

100 Days 651

Chapter 651 Ethan's Decision

[At Towerville City District Hospital...]

Butler Li found himself in a state of panic as he hastily rushed young Ethan to the hospital. Earlier in the day, when Ethan had returned home, there was a palpable sadness in his eyes, but Butler Li had chalked it up to fatigue from a long day at school. After dropping by his father's room, the young master stayed in his room and never came out.

Growing increasingly concerned, Butler Li eventually ventured into Ethan's room and was met with the sight of the young boy crying incessantly. It was a rare occurrence; Ethan had never shed tears like this before.

His heart filled with unease, Butler Li couldn't ignore the obvious distress any longer and gently inquired about what had transpired. Ethan's response was a mere mumble, indicating he was in pain.

Without wasting another moment, Butler Li made the critical decision to rush Ethan to the nearest hospital. His primary concern was Ethan's well-being, and he acted swiftly.

Simultaneously, he reached out to inform Nathan of the situation, ensuring that Ethan's father would be aware of the urgency and gravity of the matter.

However, the moment Ethan and Butler Li arrived at the hospital, Ethan's demeanor underwent a remarkable transformation. He suddenly appeared calm and composed, as if the turmoil that had gripped him had dissipated into thin air.

The attending doctor, concerned about his condition, inquired about the cause and severity of his pain, but Ethan chose to remain tight-lipped, leaving the doctor with limited information to work with.

Nevertheless, the medical team proceeded to conduct a series of tests and admitted Ethan to a private ward for further observation and care.

Once the doctor had departed, Butler Li approached his young master, his concern evident in his voice.

"Young master, you really should confide in the doctor about what you're experiencing so they can provide you with the appropriate treatment," Butler Li implored.

Ethan, however, maintained his calm demeanor and replied, "I'm fine. Please, don't worry about me. But there's something I need to discuss with you. Can I trust you?"

Puzzled but willing to assist, Butler Li met Ethan's gaze with a questioning expression. "Of course, young master. You can trust me completely. What's on your mind?"

With a sense of urgency, the young boy discreetly reached into his pocket, retrieving four small plastic zip-lock bags, each containing a few strands of hair. He handed them to Butler Li, his eyes reflecting the gravity of the situation that had unfolded before them.

"Could you please submit these samples to the Pathology Lab for a DNA test?" Ethan's voice was hushed, his plea laden with an air of secrecy. "It's imperative that you keep this a secret from my father. I trust you with this crucial task, and I cannot divulge any further details."

Sensing the immense importance and weightiness of the request, Butler Li could do nothing but solemnly nod his head. "Very well, Young Master. I won't pry or ask any questions. Your secret is safe with me, and I will ensure your father remains unaware of this matter. You can place your trust in me without hesitation."

Ethan let out a sigh of relief, reassured by Butler Li's unwavering loyalty and discretion. Among the extensive staff that served the Sparks Family, Butler Li held a unique position in Ethan's heart as the person he trusted the most.

Moreover, Butler Li had shared a close bond with Jane, making him the ideal confidant for the young boy's mission in search of truth.

"You may leave now," Ethan urged Butler Li, gratitude evident in his eyes as he lay down on his sick bed and gently closed his eyes, attempting to regain control over his swirling emotions.

In the quiet of the hospital room, Ethan found himself reflecting deeply on the choices he had made. Keeping the DNA test a secret from Nathan weighed heavily on his mind.

A part of him harbored a nagging fear that revealing the possibility of him not being Nathan's biological son could be an overwhelming burden for his father. Ethan, in his own way, was determined to unfold the truth independently, not wanting to rely on his father's involvement.

"If I am not truly his son," Ethan whispered to himself, his voice tinged with a blend of sadness and anger, "it means that my father, Nathan, has been trapped in a wicked deception. He was tricked by this woman, and I unwittingly became a pawn in her scheme."

His small fist clenched tightly, and a surge of rage coursed through his heart. It was a raging fury not only at the woman who had caused this uncertainty but also at the cruel twist of fate that had placed Nathan in such a situation.

In the midst of his turmoil, Ethan's empathy for Nathan grew. He felt an overwhelming sense of sorrow for his father, who had unknowingly been drawn into a web of deceit. This revelation was not just a personal crisis for Ethan, it was a tragedy that implicated the man he admired, the man who served as his father for the past two years.

Ethan found himself deep in contemplation when the sudden intrusion of two figures disrupted his thoughts. The abrupt noise of the hospital door being flung open seized his attention, compelling him to turn his gaze in its direction. To his astonishment, the two individuals who had occupied his thoughts, the two most cherished people in his world, now stood before him.

A rush of emotions flooded Ethan as he laid eyes on them. His typically composed expression softened into one of warmth and relief, and his heart instantly felt at ease. Jane offered him a loving and reassuring gaze that instantly eased the turbulence in his heart. Right beside her stood Nathan, his father, a pillar of strength and support.

At that moment, as the room seemed to brighten with their presence, Ethan knew that no matter the challenges that lay ahead, he had his two most cherished people by his side. Their presence alone was a balm for his soul, providing the comfort and solace he so desperately needed.

"Mom! Dad!" Ethan called them instinctively. Those words just naturally came out of his mouth.

In a heartbeat, both Jane and Nathan rushed to his side, their faces etched with worry and love. Jane reached him first and enveloped Ethan in her warm and comforting embrace. Her voice was filled with genuine concern as she asked, "Ethan, how are you feeling? What happened? Why did you suddenly fall ill?"

Ethan's heart swelled with a mixture of emotions at the sight and touch of Jane. It was a moment of immense reassurance, the feeling of their presence dispelling the anxiety that had gripped him earlier.

As he lay in Jane's embrace, he felt the warmth of her love, and her questions only underscored the depth of their concern for his well-being.

'How I wish she was my biological mother. Not anyone else.' Ethan murmured in his mind.

Nathan, on the other hand, gently ran his fingers through his son's hair, his touch conveying both affection and relief. "You had us both deeply worried," he admitted, his voice tinged with a mixture of concern and gratitude.

Hearing the distressing news about Ethan had initially filled him with a sense of dread, but now, knowing that his son wasn't gravely ill, a wave of relief washed over him.

"Now, you must tell us what happened," Nathan asserted with a sense of determination, his fatherly concern evident.

With a reassuring smile, he decided to take the path of deception, convinced it was for the best. "I'm fine, Dad. Really," he replied, his tone attempting to downplay the seriousness of the situation.

"I just had a bit of an upset stomach. Butler Li must have overreacted." It was a difficult decision, but he believed that, for now, keeping the secret was the safest course of action.

But unknown to Ethan, Jane, and Nathan wanted to get to the bottom of this. Nathan already summoned Ethan's nanny and bodyguards to interrogate them about how Ethan suddenly got ill. The bodyguards and his nanny were now on the way to the hospital to meet Nathan.

Meanwhile, since Jane showed up together with his father, Ethan couldn't contain his happiness. His anxiety was now diverted and he just wanted to seize this moment.

Jane's unexpected arrival had lifted his spirits and filled him with happiness. In this moment, he longed to embrace the joy of their reunion, cherishing the rare opportunity to be surrounded by the love and warmth of Jane and Nathan, even in the face of the undisclosed secrets and uncertainties that loomed over them.

Chapter 652 Taking their Relationship to the Next Level

Following a detailed discussion with Ethan's attending physician, Jane and Nathan could finally feel at ease. The tests had shown that Ethan's health was, in fact, in the clear, and he could even be discharged from the hospital as early as the next day.

With this encouraging news in mind, Jane made it her mission to keep Ethan company, filling the hours with games and stories, determined to take on the role of caregiver for Nathan during his one-night hospital stay.

However, Jane also harbored a keen curiosity about Nathan's conversation with Ethan's nanny and the vigilant bodyguards. As Ethan enjoyed a quick shower, Jane seized the opportunity to slip out of the room, making her way to the adjacent vacant room where Nathan and the others had convened.

The two guards and the nanny were taken aback, their expressions a mixture of surprise and bewilderment, as Jane entered the room without seeking Nathan's permission to join their discussion. She settled herself beside Nathan with a familiarity that suggested a deep connection between them, casting an unwavering and scrutinizing gaze upon them.

Their anxiety levels had already been ramped up by Nathan's commanding presence, but with Jane's unexpected arrival, their tension escalated further. At that moment, they felt as though they were prisoners who were about to get sentenced to death by these two executors.

The room seemed to close in, and they were overwhelmed by a sense of impending doom, uncertain about what lay ahead in this intense and scrutinizing interrogation.

"Have you already started questioning them?" Jane inquired of Nathan, her sharp and inquisitive gaze still fixed firmly on the bodyguards and the nanny.

"No, I was waiting for you," Nathan replied promptly, fully aware that Jane shared his concern for Ethan's well-being.

Jane acknowledged his response with a nod and then shifted her attention to the nanny, her eyes probing for answers. "Tell me, what did you let him eat today that could have caused this upset stomach?"

The nanny, her nerves palpable in her trembling fingers, responded with a hint of anxiety, "Ma'am, we only gave him a packed lunch prepared by our family chef. After that, he didn't eat anything, even when we visited his classmate's house."

As the information lingered in the room, both Jane and Nathan's expressions laced with confusion and intrigue. The mention of Ethan visiting a classmate's house triggered their curiosity, prompting Nathan to direct his question to the three individuals before him.

"Tell us more about this classmate," Nathan pressed, his voice tinged with a sense of urgency.

This time, the head guard stepped forward to provide the details. "Young Master Ethan was playing in the playground when he was approached by Miss Helena," he explained. "It turns out that Miss Helena is connected to his classmate, Mia. So, we accompanied Nathan's face darkened while a cold, calculating glint flickered in Jane's eyes at the mention of Helena Carlsen. Her name added a layer of intrigue to the story. The connection between Helena, Vincent and Mia hinted at a deeper and more complex web of relationships.

It raised troubling questions: Was Monica attempting to approach Ethan through these indirect means? What were her intentions, and what was she planning to do? Does she want to reveal to Ethan about her identity and their relationship?

The room seemed to crackle with tension as these unsettling possibilities swirled in the air.

With a sense of urgency and a steely resolve, Nathan issued a clear and unwavering command to the group before him. His voice carried the weight of authority and protectiveness as he made his intentions abundantly clear.

"Starting today, you are to ensure that woman does not come anywhere near Ethan," Nathan ordered, his tone firm and commanding. His words left no room for negotiation, emphasizing the gravity of the situation and the importance of keeping Monica away from his son.

"I believe it's necessary to transfer him to a different school," Nathan added, shifting his gaze to Jane as if seeking her affirmation.

"I'm fully in support of that decision," Jane replied, her gaze unwavering, like ice in its coldness. There was a palpable unease in her, a foreboding sense that this was the right course of action. Jane knew all too well the cunning nature of Monica and harbored a deep-seated intuition that her presence would only spell trouble for Ethan.

'She is good at pushing my buttons. I have to divert her attention away from Ethan. I won't let her get near Ethan.' With a resolute determination, she made a silent vow to herself.

After a while, Jane slowly stood up from her seat, realizing the them to Mia's house." The guard recognized Helena Carlsen.

importance of returning to Ethan's room. It was likely that Ethan had finished his quick bath and might have started searching for her, yearning for the comfort of her presence.

"Nate, I'm heading back to Ethan's room now. You can continue your discussion," Jane said as she prepared to take her leave from the room.

However, Nathan also rose from his seat, dismissing the guards and the nanny. There was no need to prolong the discussion further, especially when he felt a deep desire to spend more quality time with both Jane and Ethan.

"Let's go back together," Nathan whispered softly, gently taking Jane's hand in his.

Jane offered a warm smile in response and nodded. "Of course."

As they walked side by side through the hospital corridors, a sense of unity and determination filled their hearts. They both shared a common hope: that Monica hadn't divulged any sensitive information to Ethan yet.

They feared that Ethan might unwittingly become entangled in Monica's devious plans, and they were determined to prevent that from happening at all costs. Ethan's safety, mental health, and well-being remained their utmost priority.

When Jane and Nathan entered the room, they were met with Ethan's charming yet slightly pouting expression. His voice carried a tinge of curiosity and longing as he asked, "Where have you been?" It was a question that conveyed his yearning for their presence.

However, as soon as Ethan's eyes landed on the intertwined hands of Jane and Nathan, his initial unhappiness seemed to melt away. His adorable face brightened, and his question shifted its focus.

"Dad, Miss Jane, what's going on?" Ethan inquired again, his finger pointing to their clasped hands.

Jane, caught off guard, bit her lower lip and made a subtle attempt to extract her hand from Nathan's grasp. But her efforts were met with a tightening of Nathan's grip, and he even raised their connected hands with an air of pride.

"Jane and I," Nathan announced with a reassuring tone, "have decided to take our relationship to the next level. We're now in the dating stage." His gaze remained steady as he posed a direct question to their son. "Do you have any complaints or objections, Ethan?" Nathan smirked, followed by a hearty chuckle. He knew that Ethan wouldn't complain.

Jane: "..."

'We haven't discussed that yet?' Jane was flabbergasted by Nathan's declaration. He didn't even consult her about this.

On the other hand, the unexpected revelation had stirred the young boy's emotions. Ethan jumped with joy screaming "Yes! Yes! Finally!" as if he won the lottery.

Chapter 653 He only Loves Her

"Yes! Yes! Finally!" Ethan couldn't contain his happiness when he heard his father's declaration. It was a moment he had been eagerly waiting for, the confirmation that Nathan and Jane were officially dating. Because of this piece of good news, Ethan had forgotten his troubles, leaving only a sense of pure bliss.

On the other hand, the surprise left Jane momentarily speechless, unsure of how to respond to this unexpected twist. Nathan didn't even ask her about the status of their relationship.

However, upon observing the radiant joy on Ethan's face, Jane couldn't help but break into a warm, affectionate smile. She decided to go with the flow and play along with Nathan.

"Yes, Ethan. I hope you will give us your blessing," Jane softly mumbled.

Bobbing his head with enthusiasm, Ethan clung to Jane's hands as he locked his gaze onto her eyes with unwavering intensity. His words were filled with genuine warmth and support as he expressed his approval, "Of course, you have my blessing, Miss Jane! I wish you both all the happiness in the world!"

Having offered his heartfelt blessing, Ethan turned his attention to his father, his chest swelling with pride. He wanted to make sure his father knew just how much this moment meant to him. With a playful wink and a thumbs-up gesture, he praised his dad, saying, "You've made me proud, Dad! Keep it up!"

Nathan and Jane burst out into a peal of laughter, filling the room with a contagious, cheerful atmosphere.

After a while, Jane momentarily left Ethan's ward. She went to an isolated area in the hospital to summon Bam-Bam. The magical creature seemed to anticipate her calling. Bam-Bam instantly appeared in front of Jane, grinning from ear to ear.

"Hello, Master! You look inspired today," Bam-Bam greeted her playfully, his eyes twinkling mischievously.

Jane eyed him suspiciously, wondering if this naughty magical creature had been secretly observing her interaction with Nathan.

"Don't give me that smug smile. I have the urge to rip that smile off your face," Jane chided him, pretending to be serious.

Bam-Bam let out a helpless sigh. He wondered why Jane was upset with him again. "What have I done, Master? Why are you so grumpy? You should be rejoicing today considering the impressive progress you've made on your mission."

Upon hearing that, Jane narrowed her eyes at Bam-Bam. She knew it! This crafty magical creature was indeed watching her and Nathan. He already knew that she and Nathan had finally reconciled. And they decided to take their relationship to another level.

"Bam-Bam! Stop being naughty!" Jane reprimanded him.

The fluffy magical creature let out hearty chuckles as he floated merrily around Jane, his wings creating a gentle breeze. His mischievous grin remained firmly in place as he continued to playfully tease with her.

"Congratulations, Master!" he exclaimed with gleeful enthusiasm. "You are about to accomplish your mission. I think your remaining time left is more than sufficient to make Nathan fall head over heels for you, completely and irrevocably." Bam-Bam added with confidence.

Jane just rolled her eyes skyward while crossing her arms above her chest. "Cut it out with the compliments," she remarked with a hint of exasperation.

"Don't forget, you're the one who got me into this mess in the first place. Can you work your magic and revoke my brain tumor diagnosis?" She paused for a moment, her tone growing more serious. "Nathan keeps insisting on treatment, and there are still so many things I need to accomplish here."

"Alright, Master! Your wish is my command," Bam-Bam responded with a playful salute. "I'll work my magic and eliminate that non-existent illness of yours. You can schedule another check-up for tomorrow and share the results with Nathan. Everything will appear perfectly normal."

Jane breathed a sigh of relief, a weight lifting from her shoulders. "Thank you, Bam-Bam. That's exactly what I needed."

Bam-Bam, always eager to assist, inquired, "Is there anything else I can do for you, Master?"

Jane hesitated for a moment, her expression a mix of seriousness and curiosity as she looked into Bam-Bam's twinkling eyes. "Bam-Bam... I have a question," she began thoughtfully.

"Do you think Nathan is genuinely falling for me, or is he doing all this just to move on and forget about my sister, Abigail?"

Doubts still lingered in her heart, and she couldn't shake the feeling that perhaps Nathan's intentions weren't as sincere as they seemed. She was cautious, not wanting to set herself up for disappointment by placing too much hope in his feelings.

Bam-Bam extended his small, comforting paw, gently patting Jane on the back as he tried to ease her doubts. "You need to trust in yourself, Master," he advised with an affectionate tone.

"Remember, Nathan has always been drawn to you. From the days when he admired you as the Shining Star, to the time he fell for you when your soul resided in Abigail's body. And now, here he is, once again, beginning to fall for you as Jane Hiroshi. Through all those moments, his love and affection have always been directed towards you and no one else. He might be a bit dense when it comes to recognizing it, but it's unmistakably you that he's drawn to."

Bam-Bam's words carried a sense of unwavering faith in the depth of Nathan's feelings, assuring Jane that the connection between them was genuine and enduring, even if Nathan hadn't fully realized it yet.

Hearing those words from Bam-Bam, Jane couldn't help but feel at ease. He was right. Nathan had fallen for her over and over again.

"Thank you, Bam-Bam," Jane whispered gratefully, her voice filled with a mix of relief and determination.

She continued, her tone gaining strength as she spoke, "I had almost given up on my love for him, believing I was unworthy. But now, I've made up my mind to fight for my love. I'm committed to seeing this mission through until a hundred days have passed." Jane's renewed resolve shone in her eyes as she found her motivation once more. She was determined to overcome any obstacle that stood between her and Nathan, fueled by the belief that their love was worth every effort and challenge along the way.

"That's my Master! Good luck and be careful. Your enemies are just lurking around. They are going to destroy and ruin everything. You must protect all your loved ones." Bam-Bam reminded Jane, giving her some warnings.

"I know. I won't let them." Jane said with conviction.

Chapter 654 Mia's Request

[At Vincent's Villa...]

As Monica made her way to the pool for a refreshing swim, Mia seized the opportunity to talk to her Uncle Vincent. The little kid wanted to make a request from him. She gently knocked before entering the door. She heard his voice, allowing her to enter.

Upon entering the room, Mia found her uncle engrossed in his work. She could hear the tap-tap sound of the keyboard. With determination in her eyes, Mia called out to Vincent.

"Uncle," her small voice resonated softly through the room.

With a quick pause, Vincent tore his attention away from the screen, shifting his gaze toward Mia. A warm and affectionate smile spread across his face as he invited her to come over.

Vincent's voice carried a tender and caring tone as he inquired, "What can I do for you, my little princess?"

With a sense of longing in her eyes, Mia hesitated for a moment before speaking. "Uncle, I have a request," she began, her voice filled with a mix of hope and uncertainty. "Could you help me see my Mom again? I really want to visit her."

The last time Mia had seen Jane, she was confined to a hospital bed, unconscious. Little did Mia know, the circumstances had changed since then, and Jane was no longer in the hospital.

As Mia's words stirred the air in the room, a whirlwind of complicated emotions danced across Vincent's eyes at the mere mention of Jane's name. He hadn't seen her yet. Vincent couldn't help but wonder how much Jane had managed to recollect about her past. He also wished to see her to verify something.

Aside from that, Jane found out about Monica's secret... their secrets. Now, his next move would depend on how she would respond after recovering her memories.

"Uncle? Please. I want to find out if my Mom is recovering well." Mia's voice snapped him out of his deep thoughts.

"Don't worry, Mia," Vincent reassured her with a gentle smile. "Your mom is no longer in the hospital. I'll find out where she is right now, and then we can plan a visit to see her." Through Mia, Vincent found his reason to meet Jane.

But he must do it discretely. Monica shouldn't find out. The last thing he wanted was for Monica to discover his intention to meet Jane, as it had the potential to reignite feelings of jealousy within her once more.

Vincent understood that he might be cautious, ensuring that both Mia's wish and his own desire to meet with Jane could be fulfilled without causing any unnecessary complications.

"Is that true, Uncle that my Mom has been discharged from the hospital?" Mia asked again in her excited voice and Vincent just nodded in affirmation. She was happy and grateful to hear that piece of good news.

Mia recalled her attempts to seek answers from Ethan. She had approached him yesterday, eager to learn more about Jane's health condition, but Ethan had been avoiding her questions and deflecting. It had left her feeling somewhat frustrated and in the dark about Jane's whereabouts and well-being.

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Now, finally, her uncle had provided the reassuring confirmation she had been seeking, filling her heart with inquiries.

It had left her feeling somewhat frustrated and in the dark about Jane's whereabouts and well-being. Now, finally, her uncle had provided the reassuring confirmation she had been seeking, filling her heart with hope and relief.

"Thank you, Uncle." She looked up at Vincent, her eyes reflecting the trust she had in him.

Vincent, however, recognized the delicate nature of the situation. He gently grasped Mia's shoulders, his gaze filled with a mixture of concern and caution.

"But I have one condition," he began, his voice steady. "You mustn't reveal your true connection with her just yet. It's not the right time. And please, refrain from calling her 'Mom.' It might be too overwhelming for her if she learns the truth all at once."

Mia met her uncle's eyes with earnest determination. "I promise, Uncle," she affirmed without hesitation. Her commitment to respecting Vincent's wishes and the careful timing of the revelation was unwavering.

"I just want to see her and spend time with her. I'm willing to wait for the right moment." Her words conveyed not only her patience but also her deep affection for the mother she longed to reunite with.

Vincent bobbed his head in satisfaction. He stroked her hair before telling her to go back. He would notify her if he got information about Jane. He already mobilized Phoenix and his underlings to find out Jane's whereabouts. He wondered what she was up to right now.

Mia had just gotten out of his study room when Phoenix called Vincent to report something related to Jane. Vincent answered the phone call immediately.

"Did you find her?" He posed a direct question to Phoenix, his eagerness evident as he awaited any relevant information regarding Jane.

"King," Phoenix uttered, his tone laced with a hint of exasperation, "I've managed to pinpoint her current whereabouts. But when you hear this, you won't believe it." The intrigue in his voice hinted at a revelation that was sure to surprise Vincent as well.

"Stop the suspense. Just tell me." With an anxious urgency in his voice, Vincent got straight to the point.

"Jane has been staying at Mr. Hiroshi's villa!" Phoenix disclosed, his words covered with astonishment.

"It's no wonder I couldn't locate her anywhere near Nathan's other properties. It's quite a revelation, isn't it? Phantomflake living under the same roof as the Godfather of the Sawada Clan. One can't help but wonder about the nature of their connection. Could it be that Nathan sent her to work with the Sawada Clan as part of some alliance they've formed?" The intrigue in Phoenix's voice was palpable as he contemplated the possible implications of this surprising revelation.

Meanwhile, Vincent's eyebrows flickered with intrigue upon receiving this unexpected piece of information. "I'm just as clueless as you are," he admitted, his curiosity piqued.

"This falls under your jurisdiction, Phoenix. It's up to you to delve into the details and uncover the reasons behind Jane's presence at Hiroshi's temporary residence here in Country M. Give me the result, ASAP!"

"Okay, my King! I'll do my very best to investigate this."

Chapter 655 Old Man Xu wants to meet Her

[At Vincent's Villa...]

Vincent found himself fixated on his phone screen, contemplating whether or not he should reach out to Jane. Thoughts of her had consumed his entire morning, making it nearly impossible to focus on

anything else. The idea of approaching her or visiting her was a bit challenging, especially now that she was staying at Hiroshi's residence.

As he sat there, his thumb hovered over the send button, thinking of the words he would use in that message. The complexity of his emotions weighed heavily on him.

Amidst Vincent's internal struggle, the door to his room swung open unexpectedly, startling him. Monica, who had just emerged from a refreshing swim in the pool, greeted his sight as she entered the room leisurely.

Her damp hair clung to her shoulders, evidence of the invigorating dip she had just taken. Wrapped in a white bathrobe, she exuded an air of casual comfort. Taken aback by Monica's unexpected entrance, Vincent momentarily forgot about the message he was about to send to Jane. He immediately put down his phone, deliberately hiding his phone screen from Monica's view.

"Hello, Babe!" Monica greeted Vincent with a seductive smile.

She observed him from across the room, her steps deliberate as she approached him. Reaching his side, she settled herself gently onto his lap, her arms encircling his neck in a tender embrace. "I noticed you've been here all alone, lost in your thoughts. Is everything okay?"

Vincent, still somewhat distracted by Monica's presence, managed to regain his composure. "Oh, no, not at all," he replied with a gentle smile, though he couldn't help but feel a twinge of anxiety about the message he had momentarily set aside. "I was just, um, thinking about something. But it's nothing serious. Everything is well."

Monica nodded understandingly, her wet hair glistening in the room's soft lighting. "Alright, then. I just wanted to say hi before I go get dressed."

As Monica turned to leave, Vincent's gaze briefly lingered on her departing figure, her bathrobe trailing behind her. The unexpected interruption had momentarily shifted his focus from the emotional dilemma with Jane to the presence of the charming and seductive Monica.

As Monica walked toward the wardrobe, her steps momentarily paused, and she turned to face Vincent once more. Her brow furrowed with concern as she said, "Perhaps, are you worried about the DNA result? You shouldn't have suggested it. What if this will backfire on us?" Monica was referring to the DNA samples Vincent had provided to Ethan yesterday.

However, Vincent let out a soft chuckle as his eyes glinted with confidence. "Why should I be bothered by the result? Ethan will have no other choice but to accept it no matter what," he responded with a hint of amusement.

Monica narrowed her eyes at him. "I'm not talking about your DNA sample," she clarified, her voice carrying a hint of annoyance. "I'm talking about mine!"

Vincent chuckled once more. "My Uncle has it all under control," he reassured her. "Do you really think I'd jeopardize everything by allowing Ethan to have your DNA samples and sow doubt in his mind?" His response conveyed both his confidence in their plan and his implicit trust in his method.

Monica could only sigh in defeat, her earlier concerns fading into the background. "Okay, you're probably right," she conceded, realizing that her worries might have been baseless.

Nevertheless, a lingering uncertainty remained. She shifted the conversation toward a more delicate topic, one that had been troubling her thoughts. "But Babe, what if he doesn't choose you? What if he decides to stay with Nathan?"

Vincent contemplated Monica's question for a moment, his gaze distant as he considered the potential outcomes. It was a difficult scenario to envision. Finally, he spoke, his voice steady but laced with a hint of determination.

"If Ethan chooses to stay with Nathan," he began, "then I'll continue to pursue him and win his trust until he accepts me as his real father. This is the only way I can take him away from Nathan."

Monica nodded, understanding the complexity of the situation. She knew that whatever the outcome, Vincent wouldn't allow Nathan to have a complete happy family. He would ruin everything just to make him suffer.

[At Sparks Mansion...]

In the meantime, the subject of Monica and Vincent's conversation, Ethan, had made his way back to the Sparks Mansion after his hospital discharge. Ethan's cheerful attitude returned and the mansion was filled with his vibrant and lively attitude. It seemed that the positive news of Nathan and Jane's official relationship had evidently lifted his spirits.

Ethan's eyes sparkled with delight as he shared the news with Butler Li and Old Man Xu, his excitement evident. "Grandpa! Uncle Li! Guess what?" he exclaimed, unable to contain his enthusiasm. "Dad finally got a girlfriend! Dad and Miss Jane are officially a couple now!"

Ethan's voice brimmed with joy and a sense of relief as if a weight had been lifted off his shoulders. He was happy because Jane wouldn't die once his Dad fell for her. He learned about Jane's mission because he overheard Jane's conversation with Bam-Bam before.

On the other hand, the unexpected news from Ethan left Old Man Xu puzzled, and he turned his attention to Butler Li, his expression a mixture of curiosity and bewilderment. With a furrowed brow, he fixed his gaze on the butler and asked, "Jane? Who is Jane? And what happened to Abigail?" Old Man Xu thought his son was still in a relationship with Abigail. He wasn't updated at all.

Feeling a little bit awkward, Butler Li cleared his throat before responding. "Chairman Xu," he began, his words measured and respectful, "it appears that Miss Jane is a recent addition to Mr. Nathan's social circle, and I must admit, I don't possess many details about her myself."

Butler Li couldn't help but feel a sense of detachment when it came to Jane, for his loyalty and support had always been firmly behind Abigail. In his eyes, Abigail had been the natural choice to assume the role of the next Lady of the House. Who would have thought there would be a dramatic twist in Nathan's personal life lately?

"As for the situation between Master Nathan and Miss Abigail, it has undergone certain changes recently. I believe you may find it best to seek an explanation directly from your son to gain a clearer understanding of the matter," he added, concealing his disappointment.

Old Man Xu's face registered a mix of emotions, his thoughts racing as he processed this unexpected turn of events.

In the midst of their contemplative conversation, the room was suddenly filled with the melodious sound of Ethan's laughter, capturing the attention of both Old Man Xu and Butler Li. Because of the shocking news, they had almost forgotten about his presence.

"Grandpa... Uncle Li," Ethan chimed in, a mischievous glint in his eyes, "There's no need for those stern expressions. I promise you, you're going to like her! She's genuinely the most wonderful woman I've ever met in my entire life!"

Old Man Xu: "..."

Butler Li: "..."

The room fell into a momentary silence once more, as Old Man Xu and Butler Li exchanged incredulous glances, their unspoken thoughts echoing the astonishment they both felt.

It was a complete contrast to the earlier days when they had witnessed Ethan's matchmaking efforts to bring Abigail and Nathan together. Now, he seemed to be overflowing with joy as he enthusiastically spoke of another woman named Jane who suddenly became Nathan's new girlfriend.

But unknown to Old Man Xu, he would be more surprised when he found out that Jane was none other than Phantomflake.

"Very well," Old Man Xu replied with a hint of amusement in his voice. He leaned forward, his eyes twinkling with curiosity. "I'm quite eager to meet this intriguing woman you've been talking about, my dearest grandson. Let your father know that I'll only believe it when he officially introduces her to me."

Ethan's eyes lit up with enthusiasm as he nodded vigorously. "Alright, Grandpa, don't go anywhere," he said, his excitement palpable. "I'll call my father right away and ask him to bring Miss Jane over today so you can meet her in person."

With a sense of anticipation, Ethan picked up his phone and dialed his father's number. It did not take long before Nathan answered the call. Ethan put it on speaker mode so that Old Man Xu and Butler Li would hear Nathan's voice.

"Hello, Ethan? Have you arrived home?" Nathan inquired promptly. He had a prior engagement and had entrusted Axel with the responsibility of driving Ethan home on his behalf.

"Yes, Dad! I arrived safely. I called because I have one request from you. Can you invite Miss Jane over for lunch? I want to spend time with you and her," Ethan requested of his father. Butler Li and Old Man Xu silently observed Ethan as they listened to his conversation with Nathan.

"Okay, I'll ask her. Wait for us," Nathan responded promptly. He, too, desired to bring Jane home, unaware that Old Man Xu would be eagerly waiting for their arrival.

Chapter 656 Her Date in the Engagement Party

[At Hiroshi's Villa...]

Jane was engrossed in her work, her fingers flying across the laptop keyboard as she concentrated on her tasks. The living room served as the backdrop for their busy preparations for the forthcoming engagement party, which was rapidly approaching.

The three women had gathered in the living room to assist Abigail with the party preparations. Hanabi had taken on the task of printing the invitation cards, each one meticulously crafted with care.

Abigail, on the other hand, was poring over a fashion magazine sent by Madam Priyanshi, her brow furrowed in indecision as she flipped through the pages, searching for the perfect dress to wear to the engagement party. The array of stunning dresses made her decision all the more challenging.

"Sis, I just can't choose. Every single dress is so beautiful!" Abigail admitted with a sigh, her arms wrapping around Jane's as she sought her sister's guidance. "Can you help me choose one?"

Jane, who had momentarily paused her work on the laptop, readily shifted her focus to the magazine at hand. Her eyes roved over the magazine's pages.

"You can choose any of these, and you'll undoubtedly look absolutely gorgeous," she reassured Abigail, her words carrying the confidence of a sister's unwavering support. Yet, deep down, Jane knew that selecting the perfect dress wasn't her area of expertise either.

"Hmm. Okay. I think I should ask Dave later," she mused, her 15:48

shoulders relaxing as she closed the fashion magazine, setting it aside. She finally gave up. She would let her fiancé choose for her.

"By the way, where is Cherry?" Abigail asked, her gaze scanning the room in search of their missing friend.

Jane responded promptly, her voice steady, "She went out for some errands." It was a succinct response, concealing the true reason behind Cherry's absence. The errand she was referring to was related to Monica. Jane was still pissed off since Monica approached Ethan.

After all these years, that woman came back to bring chaos to Ethan's peaceful world. Jane harbored a deep-seated mistrust of Monica, a sentiment born from her uncertainty about the woman's true intentions.

Jane couldn't fathom how a mother could abandon her own child, all in pursuit of her ulterior motives and schemes. The very thought of it filled Jane with a mix of anger and disbelief.

Monica's actions had left a lasting mark on Ethan, and Jane was determined to protect him from any further harm, no matter what it took.

"Sis, just a heads up, Tatsumi is going to be discharged today. Please, don't fall for his antics when he starts pestering you," Hanabi chimed in, bringing a new topic into their conversation.

Abigail, ever curious, inquired further, seeking clarification. "Tatsumi? He's Uncle Kazuki's son, right?"

Hanabi confirmed her suspicion, nodding vigorously. "Yes, that's him. But don't be fooled by his seemingly good-guy appearance. He's shameless and a bit of a troublemaker!" Hanabi warned, ensuring Abigail and Jane were well-prepared for Tatsumi's return.

Jane couldn't help but chuckle at Hanabi's words. The dynamic between Hanabi and Tatsumi was akin to that of a cat and a dog, with their constant bickering and disagreements providing endless amusement for those around them.

Abigail's teasing smile was impossible to miss as she directed her next question at Jane, a playful glint dancing in her eyes. "Sis, is he the one you're planning to bring as your date to my engagement party?"

Hanabi couldn't help but pout her lips when Abigail raised the subject. Her concerns were evident, and she wasn't keen on the idea of Jane tolerating Tatsumi's unpredictable antics.

"Bringing him as your date is a bad idea," Hanabi interjected, her voice tinged with genuine concern. She wanted to protect Jane from any potential trouble. "He'll only become more shameless if you indulge him," she cautioned, voicing her reservations about Tatsumi's behavior and the impact it might have on Jane.

Jane offered Hanabi a comforting tap on the back, a reassuring gesture meant to console her concerns. "Tatsumi is a good friend of ours, Hanabi. Don't be so harsh on him," Jane urged, her tone gentle and understanding. "He can come to the engagement party but I have a different date," she added.

Abigail's eyes sparkled with anticipation at Jane's next statement, and she couldn't contain her excitement. "Who's your date?" she asked, her curiosity piqued.

Meanwhile, Hanabi couldn't shake a nagging feeling that lingered within her. Both women eagerly turned their attention back to Jane, intrigued and curious to know who her chosen date for the engagement party would be.

A hint of reluctance tugged at Jane's smile as she turned to Abigail. Her concern for her sister's comfort and happiness was evident in her eyes, and she wanted to make sure that her decision wouldn't cause any discomfort for Abigail and Dave.

"Actually," Jane began, her voice gentle and tentative, "I wanted to ask for your consent first, sis. I want to know if you'll be okay with it." She paused, her gaze shifting between Abigail and Hanabi, before finally revealing her plan.

"I'm thinking of bringing Nathan as my date to your engagement party." Jane's words hung in the air, waiting for Abigail's response, knowing that her sister's feelings mattered most in this decision.

On the other hand, the mention of Nathan's name left both Hanabi and Abigail momentarily taken aback. The unexpected proposition had caught them off guard, and they exchanged glances, processing the surprising turn of events.

Hanabi's feelings toward Nathan were still colored by her past resentment, stemming from the enmity between him and Jane. However, out of respect for Jane's choices and their friendship, she had been making an effort to understand and accept Jane's decision to forge a connection with Nathan.

Abigail, while not harboring the same level of animosity as Hanabi, couldn't help but express her concern. "Sis, you have nothing to worry about me... but I am more worried about Nathan," Abigail began, her tone thoughtful.

"You can bring him. But are you sure he'll be comfortable attending my engagement party? I don't want him to feel uneasy or out of place." Her consideration of Nathan's feelings was evident, and she wanted to ensure that everyone felt at ease during the celebration.

She leaned in closer, her voice soft and reassuring as she addressed her sister's worries. "He's absolutely fine with it," Jane affirmed, her eyes reflecting her confidence in Nathan's willingness to attend the event with her.

With a gentle nod, she continued, "And don't worry, we won't be mingling with the other guests. We'll be in the shadows, silently celebrating with you."

Jane emphasized her intention to stay in the background, ensuring that the focus of the party remained on Abigail and Dave.

She held Abigail's hand and squeezed it gently, her voice barely above a whisper as she reminded her of their initial plan. "Remember, I don't want the other guests to know about my existence or my connection to you, the Hiroshi and the Yan Family. I'll keep a low profile." Jane's words held a note of determination, reaffirming her commitment to maintaining their secrecy during the event.

"Okay, Sis. I understand," Abigail replied, feeling relieved and at ease.

Their conversation, however, was interrupted when Mr. Hiroshi made his entrance into the living room, accompanied by two men who followed closely behind him. His announcement drew the attention of his daughters and Hanabi.

"Ladies, you have two handsome visitors," Mr. Hiroshi declared, his tone carrying a hint of amusement as he presented the unexpected guests to his daughters.

The sight of Nathan and Dave together left the three women in the room pleasantly surprised. They exchanged glances, a mix of curiosity in their eyes. The simultaneous arrival of the two men had certainly piqued their interest, and they couldn't help but wonder if the two gentlemen arrive at the same time. And what was the reason behind it?

"I'll leave them in your care," Mr. Hiroshi added with a meaningful glance directed at Jane and Abigail.

Jane was the first to step forward, setting her laptop aside as she approached Nathan. "Why are you here?" she inquired, her gaze fixed on him. Her eyes sparkled with delight, and she made an effort to contain the wide smile that was on the verge of breaking free from the corners of her lips.

Jane couldn't deny the overwhelming joy that surged through her heart upon seeing Nathan today. His unexpected presence had stirred a sense of longing within her, and she couldn't help but admit to herself that she had missed him deeply.

Meanwhile, Nathan wasted no time in getting to the point. "I've come to pick you up. Ethan wants to have lunch with you to celebrate his hospital discharge," he explained, his tone conveying the straightforward nature of his visit.

Nathan's gaze remained fixed on Jane, his eyes filled with a deep intensity that mirrored his own yearning and desire to see her on that day.

While the two of them locked eyes in a moment of unspoken connection, Dave, Abigail, and Hanabi couldn't help but observe the unfolding scene with a mixture of amusement and surprise.

It was as if Nathan and Jane had created their own world, completely ignoring the presence of the others in the room. They felt like the three of them had become invisible in Nathan's and Jane's eyes.

Dave approached Abigail, his voice hushed as he whispered gently, "Shall we go, my love? It seems like Nathan and Jane could use some privacy right now. Besides, you and I have a special date planned today. Are you all set?"

Abigail's eyes lit up with anticipation, and she nodded eagerly. "I'm absolutely ready!" Her excitement was evident as she looked forward to the romantic date they had planned together.

As the only one without a partner, Hanabi could only heave a sigh of defeat. She quietly made her exit, leaving Jane and Nathan alone in the living room.

Chapter 657 Mr. Hiroshi Confronted Nathan

"I'll just go change first, and then we can head over to your house," Jane said with a warm smile as she gestured for Nathan to take a seat on the sofa. She ascended the staircase, leaving Nathan in the cozy living room.

As Nathan found himself alone, an unexpected presence made itself known as Mr. Hiroshi emerged from his hiding spot. It turned out that the old man had been discreetly observing their interactions. He approached Nathan and joined him in the living room, a sense of purpose in his demeanor.

Mr. Hiroshi cleared his throat, signaling his desire for a private conversation with Nathan. "While we wait for my daughter, would you mind accompanying me to the garden?"

Nathan nodded affirmatively, rising from his seat to follow Mr. Hiroshi. Together, they made their way through the house and into the garden, where they could converse in peace.

Standing side by side, Nathan and Mr. Hiroshi took in the serene beauty of the flower garden that surrounded them. It was Mr. Hiroshi who finally decided to break the silence, his voice carrying a tone of earnest concern.

"So, you're here to visit my eldest daughter, Jane, not Abigail," Mr. Hiroshi began, his gaze fixed on Nathan. "Allow me to be direct with you, Nathan. I'm here to inquire about your true intentions towards Jane. I don't want Jane to get hurt. Are you sincerely interested in her, or is this just a passing fancy?"

Mr. Hiroshi was aware of Nathan's previous feelings for Abigail and the difficulty of moving on from a heartbreak. He couldn't help but be worried that Nathan might merely be using Jane as a means to fill a void left by his past relationship.

At that moment, Nathan couldn't help but empathize with Mr. Hiroshi's concern. As a father himself, he understood the natural instinct to shield one's child from any potential pain or heartache.

He looked Mr. Hiroshi squarely in the eyes and began to speak earnestly, "I won't deny that there was a time when I loved Abigail deeply, and yes, there's still a lingering confusion in my heart. But, Mr. Hiroshi, one thing I can assure you is that I harbor no ill intentions toward Jane. I'm not using her as a means to fill a void or escape from the past. My desire to get to know her better and to build something meaningful with her is absolutely genuine."

Nathan's voice carried sincerity as he continued, "There's something about Jane that draws me in, something that goes beyond words. It's like an unspoken connection that I can't quite explain. I want to be there for her and to see where our journey together leads us. I understand your concern, and I want you to know that I genuinely care for her well-being."

Mr. Hiroshi made a concerted effort to mask his smile, determined to maintain a facade of seriousness. Deep inside, he couldn't help but feel a sense of contentment upon hearing Nathan's heartfelt words. He sensed the authenticity in Nathan's sentiments, which eased his concerns.

Then, he arched his eyebrow, a glint of curiosity in his eyes. "Building something meaningful with her?" Mr. Hiroshi repeated, a touch of intrigue coloring his voice.

"What precisely do you mean by that, Nathan? Are you actively pursuing a relationship with my eldest daughter? Is this a courtship in progress?" Despite his probing questions, Mr. Hiroshi managed to maintain his stoic poker face, leaving Nathan to provide further clarification.

Nathan found himself momentarily caught in a dilemma. The weight of Mr. Hiroshi's scrutiny pressed upon him, and he couldn't help but ponder whether revealing the truth might elicit a negative reaction from Jane's father. Nonetheless, he recognized the importance of transparency in this conversation. Mr. Hiroshi was seeking genuine answers, and Nathan felt obligated to provide them.

As he deliberated his response, Nathan understood the significance of this moment. Jane's father was conducting a thorough interrogation, and it was mandatory for Nathan to be completely forthcoming. Any half-truths or evasions could potentially lead to disappointment on Mr. Hiroshi's part.

With a deep breath, Nathan chose honesty as his guiding principle and began to speak, "Mr. Hiroshi, to be entirely frank... Jane and I have actually skipped the courting stage. We are already in a dating relationship."

Mr. Hiroshi: "..."

The pause that followed was evident, as Mr. Hiroshi struggled with the revelation. Nathan had just dropped the bomb. He didn't expect that the two already brought their relationship to that level. His youngest daughter was about to get married, and now, his eldest daughter had entered a romantic relationship! A swirl of emotions welled up within him, and he found himself momentarily speechless.

In that silence, Mr. Hiroshi couldn't help but entertain a touch of envy for the two men who had captured the hearts of his daughters. The complexity of emotions coursing through him was undeniable as he navigated this new chapter in his daughters' lives.

Mr. Hiroshi let out a deep sigh, his voice tinged with a hint of wistfulness as he spoke candidly to Nathan, "Sigh. It's striking, isn't it? My daughters have truly become adults now. I find myself wondering if they still need me. I've been absent from their lives for several years, and I've missed out on witnessing their growth. That is my single greatest regret in life."

As he confided in Nathan, Mr. Hiroshi's tone carried a mixture of nostalgia and remorse. He was grappling with the sense of loss that often accompanies the passage of time, particularly when it comes to the profound changes in the lives of his beloved daughters.

Nathan gently reached out and gave Mr. Hiroshi's shoulder a reassuring tap, his eyes filled with empathy as he sought to console the father who was wrestling with his emotions. "You know, Mr. Hiroshi, your daughters, Jane and Abigail, have always longed for the day they could reunite with you. They cherish the idea of having you back in their lives," Nathan said with sincerity, his voice soft and comforting.

He continued, "Please don't be disheartened. Dave and I aren't here to take your daughters away from you. We're here to complement the love and care they receive from their father. Our intentions are to build a future where all of us, you included, can play a meaningful role in their lives. Your presence and guidance as their father are invaluable, and they treasure it deeply."

Nathan's words were meant to alleviate Mr. Hiroshi's worries, assuring him that their intentions were rooted in love and a desire for unity rather than separation.

Mr. Hiroshi could only give him a grateful look in his eyes. Nathan managed to console him and feel at ease with his comforting words.

Unknown to Nathan and her father, Jane had been discreetly eavesdropping on their heartfelt conversation. Her lips curled into a warm, affectionate smile as she observed Nathan's compassionate efforts to comfort her father. Witnessing this soft side of Nathan filled her heart with admiration, and she couldn't help but feel a surge of pride.

At that moment, Jane quietly commended Nathan in her own thoughts, her voice barely a murmur, "Hmm. I'm going to have to reward him later. He's such a sweet-talker." She let out a soft giggle.

As she contemplated how to express her appreciation to Nathan, Jane's heart swelled with affection for the man who had not only captured her heart but had also endeared himself to her father through his genuine care and understanding.

Chapter 658 His Reward From Jane

Feeling satisfied, Mr. Hiroshi found solace in Nathan's earnest response. With a nod of approval, he decided to let him go, his earlier concerns seemingly put to rest.

"Thank you for your honest response." Mr. Hiroshi acknowledged, offering Nathan a warm but concise dismissal. "I won't keep you long. You can now go. I guess my daughter is done changing her clothes. She might be awaiting your return in the living room."

Nathan just bobbed his head in acknowledgment, appreciating Mr. Hiroshi's understanding. As he took his leave, he made a mental note to discuss with Jane the fact that he had openly discussed their relationship with her father.

'Hmm. I didn't consult her. I wonder if she will be upset,' Nathan couldn't help but ponder quietly as he navigated his way back to the living room.

However, little did he know, Jane was far from upset; in fact, she was thrilled and happy. Nathan's unwavering honesty had reassured her, and she felt a deep sense of happiness that he had bravely faced her father's questions and confirmed their relationship without hesitation.

In the cozy living room, Jane sat on a cushioned chair, her face adorned with a radiant smile that seemed to illuminate the entire space. The anticipation of Nathan's return had her on the edge of her seat, and she couldn't contain her excitement when she finally spotted him.

Without a moment's hesitation, Jane sprang to her feet, her graceful movement drawing Nathan's attention. As he made his way towards her, she closed the gap between them with a quick stride and gently captured his hand in hers, her fingers intertwining with his.

With unwavering affection, she looked up into Nathan's eyes, her voice carrying a blend of eagerness and tenderness, "Shall we go?"

Nathan's heart swelled with warmth as he met her gaze, his own smile mirroring the affection in her eyes. With a simple, heartfelt nod, he replied, "Yes." The two of them stood there, hand in hand, as they stepped out of the mansion.

As Nathan and Jane made their way to the parking area where Nathan's car was stationed, a sense of togetherness enveloped them. The vigilant guards on duty recognized their presence and promptly opened the gate, allowing them to exit the mansion grounds.

Inside Nathan's car, they settled into their seats, each unaware of the subtle intrigue unfolding around them. As they drove away, a mysterious pursuit car remained in the shadows, following their path after they departed from the Hiroshi Villa.

Thirty minutes later, Jane and Nathan reached the Sparks Mansion. But even before they could pass through the gate, Jane advised Nathan to stop the car.

"What's wrong?" Nathan asked her as he pulled the car to a halt at Jane's request. He parked it neatly to the side, a few meters away from the mansion's imposing front gate. He turned to Jane, his eyes reflecting the worry that had crept into his thoughts.

To Nathan's surprise, Jane removed her seatbelt and reached out to Nathan with a gentle touch. Her fingers brushed against his cheek, guiding his face towards hers. Nathan felt like he was mesmerized by Jane's emerald eyes which were filled with longing and unspoken desires.

The warm and delicate scent of her perfume mingled with the soft hum of her fresh breath, fanning his face. Nathan could only gaze at her with anticipation, his heart thumping so hard and fast against the wall of his chest.

With an irresistible pull, Jane brought Nathan's head closer, her fingers intertwining in his hair. Seconds later, their lips met in a slow, sensuous dance, a sweet and passionate exchange of emotions that had been building between them inside that closed space of the car.

As their kiss deepened, an electrifying surge of desire coursed through them, igniting their senses in a fiery embrace. Nathan's tongue ventured into Jane's mouth, its movement marked by both eagerness and sensuality. Jane, equally enamored by the passionate connection between them, responded eagerly, parting her lips to invite his sensual exploration.

His mouth ground into her opened lips, beneath his probing tongue. Their tongues intertwined with an exquisite movement, engaging in a tantalizing dance that seemed to have a life of its own. They tasted each other's essence, savoring the intimate, sweet communion that flowed between them. It was a symphony of desire, a fusion of two souls lost in a moment of unbridled passion.

In that stolen moment, the world beyond the car's interior ceased to exist. Time slowed to a languid crawl as they surrendered to the intoxicating spell of their shared intimacy. Their hearts beat as one, the rhythm of their desires echoing in perfect harmony.

The ravenous kiss lingered for what felt like an eternity, an insatiable exchange of longing and passion that left them both gasping for air. As Jane finally drew back, her lips parted from Nathan's with a reluctant sigh, the remnants of their shared desire still smoldering in her gaze.

Nathan, now breathless and yearning for more, couldn't help but groan in a playful yet impatient protest. He found himself yearning for the kiss to continue, a testament to the insatiable hunger that had ignited between them.

Nathan's groan reverberated through the charged air, a wordless plea that echoed their shared desire. While, Jane, her eyes fixed intently on him, couldn't help but moisten her lips with a slow, lingering sweep of her tongue. Her action was a bold declaration, a clear testament that neither of them wanted to bring this passionate kiss to an end.

"That's your reward," Jane softly mumbled, caressing his cheeks.

"Reward for what?" Nathan asked her confusedly.

"For comforting my father," she responded truthfully.

With an irresistible pout on his lips, he spoke in a voice filled with playful complaint, "I want more." His words were accompanied by a seductive gaze that conveyed his unquenchable appetite for her, a hunger that mirrored her own.

Jane's laughter, as soft and melodic as a whisper, filled the intimate space between them. Her delicate fingers playfully tapped the tip of Nathan's nose, infusing a touch of lightness into their passionate moment. "Later, Darling," she murmured, her voice brimming with affectionate warmth. "Ethan might be waiting for us already."

Nathan's heart swelled with a sense of contentment, and a grin stretched across his face, transforming his features into a portrait of sheer delight. The endearment "Darling" from Jane's lips had the power to

send a wave of exhilaration coursing through him. He couldn't help but be captivated by the way she called him by that endearing name, and in that moment, he was utterly smitten.

Nathan ignited the engine, the low rumble of the car's power echoing the anticipation building within him. He couldn't help but smile, his thoughts lingering on Jane's tantalizing promise. The prospect of her reward after their lunch was a very tempting thought that had his heart racing and his imagination running wild.

Meanwhile, unknown to Nathan and Jane, their passionate moment had not gone unnoticed. A shadowy figure who secretly tailed them earlier captured the intimate exchange between Nathan and Jane in a photograph. He was none other than, Phoenix, Vincent's right hand man.

Phoenix was taken aback by the unexpected intensity of the connection he had witnessed between Nathan and Phantomflake. He had always believed that Nathan held a deep resentment for her, but the reality of the situation appeared to be far more complex.

With a sense of urgency, Phoenix swiftly sent the incriminating photo to Vincent, reporting this significant revelation he had discovered today.

Chapter 659 Speed's Revelation

Crash

A shattering noise reverberated throughout Vincent's study room. In a fit of anger, he forcefully slammed the glass of whiskey against the surface of his table. The report from Phoenix had landed like a bombshell in his composed world.

His right-hand man sent him a photograph that had ignited an inferno within him. Inside a car, Jane and Nathan were locked in an intimate embrace, their lips pressed together in a passionate kiss.

It was a scene that shattered his heart and intensified his jealousy toward Nathan. His fingers trembled with a mixture of rage, disbelief, and heartache as he gazed upon the photograph.

Despite his fingers being sliced open by the jagged remnants of shattered glass, with an anguished expression on his face, Vincent's fiery rage overshadowed any trace of physical pain. The crimson liquids coursing down his trembling hand were a testament to the fury that surged through him.

He had never expected this turn of events. He wondered if Nathan and Jane had finally discovered the truth about their past relationship. How could they suddenly become intimate with each other?

Vincent clenched his bleeding fists and his eyes set ablaze. "Monica might be the reason. Nathan's hatred for Jane disappears after finding out that Monica is alive." Vincent assumed that Jane already confided in Nathan, revealing the truth about Monica's existence.

"I can't let this happen! Nathan must suffer. He should be abandoned by the people he loves. I'll take them away from him!" Vincent mumbled through his gritted teeth.

Vincent dialed Phoenix's number once more, giving him further instructions. After a few rings, Phoenix answered the call.

In a frigid, commanding tone, Vincent's voice sliced through the phone line as he inquired of Phoenix's location. "Phoenix, are you still in Sparks Mansion?"

"Y-Yes," Phoenix stammered as he replied reluctantly. He could sense that his boss was not in a good mood. He couldn't help but wonder if he was somehow responsible for Vincent's grumpy mood. He sent him the photo. 'Don't tell me... he is affected by those photos. Does he really have feelings for Phantomflake?'

With a sense of urgency that pulsed through his every word, Vincent issued his instructions to Phoenix. "Leave that location immediately. Head to the Red Dragon Mafia's headquarters and ensure you secure an audience with Jack. Retrieve the truth serum you acquired from the Syphiruz Mafia Medical Facility. Once you've got it, employ it for an interrogation on a member of the Sawada Clan who's fallen into the Red Dragon's custody."

Vincent was desperate. He would like to dig deeper and find a hole in the relationship between Syphiruz and Sawada. What role Phantomflake was playing in this?

Phoenix acknowledged his boss's orders with a crisp "Copy, Boss," but curiosity and determination shone through as he sought further clarification. "What specific information are we aiming to extract from the Sawada Clan member? Are we considering an offensive move to disrupt the Sawada Clan's operations?"

"Ask them why Phantomflake is staying with the godfather." Vincent was more interested in Phantomflakes' matter rather than attacking or sabotaging the operation of the Sawada Clan.

Phoenix fell silent for a moment. His leader's unspoken wishes had crystallized in the directive, and he knew the importance of this mission. "I'm on my way," he finally affirmed, his voice laced with determination. "I'll provide updates the moment I obtain crucial information."

After hearing his reassurance, Vincent hung up the phone. Obeying his leader's command, Phoenix immediately left the Sparks Mansion. His fingers absentmindedly massaged his temples, a subtle gesture of the mounting pressure he had been under lately. The weight of his responsibilities seemed to multiply with each passing day.

In the midst of his journey, Phoenix couldn't help but wonder about the state of affairs in their main headquarters situated in Country R. His thoughts gravitated towards Speed, the trusted individual left in charge of overseeing their operation.

Phoenix decided to call Speed to find out if everything was well. The last time he called them, the members were hunting one member of the Sawada Clan who kept asking about their leader's whereabouts. He didn't hear any updates from them. He wondered if Speed managed to capture him.

Ring! Ring!

Speed ignored his call. Phoenix continued contacting her. Despite his persistence, Speed chose to disregard Phoenix's initial call, which left him increasingly vexed. A tinge of irritation crept into his demeanor as he persisted in his attempts to reach her. With each unanswered call, a deep furrow etched itself onto his forehead, wondering what Speed was doing right now.

Phoenix, growing increasingly impatient, fired off a terse message: ["Speed! Answer my call immediately; otherwise, I'll have to assume that there's trouble brewing in our operation. Have you stirred up more problems?"]

As soon as Phoenix dispatched this message, Speed's incoming call flashed on his screen, her prompt response preventing his escalation to contacting the main headquarters.

A smirk crept across Phoenix's face as he noticed Speed's caller ID illuminate his phone screen. Raising an inquisitive eyebrow, he tapped the answer button, routing the call through his earphones as he continued navigating the road.

"What kept you so occupied that you couldn't answer promptly? Do I really need to resort to threats just to grab your attention?" Phoenix inquired, his tone edged with mock exasperation as he teased his comrade.

Speed was guilty. At that moment, she found herself in Country M, a fact she had neglected to disclose to both Vincent and Phoenix. Her mission to apprehend Tatsumi was proving far more challenging than anticipated, and the unfamiliar territory posed additional complications.

Furthermore, her financial resources had dwindled, making it increasingly difficult to cover her day-to-day expenses in this foreign land. Faced with these mounting challenges, she realized that she had no alternative but to come clean to Phoenix about her predicament.

"Phoenix... To tell you honestly... I'm here in Country M to capture that bastard!" Speed declared to him.

*** Screeching Sound***

The sudden revelation hit like a screeching sound, causing Phoenix to slam on the brakes in shock. "What the hell? When did you arrive? Why didn't you inform me sooner? And with you here, who's left back at our main headquarters overseeing our operations?" Phoenix's tone carried a stern reprimand as he sought answers to the unexpected turn of events.

"Relax, Phoenix, no need to get upset," Speed urged, her voice soothing as she attempted to defuse the mounting tension. "In exchange for my delayed disclosure, I'll provide you with valuable intel about the Sawada Clan. Did you know that the godfather himself is here in Country M due to concerns about his daughter? What's more, the man I've been pursuing happens to be the fiancé of the godfather's daughter."

Speed strategically offered this information in an effort to placate Phoenix's anger. She understood the necessity of calming him down, as any misstep on her part could lead to Phoenix reporting her actions to Vincent, resulting in certain consequences she was keen to avoid.

Meanwhile, Phoenix's expression turned skeptical, his eyes narrowing, and his lips forming a tight line. "Your information doesn't carry any significance," he retorted, his tone laced with doubt. "We're already aware that the Sawada Clan Leader is present in this country, as well as her daughter. However, our intelligence indicates that she's engaged to a police officer, not a member of the Sawada Clan. It seems the information you've acquired is inaccurate."

Phoenix's words bore a sense of authority, revealing that he possessed a solid grasp of the situation and was quick to debunk any misleading details.

"Eh? What are you talking about? I can only relay what I heard," Speed persisted, her tone unwavering as she defended her information. "There's no way he would fabricate something like this. I distinctly overheard in the hospital that this man is engaged to the godfather's daughter, Jane!"

Phoenix's brows furrowed in exasperation, his patience wearing thin. He sought clarification, his tone laced with confusion. "What did you just say? Jane? Are you sure you meant Jane and not Abigail?" He couldn't help but question whether he had misunderstood Speed's statement.

"See, we're talking about two different women here!" Speed emphasized, a hint of frustration in her voice. "You're familiar with Abigail, but my intel pertains to the other daughter, Jane."

Phoenix fell momentarily silent as a startling realization washed over him. When Speed mentioned Jane's name again, it triggered a sudden connection in his mind.

'Wait a minute. Don't tell me Phantomflake is also one of Mr. Hiroshi's daughters,' he mumbled to himself, his eyes widening in shock, his mouth hanging open in disbelief. The pieces of the puzzle seemed to be falling into place, potentially explaining why Phantomflake had been residing with the Hiroshi family in their villa.

"Hey, Phoenix?! Are you still there? Are you listening to me?" Speed asked him when she only heard silence from the other line.

Without uttering a single word, Phoenix abruptly disconnected the call. His mind was abuzz with the urgency of confirming the newfound information.

Chapter 660 She Might Dominate You

[At Sparks Mansion...]

Nathan and Jane strolled gracefully through the entrance of the villa, their fingers lovingly entwined. As they ventured further into the mansion, the air was filled with an air of anticipation. Ethan and Old Man Xu had been eagerly awaiting their arrival.

Suddenly, like a bolt of lightning, Ethan rushed towards them the moment he spotted them, his eyes filled with excitement.

"Miss Jane! Dad!" Ethan exclaimed joyfully, his voice echoing through the grandeur of the mansion. In a burst of boundless affection, he leaped into their arms as soon as he reached their side, embracing them tightly.

Old Man Xu was taken aback witnessing the scene which looked like a heartwarming family reunion. However, his astonishment turned into shock when he realized who the woman was.

'Wait! This woman... She resembles Phantomflake. Is she Phantomflake?' Old Man Xu's eyes widened, and his mouth hung open in disbelief. 'What is going on here?' Old Man Xu turned to his son with a questioning gaze.

It was as if Nathan could discern his father's thoughts, for he simply nodded in confirmation of his assumption. Disregarding his father's reaction, Nathan assumed the role of host and gracefully led Jane toward the dining area together with Ethan. Old Man Xu could only follow them from behind.

As he made his way towards the dining area, Old Man Xu impulsively seized Butler Li by the hand and leaned in to whisper urgently, "I can't believe that this woman is here. Can't you recognize her?"

Butler Li's brows furrowed in confusion upon hearing the question. "Why, Master? Do you know her?"

Old Man Xu smacked his forehead in frustration and vented his exasperation. "Of course! I know her! She's Phantomflake, the assassin who killed Monica! I thought she was in a coma. I had no idea she had regained consciousness. How could Nathan bring this woman here and introduce her to Ethan? Are they in a serious relationship?" Old Man Xu realized that he was no longer up to date with his son's personal life, and a wave of concern washed over him.

Butler Li was left in a state of shock as Old Man Xu disclosed Jane's true identity. It suddenly made sense why he had sensed such a strong and intense aura emanating from her. Turning his gaze towards Jane's retreating figure, Butler Li observed her with a sense of intrigue.

"She exudes the same aura that Abigail did when I first met her," he murmured, a reminiscent smile playing on his lips.

"Master, why don't you observe them if your son and this woman are just faking their relationship? You can also confront your son directly after the meal," Butler Li suggested.

Old Man Xu nodded in agreement. "Alright, please assist me in monitoring and observing them," he conspiratorially whispered to his devoted servant.

"Okay, Master. Leave it to me," Butler Li reassured him, winking at him.

The two exchanged knowing glances as they joined Nathan, Jane, and Ethan. The young boy couldn't contain his joy; a wide grin stretched from ear to ear as he chatted with Jane.

However, in contrast to Ethan's jubilant mood, Jane felt a touch of unease. She had not anticipated Old Man Xu's presence at the lunch today, and it caught her off guard. She tried to compose herself but couldn't help but ask Nathan if he had been aware of this surprise guest. Nathan, too, appeared unaware of his father's presence, shaking his head in response.

As Old Man Xu settled into a seat beside Ethan, the young boy immediately reached out and took his hand, introducing Jane with enthusiasm. "Grandpa, this is Miss Jane, my father's girlfriend," he announced proudly.

"Cough! Cough!" Jane choked on her water when she heard Ethan's last words. She didn't expect that the young boy would introduce her to his grandfather as Nathan's girlfriend.

Jane was momentarily flustered and unsure how to respond. She discreetly tried to regain her composure, her mind racing to process this unforeseen development. She couldn't help but steal a furtive glance at Old Man Xu, attempting to gauge his reaction.

A question loomed in her mind: 'Will he be fine about this?'

Old Man Xu maintained an impassive expression, his poker face revealing no emotions. He simply nodded in acknowledgment of Jane's introduction. However, beneath his composed exterior, he was engaged in a silent assessment of both Nathan and Jane.

Despite his efforts, he couldn't quite discern their true relationship. The couple appeared composed, refraining from any overt public displays of affection, leaving Old Man Xu in a state of curiosity and intrigue.

But unknown to him, Butler Li and the maids in the Sparks Mansion had already witnessed the passionate kiss shared by Nathan and Jane in the living room a few days ago. Consequently, when Ethan introduced Jane as Nathan's girlfriend at the dining table, the maids who were serving them remained unfazed, having already gained insight into the true nature of their relationship.

"Nice to meet you, Chairman Xu," Jane greeted him with politeness.

"Likewise," Old Man Xu responded in a straightforward manner.

Once again, an uncomfortable silence filled the room. Nathan decided to break the tension by prompting everyone to begin their meal.

Ethan pursed his lips, a tinge of disappointment creeping over him as he sensed his grandfather's chilly reception toward Jane. It was evident that Old Man Xu was not extending a warm welcome to her at all.

As Old Man Xu met his grandson's sharp gaze, he couldn't help but be troubled by the disappointment etched across Ethan's face. It was a rare occurrence for Ethan to display such a chilly demeanor towards him, leaving Old Man Xu to wonder if he had unintentionally committed some wrongdoing.

Thirty minutes later, Old Man Xu dragged his son toward the balcony while Jane and Ethan went upstairs to play with his robotic friends. The old man decided to confront his son as he found it increasingly difficult to grasp the true nature of the relationship between Jane and Nathan. He refused to believe that his son was dating Jane.

"Nate, tell me the truth," Old Man Xu pressed his son, his tone heavy with concern and suspicion. "Are you and Phantomflake pretending to be a couple to spare Ethan's feelings because Abigail is now engaged to another man? And why her? Why did you let her get close to Ethan? She's the one who took his mother's life, remember?" The old man's interrogation left no room for evasion; he demanded a truthful response.

"No, Dad. We're not pretending. Our feelings are genuine. It's not about Abigail," Nathan replied earnestly. He paused briefly before continuing, "And I want to clarify your wrong assumption. There's something else you need to know."

Old Man Xu found himself speechless, his mind racing to process what his son had just revealed.

"Jane didn't kill Monica. Monica is alive," Nathan dropped yet another bombshell, leaving Old Man Xu in stunned silence.

Old Man Xu: "..."

"We've all been deceived by her— you, me, and even Ethan," Nathan's voice quivered with bitterness. "She made the choice to abandon us," he continued. "She's now living under a different identity, Helena Carlsen. I suspect she underwent plastic surgery."

"What?! That woman?! Monica is none other than Maximilian Carlsen's daughter, Helena? But why? Why did he insist on arranging a marriage between you two if she had already left you?" Old Man Xu

was thoroughly confused by this startling revelation. He couldn't help but recall the threats made by Maximilian Carlsen to coerce him into arranging a marriage between Nathan and Helena in the past.

"I have two deductions," Nathan responded, "Either Maximilian is unaware of Monica's true identity, or he is a part of this alliance, actively working to destroy me."

"I will find out soon. It depends on how Maximilian Carlsen will react after receiving my package." Nathan elaborated. His voice was resolute as he continued, "Inside that package, I've included irrefutable evidence that the Helena Carlsen he's familiar with is nothing but a counterfeit persona." Nathan's words held an air of anticipation, as he eagerly awaited Maximilian's response to the revelation.

Old Man Xu could only nod his head in understanding. "Alright, it's all becoming clear now. I suspected as much. Monica is a shrewd and manipulative woman. I have no fondness for her whatsoever." Old Man Xu made no effort to conceal his strong animosity towards Monica. His feelings ran deep; he despised how she had toyed with his son's emotions. The only redeeming aspect he found in Monica was Ethan, the precious gift she had given to their family.

"If it weren't for Ethan," Old Man Xu confided in his son, "I would have considered separating the two of you a long time ago."

Nathan smirked at his father and shot back, "Yet, you attempted to get rid of her yourself."

Old Man Xu couldn't deny that fact.

"Now, I'll ask you," Nathan asked his father with anticipation, "How do you feel about Jane?"

"If you don't like her, simply refrain from interfering in her life," Nathan cautioned sternly. "I'm warning you, Dad, do not intrude into my personal matters anymore. And, most importantly, never harm her in any way."

Old Man Xu was taken aback by his son's newfound protectiveness towards Jane. It became clear to him that his son no longer harbored any hatred or resentment towards her.

"Hmm, as long as you and Ethan have taken a liking to her, I won't raise any objections," Old Man Xu admitted. "In fact, I quite like her myself. She appears to be capable and talented, a truly remarkable woman. Do you think you're up to the challenge of being with her?" Old Man Xu teased his son playfully.

"She might dominate you," Old Man Xu added, grinning from ear to ear.