Divorce Anxiety (Kathleen and Samuel) Chapter 431

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Chapter 431

Chapter 431 No Intention To Admit

Samuel walked over with Kathleen, and they sat down at the same time.

Trevor was ready to greet them, but Samuel totally ignored him and made the first move.

The main goal of the tech conference this time was for people to listen to the insights of other industry players.

Kathleen wasn't familiar with this field.

Samuel began to explain in a deep voice, "Don't force yourself. No one will really present their results. In fact, they might even come up with some unrealistic assumptions, then insist that they have done the research."

Kathleen responded, "Isn't that just making empty promises?"

"Well, whatever ideas they say here could easily be snatched away by other competitors for their own research," Samuel admitted solemnly.

Kathleen was taken aback. "Exactly how insecure are they? Their findings will have to be announced sooner or later."

"When it comes to tech and innovation, time is money," Samuel said flatly. "If someone else has plagiarized and perfected your ideas before you did, you can't really defend yourself."

Kathleen sighed. "I guess you're right."

She was in the pharmaceutical business, and they were very different fields.

"Next, let us welcome Mr. Samuel Macari," said the host on the stage.

Surprised, Kathleen glanced sideways at Samuel, "Oh, you're giving a speech today."

"That's right." Samuel nodded.

He stood up and walked onto the stage.

Kathleen watched as he strode away calmly, admiration rippling through her.

Samuel was indeed attractive.

He was charming and high-spirited. Any woman would fall for him.

She came here with him, yet other women still couldn't resist to approach him.

Kathleen sighed inwardly. She felt rather insecure, as though she was falling in love for the first time again.

As she looked at Samuel and listened to his speech, she was quite captivated.

His speech wasn't exactly a long one, but what he shared was quite practical.

After he finished his speech, he returned to sit next to Kathleen.

Kathleen asked curiously, "You just said that no one's really honest here, for fear of being plagiarized."

Samuel chuckled. "Macari Group has our own brand of confidence."

Fine.

The conference eventually ended, and Samuel and Kathleen rose to their feet.

"Mr. Macari," Trevor finally called out to him.

Samuel turned to face him. "Old Mr. Hoover, how may I help you?"

Trevor stared unblinkingly at Samuel. "I wonder if you have any plans for a collaboration."

"Macari Group has never cooperated with others in this field," Samuel rejected him coldly.

Macari Group had always done its research and development independently.

Cooperation was extended only when both parties had insufficient funds or lacked manpower.

However, Macari Group was different. Samuel had both money and manpower.

The people who worked for him were highly paid, so he was sure that they wouldn't be poached.

Trevor smiled meaningfully. "Why don't you take some time to think about it, Mr. Macari? I heard that you wanted to get involved in drones, but you're having trouble with the system. I have a few good people working under me. They might be able to help you."

Samuel's expression darkened. "Your information is quite accurate, Old Mr. Hoover."

I only have such intent thus far. No proposal has been made yet.

"Then, won't you consider it, Mr. Macari?" Trevor grinned.

Samuel looked at him sternly. "That's not necessary."

Not expecting that Samuel would still refuse him, Trevor thought that it was time for him to play his trump card.

"Uncle Trevor!" A beautiful woman came in from outside.

When Samuel glanced sideways, his eyes widened in shock.

Kathleen quickly surmised that the woman was Ashley, Samuel's savior.

Kathleen clenched her fists, hoping that nothing would go wrong.

"Ashley, you're here." <u>Trevor gave her a meaningful smile.</u>

Ashley nodded. "Traffic was bad. Am I late?"

"You missed Mr. Macari's speech. It was fascinating!" Trevor exclaimed.

Sighing, Ashley turned around to face Samuel. "Excuse me, Mr. Macari. I'm actually a reporter. Can I interview you?"

Seeing that she did not mention a word about their previous encounter, Samuel replied, "Sure."

"That's great!" Ashley said joyfully.

Kathleen raised a brow.

In the past, Samuel would never accept interviews.

Apparently, it was different when the request was made by one's savior.

"I shall wait for you in the lounge," he said flatly.

"All right!" Ashley was over the moon.

Samuel wrapped his arm around Kathleen's shoulders and left.

Soon, they arrived at the lounge.

Kathleen proceeded to mock him, "I'm your savior too. Why aren't you nicer to me?"

Samuel removed his jacket. "Am I not nice enough to you? Ms. Johnson, I've even entrusted my life to you."

Kathleen let out a light snort.

Samuel grinned as he took note of her jealousy. "There's nothing going on between us. Why do you care so much?"

Kathleen remained silent.

She had seen her fair share of how this would unfold.

"You can attend the interview alone. I'm going out for fresh air." With that, she turned around and left.

Samuel furrowed his brow and instructed the bodyguard to follow her.

Kathleen didn't go far; she was just nearby.

Right then, a bodyguard approached her. "Ms. Johnson, Mr. Hoover would like to see you."

Kathleen raised a brow. "Lead the way."

The bodyguard then led her to another lounge.

Trevor was having coffee when they arrived.

As Kathleen entered the room, their eyes met. Kathleen and Trevor looked similarly calm and composed.

"Ms. Johnson, take it easy. Have a seat," Trevor said.

Kathleen did not move. "I only have one question."

"Go on." Trevor cocked his brow.

"Do you know who I am?" she questioned in an icy tone.

"I do. You're Frances' granddaughter," Trevor answered casually. "We may be related by blood, but I do not intend to admit it, Ms. Johnson."

Good!

"You're overthinking it. I don't want to do that as well. I just want to ask about your take on the separation of Granny and my mom due to Luna and Hector," Kathleen stated coldly.

"I shared a past with Frances, but that is, after all, in the past," Trevor said with very little emotion. "I don't really know how Luna and Hector teamed up, and I don't plan to find out. I'm not going to divorce her because of this."

Kathleen clenched her fists. "In other words, you don't have any feelings for my grandmother and my mom anymore. Is that it?"

A grim smile appeared on Trevor's face. "If I did, I would have come looking for you long ago."

Kathleen felt a chill run down her spine.

He was right, and Kathleen's heart ached on behalf of Frances.

"Noted," she uttered coldly. "In that case, I won't hold back against the Hoover family!"

With that said, she turned and left.

Trevor merely sat there, calmly sipping on his coffee. "Fran, this child's personality is just like yours."

Then, he downed his drink in one go.

It's time to resolve these grudges.

He was getting old, so he might not get any more chances to do so.

Kathleen walked out of Trevor's lounge with a grim expression, feeling aggrieved for Frances.

They fell out of love. Fine. But did he have to cause her harm after breaking up? D*mn it! I'll never forgive the Hoover family! Never!

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Chapter 432 Quarrel

Kathleen took out her phone and called Rory, "I want you to find out about all of the Hoover family's businesses."

"Okay." Rory nodded. "I'm on it."

Kathleen hung up after that and headed to Samuel's lounge.

She pushed the door, only to realize that it had been locked from the inside.

The two bodyguards standing by the door were surprised as well.

"Step back, Mrs. Macari," one said as he pulled her back.

He was about to kick the door down when it swung open.

Ashley stood there, looking rather shy. "The interview's over."

She walked away after that.

Kathleen frowned.

When Ashley walked past her just now, Kathleen noticed the smirk on that woman's face, and Kathleen didn't like it one bit.

She then strode into the room.

Samuel was sitting silently on the couch.

"Are you... all right?" Kathleen faltered.

He glanced at her. "I'm fine."

"Why did you lock the door?" she asked.

It's supposed to be an interview.

"She did that," he clarified. "I did nothing of the sort."

It was true that Ashley merely locked the door, but he knew that Kathleen would misunderstand.

Kathleen knitted her brows. "What did she say?"

Samuel shook his head.

Ashley did not bring up the past at all.

Kathleen seemed to have something to say, but she hesitated.

Whatever. In the end, she's the one who saved him. If I say something that might cross the line, Samuel surely wouldn't like it.

In the end, Kathleen said plainly, "If that's all, let's go."

Staring at her face, he remarked, "You care about what happened just now."

Kathleen shook her head. "No."

Samuel rose to his feet and walked toward her while she stood rooted to the ground.

If this were In the past, her legs would have given out.

Right now, she was very calm.

"What's up with you?" She broke the silence.

Samuel said with a deep voice, "I still prefer how you used to fire questions at me aggressively. What are you afraid of? Is there anything you don't dare to say?"

Kathleen pursed her lips.

"Just because she's my savior, you intend to turn a blind eye to her scheming?" Samuel questioned coldly. "You are still my wife after all."

"Nonsense. We're divorced," Kathleen corrected him. "At most, we can be considered boyfriend and girlfriend, and some couples break up because one party interferes too much."

Samuel continued to gaze at her.

He knew this wasn't what she truly felt.

In fact, he wouldn't mind at all if Kathleen voiced her suspicions because he would have done the same.

Ashley's words and actions were certainly odd.

"We won't break up." Samuel placed her hand on his chest. "What do you want me to say to make you understand that you can do whatever you want when you're by my side?"

He had sworn that he would love her and dote on her even more than before, no matter what.

Kathleen responded, "We won't break up because we've both matured."

Samuel was quiet for a while.

"You don't care about me," he muttered in a deep voice. "You're not aware of the dangers around you!"

Kathleen was rendered speechless.

Looking at Kathleen's delicate and soft face, Samuel adjusted his emotions and took a deep breath. "Let's go back."

He reached out to grab his jacket.

Kathleen hesitated for a moment before saying, "Mr. Macari, I just can't love you the way I used to."

Samuel froze.

"I think we should reconsider our relationship." Kathleen felt a headache coming. "I'm heading to the office."

With that said, she turned to leave.

Instantly, Samuel's obsidian-like eyes dimmed.

Kathleen arrived at her company, Golden Wing Pharmaceuticals.

The company should have done the ribbon-cutting ceremony some time ago, but they had so many things going on that they kept delaying it.

Regardless, the company had finally begun to operate properly, and the business was doing well.

Kathleen sat alone in her office, spacing out.

Yadiel came in and greeted, "Ms. Johnson!"

Kathleen lifted her head. "You're back."

Yadiel nodded. "Ms. Johnson, I apologize. Yareli fled right after the plane landed. I've been searching for her for days and still couldn't find any clues."

"She's returned," Kathleen said flatly. "Dorothy called Zion, who caught Yareli's voice over the phone."

"She's actually come back!" Yadiel expressed his surprise.

"She must have come back to exact revenge," Kathleen surmised. "She must be thinking that if we hadn't forced Vanessa to call out Luna, Vanessa wouldn't have died."

"But it's obvious that Luna's the one who wanted Vanessa dead." Yadiel knitted his brows.

"She is blinded by hatred," Kathleen uttered in exasperation. "Yadiel, I want you to investigate Ashley Zeller for me."

"Ashley Zeller?" It was the first time Yadiel heard of that name.

"Yes. She's Luna's niece. She's the one who saved Samuel when he was kidnapped while he was a kid," Kathleen explained. "Samuel said that the girl who saved him then had passed away, but recently, he got wind of the news that the girl was Ashley."

"Got it. Ms. Johnson, you're suspicious of the relationship between Luna and Ashley, aren't you?" Yadiel summarized, to which Kathleen nodded firmly.

Yadiel understands me after all, but Samuel doesn't! This is ridiculous!

"Sure, I shall investigate," replied Yadiel.

Kathleen waved her hand. "I'm going to take a break."

Stunned, Yadiel muttered, "Ms. Johnson, aren't you meeting Mr. Macari?"

"Why would I do that? We just had a guarrel," Kathleen said in frustration.

"I saw Mr. Macari downstairs," Yadiel went on. "Didn't anyone notify you?"

Kathleen shook her head. "Nope."

"You ought to take a look," Yadiel suggested. "He's in the lobby."

Kathleen stood up for a second before sitting back down. "Let him wait."

It was high time he did so.

Yadiel didn't want to interfere in their matter, so he turned around and left.

After that, Kathleen picked up her phone and looked at it. Samuel didn't even send her any messages.

In that case, I shall pretend I don't know anything.

When it was time to get off work, the company's employees passed by the lobby, and all of them noticed Samuel.

He sat there in his elegant black suit, emanating an air of austerity.

"Mr. Macari's so handsome!"

"Ms. Johnson's so lucky! If I have a handsome boyfriend like that picking me up from work, I'd be jumping for joy!"

"Dream on! You don't even have a boyfriend, let alone a handsome one!"

Samuel sat there on the couch, looking straight at the elevators.

He would be able to see the exact moment Kathleen stepped out of the elevator.

Very soon, Kathleen appeared among the crowd.

She also spotted Samuel, clenched her fingers tightly, and pretended not to have seen him.

With that, she kept her head low as she walked ahead.

Eventually, a "wall" blocked her way.

A pair of shiny leather shoes entered her sight. Her eyes worked their way up until they eventually met Samuel's deep gaze. Frowning, Kathleen spoke. "Have you calmed down?"

It was then that Samuel wrapped his arms around her right in the middle of the bustling lobby.

Everyone stopped in their tracks.

What's this about?

"Samuel, let go this instant! Everyone's watching!" Kathleen yelled at him, blushing hard.

Samuel did as he was told, and Kathleen looked around her.

Everyone else quickly pretended to be fascinated by the view of the sky.

Someone even said, "Look, a UFO!"

Kathleen was rendered speechless.

When she came back to her senses, Samuel had slowly got down on one knee.

The crowd gasped.

This is it!

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Chapter 433 Will You Marry Me Again

Kathleen wanted to keep a low profile, but Samuel had apparently escalated things.

He got out the ring he had long prepared and showed it to her.

"Kate, are you willing to trust me one more time and marry me again?" Samuel asked sincerely.

Kathleen lowered her eyes, staring back at him as her cheeks flushed red.

"I do." She nodded.

Samuel instantly froze.

He didn't expect Kathleen would agree to his proposal so readily.

As she continued to gaze at him with her red cheeks, her eyes glimmered in delight.

Samuel stood up, held her hand, and slipped a ring on her finger in a heartbeat.

He then took one step forward and ran his hand through her hair to cradle the back of her head, while he wrapped the other hand around her waist.

Next, he slowly lowered his head, allowing his lips to touch her cherry-red ones.

The surrounding crowd erupted into applause and cheers.

Kathleen heard none of that.

Her mind was a total blank.

She could only hear the sound of her heart thumping loudly and rapidly.

Her hand with the ring clutched tightly onto Samuel's top.

She wasn't sure if she did it right this time, but she was certain that she was willing to trust him.

The road ahead was a long one. She was bound to take some risks and surrender to her impulses.

A long while later, Samuel released her.

As he gazed at the woman, who could hardly breathe, he smiled. "Looks like I have a lot to teach you."

Kathleen's cheeks flushed even redder. "Let's get going!" she huffed.

Samuel took hold of her slender hand and led her out of the building.

Someone posted the entire video of their proposal on the internet and Instagram.

Very quickly, they became the top trending topic.

In a hotel, Ashley snickered as she stared at the phone in her hand.

Her laughter was dripping with sarcasm.

She didn't think they would take action so quickly.

Samuel had proposed just like that.

She thought they would keep dragging for some time.

Somehow, she had a feeling that if she had shown up a bit later, they might not have fretted so quickly.

Ashley picked up the knife next to her and plunged it into an .

"So what if he'd proposed? Kathleen, I will separate you two! Just you wait!" A wicked glint flashed across her eyes.

Back at Florinia Manor, Kathleen was sitting on the bed.

Her phone had been buzzing non-stop.

So many people were sending her congratulatory messages.

She didn't know which one she should respond first.

Samuel noticed her dilemma and grabbed her phone. "Don't mind them. Put it off till tomorrow."

Kathleen stared back at him. "Mr. Macari, this is the first ring you gave me. Tell me, was it Tyson who bought it?"

When they got married the first time, Samuel hadn't taken it seriously.

"Nope." He sat down next to her. "I chose it myself. Do you like it?"

Kathleen lifted her hand. She finally remembered that she should take her time to admire the ring.

It was certainly a beautiful one, especially the large diamond studded on it.

Kathleen thought she wouldn't like shiny jewelry, but the moment she saw the ring, her heart fluttered.

No woman could escape it.

Samuel knew she liked the ring, but he wasn't quite satisfied with her expression.

He wrapped her in an embrace and said uncertainly, "If you don't like it, I can exchange it for a different one."

Kathleen chuckled. "Do you expect me to be as excited as a little girl? Samuel, I'm a mature adult. I've seen my fair share of diamonds. I bought some too. So, you shouldn't expect me to get emotional."

Samuel said nothing, looking rather dejected.

Kathleen lifted his face and smiled. "Samuel, you're not the violent and sinister man you used to be, and I'm not an innocent little girl anymore. We've changed. The way we

handle matters and the way we express emotions differ now. I like the ring. I'm very impressed."

A hint of warmth appeared on Samuel's handsome face.

Even if Kathleen didn't like it, there was nothing he could do.

In the past, he tended to give her a hard time too.

Back then, she didn't say anything.

"Are you hungry? Let's get something to eat," Kathleen asked in a gentle tone.

"Sure." Samuel led her downstairs to get some food.

They had Kathleen's favorite dishes for dinner.

While they were halfway through the meal, Kathleen's phone rang.

It was Gemma.

"Hello." Kathleen took the call.

"Kate…" Gemma was sobbing on the other end.

Kathleen frowned. "Gemma, what's up? Where are you?"

"I'm at the hospital," Gemma said in between sobs. "I..."

"I'm coming!" Kathleen stood up, put her phone down, and turned to Samuel.

"Something's happened to Gemma. I'm going to the hospital."

"Sure." Samuel nodded. "Let me take you there. Maybe I can help."

"All right."

At the hospital, Kathleen found Gemma in her office.

The latter was crouching on the floor, her face buried between her knees in utter misery.

Kathleen crouched down as well. "Gem, what happened?"

Gemma continued to sob.

"Did Richard hurt you?" Kathleen questioned worriedly.

Gemma cried even harder, so much so that she couldn't speak clearly.

Kathleen frowned upon seeing that.

From the look of things, she supposed she would have to wait for Samuel's update.

Meanwhile, Samuel arrived at Richard's office.

Richard was lying on his back on the chair. His tie had been ripped off, and his white coat was unbuttoned.

"What happened?" Samuel demanded icily.

What have these two gotten into this time?

"Miley had gone to look for her," Richard said, his voice hoarse. "I'd made my intentions very clear to her, but Miley was adamant to jump."

"She jumped?" Samuel questioned in a frigid voice.

Richard nodded. "We were on the third floor then. She leaped out of the window. Gemma couldn't stop her in time."

"Is she still alive?" Samuel asked.

"She's in the emergency room."

"What's next? What are you going to do?" Samuel asked. "Break up with Gemma?"

"I…" Richard's expression sank. "If anything happens to Miley, it's not possible for me to stay with Gemma, Samuel."

Gemma and Richard could never put this behind them.

"I've told you before. This woman is nothing but trouble," Samuel stated.

"But she's my professor's daughter. I can't ignore her." Richard felt a headache coming. "How's Gemma?"

"Kate's staying with her," Samuel answered.

"I really envy you," Richard blurted. "You two have been through so many hardships, and now you two are back together again."

"As long as you don't give up, you can," Samuel said. "If Miley's safe and sound, what's your plan?"

Richard stayed silent.

"Don't think that I'm forcing you," Samuel muttered coolly. "You have to figure out a way to resolve this. If you think about it only when something bad has happened, you'll miss out on a lot of things."

Right then, Samuel's phone rang in his pocket.

Kathleen had sent him a message: I'm taking Gemma home. I'm not coming back tonight. She's not in the right state of mind. I'm worried about her.

Samuel glanced at it and responded: Sure. I'll get a few people to stand guard. Look for them if you need anything. It's late. Don't leave the house alone.

Kathleen typed back: All right.

Samuel slipped the phone back into his pocket and said, "Come on. Let's go to the operating room."

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Chapter 434 That Little Girl Is Me

Kathleen drove Gemma's car and brought her home.

Gemma had moved in with Richard after they got together.

Yet, she did not want to go back there at the moment.

If she went to Benjamin's place, it would be troublesome for her to explain the situation to him.

Therefore, Kathleen took her to the Johnson residence, which the former previously bought.

It had everything, so it would be convenient for them to stay there.

Kathleen led Gemma to the bedroom and asked the latter to lie on the bed.

"I'll get you a glass of water," Kathleen said.

Gemma grabbed her hand, stopping Kathleen from leaving the room. "I'm not thirsty, Kate."

Since Gemma had calmed down, she felt like talking to Kathleen. "Talk with me," Gemma continued.

"Okay." Kathleen sat down.

Gemma slowly let go of Kathleen's hand and stared at the ceiling. "That woman's name is Miley Chapman. She's the daughter of Richard's professor, who died during an international aid. That professor saved Richard when he died, so Richard has been responsible for taking care of Miley since then."

Kathleen asked coldly, "Did you not know about that all these years?"

"No, I didn't know. He hid it perfectly. Besides, Miley had always been abroad and never come back."

Kathleen nodded, encouraging Gemma to go on.

"We drank too much yesterday, so I told Richard that I wanted to break up if he didn't want to get married." Gemma pursed her lips. "Kate, I don't want an intense, dramatic relationship. I just want it to be simple and last long. I want to get married, have kids, and live a peaceful life."

Kathleen held Gemma's hand. "Gem, I know. This is understandable. Everyone makes their own choices. You want to get married, but he doesn't want to. You can break up with him and find another man."

"Yes. That's what I thought too." Tears rolled down Gemma's cheeks. "But Richard said that he wanted to marry me and that he loved me very much. It's just that he wants to wait another year. I love him so much that I agreed to his request."

Kathleen did not criticize Gemma because that was how people were when they were in love.

Everyone, including Kathleen, used to be a fool when they were in love.

Gemma took a deep breath and continued. "Richard gave me a ring, saying that it was a marriage proposal. He promised to marry me after a year. He even brought me to see our new house and gave me the key and a bank card so that I could decorate the house. Kate, I was really happy at the time."

Kathleen replied solemnly, "Okay."

"But..." Gemma burst into tears. "The woman named Miley appeared. She came back from abroad and found me. I was in the hospital ward then. She said that Richard loved her and that he went to see her when he went abroad all these years. She even said that she used to have his kid. I didn't believe her. Richard showed up afterward and told her that the one he loved was me, not her. In the end, she turned and jumped out of the window. I tried to grab her but couldn't get her in time."

Kathleen felt angry yet helpless upon hearing her words.

Gemma cried sorrowfully as she went on, "Regardless of whether Miley will survive the fall or not, I know that I can't be with Richard anymore."

Kathleen lightly patted her on the shoulder. "Gem, get some sleep. You should think about this again when you calm down."

"Okay." Gemma closed her eyes.

She had a hard time trying to calm down, so it was difficult for her to fall asleep.

Opening a drawer, Kathleen took out an incense stick and lit it.

The incense stick released calming scents.

Upon smelling the scent from the burning incense stick, Gemma became emotionally stable and soon fell asleep.

Kathleen breathed a sigh of relief.

Meanwhile, Miley's surgery at the hospital was over.

The doctor said that she was safe, and fortunately, her head was not seriously injured.

The only thing to worry about was her legs, for she might never be able to stand up again.

Richard swallowed hard.

If Miley did go lame, he would have to take care of her for the rest of her life, which meant that he could never be with Gemma anymore.

Samuel looked at Richard coldly. "I can help you if you don't have the heart to do it."

"How?" Richard frowned.

"Send her to a place you don't know about," replied Samuel.

Richard was rendered speechless.

"But it seems that you don't need me. Richard, if you want to take care of her, you should be prepared to break up with Gemma," Samuel reminded.

Richard said bitterly, "I don't want to break up with her."

"You don't want to, but is there a woman who can accept her man taking care of another woman? Gemma is more like a soft touch than Kathleen is, but do you really think that she can't live without you? You've been with her for so many years without marrying her. Do you really think she can't meet a better man at her current age?" Samuel mocked.

Richard was stumped.

"Don't get clever with Gemma. Richard, I think compared to Kathleen, it'll be even harder for her to get back together with you once she's made up her mind. Think about it yourself," Samuel added coldly.

Richard remained silent.

"Kate took Gemma back to her mansion. You can go to see her after you make the decision. If you haven't decided yet, don't disturb and upset her," Samuel said calmly.

"Okay." Richard nodded.

Samuel then turned to leave.

There was a look of misery on Richard's face.

What should I do?

Samuel came out of the hospital.

When he was about to enter the car, the voice of a woman was heard from behind.

"Samuel."

Samuel turned to look at Ashley with an indifferent expression. "It's you."

He's so aloof.

Ashley walked over. "Why did you come to the hospital?"

"To do my stuff." Samuel remained distant.

Ashley noticed his indifference toward her and said hesitantly, "Samuel, there's something I didn't get to tell you that day."

"What's it?" Samuel asked emotionlessly.

Ashley looked pale. "I have an upset stomach from dinner. Please accompany me to the doctor first, and then, I will tell you."

"Hey, you over there, accompany Ms. Zeller to get a check-up," Samuel instructed in a cold voice.

Ashley was bereft of speech as a bodyguard walked over.

Samuel fixed his indifferent eyes on Ashley. "Does it not hurt anymore? Hurry up and go."

Ashley felt humiliated.

She could not believe that he actually got a bodyguard to get rid of her, Ashley Zeller, the niece of the owner of Zeller Group.

Samuel looked at her coldly.

"Samuel, that's not very gentlemanly of you," Ashley remarked calmly.

"I don't need to be one to you. Why should I be so nice to women other than my own?" Samuel replied icily.

Ashley froze.

"Besides, it's not like you're dying," added Samuel.

As she looked up to meet his dark, cold eyes, she was stunned.

Samuel was staring cold as ice at her without any emotion in his eyes.

Ashley clenched her fists. "Samuel, actually this is what I'm trying to tell you. Do you remember when you were kidnapped many years ago and a little girl died while trying to save you?"

Samuel kept his cold gaze at her. "Yes."

That's great!

"Actually, that little girl is me." Ashley felt uneasy.

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Chapter 435 I Want To Be Your Sister

"What do you want? Money?" asked Samuel aloofly.

"Does my life only mean money to you?" Ashley retorted angrily.

"This is the only way I can thank you. Or is there anything you want? You can tell me," said Samuel in the same icy tone.

Ashley was stumped.

"If these are not what you want, what do you want, then? My life?" asked Samuel.

Ashley was speechless, not knowing how to answer him.

I can't tell him that I want to be with him, can I?

"Samuel, actually, I want to be your... sister." Ashley squeezed her fingers as she went on, "I'm the only child. I want a... brother."

"No. It's either money or something else. I won't agree to have such an ambiguous relationship with you," Samuel replied flatly.

Ashley froze.

Why is this different from what I thought?

Samuel looked at her indifferently. "Do you still want to see the doctor?"

"I'll go by myself." After a pause, Ashley added hesitantly, "Samuel, how about this? Treat it as a favor you owe me. I'll come to you when I have the need to in the future. Is that okay?"

"Okay."

That's great!

"I hope you'll have your mind made up when you come to me," Samuel added before closing the car door and instructing the driver to drive.

Biting her lip, Ashley watched him leave.

I didn't expect him to be so unyielding, but it's okay. I have other ways.

Kathleen woke up early the next day.

After she went downstairs, she saw Samuel sitting in the living room, and there was food on the table.

"How did you come in?" Kathleen was surprised.

"With key. Desi gave it to me," explained Samuel.

Kathleen recalled that she had indeed given Desiree the key to her house when the latter lived here.

Kathleen did not expect Desiree would give the key to Samuel.

"Why didn't you wake me up?" Kathleen frowned.

"I want you to sleep a little longer," Samuel replied.

She went over to sit next to him. "I know all the ins and outs. How's Miley doing?"

"She didn't hurt her head, but she won't be able to stand up for the rest of her life," stated Samuel calmly.

It's that bad?

Kathleen knitted her brows. "What is Richard going to do?"

Samuel glanced sideways at her. "What do you think?"

"If he wants to take care of Miley, Gemma…" Kathleen could not finish her sentence. Instead, she said, "It'll be too cruel for her."

Samuel held her hand. "She has to face it."

Kathleen felt bad for Gemma. "It's too cruel."

There was a solemn look in Samuel's eyes. Indeed. It's not easy for Richard and Gemma to be together. Gemma has indeed sacrificed a lot in the relationship.

"Kate." Gemma's voice was suddenly heard coming from upstairs.

Kathleen immediately rose to her feet. "Gem, you're awake. Are you hungry? Samuel got us some breakfast."

"Yeah." Gemma nodded.

Kathleen grabbed Gemma's hand and said, "Let's go and eat something." The former then glanced at Samuel. "Come eat together."

Samuel nodded.

The three of them went to the dining room.

Kathleen took care of Gemma.

"Here's some soy milk and bread." Kathleen placed the breakfast in front of Gemma.

Gemma took a sip of the soy milk. "Samuel, how's Miley?"

"I called just now and was told that she's out of critical condition. I've also helped you to apply for leave at the hospital. You can take a good rest and return to work anytime," Samuel replied.

"Thanks." Gemma's eyes were reddened.

He replied calmly, "Don't stand on ceremony. You're Kate's friend."

Gemma pursed her lips. "So she..." Gemma trailed off.

"She can't move her legs anymore. She has to spend the rest of her life in a wheelchair," Samuel stated.

Gemma took a bite of the bread and chewed it slowly, tears rolling down her cheeks.

Kathleen took a piece of tissue and helped Gemma to wipe the tears off her face.

As tears kept streaming down Gemma's face, Kathleen got worried.

Gemma knew that it was impossible for Richard to ignore Miley when Miley was in such a condition.

Gemma felt terrible, and her heart ached.

Closing her eyes, she broke down in tears.

Kathleen patted her lightly on her back. "Don't take it too hard, Gem. Richard is so terrible. If he had resolved the matter sooner, it wouldn't have affected you."

Hearing Kathleen's complaint about Richard, Samuel did not want to make any comments.

"Kate, I'm really sad. I love him so much, but this is what I get in the end." Gemma sobbed.

She was indignant that she had to break up with Richard because of such a thing.

"There are a lot of things in life we can't control, Gem. If you can't force it, it's better for you to walk away from it as soon as possible," said Kathleen.

"Okay." Gemma sniffled. "Kate, I would like to be alone now."

"Make yourself at home, Gem. I've told the guard not to let Richard in. Don't worry. Have a good rest," Kathleen assured.

Gemma nodded and went back to her room.

Samuel gave Kathleen a thoughtful look. "What do you think Gemma will do?"

Kathleen replied straightforwardly, "Break up. No woman can accept such a thing. Richard is the one who makes the mistake, so he should bear the consequences himself. He can't drag Gemma into it."

Samuel gave it a thought and asked, "What if this happens to us?"

Kathleen looked at him with a serious expression. "If the woman who places you in a tough spot is Ashley, Samuel, I won't cry as Gemma did. Now, I understand that making myself happy is the most important thing. When the time comes, don't accuse me of not loving you enough. If you love me, you won't have anything to do with Ashley."

"I didn't make a mistake." Samuel felt helpless.

Kathleen took a sip of the soy milk without saying anything.

Ashley's existence made her feel uncomfortable.

It was not that she was overly concerned, but something like that happened too many times, such as Nicolette, who pretended to be the one who saved Samuel.

As a result, Samuel treated Nicolette very well.

By the way, there has been no news of Nicolette these days. Where did she go?

"What are you going to do today?" asked Samuel.

"I'm keeping Gem company at home. I vaguely remember that she always spent time with me when I quarreled with you previously, so I can't leave her now," replied Kathleen.

"Okay." Samuel nodded. "I'm going to the office today. Call me if you need me."

He knew that Kathleen would not possibly call him as she was no longer the same as before and could solve everything by herself.

"Okay." Kathleen gave him a slight nod.

Samuel got up and left.

He then got into the car with a frown.

Tyson asked awkwardly, "What's wrong, Mr. Macari?"

"Tyson, humans are so greedy." Samuel swallowed hard. "I used to think it would be fine as long as she stayed by my side, but now I want her to love me like before."

"What happened, Mr. Macari?"

Samuel told Tyson the whole thing.

"Mr. Macari, I actually think that Mrs. Macari is right. Both of you have changed. You certainly didn't handle things the way you did in the past. Besides, I think the fact that Mrs. Macari is bothered by Ashley shows that she loves you."