

G.H Hooked 721

Chapter 721

“Are you free on Saturday?”

“Why are you asking?”

Olivia had no idea why, but she felt suspicious and was cautious when she was dealing with John. It was probably because of what happened to Jennie.

“It’s Sam’s birthday on Saturday.”

Sam’s birthday?

Startled, Olivia still did not let go of her doubt. “Are you sure? Would he tell you that?”

“Of course. I can make him talk.”

She frowned upon hearing that. “Don’t hurt him.”

John felt helpless. “Liv, what kind of person do you think I am? He is a child, and I would never hurt him.”

“It’d be better if you didn’t.”

Then, Olivia paused for a second and continued. “I’m free on Saturday. What’s the plan?”

“I bought a phone for him. You can discuss the details with him yourself.”

“That will do. Thank you.”

John pursed his lips. “Don’t thank me. It would be nice if you were less suspicious of me.”

Olivia did not answer. She hung up the call instead.

Once she got into the taxi, she called the atelier’s assistant and asked them to help her with any new orders.

The assistant was happy to hear that. “Ms. James, it’s great that you have decided on this. I was so afraid that you would give up on designing.”

“Don’t worry. Designing is my career and my dream. I’ll never give up on it.”

“That’s great. I’ve already taken a few orders. I’ll send them to you and you tell me what to take and what not to.”

“Okay. Thank you. I’ll arrange a raise for you this month.”

The assistant shook her head and said, “Ms. James, actually, there is no need to worry so much. Your house was sold, you spent money to buy the studio, and you gave us an advance on our salary. You would have lost a lot of money. Without your designs, the studio wouldn’t operate very well. Why don’t we just focus on raising the sales now?”

Olivia’s heart warmed. “Okay. Thank you very much.”

“We know that you treat us well.”

After hanging up the call, Olivia leaned against the window, lost in thought.

‘Are all people not to be trusted, or are just some people not to be trusted?’

Remembering the suite in Murica, she contacted Mr. M again.

[Did you buy my apartment, sir?]

[Yes.]

(Sir, I'm sorry to make you spend more money. When I have the time to return to take things, you can sell it off. At least you won't lose too much money.)

[Take your time. I don't plan to sell the house again. After all, I don't need the money.]

After a while, Mr. M sent another message: [I just don't like to see others bullying you, especially if that person is your good friend.]

Olivia was grateful, but she did not have much money on hand.

Now, she owed Mr. M a large sum of money and Zac tens of millions. She might have to live the rest of her life in debt.

At first, she thought opening an atelier could help her save some money, but her debts grew instead...

[Thank you, sir. However, the house costs a lot of money for me, so I don't want to owe you too much. Sir, I'll clear out the things in it and help you sell off the house when I get back.]

[No. I don't have a house here. I can use it when I'm on a business trip. It's not a loss buying this house. You don't have to think too much about it.]

The man typing on the phone sat in the dark room. After sending this message, he chuckled, got up, and walked to the balcony. He reached over and pulled back the curtain, letting the sunlight shine into the room again.

“It’s about time we met.”

Chapter 722

Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

Arriving on time, a Maybach stopped at the gate of Elegance Gardens.

After a while, Olivia opened the door and stepped out.

Since they were going to the amusement park today, she wore casual wear, so she would be free to use any of the facilities.

Looking at John leaning against the car door, she looked at him expressionlessly and said, “Let’s go.”

It appeared she did not want to see him.

John naturally knew that she wanted to travel alone with Sam. However, he could not miss such an intimate opportunity, so he gave her a reason she could not reject.

He said she needed a driver, free labor, an ATM, and a bodyguard.

Only then did Olivia reluctantly nod her head. “That’s all right.”

Watching her approach, John opened the car door for her, shielding her head with his hands.

When seated, he handed her the coffee he placed on the car’s roof. “Your favorite coffee.”

Olivia glanced at him. “I stopped drinking coffee.”

John froze, pursed his lips, and threw the coffee into a trash can. "What do you like to drink now? Juice?"

"Orange juice."

"Okay. I'll bring you fresh orange juice next time."

Olivia frowned. "Did you make that cup of coffee?"

"Yes. I bought the coffee beans and ground them myself."

Her heart skipped a beat. However, her expression did not change as she looked out the window. "Why didn't you just bring Sam?"

"I want you to see where Sam lives," John closed the car door and sat beside her. "In case you think I mistreated him."

"Okay. Where does he live?"

John took the tablet. He turned it on and showed her. "Emerald Bay, an ordinary residential area. The house is about a hundred square feet. I even employed a housekeeper to care for his food, clothing, housing, and transportation."

Olivia glanced at him, surprised that he was so careful in such a matter.

"I know you don't want Sam to be in the newspaper, so I looked for a nice area. It is ordinary, but the quality of the community is fine."

Emerald Bay! Olivia had a vague impression of the residential area.

It was the real estate area the Lucas family invested in. Thus, it was safe.

John took a file and handed it to her. 'This is Sam's medical examination report. I sent him to check everything needed.'

"What's the result?"

"Don't worry. He isn't addicted to the drug, and his body is in good condition. However,..."

"However, what?" She asked as she opened the document.

"Malnutrition."

Olivia was not surprised by this outcome.

He lived such a life before this and was sold by his aunt. It was destined that he would not have nutritious meals. Suffering from malnutrition was expected.

She glanced at the medical report and nodded. "Please remind the housekeeper to try to keep up on his nutrients."

Then, she suddenly looked at John and asked, "Is the housekeeper reliable?"

"Rest assured. She is reliable and once worked for the Larson family."

Olivia froze and asked, "Worked for the Larson family? Who?"

"Madam Cailyn."

She frowned for a moment and nodded. "Well, Madam Cailyn is indeed not bad."

After a moment of silence, she said, Thank you. I didn't realize you were so meticulous before."

John chuckled and said nothing.

If he had realized this earlier, their relationship would not turn out like this. Now he was Mr. Freeman, and she was Mrs. Quinton.

He tilted his head to look at her. "Did you get a medical checkup the last time?"

"How did you know?"

"I heard when I sent Sam for a checkup." He paused. "Did you get your report?"

Not noticing anything unusual, Olivia nodded. "Yes. There is nothing abnormal about it."

She saw nothing abnormal because John had taken away the two papers with abnormal results.

Chapter 723

"Did your cancer relapse?"

Olivia sneered. "The doctor said there was a chance for that to happen. I think it's just a matter of time before it relapses."

"Can you undergo another operation to cure it?"

"John, do you feel guilty and want me to tell you some good news so you can deceive yourself that everything is fine?"

She looked at John.

John did not know how to react.

He did feel guilty.

He felt guilty and wanted to sacrifice his life for her before. After reading the medical report, he found that even if he offered his life to her, it was not enough to compensate her for the wrongs he had committed.

“No. I want you to live a good life.”

Olivia frowned and looked at him doubtfully. “John, I think you have changed a lot recently. What’s wrong?”

“Nothing. I just realized my mistakes.”

“Really? Have you checked out your condition since you fainted due to a headache the last time?”

John’s eyes brightened. He did not expect Olivia to care for him and chuckled. “Your care for me makes me feel happy.”

Olivia rolled her eyes. “Don’t imagine things. I’m just afraid you might faint outside my house again. Mrs. Simmons and I can’t carry you. If there is a next time, we’ll just leave you outside.”

“Liv, do you still hate me?”

“Yes,” Olivia snorted. “Maybe I’ll stop hating you if you die one day.”

John felt a little sad as he looked out the window and chuckled. “If you can forgive me, I will die without regret.”

Olivia felt her heart aching upon hearing that.

She hated him and could not forget what had happened.

The hatred had overtaken her, and she could not remember why she loved him.

However, when she heard him say so, she felt sad.

She wondered what would happen to her if he died.

After seventeen years of love and four years of hatred, her whole life seemed connected to him. She would not know how to react if he was gone one day.

“Liv, we have arrived.”

Fortunately, the car reached its destination. Emerald Bay, pulling her out of the thought.

She followed John into the residential area. Then, they got on the elevator. Watching John press the number 32, she was startled.

“Why did you buy such a high floor?”

“Didn’t you say you liked top floors? You even said 32 was the best number floor one could choose. The height is just nice, and it’s not as hot as the top floor.”

Olivia shot him a gaze with mixed feelings but said nothing.

Then, he continued. “It happens to be Lot 3202. It’s like how our daughter’s name is Lyla, which is sometimes a conscious choice...”

“Stop it.”

Olivia quickly stopped him. “I don’t want to hear about the past, especially after what happened during those years.”

“Why?” John turned around and grabbed her wrist. Then, he pinned her against the elevator wall. “Honestly, you miss those times too, right? You still have feelings for me, don’t you?”

Olivia’s brows furrowed, and she said, “Let go of me.”

“Liv, please allow me to fix what I’ve done, okay?”

“I don’t want you to mention it because I don’t want you to contaminate that memory. It’s the only good memory left.”

John froze, and his gaze was cold again. After staring at her for a while, he let go. “Sorry. Anxiousness must have overpowered me.”

He did not have much time left. However, he did not want to leave with regrets, so he lost control of his patience.

Olivia looked at John’s back, and a strange bitter feeling rose.

That man had changed, but she still could not understand him.

Chapter 724

John headed to the door and rang the doorbell. In just a few seconds, Madam Cailyn came to get the door.

“Mr. Freeman, good to see you. Please come in.”

However, as she spoke, she saw Olivia behind John and froze.

“M-Ms. Larson?”

Olivia smiled lightly. “Madam Cailyn.”

Madam Cailyn grabbed her hand and said, “Are you... really Ms. Larson? I... heard Ms. Larson was dead. So, you...”

Looking at the tears bubbling in Madam Cailyn’s eyes, Olivia made up her mind and shook her head. “Madam Cailyn, you have mistaken me for someone else. I’m Phoebe James. I just look like Ms. Larson.”

Madam Cailyn was disappointed when she heard that.” Huh? You are not Ms. Larson? I... am so sorry about that.”

“It doesn’t matter. I’m used to it.”

Madam Cailyn let go of Olivia’s hand and made way for them to enter. “Come in first. Mr. Sam is changing his clothes in his room.”

Olivia looked at John and saw him pointing at the room at the end of the corridor. Only then did Olivia knock on the door.

“Sam?”

“I’m not done changing yet. Wait a minute.”

“Sam, it’s me, Phoebe.”

Olivia heard a knock from inside the room before Sam opened the door. When he saw her at the door, his eyes lit up with joy, and he hugged her.

“Lady!”

Olivia caressed Sam’s hair and asked, “Did you bump into something just now?”

Sam grinned and said, “Nothing. I just hit my knee. It doesn’t hurt.”

Then, he dragged Olivia into the room. “Lady, why don’t you choose a pair of clothes for me?”

Olivia noticed a few sets of clothes on the bed when she was in the room. Sam seemed to be in a dilemma about what to wear.

“Well, let me see.”

Olivia chose a dark green suit on the bed. “Is this set of clothes okay? It’s the same color as my pants.”

Sam looked at her pants and nodded. “Okay. I’ll wear this green suit then. Lady, wait for me outside.”

“Okay.”

Olivia walked out of the room smiling and closed the door behind her. However, as soon as she lifted her head, she saw John staring at his black suit and seemed displeased.

Olivia quipped, “Why are you looking at your suit? Are you going to change into a green suit, too?”

John looked at her with a complicated expression. “I don’t have a green suit.”

“You’ve always liked black, white, and gray. You don’t even have a blue suit, let alone green.”

Then, Olivia laughed. "It's fine for children to wear bright colors, but if adults like you wear them, it will make you look ... like a clown."

It was true, but John was a little upset.

Why was he the only person in black now that the three of them were going out together?

Then an idea struck him, and he decided to talk to Sam about it later when Olivia was not around.

After changing his clothes, Sam ran merrily to Olivia. He turned around and asked, "Lady, how do I look?"

"You look good."

Olivia took him by the hand and said, "In the future, wear more bright clothes. Don't wear so many dark clothes, okay?"

Then, she suddenly thought of something. "Today, I'll buy you a few sets of clothes when we get to the amusement park."

John lifted his eyebrows and called Madam Cailyn over. "Pheeb, Madam Cailyn will take you on a house tour."

Olivia nodded. "Okay."

Sam wanted to follow, but John grabbed onto him.

"Mr. Freeman, what's the matter?"

John leaned over and whispered a few words into Sam's ear. Then, he saw Sam blinking his eyes and nodding. "Okay •f

When Olivia returned after looking around the house, Sam pulled her hand and said, "Lady, why don't we go shopping for clothes first, then go to the amusement park?"

"Why?"

"This suit is nice but a little tight. I'm afraid I won't be able to enjoy things when I go to the amusement park."

Olivia looked at him and agreed. "It is indeed tight. Let's go to the mall first, then. We can go and have some breakfast on the way."

"Okay. Thank you, lady!"

Olivia held Sam's hand and headed out. Only then did John realize something was not right.

Why did Sam call him Mr. Freeman and Olivia 'lady'? He was treated like an elderly stranger.

Chapter 725

John wanted to sit in the car's back seat at the underground parking lot. However, Olivia pointed at the passenger's seat in front. "It's congested behind. Why don't you sit in the front."

"There's room for three people in the back. It won't be congested."

Olivia's expression changed. "You said you were here to be our driver. Have you ever seen a driver sitting in the back before?"

She had really given him the position of driver of the day.

John could say nothing and sat in the front passenger's seat obediently.

Along the way, the people behind him were chatting nonstop. From the rear-view mirror, he could see Olivia smiling, so natural and beautiful.

He had not seen such a smile on her for a long, long time.

He had to admit he was jealous of Sam now.

Sam was only a child Olivia happened to get to know, yet Olivia treated him so kindly. Meanwhile, he... was only hated and despised by Olivia.

After having breakfast at the mall, the three went shopping. Olivia helped Sam choose a lot of clothes. The price of the clothes was costly. John snatched up the chance to pay the bill to show his value for this trip.

When he passed a window, Sam suddenly stopped and pointed to the matching parent-kid clothes in the window." Lady, shall we also wear matching parent-kid clothes?"

"Do you want to dress like me?"

Sam nodded. "Mm-hmm."

Then, he grabbed John's arm and said, "I want to dress like Mr. Freeman also. We will look like a family of three."

Olivia froze. He looked up at John and was a little reluctant.

When Sam noticed she did not nod, he thought she was unhappy. He said quickly, "If my sister doesn't want to, I don't care.

"No..." Olivia smiled. "We will wear it since you want it. It's your birthday, and you are the boss."

“Are you serious?”

“Yes.”

Laughing, Sam ran inside and began choosing his favorite. In fact, when John requested this, he was a little reluctant. However, when he saw the family suit, he wanted to have it. Sam had no parents since he was young and did not know what a parent-son relationship was. He had not celebrated his birthday with his parents either.

The image of a family dressed alike and hanging out together had appeared in his mind many times.

In fact, he was looking forward to it.

Olivia shot John a glance. “Did you suggest this?”

John quickly denied it. “It has nothing to do with me. I’m not so boring.”

“Yeah. You won’t be interested in things like this. However, you never wear anything other than a suit. Are you sure you will wear this?”

“I...” John showed his disdain. “I can wear it once.”

Olivia snorted and did not want to talk to him anymore. She approached Sam and asked, “Have you chosen?”

Sam pointed to a set of dark green hoodies. “Lady, how about this one? It’s green.”

Then, he pointed to the yellow hoodie on the other side. “Or yellow? You said you wanted something bright, right?”

Olivia glanced at John. "What do you think?"

John responded calmly. "Whatever."

"What do you think, Sam?"

"Why don't we get the yellow one?"

"Okay. Yellow, then."

The retail worker asked for the size and handed them their clothes. "Do you want to change here, or do you want me to pack them?"

"We will change into them here."

"Sure. The fitting room is over there."

After Olivia took the clothes into the dressing room, she wondered whether John would wear the hoodie.

In all the years she had known him, he had never worn anything other than black, white, and gray. This time, the attire was yellow.

When she came dressed, she saw Sam had already worn the hoodie.

Sam tugged her sleeve. "Lady, you look great in this too."

After a while, John walked out of the fitting room wearing a yellow hoodie. He looked in the mirror and felt disgusted.

However, when he saw Olivia wearing it, his lips hooked up. He could finally wear the same outfit as her.

Chapter 726

Yellow was bright, and the three of them looked good. They were in the spotlight as soon as they left the store.

Sam tugged Olivia's clothes carefully. "Lady, they all seem to be looking at us... Could it be that these clothes are too eye-catching?"

Olivia did not mind and comforted him. "It doesn't matter. We have to look joyous on your birthday."

Sam grinned. "Thank you, lady."

"You're welcome."

Then, she secretly glanced at John. When she noticed his awkward expression, she suggested, "You can change back to your suit if you are not used to this. We won't blame you for it."

John was unhappy to hear that suggestion. "I don't want to change."

"Why are you putting on a disdainful expression, then?"

"This is my first time wearing something like this, and I'm not used to it."

Olivia burst out into laughter and joyfully headed ahead with Sam.

John smiled when he saw how happy Olivia was.

He would not have worn this hoodie if it was not for her.

When the three of them arrived at the amusement park, it was eleven o'clock in the morning. That was the most crowded time in the park.

Their set of bright parent-kid clothes seemed to look more ordinary in the amusement park. After all, the amusement park had a variety of dresses. Olivia and Sam had done a bit of homework in advance. Thus, they ran to the bottom of the rollercoaster to get in line.

John lifted his head and looked at the complicated rollercoaster trail, and a glint of fear flashed across his eyes. However, he would not show it before Olivia and lined up in the queue with them.

When it was their turn, Olivia noticed the difference on John's face.

"You're not afraid of heights, are you?"

John glanced at her coldly. "Ridiculous. Why would I be afraid of heights?"

"Why do you look a little pale, then?"

"Yellow makes my skin look fairer," said John, pointing to the yellow hoodie to hide his nervousness.

Olivia did not quite believe what he said and reminded him out of kindness. "If you don't like it, you can wait for us down here. You don't have to force yourself."

He sat down beside her with his teeth clenched and snorted coldly. "You're thinking too much."

When the rollercoaster started to move, Sam suddenly patted his chest and said, "Lady, grab my hand if you are afraid. I'll protect you!"

Olivia was amused by him. "Don't you underestimate me too much!"

Sam grinned and reached out and grabbed her hand. "Lady, just take it as me being afraid and wanting to hold your hand."

She had only seen Sam only a few times, but she was sure this was the happiest smile she had ever seen on his face.

His mood seemed to gradually brighten after leaving such a miserable life.

Looking at his smile, Olivia felt a sense of redemption, much like she was born again with hope this time.

All of a sudden, someone grabbed her left hand. She froze for a moment and looked over her shoulder. "Are you afraid?"

John's face looked tense, yet he still tried to remain calm and said in his deep voice, "I am afraid you will be afraid."

Olivia was certain the man was trying to be brave by this time.

That was what John would do, without any doubt.

However, she did not shove off his hand. Instead, when the rollercoaster slid down the slope, she grabbed his hand and whispered, "It's okay. Relax."

In fact, Olivia had always wanted to come to the amusement park.

However, when she mentioned it before, John rejected her request.

As the rollercoaster went down and everyone screamed, she glanced at the man's pale face.

She was unsure if he took this ride because he recalled her request or wanted to compensate her for their regrets.

At this thought, she chuckled, opened her mouth, and shouted.

There was no going back in this world, and there were no regret pills.

Whatever ever done wrong was done, and what was in the past was in the past.

Chapter 727

When they got off the rollercoaster, Sam and Olivia were fine. However, John looked pale and sat on the bench to rest.

“Mr. Freeman, it seems that you are getting old. Let’s go to the aquarium next time. It’s quiet and safe there.”

John rolled his eyes and said, “Ungrateful brat.”

However, Sam hid behind Olivia and made a grim face. Tm saying this out of kindness. Look at Olivia. She is fine.”

John lifted his head and looked at Olivia. “Why are you calling her by her name and calling me Mr. Freeman instead?”

“You look older than Olivia.”

“I’m older than her, but not by much. Stop calling me Mr. Freeman.”

Sam shook Olivia’s arm and asked, “Lady, what do you think?”

Olivia did not care about John’s emotions. She pinched Sam’s nose lightly and said, “You can call him whatever you prefer.”

“Um...” Sam seemed to have considered the matter of fact that John was financially supporting him. So, he decided to change the way he addressed John. “Can I call you John, then?”

John was satisfied with that and nodded. “Okay.”

Olivia looked at the time. “John, are you alright? We are going to the haunted house next.”

The haunted house?

John looked at her in surprise. “Aren’t you afraid of ghosts?”

“Sam wants to go, so I’m accompanying him. I suppose it won’t be that scary.”

Sam tapped his chest again and said, “Lady, don’t worry. I’m with you. The ghosts can’t hurt you.”

Furious, John poked the little brat’s forehead and said, “How old are you? Can you protect her?”

“How about you?”

“Of course I can, little brat.”

Olivia glared at John. “John, how old are you? Why do you have to argue with a child about this?”

John was stunned and felt wronged. However, he could say nothing about it and could only bear with it.

“You’ll spoil the child sooner or later.”

“He has never been loved and doesn’t even have a family. How can he be spoiled by just one day?”

John was dumbstruck and did not know what else to say. He took her by the hand and said, "Didn't you say you guys want to go to the haunted house?"

Olivia tried to shake off John's hand but failed.

To avoid affecting Sam's mood, Olivia could only keep her voice low as she warned, "Let go of my hand!"

"No. There are too many people in the amusement park. I'm afraid you might get lost."

Not knowing they were talking, Sam dragged Olivia into the haunted house and said, "Lady, this haunted house is rumored to be the scariest haunted house in the nation."

Olivia froze, and her palms were sweaty.

She would never agree to go if she knew this was the scariest haunted house.

The light grew dimmer as the little train moved into the haunted house. Olivia's body trembled more as fear rose in her.

John held her hand and realized her condition. So, he hugged her in his embrace.

"If you're afraid, just close your eyes and hold me. You'll be all right."

Olivia was terrified. So, she could not be bothered to get mad at him. She could only shrink herself into his arms and sniff the familiar scent of John. Only then did she feel a little relieved.

Suddenly there was a loud noise, like thunder.

With a shudder, she opened her eyes and stared straight ahead.

Suddenly, those thundery, scary nights came to mind.

John held her tight, covered her eyes with his left hand, and whispered, "Is this better?"

Olivia shuddered.

Worried, he asked again, "Are you still afraid? Should I take you out?"

After a while, Olivia sobbed and said, "John, maybe you have changed. However, for me, those fears have been etched into my DNA. You are part of the fear."

John froze, and it took a long time for him to snap out of it.

He knew what she meant and squeezed her hand. He said in his hoarse voice, "Liv, I understand. I've experienced what you're talking about."

Chapter 728

"Olivia, I'll never let go of you, even if you have decided not to forgive me."

Olivia did not have the energy to think about what he meant by that and did not want to respond. She remained silent.

When the train exited the haunted house, Sam noticed Olivia's red eyes and was worried.

"Lady, what happened just now? Why are you crying?"

Olivia sniffled, and she wiped her tears with a piece of tissue. Then, she smiled and said, "It was too scary inside. I was scared and cried."

“You didn’t scream.”

To Sam, people would scream when they were afraid, but he did not hear Olivia scream.

“I was so scared I forgot to scream.”

To distract Sam’s attention, she pointed to the cart ahead. “Do you want ice cream?”

Sam looked at her and nodded. “Yes.”

Olivia took a few bucks and handed them to him. “Go and buy three ice creams. I want vanilla.”

“What about you, John?”

“The same flavor as hers.”

“Alright. I’ll be right back.”

After Sam left to get the ice-creams, John sat beside Olivia. Seeing that she was not looking well, he knew that the dark environment in the cave must have reminded her of her previous bad experience.

“Cheer up. Sam will notice.”

Olivia immediately squeezed out a smile upon hearing that. “Does my expression look that ugly?”

John nodded. “Yes.”

“I don’t want to go to haunted houses anymore. It’s not suitable for me.”

It was not the ghosts that scared her to death. It was the deepest fear in her mind.

John took out a business card and handed it to her. "You can meet him when you are free."

Olivia took the card and was startled upon seeing the word 'psychiatric' on it. "Why are you giving me this?"

"I know Ken is a psychiatrist, but this is Ken's teacher. He is better than Ken."

"I mean, why are you giving me this?"

John turned around to look at her, and the meaning behind his gaze was unpredictable. "I don't want you to live in fear all the time.

"John, stop all this if you're doing it to make yourself feel better. There's no need for you to introduce a psychiatrist to me."

Olivia stuffed the business card back into his hand and wanted to go to Sam. However, John pulled her back.

"I know you blame me, but I'm sincerely trying to help you."

Olivia shook off his hand and snorted. "Heh! Forget it. I cannot make myself believe you are sincere whenever I think of our past."

When the two were in an awkward state, Sam came back with three ice creams. "Olivia, John, here are the ice creams."

Olivia took the ice cream. "What flavor did you buy?"

"Vanilla."

“You took vanilla too?”

“Yes. I felt we should get the same. It will be like our attire, and we will look like a family.”

Family...

Olivia’s heart skipped a beat, and she bit her lips as she looked at Sam, saying nothing.

Suddenly, Sam grabbed her hand, walked to John, and asked, “Can you guys be my parents for a day today?”

Parents for a day?

Olivia looked at Sam with astonishment and at John in panic. She wanted to refuse, but when she saw the pleading look in Sam’s eyes, her heart melted.

“Can you?”

Sam asked again.

While Olivia hesitated, John stood up and said, “Sure. Since it’s your birthday, we will certainly fulfill your wishes.”

Sam grinned and said, “Really?”

He shook Olivia’s arm. “Lady, can you be my mommy for a day?”

Any further refusal would bring disappointment, so she could only say, “Yes, of course.”

“Yay! I have a daddy and mommy today!”

In the past, she thought Sam was strong and mature, but he was still a kid after all.

He wanted nothing more than the love of his parents.

Chapter 729

“Daddy, Mommy, what are you guys still doing here? Let’s move on to the next ride.”

As soon as Sam spoke, he dragged Olivia to the pendulum ride. A glint of reluctance flashed across John’s eyes, but he still followed them.

It was six o’clock in the afternoon, and all three of them, hungry and growling, drove to the restaurant they had booked.

Their dinner was a seafood feast with lobsters and king crabs. Sam was astonished.

Just as Sam was about to enjoy his meal, Olivia stopped him and said, “ Wait a minute.”

Then, the waiter came in with a cake.

Sam was overjoyed. “It’s a cake!”

“Of course. Your birthday would be incomplete without cake.”

Olivia opened the cake and put in a candle. Then, she asked John to help light it and turn off the light.

“Make a wish, Sam.”

Sam pressed his lips together and sobbed, saying, “Daddy, Mommy, thank you for fulfilling my long-cherished dream. Finally, I can have a birthday accompanied by parents, cake, and fun. I’m grateful for what you have done for me today!”

Then, he looked at Olivia. “Mommy, if it were not for you, I might still be helping those bad guys and might be sent to prison one day. Things are different now. You brought a new world to me.”

He bit his lower lip, and his eyes were glistening with tears. “Mommy, you gave me a new life, and I’ll cherish this chance and repay your kindness.”

His words touched Olivia. Everything he said sounded like what Zyla had told her, making her tears uncontrollably tear down her cheeks.

She sniffled and reached out to touch Sam’s head. “It’s enough that you can grow up healthy and happy.”

“Mommy, you do have a daughter, don’t you?”

Olivia nodded.

Sam held her hand and said, “Mommy, please believe me. I will willingly sacrifice my life to protect your daughter. I swear!”

Olivia’s heart skipped a beat, and she looked at him bewilderedly.

Emotions surged through her.

Sam turned around and looked at John. “Daddy, although you usually look cold, don’t like to speak, and seem bad-tempered, I know you are a good person. Otherwise, you would not have agreed to Mommy’s request to help me. However,... others might misunderstand you if you keep on with this. So, please do be less bad-tempered.”

John's face was cold, and he showed no change in his expression. Only a glint of bewilderment could be seen in his eyes.

"Mommy, Daddy, I hope you can accompany me to celebrate my birthday next year."

He closed his eyes for a few seconds before blowing out all the candles.

Although the previous events had made Olivia feel down, the days with Sam around were like sunshine, making her sadness disappear. So, she had a satisfying meal.

After dinner, they sent Sam back to Emerald Bay.

On the way back to Elegance Gardens, John deliberately stopped by a beach.

"Liv, shall we go for a walk?"

Looking at the familiar beach, Olivia felt complicated feelings blooming in her.

"John, you do remember this place, right?"

"Yes, I do."

"It was here that I first thought of divorcing you and was utterly disappointed in you."

John looked at her without speaking.

After a long time, she turned to him and said, "John, may I ask you a question?"

"What do you want to ask?"

She took a deep breath and smiled. "Did you sleep with Dorothy?"

Chapter 730

John did not seem to expect that she would ask this question. He was stunned for a few seconds before he snapped out of shock.

"Are you afraid to answer?"

John looked at her firmly. "Will you believe me if I say I didn't?"

After staring at him for a long time, Olivia smiled and shook her head. "No."

She pointed to the beach and said, "It was here that Dorothy pushed me into the sea. You ran past me and saved Dorothy. You told me that she was pregnant and had your child."

Then, she smiled bitterly. "Later, in the hospital, you hit me, scolded me, and asked me how I was going to compensate for the loss of your child."

She licked her lips and looked at John again. "That's the anger only a dad would show when he lost his child."

John stared at her, knowing it was pointless explaining.

He had done all those things.

Every single one, and every single moment. John remembered everything.

These four years, he would like to forget those moments he hurt her. However, the memories were buried deep in his mind, and he could never erase them.

He even remembered that she could not swim.

However, he only focused on torturing her back then and did all that on purpose.

In the end, he tortured her and broke her heart into pieces. At the same time, he had placed himself at a dead end.

“Liv,” John bit his lips. “I didn’t sleep with her. She lied to me.”

“John, you are not a fool. Why would you believe whatever lie she told you?”

“One time, I got drunk because of you...”

John rumbled his fingers through his hair and said with regret. “I wanted to piss you off. So, I didn’t call you, and I don’t know where Wes was that day. Dorothy happened to see me and seized the moment. She took me to the hotel and booked a room for the night...”

He could not continue what happened next. Clutching his hair, he said angrily, “She set me up! It’s like she has set you up. We’ve all been set up by her!”

Rationally, Olivia believed him.

It was because Dorothy had set traps for her too. Thus, she knew Dorothy was capable of doing that.

However, emotionally, she refused to believe it.

Men and women were different. She knew she had not done anything like that, but she could not be sure that John was innocent.

Olivia looked at him and smiled. She opened the car door and headed out. After bending down and removing her shoes, she walked barefoot on the sand.

She had come to this beach many, many times. However, each time her mood was very different.

Now she was somewhat relieved.

She had even let go of some of her hatred for John.

However, she had let go the seventeen years of love at the same time.

She did not know why. It was as if she suddenly stopped loving him, completely that even her obsession for him was gone.

John caught up and grabbed her. "Liv, believe me, I never touched her. I have no interest in women besides you."

"John, if you had told me that four years ago, I would have believed and forgiven you."

Then, she sighed and emphasized each word she spoke. "Four years ago, I loved you so much. Even if it weren't true, I would have believed anything you said."

She shook off his hand and smiled. "However, things don't go your way. Things change."

"Liv..."

"Actually, this problem has troubled me for many years. When I love you, I don't want to admit that you touched Dorothy, but I saw so much proof, and I can't convince myself to believe you are innocent. As time goes by, it became an obsession."

She smoothed her hair, disheveled by the sea breeze, and smiled. "Thank you, John, for letting me know the problem I have been struggling with for four years. Now, I am finally getting over it." 'Getting over it?'

John froze and felt the heartbreak deep down, taking away his breath.