

## Chapter 41 Go for A Picnic

Cecilia often pondered how she could be so fortunate to encounter a friend as wonderful as Luke in her life. Every time she expressed her amazement, Luke would playfully jest, asking Cecilia to introduce him a girlfriend. After all, they had experienced so much together, and Luke understood that Cecilia's heart had always belonged to Theo. Forcing someone's love is like trying to savor an unripe fruit—it tastes only bitter. Luke knew it well.

"There are plenty of beautiful ladies in the company, and yet you still can't find a girlfriend!" Cecilia thought about how whenever Luke walked through the office, a flock of young girls would be mesmerized by his charm.

"Only naive young girls would believe you're a gentleman." Cecilia bantered with Luke while delicately wiping Jace's mouth.

Jace had already mastered the art of walking and often clamored for Cecilia's company during his strolls and playtime. There were moments when Cecilia couldn't handle it alone, and that's when Luke would offer help. As time passed, Jace grew fond of playing with Luke as well.

After finishing their meal, following Luke's request, Cecilia dressed Jace and took him outside for a picnic. It was the perfect time—spring flowers adorned the surroundings, and the sunlight cast its radiant embrace.

Cecilia carried Jace for a short while, then beads of perspiration formed on her brow. Luke gently took Jace from her, teasing her about the need for exercise. Otherwise, in the future, as Jace grew taller, she might lack the strength to cradle him in her arms.

“By then, Jace will be capable of walking on his own.”

Little Jace was also overjoyed to come out today. Normally, Cecilia had few time to take him out for leisure. The park was teeming with children of Jace's age, and they quickly became friends. Observing Jace engrossed in play with another little girl, Cecilia settled herself on the verdant lawn.

The park boasted beautiful scenery, with no trace of litter along the path. Where flowers flourished, butterflies danced, eliciting exuberant cries of delight from Jace and his newfound companion.

As Luke returned, his eyes beheld this picturesque scene. Sunlight bathed Cecilia, and her gaze fixated upon Jace and the little girl.

An unfamiliar sentiment surged within Luke, prompting a wistful smile. No, he should never covet

what did not belong to him. Once, he naively believed that with enough effort and perseverance, Cecilia would gravitate towards him. However, he now comprehended that no matter how arduously he pursued something not destined for him, his endeavors would yield naught but anguish for both parties involved.

As Cecilia glanced back, she caught Luke lost in contemplation. "What's occupying your thoughts? You seem unusually absorbed." She playfully nudged him. With a smile and a shake of his head, Luke swiftly reverted to his customary nonchalant demeanor.

After frolicking in the park for a while, Jace grew fatigued, his drowsiness evident as his tiny mouth yawned. Cecilia couldn't help but chuckle. With Jace by her side, she could only feel happiness.

Softly lulling Jace to sleep, Cecilia herself began to feel weariness settling in. Luke turned his head and beheld the tranquil sight of them peacefully slumbering. Lowering the volume of the music within the car, he patiently waited until they woke up.

It was when Cecilia woke up that Luke wore a gentle smile as he alighted from the vehicle. Cecilia expressed her gratitude to him, cradling the child in her arms as they returned home.

