground with a crash.

He lifted Natalie to the desk and forced her to meet his gaze before kissing her alluring red lips deeply.

For several minutes, the sound of clashing teeth and soft moans filled the study.

Gradually, Natalie was pressed against the table. The cold wood of the table that was in stark contrast to the heat of passion emanating from her body made her tremble uncontrollably.

“Can we go back to the bedroom?” Natalie asked tentatively.

“It only counts as a reward here,” Samuel rasped mischievously. “It’s no longer valid once we return to the bedroom.”

Taking advantage of Natalie’s stunned silence, Samuel once again took the lead in infusing the place in the house where he spent the most amount of time with some of his deepest fantasies.

In the meantime at the Nichols residence, Thomas received the resignation call of his assistant.



"I've been good to you, haven't I?" Thomas said in an accusatory tone. "How can you just resign when I need you? Trust me, Dexmed Pharmaceutical will be turned around! It'll take more than this to bankrupt us."

Even Thomas' hysteria did nothing to change the assistant's mind.

"Mr. Nichols, even married couples go their separate ways when they know that disaster is imminent. You and I are only professional colleagues. Don't drag me into your mess with you."

## **A Cue for Love chapter 776**

### Chapter 776 Suspicious Circumstances

"Give me more time! I can turn this around! Once we're on top again, I promise to double your salary-"

Before Thomas could finish, the assistant hung up the phone. A beeping tone was all he heard from the other end.

"B\*stard!" Thomas bellowed as he threw the phone in his hand, gritting his teeth in frustration.

After Yara's disappearance, his servants in his home and his employees in his company resigned one after another. Despite their apparent loyalty to him in the past, nothing Thomas said at that point could convince anybody to even come close to him.

Not a single one is left to help me at the merest sign of disaster!

As a result of his foul mood, the wound on his left hand festered. It became so bad that the severe pain kept him up at night.

Thomas could not bear it any longer. Fumbling for the painkillers on the coffee table, he swallowed the pills with a gulp of water and felt slightly better.

Sprawled helplessly on his carpet, Thomas knew that only Natalie could save him at this juncture.

As long this daughter of mine can forgive me, I have a chance of reattaining my past glories.

Over the following couple of days, Natalie had been bombarded with Thomas' requests to speak across every communication medium conceivable.

Yandel watched Natalie end the call for what seemed like the twentieth time as he was seated in her office. "This old man actually got a hold of your contact information, Boss," he said with a frown. "You're his last chance for salvation, it seems."

There was no change in Natalie's expression. "When a person is desperate enough, any form of therapy will seem like salvation. Thomas seems to have forgotten that I was the biggest catalyst to have put him in this wretched situation he is in today. If he tries reaching to me for help, he will only fall quicker and more painfully."

Yandel smiled at the capacity of the beautiful woman before him for cruelty. "This acquisition will be completed in about five days, Boss. By then, Dexmed Pharmaceutical will become part of Dream, and Thomas will fall as its CEO."

Natalie nodded with a smirk on the corner of her mouth. "After years of waiting, this day has finally come."

Later that afternoon, Natalie received an email from Thomas.

Just when Natalie was about to drag it to the spam folder out of habit, she suddenly caught a glimpse of the title of the email. You don't have to reply to this, it wrote, but aren't you curious about how your grandfather died?

"How did Grandpa die back then?" Natalie murmured, her heart tightening suddenly.

After investigating the case all those years, Natalie had never come close to cracking the case except for some small, misleading facts surrounding the circumstances of Arnold's death.

Within a short period of time, Thomas had been able to embezzle Grandpa's property and replace the owner of Dexmed Pharmaceutical from Bayer to Nichols. He must have participated in the conspiracy back then and knew how Grandpa died!

Though Natalie was comfortable ignoring her estranged father, she could not ignore the possibility of uncovering the truth.

Intrigued, she clicked on the email only to find that there was no text in the main body. Staring at her in the middle of the screen was a string of numbers similar to a phone number.

Natalie made the call without thinking.

Sure enough, Thomas' voice answered. "I knew that you would call, Nat."

"Since you have it all worked out," Natalie said coldly, "then you'll also know why I'm calling. I just want to know the truth about Grandpa's death. He didn't die of natural causes, did he? It was murder."

Under ordinary circumstances, Natalie would not have deigned to even speak with Thomas. However, she knew that her father would not relinquish the truth if she did not play along.

“No matter what, Nat, I’m still your father!” Thomas laughed dryly before continuing, “It’s a little strange to talk about this over the phone. Besides, messages will get distorted and feelings will get hurt. For the sake of ensuring that you are properly informed, let’s meet and air out our past grievances. What say you?”

## **A Cue for Love chapter 777**

### **Chapter 777 Hurray For Mommy**

Natalie knew very well about the tricks Thomas was capable of, but she could see no other way in learning the truth about her grandfather’s death.

If she could find out the truth surrounding her grandfather’s death, Natalie was certain that she could also understand why her mother had taken her to hide in the backcountry all those years ago.

“Fine,” Natalie agreed. “I’m free tomorrow morning, you can decide the location.”

“I knew that you would agree to meet for your grandfather’s sake.” Thomas laughed again. “I’ll send you the location later. I’m looking forward to catching up with my daughter tomorrow!”

Natalie hung up the phone without answering as she was not interested in anything else her father had to say aside from the truth. She knew the propensity of his honeyed tongue for falsehood.

After arriving home, Natalie was greeted by the sight of the children playing in the living room.

Although she had not called the Bowers residence her home for very long, Yumi quickly befriended Sophia, Xavian, and Clayton. Recalling the orphan’s reluctance to mingle with new faces, Natalie was once again convinced of the correctness of her decision to adopt Yumi.

Franklin’s coldness, however, was proving to be a challenge.

Unlike the other three children, who had already accepted Yumi as their sibling, Franklin was often found on the sidelines while the others played.

“Franklin, come here.” Natalie beckoned at her eldest and led him out to the yard.

“Yes, Mommy?”

Without answering immediately, she sat on the small wooden bench in the yard and patted the vacant seat beside her.

“What do you really think about Yumi?” Natalie asked calmly.

“Not much,” Franklin replied stoically.

After being with all four children for over half a year, Natalie felt that Franklin’s temperament and appearance, especially the cold and haughty dominance, were most reminiscent of his father than the rest of his siblings.

She sighed at the reminder of the insurmountable task of convincing Samuel to do something he did not want to do. “Are you worried about Yumi having ulterior motives toward us? Do you think she’s here for something?”

Franklin nodded after considering the question for a moment.

“It’s good to be wary.” Natalie pinched her eldest son’s cheek. “But being too wary isn’t good. Your wariness is written all over your face, my dear. It’s a bit too much!”

“I couldn’t help it,” Franklin admitted. “Being the eldest brother, I have a duty to protect my younger brothers and sisters. Nobody will hurt them while I’m here.”

Natalie burst out laughing.

No wonder Franklin is growing up too quickly. He regards himself as the protector of his siblings! Back then, Sophia was the only one he had to protect. Now he has two other brothers to care for.

“Mommy, what are you laughing at?”

“Laughing at you, silly. You remind me of Daddy.” Natalie’s lips twitched as she struggled to straighten her expression. “It’s lovely of you to spoil your younger brothers and sister, but do try not to worry too much, will you? Even if you feel like the whole world is crumbling around you, you still have me and Daddy.”

Franklin froze at his mother’s words.

“Besides,” Natalie continued, “it’s not fair to watch over Yumi like she’s a thief. She’s your youngest sister now, not an enemy to be wary of all the time.”

Franklin nodded after a long while. “I understand, Mommy.”

“I’m proud of you.” Natalie scratched his nose dotingly. “If you ever feel uncomfortable, remember come talk to me. Five years of being absent in your life are long enough. I don’t want to miss being part of your life any more.”

Franklin's lips trembled. Yara has never spoken to me like this before.

Gazing back at the warm and loving eyes before him, Franklin clenched his fists and vowed in his heart to cherish Natalie and become a man like his father to protect her.

When Franklin returned to the living room, Natalie was pleased to see all five of them engaging in play.

As soon as she stood up from her seat on the bench, she saw Samuel slowly walking in from the other side of the yard.

"You're back?"

Samuel grunted in response.

"Did you hear my conversation with Franklin?" Natalie asked.

"Well, I heard the last part." Samuel walked to Natalie's side and wrapped her soft body in his arms.