

## **KINDA SWEET 711**

### Chapter 711 Jumping off the Plane

Her eyes didn't deceive her, nor was her guess wrong.

These two people did have followed her and Nancy since they boarded the plane.

What Natalia's sixth sense told her was all correct.

That man sneered and raised a gun. Natalia's face tensed. She instinctively attempted to duck.

At this precise moment, a figure dashed past her.

Next, with a loud bang, the man holding a gun was knocked over.

Then, she heard Nancy shout, "Come over!"

Natalia shuddered all over, then hurried over.

She didn't know why these two wanted to target her. But she could tell that they had not investigated

her or Nancy and just assumed they were two ordinary women.

Thus, they never thought Nancy could be so dexterous in combat.

From that, she also concluded the two people were killers hired by somebody else.

However, to hunt her and Nancy down, the two even planned to make everyone on the flight die with

them. That completely enraged Natalia.

She and Nancy ran to the cabin door and got their parachutes ready. Just then, they saw a plane flying in their direction.

A carrying voice amplified by the horn reverberated in the clear sky.

“Those on the plane ahead, listen up. We’re here to save you. As long as you let us take two women on your plane, we’ll send a perfectly good plane to pick you up and fly you safely to your destination. If you refuse, then don’t blame us for being ruthless.”

Natalia’s countenance altered at once.

Two banners suddenly draped from that plane, which showed the enlarged photos of Natalia and Nancy.

Many people on the falling plane saw the banners through the windows.

Someone immediately shouted, “I saw them! They’re over there!”

That person also pointed at Natalia and Nancy, who were standing at the cabin door.

Natalia and Nancy both looked stern. They never thought that people could be so vicious.

They first put everyone’s lives at risk. Then they were turning them against her.

The other passengers were about to swoop on her and Nancy. There was no time to dawdle.

Nancy grabbed her hand and whispered, "Jump!"

Then, she shoved Natalia out of the door and jumped, too.

"Bang!" "Bang!" Someone fired in the air.

But due to the turbulent airflow, the bullets missed.

Natalia felt the cold wind was sweeping in her face, and her body was about to be cut in pieces by the sharp wind.

She could only keep her eyes shut. In this situation, she couldn't even think straight. She didn't know where Nancy was, either.

The parachute opened up with a whoosh. Yet, because of the strong wind, the overwhelming airflow, and the lack of oxygen, she could not control the parachute or observe the surroundings.

At last, she felt something had wrapped around her head more and more tightly. Her head ached so much that she worried it might explode.

Next, she blacked out.

...

When Natalia woke up, she was in a dimly lit place.

She slowly opened her eyes and found that she was in a dingy room.

The walls were built with mud and rocks. It was rather crude. She was lying on a sheet with a moldy smell.

She struggled a bit, wanting to sit up. Yet, she found that she had no strength to do anything, because every part of her body was aching as if it had been cut by a knife.

She blinked in wonder.

“Where is this place?”

“Where am I?”

Some voices came from outside, which carried a hint of jubilation. People were talking in a local language. Natalia could hardly understand their conversations, but she sensed the joy in their voice.

Someone holding something blazing came in from the outside. Soon, Natalia saw who it was.

A middle-aged woman entered the room, followed by several men and women. They all dressed as peasants in a village. They were coming in, holding torches.

Natalia was propping herself up on her elbows, her beautiful eyes rounded.

The middle-aged woman let out a cry of surprise and scurried toward her cheerfully. "You're up?"

Natalia was still in a trance.

She had not realized what was going on. Nor did she know who these people in front of her were.

The middle-aged woman said with a smile, "You fell in a river near our village, carrying a huge parachute on your back. I spotted you when I went there to do laundry, so I brought you back. How do you feel now? Are you hurt or anything?"

It was not until then that Natalia understood that these people had saved her.

She hastily drew herself up with difficulty and said, "Thank you for saving my life. I'm fine now. Oh right, did you see my friend?"

The middle-aged woman was taken aback. "Your friend? You were not alone?"

Natalia nodded.

With a tiny frown, she contemplated for moments before saying, "She is about my age. She should be somewhere around here. Have you seen her?"

The middle-aged woman looked at Natalia and shook her head.

Then, she turned around and asked the group behind her, “Has any of you seen this girl’s friend?”

They all shook their heads with a blank look on their face.

Just as Natalia’s heart sank with disappointment, a skinny young man stepped forward.

“Oh, I remember. I just got back from my uncle’s today. He said he rescued a woman who looked very young. Could it be her friend?”

The middle-aged woman was dazed, looking incredulous.

“How can that be? Your uncle lives so far away. His place is dozens of kilometers from here. This girl said her friend should be nearby. How could she show up in a place so afar?”

However, Natalia’s eyes sparkled.

“Yes, yes, it can be her.”

Truthfully, she was not completely sure. The two had jumped from a plane without knowing where they were heading. Thus, it was highly possible that they landed in different places.

After all, in that disoriented situation, there was no way to guarantee that they could be blown to the same spot by the wind.

Seeing her reaction, the middle-aged woman looked surprised.

Still, she nodded and said, "Okay. Maybe it is her. Don't worry. Now your friend had been found by

Elon's uncle, she is probably fine. You should rest. When you regain some strength, I'll take you to find her."

Feeling deeply grateful, Natalia said right away, "Thank you so much."

The middle-aged woman smiled at once, revealing two rows of not very shiny teeth. "You're welcome."

Then, she turned around and said coaxingly, "Now you've seen the girl, your curiosity should be satisfied. Go back home, everyone."

These people were all local villagers. Some eyed Natalia with curiosity as well as some kind of a wicked look.

But because it was too dark and there was no light in the room, Natalia didn't see their faces clearly.

After sending the onlookers away, the middle-aged woman turned around and asked with a smile, "Girl, are you hungry? Do you want me to cook something for you?"

As soon as she said that, Natalia realized that she was ravenous.

Chapter 712 The Weird Village

Natalia hadn't had anything to eat since breakfast. Then, she underwent such a thrilling event. From

the dark sky outside and the torch the woman was holding, she could tell that it was already evening.

No wonder that she would feel hungry.

Thinking of this, Natalia licked her lips with embarrassment and patted her growling stomach, asking,

“Would that be too much trouble?”

“No, not at all. The food is ready. Come on! If you have the strength to get out of bed, I’ll take you to the central room to eat.”

Natalia nodded. Though every part of her body was still aching, she managed to crawl out of bed with all her might.

Following the middle-aged woman, she slowly edged out of the room and came into the central room.

This room was still shrouded by darkness. The kerosene lamp on a table was the only light source.

The middle-aged woman led her to sit down at the table and said, “Wait a sec. I’ll get you some food.”

After that, she went off to another room.

Sitting there, Natalia looked around by the light of the dim kerosene lamp.

It was not a large room. The floor was not even a cement floor, but uneven mud. The table was



wooden, coated with something black and sticky. Most of the red paint on the table had come off.

There was also a large cabinet beside the wall. The cabinet looked very old. By the weak light, she made out some sundries and daily necessities inside.

She had no idea where this place was. But judging by what she had observed, this was perhaps a poor, underdeveloped village in the mountains.

People here were still using kerosene lamps. They probably had no access to electricity.

Realizing this, Natalia's heart sank to her stomach.

The middle-aged woman soon came out with two bowls.

One held some boiled potatoes, and the other carried some tomatoes and a few slices of meat.

Smiling, she said, "These are some leftovers from dinner tonight. Hope you wouldn't mind. Just eat some so you won't stay hungry."

Natalia beamed. She took over the fork and said, "Of course not. I'm glad I can have these."

In this circumstance, she certainly couldn't act spoiled. Even though she had never had boiled potatoes, and the dish didn't look tasty either, she still chose to be grateful.

She knew that the harsher the environment was, the more important it was to eat and preserve her

energy.

Plus, this meal was offered to her as a gesture of kindness.

Seeing that Natalia was finally eating something, the middle-aged woman was relieved. She then sat

on a stool by the table and fetched out two knitting needles and some knitting wool to knit a sweater.

Natalia watched her work. After moments of hesitation, she still couldn't help but ask her, "May I know

where I am?"

The middle-aged woman looked up at her and said with a smile, "This is Horn Village. It's small and

remote. You probably never heard of it."

Natalia searched her memories and was confirmed that she never heard of such a place before.

Helplessly, she asked, "Are we in Tacitus?"

The middle-aged woman nodded and replied, "Yes. But we're in the far south, bordering Africa. Further

south, war breaks out quite often, so everyone is having a hard time. Life is very difficult."

Natalia puckered up her brows.

"This place borders Africa? Then it's far astray from the flight route back to Ambario!"

But she soon figured it out.

Someone on that plane must have secretly changed the route during the flight. It was just the passengers didn't notice.

Natalia felt more despondent at the thought of that. She gulped down a potato before continuing, "Mrs.,

I've noticed that you all use kerosene lamps. Does this village have no electricity?"

At this question, the middle-aged woman heaved with a deep sigh.

"No electricity? We used to have it. But then, the war started, and the electricity supply became unstable. One day, a big bomb blast near here. The power lines there were all destroyed. Our village lost power as well. To save money, we just make do with kerosene lamps.

Natalia nodded understandingly.

She knew this world had never truly been in peace.

Her life was great not because the world she lived in was peaceful, but because she lived in a relatively peaceful country.

As if interested in this topic, the middle-aged woman said with emotion, "We've lost all the ways of

communication with the outside world, let alone electricity. But it's perhaps for the best. We can live a quiet life here. Though we can't go out, others can't go in either. If anything happens, we can just go to the village head who lives 30 kilometers away and tell him to notice others."

Natalia fell silent.

This village had no electricity or means of communication.

These two revelations were certainly a blow to her.

With no power supply, this village couldn't have cars.

Therefore, it was almost impossible to leave here.

With no means of communication, she couldn't get in touch with anyone in the outside world either. She

already lost her cell phone when she jumped from the plane. Thus, there was no way for her to contact anyone.

As she thought about this, her elegant brows knitted together.

"Archie is in Ambario right now. He's perhaps already learned about what happened to my flight."

"How is he doing now? Would he get too worried?"

“My babies are still at home. Anne is eagerly waiting for me to go back and celebrate her birthday!”

Natalia was very much flustered.

She didn’t have much appetite anyway. At this thought, she found it hard to swallow.

Thus, she soon put down the fork.

Seeing this, the middle-aged woman let out a surprised yelp. With a smiley face, she said, “Is it that the food here doesn’t agree with you?”

Natalia managed a smile and lied, “No. It’s just that I just woke up and feel woozy, so I don’t have much appetite.”

The middle-aged woman said with a chuckle, “Don’t worry. Our village doctor checked on you when you were still unconscious. He said you were fine and would be out and about after a few days’ rest.”

Natalia didn’t know what kind of doctor they had. She guessed that he must be the unlicensed kind.

But as she was in no place to be picky, she just nodded.

“Thank you so much. Can I ask you something?”

The middle-aged woman said while cleaning the table, “What is it?”

Natalia asked, “Does the uncle that boy mentioned lives far from here? I want to go see my friend

tomorrow. Can I do that?"

The middle-aged woman was taken aback. Next, she said with a smile, "His uncle lives more than 30 kilometers away from here. You can rest assured. Your friend will be fine there. Nothing bad can happen to her. You could go there to see her after you get better."

But Natalia was anxious. "No, I can't wait. Mrs., you don't understand. We..."

She compressed her lips and swallowed the words on the tip of her tongue. In the end, she said, "We have to stay together."

After all, the two of them jumped from the plane because some killers were after them. Although they narrowly escaped death, Natalia couldn't guarantee those people wouldn't track them down again.

#### Chapter 713 A Group of Children

From what she had observed, Natalia knew she was safe for now. But she was clueless about how Nancy was doing.

She was a little worried that Nancy might be in trouble.

The middle-aged woman paused to gaze at her.

At the sight of Natalia's distraught look, she said with resignation, "Fine. I'll send someone to the boy's

uncle's tomorrow. If it's possible, I'll tell him to bring your friend over here."

Natalia hastily suggested, "Why not let me tag along?"

The smile the middle-aged woman was wearing faded a little. With a skin-deep grin, she said, "Girl,

what are you worried about? We've saved you and your friend. We're not bad guys. You only have to

wait for a couple of days before you can go there and meet your friend. Do you think we may hurt her

or something?"

Natalia was astounded by the sharp change of her tune.

She didn't know how she had upset her.

But since she was under her roof, she had to obey her rules. Now her request had been declined,

Natalia felt it was inappropriate for her to continue arguing. Therefore, she reluctantly gave up on the

idea.

The middle-aged woman then comforted her, "Don't be upset. It's just that the village that boy's uncle

lives in doesn't welcome outsiders. Your friend was already very lucky that they saved her. Usually,

they wouldn't care about the lives of the nonlocals."

Natalia frowned, reckoning that there was something funny about that remark.

But the middle-aged woman didn't give her much time to think about that. She immediately headed out after saying that.

Shortly, she settled everything and came back.

"I've told them what to do. You can rest assured. Tomorrow, a neighbor will go there to check if that girl is your friend. By the way, what's your name? I'll tell that man later. You don't have a picture of yourself to show to that girl, so we can only tell her your name to see if she recognizes you."

Natalia puckered her lips. For some inexplicable reason, she didn't reveal her real name.

Instead, she said a name that only Nancy could recognize.

"My name is Seven."

The middle-aged woman was dazed. Next, she chortled and said, "That's your nickname, isn't it? Fine.

It'll do. I'll tell that neighbor. If that girl is your friend, he will bring her here."

After saying that, she went out again.

Natalia just sat there, waiting. The middle-aged woman told that neighbor the name and then came into the room.



She said to Natalia, "It's late. You can rest in that room. If there is any problem, we'll just deal with it tomorrow morning."

Natalia nodded. Without asking for the woman's help, she supported herself with her hands on the wall and made it back to that room.

It was late at night. Natalia tossed and turned in bed, unable to fall asleep.

There were clear chirps of bugs outside. These sounds could only be heard in the countryside.

Natalia's nostrils were filled with the moldy smell from under the sheet. Somehow, she felt quite uneasy.

But at a time like this, worrying wouldn't help.

She wondered how Nancy was doing and if she was injured. She also wished that Nancy wouldn't run into those killers.

With her mind dwelling on this, she closed her eyes. The shock she had in the daytime was still too great. Though she was not sleepy and she kept telling herself to remain vigilant, she still fell asleep in the second half of the night.

When she woke up, it was already morning on the next day.

As soon as Natalia opened her eyes, she saw a group of children with dirt-smeared faces standing beside her bed.

Startled, she pretty much jumped out of the bed.

“Why are you...”

“Hee-hee...”

These children probably lived in the village, too. Seeing that she was up, they were not scared at all.

Instead, they stared at her with a big grin on their face.

Under their gaze, Natalia saw glints of innocence in their eyes. Feeling that they had no ill intention, she figured they were just curious. Moments later, her tense nerves began to relax.

As a mother of two, Natalia naturally found children endearing.

She then asked, “What are you doing here? What time is it?”

These children all understood what she said, but most remained silent.

A boy who looked older than the others spoke, “Flora sent us here to check on you. Now...”

He turned around to look at the sun outside the window before continuing, “Now is probably nine.”

Natalia was bereft of speech.

“Don’t tell me they don’t even have a clock in here!”

She had mixed feelings at this moment. Although she knew there were some places plagued by

destitution, she never thought some people could be this impoverished.

She lifted the quilt and sat up.

“Is Flora the woman who saved me yesterday? Where is she now?”

“She went up to the mountains. She won’t be back until noon. Where are you going?”

Natalia put on her coat and prepared to wash up. But she froze in place when she heard that Flora

wouldn’t be back until noon.

She looked back at these children. Then, gazing at the boy who answered her first question, she

asked, “Last night, Flora told me she would send someone to the neighboring village to check on my

friend. Did that man set off?”

The boy widened his eyes in a daze.

Seconds later, he nodded and said, “Yes. He set off early this morning. Just wait. He’ll be back this

afternoon.”

Hearing that, Natalia felt relieved.

But she found it somewhat bizarre to be surrounded by so many children.

Yet, she didn't have the heart to drive them out. Thus, she said, "Then come with me. Don't crowd together in this room."

The group of children immediately followed her out.

It was not until this moment that Natalia saw what the village looked like.

It was pretty much the same as she had imagined. The sun was shining now. Houses made of mud and rocks could be seen in the village.

There was a fenced patch of land at the back of each house, but the fences were not high. Chickens, ducks, and geese were running about behind the fences. Some cows were tethered there. Their dung that had piled up at the back was giving off a foul smell.

Standing beside the door, Natalia stretched and sighed.

She was now convinced that life here was difficult.

The group of children didn't go away after they came to the outside. They still stood on the side, gazing

at her.

Natalia felt a little self-conscious. She wondered why these children were following her.

They were all staring longingly at her. The look in their eyes was odd but pitiful. Seeing this, she

searched her pockets but didn't find any snacks or toys.

In fact, all her belongings were lost when she leaped from the plane. Thus, she had nothing to offer

them.

After thinking for a moment, she asked awkwardly, "Have you had breakfast?"

"Yes."

This time, the kids answered in unison.

Natalia touched her belly.

"But I haven't."

"Flora said when you wake up, you can cook for yourself. There are potatoes in the kitchen."

Natalia was taken aback. Looking in the direction one of the children pointed at, she asked, "That's the

kitchen?"

"Yeah."

The kitchen looked even shabbier. After hesitating for a moment, Natalia still headed over.

As she walked, she asked the children, “Do you want some snacks after breakfast? How about I make you some fried potatoes?”

Chapter 714 Poor Kids

These children had never stepped outside the village. When had they ever had any snacks?

Therefore, when Natalia offered to make them some, their eyes lit up at once.

“Great!”

Natalia beamed. Though it was a bit odd that these children kept following her, she found them quite adorable.

Thus, she didn’t think it was too much trouble to make some fried potatoes for them.

Being a mother herself, she was naturally fond of children, so she was not on guard when they were around.

Natalia walked into the kitchen only to find that it was still dingy.

Thankfully, there was a not very small window on the left side. It was open. The sunshine poured in from outside, making the poorly-lit room less gloomy.

Since this village had no electricity, it didn't have gas stoves either.

Natalia spun around to look at the munchkins behind her, then asked, "Which of you can light a fire?"

The kids all held up their hands and shouted, "I can!"

"I can do that!"

"Me too!"

Natalia cast her eyes over the group of children and saw a boy who seemed to be the oldest. She

pointed at him and said, "Then I'll let you do it."

The boy who got the task rejoiced at once.

He scurried to the back of the stove in high spirits. The other kids all gazed expectantly at Natalia.

Afraid that they might disturb her cooking, Natalia gestured to the stools on the side and said, "Don't

just stare at me. You can sit over there and wait. Your snacks will be ready in a moment."

The munchkins nodded and meekly went to take their seats.

Fortunately, Natalia had experience in babysitting children. Otherwise, she wouldn't know what to do

with so many children following her around.

Since this was a poor village with limited cooking resources, she couldn't really give play to her cooking

skill.

Back at home, she once learned how to fry potatoes from Mrs. Kylee, the maid. She did it quite well.

Thus, she prepared to make some for these children.

First, she found potatoes from a sack in the corner of the room. Then, she peeled them, chopped them into pieces, and put them in the pan to fry.

It was a simple dish. But when the potatoes sizzled in the oil, all the children's mouths watered.

They stared fixedly at the pan, as though their eyes were glued to it.

Seeing this, Natalia was both amused and pained.

She thought these children were actually quite pitiful.

She did not know how their daily life was, but in a village with scarce goods, children's happiness was always scarce, too.

The fried potatoes were soon ready.

It looked delicious and smelt good.

She put the potatoes onto a large plate and asked with a smile, "Who wants some? Raise your hand if



you do.”

These children’s hands immediately shot to the air as they whooped with excitement.

Some were so enraptured that they even leaped from their stools.

Natalia distributed the potatoes with a fork. At the same time, she reminded them, “It’s hot. Blow on it before you eat.”

The smiles spread across the children’s faces as they finally tasted the delicious food they had been waiting for.

As they ate the potatoes, their affection for Natalia increased rapidly.

Watching them enjoy her food, Natalia also had a piece. The rest of the potatoes were equally shared by the children. Then, she walked out of the kitchen.

It was already 11, almost noon.

She stood in the doorway for a while. Looking back, she saw that the group of children had followed her out again. This made her brows arch.

“There are no more fried potatoes. I won’t give you more even if you still follow me around.”

Unexpectedly, the children shook their heads and said, “We’re not doing this for the fried potatoes.”

Taken aback, Natalia asked, "Then why have you been so clingy?"

The big boy she picked to light the fire before answered, "Flora told us to keep an eye on you. She said she didn't want you to get lost."

Natalia was staggered.

For some reason, she had a weird feeling about this.

Nevertheless, she took it that Flora did this out of the kindness of her heart. Smiling, she said, "So that's what this is about. Don't worry. I won't get lost."

After a pause, she added, "How about this? You can follow me around, but you gotta give me a tour of this village. Can you do that?"

Since Natalia was sweet and pretty, and she even cooked for them, these children had taken a liking to her.

Besides, before Flora went off, she only told them to watch over her. She didn't say Natalia was not allowed to go out.

Therefore, they immediately agreed.

Natalia then went out to stroll in the village with these children.

This village was quite large. If it were in a more developed country, it would be a town.

But in the quiet and out-of-the-way countryside, the paths crisscrossed in the fields, and the houses were widely spaced. Thus, even though the village was large, it was not a bustling place.

Led by the children, Natalia quickly finished the tour of the village.

She returned to Flora's house when it was nearly three in the afternoon.

By that time, Flora was already back from the mountains.

Perhaps she didn't see Natalia in the house after she came back, she went to the neighbor to inquire about her whereabouts. After she learned that Natalia went out to tour the village with the children, she was not worried anymore.

Seeing Natalia come back, Flora asked beamingly, "Done with the tour? How is it? Isn't our village very big?"

Natalia nodded with a smile. "Yeah. It's quite large."

A moment later, she asked out of concern, "Did you just come back from the mountains? Are you tired?"

Do you need me to get you some water or something?"

Flora waved hastily and said, "No need. I'll help myself."

Then, she went to pour a cup of water for herself and sat on the stone seat by the door. While drinking

water, she looked at Natalia and said, "The man I sent to the boy's uncle will be back soon. My

husband will come back with him. Then you'll know if that girl they saved is your friend."

Stunned, Natalia raised an eyebrow.

Since she hadn't seen anyone but Flora in the house, she just assumed that Flora was living by herself.

She was a little curious at first. But as she just met Flora and the customs here might be different, she

reckoned she'd better not ask about such personal questions.

But it turned out that Flora was living with her husband.

Thinking of this, Natalia smiled and said, "Thank you."

Flora waved again. She drank up the water and got to her feet.

"Don't stand on ceremony. Anyway, just live here with ease for some days. If that girl is truly your

friend, she'll come to look for you."

Natalia compressed her lips but didn't say a word. Then, she followed Flora into the house.

The daytime was short in this season.

Since the village didn't have electricity for lighting, people here usually had dinner very early.

They would start to make dinner at four in the afternoon.

Maybe it was because Flora's husband was coming home today, she prepared many dishes for dinner.

She even caught two fish from the pond nearby.

Chapter 715 Putting Her Guard up

While cooking the fish, Flora said to Natalia beamingly, "The fish in the pond are all bred by me. The meat is delicious. Tonight, I'll treat you to my best dish."

Natalia smiled and thanked her out of courtesy. She helped her get the fish ready, then lit the fire and began to cook.

But she had never cooked with fire before, and she was not good at controlling the fire.

Thus, Flora spared her from these chores. Yet, seeing that Natalia was eager to help, she told her to wash the vegetables instead.

As Natalia was on the task, she heard Flora ask, "By the way, how come you and your friend ended up here? I forgot to ask you yesterday."

Natalia puckered her lips and put the freshly washed vegetables on a basket on the side.

Seconds later, she replied, "We came here for sightseeing. Our car turned over in an accident and we fell out."

Flora turned around and looked at her in surprise.

"Geez! How dangerous that was!"

Natalia just smiled.

"But I saw you were carrying a parachute that day."

Natalia froze.

She felt perturbed.

"Oh, how poor my memory is! Why could I forget that?" she thought in annoyance.

She lied again, "Well, we were going to do skydiving that day. That's why we drove toward the mountaintop. But we had an accident on our way."

As if frightened by that thought, Flora clamped a hand over her chest.

"Good Lord! Young people like you are too reckless with their lives. Why do you love such a dangerous and thrilling sports event?"

Moments later, she asked, “So you came here only with your friend? Do you have other companies?”

Gazing at Flora, Natalia instinctively lied. “We also came with a man. But I don’t know where he is at the moment.”

“A man?”

“Yes.”

Flora then fell silent.

Her brows knitted slightly. Natalia couldn’t figure out what she was thinking about.

She had no idea why Flora asked her so many questions. But since she was in a strange place and had been hunted by some killers, she had to put her guard up.

She knew lying to her lifesaver was not what a person of integrity should do.

Even so, she was aware that she should never relax vigilance against evildoers. Plus, she was in a foreign place that she knew nothing about. To protect herself, she had to resort to lies.

A long while later, Flora forced a smile and said, “If your friend is still alive, she must also be looking for you. Do you want us to help you look for her?”

Natalia smiled faintly and said, “That would be good.”

After that, Flora posed a ton of questions.

She asked about her friend's appearance, her job, age, and family members.

The more detailed her questions were, somehow, the more uneasy Natalia became.

As a result, she subconsciously lied about her life.

She told her only half of the truth.

Flora seemed astonished when she learned that Natalia was already a mother of two.

"You're already a mother?"

Natalia nodded. "Yeah. Can't you tell?"

She thought it was a given.

Flora frowned a little and clicked her tongue. Shaking her head, she said, "No, you don't look like a mother at all."

Then, she remarked with emotion, "Girls in big cities like you don't age as fast as we do. Those who are approaching 30 may still look like 18-year-old girls. If you didn't speak, I'd thought you just graduated from college."



Natalia smiled but didn't reply.

As they chatted like this, the dinner was ready.

When it was getting dark, they heard footsteps from outside.

The children who followed Natalia around were dismissed since Flora came back.

Thus, the footsteps they heard at this time must be made by Flora's husband.

Sure enough, when the two came out of the kitchen, a brawny man with dark skin strode in from outside.

"My man is back!"

Flora hurried over with joy. The man greeted her, then rested his eyes on Natalia, who was standing behind Flora.

The man's eyes slightly brightened up.

"Who is this lady..."

"She is Seven. She came here for sightseeing with her friend. But their car turned over on the way. I saw her lying in the field, so I brought her back."

As she spoke, she attentively drew the man to sit by the table, took over his coat, and dusted it. Then,

she said, "You must be hungry. I bring dinner out right away."

The man waved and said, "No rush. The boy's uncle has come here. I gotta go see him in a moment."

Flora was taken aback by this.

But the next moment, she put on a big smile.

"OK. Then we'll wait for you to come back before we have dinner."

The man nodded. His eyes lay on Natalia again.

Perhaps this was Natalia's imagination, but she felt that the gaze the man gave her was too piercing.

He was wantonly eyeing her with a kind of shrewdness that she couldn't understand.

Then, he chuckled and said, "You're here for sightseeing? That's bold. You and your friend are lucky to have met us. If not... "

Natalia's nerves tensed as she heard him talk about her friend.

"You saw my friend?"

The man fetched out a pipe from his back and stuffed some tobacco in it. He lit it and took draws as he said, "Of course, I saw her. She's pretty. One of her legs is broken. She is now resting in that boy's

uncle's. Just wait for some days for her injury to heal. Then, you can go see her."

Natalia perked up at once.

But she got a bit worried as well.

She hastily said, "I don't need to wait for her to recover. I can go there to see her right now."

The man narrowed his eyes. He sized her up as he took more draws.

A moment later, he slowly shook his head.

"You can't. That village doesn't allow outsiders to enter. They've already made an exception for your friend. They won't do that again."

After a short pause, he said in a lower voice, "You'd better wait for some time."

Now, Natalia had learned where Nancy was, but she couldn't go check on her.

How could she stand that?

She immediately became anxious. "Why won't they let outsiders in? As you can see, I'm all alone. I'm not a threat. You have no electricity or any modern ways of communication, so I can't possibly send any messages out. Then why are you still guarding against me?"

The man was clearly dazed for a moment by her remark.

For a moment, the room was silent, except that the tobacco was burning in his pipe with some faint noises.

It was so quiet that one could have heard a pin drop.

A long while later, the man finally spoke, "Fine. Now that you insist, I'll take you to meet his uncle. If he agrees, you can go check on your friend."

Natalia secretly sighed in relief.

She compressed her lips. After some hesitation, she still said, "Thanks."

The man didn't say anything. Yet, the look he gave her carried a trace of derision.

Chapter 716 Weird Feelings

Natalia didn't know what that look meant.

She wasn't asking for too much, so she didn't understand why he was ridiculing her.

That was making her more and more anxious.

What was worse, she still had no idea who those assassins were on the flight.

Killers hid in the dark and the poor village... and these strange people.

That made her nervous, and she couldn't find a way to relax.

Fortunately, Flora's husband seemed to be a man of his words.

He promised to take her to find the boy's uncle, and he kept his promise.

The man stayed in the village chief's house. So they skipped dinner and went over.

The village chief's house wasn't far from here. It took them less than 20 minutes to arrive.

They saw the big house inside the mud walls brightly lit. They could see it very clearly from afar.

A big fire was blazing outside the house, with quite a few tables around it. Many people were sitting at the tables and enjoying the feast.

Seeing them walking over, a man raised his hand to greet them, "Hey! Is that Terry?"

Terry responded and led Natalia to a middle-aged man with dark skin, greasy clothes, and gray hair.

"This is my uncle Sammy."

Then he introduced Natalia to the man, "This is the girl my wife brought back. She said she was looking for a friend. You gotta tell us what to do with her."

Sammy stared at Natalia from up to down, with surprise in his eyes.

"That was you? Is Nancy your friend?"

Natalia nodded in a hurry.

Sammy waved his hand and said, "No worries, she's doing fine. Do you want to meet her?"

Natalia quickly replied, "Yes, can you take me to her?"

Sammy touched his jaw. "Yes, but I'll have to get you blindfolded on the way there. This place had a battlefield nearby, and we've been fed up with wars. It wasn't easy for us to find such a remote and peaceful dwelling. We don't want wars here, so we usually won't allow outsiders in. "

"I let you in because you are just a little girl, but I'll still have to get you blindfolded for fear that you'll leak it out to others when you're out in the future. That will damage our peaceful life."

He said that in a strong accent. Natalia hesitated for a short moment and nodded.

"Okay. Of course."

As soon as she agreed, Sammy smiled even more joyfully.

"In that way, you can have dinner here, and we'll set off together at night. I'll have to go back anyway.

We can go together."

Natalia frowned and asked in a puzzle, "Getting blindfolded and walked over there at night? That sounded very troublesome."

"Not at all!"

Sammy waved his hand casually. "You don't have to walk. I came here by bullock cart. You can just sit on it, and it would only take us one hour or so to get there. It's no trouble at all!"

Natalia then nodded after hearing those words.

So she didn't go back to Flora's place. She sat with them and had dinner together.

Flora's husband had a few more words with Sammy, and then he was about to leave.

Natalia felt she owed his family a lot.

So she thanked him and asked him to convey her gratitude to Flora.

After all, Flora had treated her nicely in the past two days. She had saved her life.

She would leave with Sammy after dinner, and she might never come back again.

She would regret it if she didn't say thanks to him in person.

The man gave him an expression that was hard to read.

He didn't seem to be glad to hear Natalia's thanks; instead, the ridicule in his tone was intenser.

"You're welcome, but please don't regret it. I'm sure your life is just as hard as ours... just live your own life."

Natalia paused and didn't know what he was implying.

The man wasn't going to give her time to figure it out anyway. He waved his hand and left after that.

Sammy then asked her to sit down.

"You don't have to do that... we are neighbors, and we're supposed to help each other. The longer you live here, the more you'll understand what I'm saying."

Natalia forced a smile. She had no plan for an extended stay.

Nancy was injured now, and they'll manage to get out of there as soon as she recovered,

The question was that there were no electricity or communication tools here. Sammy seemed to be the most respected person here, and his ride was a bullock cart, let alone others.

Natalia had a headache when she thought of that.

However, this wasn't the right time for her to think about that.

She would have to find Nancy first.

As for what would happen next, they would play it by ear.

Soon, Natalia finished her meal.



Sammy ate slower than her. He talked and drank with the man at the table as he ate.

As worried as Natalia was, she couldn't urge him, so she could only sit aside and wait.

She waited until about 8 when she saw him leaving the table and waved to those people with a smile.

"Okay, I'll show myself out now. I'll see you next time, bye!"

He waved his hand to them again, dined, and wined.

A young man held him and said a fawning smile, "Watch your step. I'll walk you out."

Sammy nodded, and they stumbled out of the place.

The cart he mentioned was pulled by one bull, with a simple carriage behind.

It looked very ancient.

The young man helped Sammy get on it and then said to Natalia, "Get in the carriage now and take care of him, please. He's drunk. I'll drive the cart outside."

Natalia nodded and said thanks to him. Then she climbed on the cart and got in the carriage.

The carriage was spacious, with two rows of seats on each side.

Sammy was sitting on the left, and he had fallen asleep because he had drunk too much.

Natalia walked over and sat on the left side. The cart moved.

The cart bumped on the rocky road. Judging by the long squeaking of the wheels, Natalia knew they were moving slowly.

That was Natalia's first bullock cart ride. She felt it interesting, but it wasn't much of a comfortable experience.

Chapter 717 Reunion

It was a bumpy ride.

Her body was aching, and she felt she was about to throw up everything she just had.

On the contrary, Sammy was sleeping soundly in that bumpy cart. He was snoring, which Natalia found impressive.

Seeing he was almost bumped off the seat, Natalia leaned forward and supported him.

She only sat back when she was sure he was seated and still leaning on the wall.

At the same time, she was counting down the time in her mind.

There was no clock in the village, nor did she have a watch. She could only know the time of sunrise and sunset by estimating.

That felt horrible, but she had to overcome it because she had no choice.

About half an hour later, the cart finally stopped.

"Sammy, here we are!"

The young man's voice came from outside.

Natalia was awoken. She couldn't wait to lift the curtain and poked her head out to check.

It was dark out there. She couldn't see a spark of light; actually, she couldn't see anything at all.

The man across the carriage clicked his tongue and woke up.

"Ah-huh? Already?"

"Yes, your home is just behind that ridge; the cart can't get over it, so you may have to get down and walk over."

Sammy lifted the curtain and got off the cart. Then he nodded and said, "Thank you for today. You can go back now."

The young man nodded and waited for Natalia to get off the cart. Then he led the cart in the opposite direction.

Sammy stood there and stretched himself. Then he waved his hand to Natalia.

"Let's go. My home is just around the ridge."

Natalia didn't say anything. She followed him and headed forward.

The mountain was rocky, not to mention they were walking on the ridge.

She had to take cautious steps. The ridge was too narrow for her to stride freely, even with Sammy holding a torch in front of her.

Sammy laughed out.

"You're so spoiled, city girl. Women in our village walked quickly on mountain paths, let alone the ridges.

Natalia didn't know how to respond, so she only smiled awkwardly.

Sammy hummed a song. He seemed to be in a good mood and was staggering on his feet.

They walked on one ridge after another.

Finally, they stopped at a two-story stone brick house.

It was the only house that wasn't built with mud that Natalia had seen in the past few days.

As they approached, they saw a clearing in front of the house.

The clearing had a high haystack on one side. The door to the house was closed; there was faint light

coming out of the window upstairs.

Sammy walked to the door and knocked hard on it.

"Woman. I'm home!"

Soon the door creaked and opened.

Natalia saw a woman in puffy PJ with messy hair.

She might be in her forties. With a kerosene lamp in her hand, she took a look at Sammy and Natalia,

and then she frowned.

"Why are you so late? Who is she?"

"A friend of the girl's. She said they were together. Terry told me to bring her over."

Sammy said as he led Natalia in.

Natalia felt a bit cold inside because the house was walled by stone.

The woman listened to Sammy as she closed the door. Then she walked in.

"Really? I was just wondering what had taken you so long..."

Thin and weak, the woman didn't look well. She had a few words with Sammy and then said to Natalia,

"Your friend is in the room upstairs. I'll walk you there."

Natalia was so thrilled to hear that. She nodded and thanked her.

"Thanks a lot."

The woman didn't say anything. She took her to the back of the room.

This was a two-story house, with a long stone stair in the middle.

They walked up along the stairs and soon arrived at the second floor.

"Hey girl, Someone's here for you!"

The woman called out. Soon, the door was opened after a loud noise.

A familiar figure got out of the room fast and stood in front of Natalia.

"Nancy?"

"Natalia!"

They screamed in surprise, and then Natalia leaned forward, and they hugged each other tightly.

Nancy was a tough and introverted girl, but she still couldn't help crying out.

"You're fine... that's great! I thought we would never see each other again!"

She had been terrified when the plane crashed down from thousands of meters above the sky.

Although they had carried a parachute, nobody could guarantee their safety.

No one knew how desperate she felt when she woke up without Natalia by her side.

She couldn't imagine what she could do should anything have happened to Natalia.

She didn't know how she would tell Archie about this.

This wasn't just a task. Her friendship with Natalia didn't allow her to see any mistakes happen to

Natalia.

That was why Nancy still felt very depressed after she was rescued.

She managed to find Natalia and wanted to know if she was intact or injured. She was so afraid that

anything had happened to Natalia.

But she couldn't get out.

On one hand, she still had a wound on her leg; on the other hand, this family she was with thought she

was too severely injured to go out.

Finally, she was told that a girl named Seven claimed to be Nancy's friend.

They asked Nancy if she knew the girl, and that was when Nancy saw the silver lining.

She knew that Natalia's code name in Othua was Seven.

Nancy confirmed with them and asked them to bring Seven over.

That was why Sammy agreed to bring Natalia here.

Nancy insisted on going with Sammy, but Sammy didn't agree. He said that she'd better not move.

Nancy had complicated feelings towards this family. Sometimes she couldn't tell if they were pretending to care about her or they really did.

However, she could say anything no matter what was in her mind at that time.

Anyway, she felt nice to have reunited with Natalia.

After all, they would be more powerful together. They had each other's back no matter what situation they ran into.

She felt at ease when she knew Natalia was safe.

Thinking of that, she said to Sammy and the others, "Thank you."

Sammy and his wife said, "You're welcome. Now that you know each other, you should sleep together tonight. Don't go out at night, understand?"

Natalia and Nancy nodded.



Then Sammy and his wife turned around and left.

After they left, Nancy took Natalia back to her room.

#### Chapter 718 A Wild Guess

The room wasn't big with shabby furniture. Even the quilt on the bed was broken.

However, it was still way better than Flora's damp mud house.

Nancy closed the door carefully after she entered the room. Then she inclined to the door and listened

for a while.

She heaved a sigh of relief only after ensuring that Sammy and his wife had gone downstairs for rest.

Then she took Natalia to her bed, and they sat down.

"Show me your wounds. How're you doing? I was terrified. I was freaking scared when I woke up

without you by my side!"

Nancy said, eyeing Natalia up and down.

Natalia let herself be examined for a while, and when she stopped Nancy and said, "I'm fine. I was

worried about you. I heard you broke your leg. How is it now? Is it bad?"

Natalia saw Nancy limping on her left leg as soon as she came in, and there seemed to be a big lump

underneath her pants.

Nancy said, "I'm fine. I fell on mountain rocks and broke my leg. I've reset it with their help. It's no big deal, but it's going to take a while."

Natalia knew it must be severe upon hearing what Nancy said.

It was a fracture, not a dislocation. Traumas like that would take Nancy at least three months to get recovered. Natalia knew Nancy only said that to ease her worry.

She fell in silent for a moment, patted her hand, and said, "Take a good rest. Now that we've found each other, let's play it by ear. We'll eventually make it through."

Nancy nodded.

It was late. They didn't want to sit up all along, so they lay down together with their clothes on.

This was the most reassuring time Natalia had had in the past several days.

With Nancy's presence, she felt that she could handle all the situations no matter how dangerous they were.

Then the two exchanged their information about the current situation.

Natalia told Nancy about the village and some other details.

Nancy told Natalia about things in this place, too.

Only then did Natalia know that the village was called Macchi Village. It was far more closed and remote than Flora Village which she had stayed in.

There were no advanced vehicles or communications. Most people wouldn't leave this place all year round.

They didn't need to go outside because they were self-sufficient.

Even if they couldn't find what they needed in the village, they could go to a grocery store dozens of miles away. That place had almost everything.

They would get some of their farm produce there for the money.

However, Nancy had found something astonishing during her two days' stay in this inclusive village.

There were more men here than women.

Moreover, those women looked very dull and silent.

She had already come back to her senses when they rescued her on the mountain rocks.

Therefore, she had seen the faces of those they encountered on their way here.

They looked at her like an intruding monster.

They looked confused and dull. Nancy could also see sympathy in their eyes, which made her feel uncomfortable.

But she couldn't figure out why they stared at her like that.

She hadn't been out for the past two days because of the fracture.

However, she couldn't live with Sammy and his wife, either.

Their gaze on her was just as creepy as others on the streets.

Nancy felt as if she weren't a human to them.

They looked at her like valuable items... or a domestic animal for sale.

She couldn't find a way to describe their look. She felt that unpleasant, creepy.

So, she has been waiting for Natalia.

She was sure they would come up with a good solution to all these together.

Only then Natalia knew that she wasn't the only one that had the feeling.

She felt creepy when she was in Flora Village.

Flora had saved her, which might seem nice; however, Flora called over a bunch of kids to look after

her, telling her that "she didn't want her to get lost."

She seldom got lost, and as an adult, she would never run around upon arriving at a new place.

Therefore, she had a feeling that Flora didn't call those kids over to look after her.

She was spying on Natalia.

However, Natalia felt it hard to protest because she was living in their place.

After all, it was her guess, and it would be embarrassing to point it out if that was not now she thought it was.

Now that Nancy shared her feeling, she knew that it wasn't her speculation; it was true.

Natalia fell silent when thinking of that.

She looked at the void in the darkness and suddenly came up with an idea. "Nancy, are they all human traffickers?"

Nancy was stunned.

She opened her eyes in disbelief.

"No... no way!"

Although Nancy had felt something weird about this, she hadn't thought that much.

Natalia sighed.

"I hope it's not, but based on what I've seen in the past two days and what you just told me, I think it is quite possible."

"Then what should we do?"

Nancy used to be calm, but she could no longer keep it after hearing what Natalia just said.

She could fight, but they had no idea where this place was and couldn't find the way out. If this were a village of human trafficking, it would be almost impossible for them to get out.

Natalia was silent for a while; then she shook her head.

"We'll take it one step at a time. Fortunately, I don't think they intended to hurt us. They didn't take precautions because they thought we were two weak women, which is great. We'll need some time, and let's move when you recover."

Nancy knew that she was telling the truth.

No matter who they were or what they wanted to do to them...

Her fracture was a major problem.

Even if they wanted to escape, they would have to wait until she recovered, or they would definitely fail.

Thinking of that, she closed her eyes and was ready to take a rest.

Natalia stopped talking. She was wondering what Archie might be doing now.

He must have been informed of the air crash. She wondered what he would do.

He was thousands of kilometers away from here. No way he could help them now, no matter how much

he wanted to save her, and no matter how influential he was.

Chapter 719 Anxiety

She wondered if he could have this place located and come to the rescue.

Her mind ran wild as she got drowsier and drowsier. After a while, she fell asleep.

At the same time...

In Ambario...

At the Pinewood Manor.

Archie hadn't slept for two days in a row.

He was sitting before the computer and remotely controlling something. His eyes were red.

It had just been two days, and he had already stubble on his face. His eye sockets had sunk, and his

face was grim.

His phone suddenly rang. He picked it up and asked, "How is it? Any updates?"

Brian's guilty voice came from the other side of the phone. "I'm sorry, Mr. McCarthy. There's nothing new yet."

"You guys are good-for-nothing!"

Archie yelled, with blue veins popping out on his forehead.

After a while, he said, "Pack your stuff. I'll go with you!"

Brian was startled. He stammered, "Well... that..."

"Cut the crap!"

Archie didn't give Brian any chance to argue. He hung up the phone immediately.

Then he picked his coat on the chair and headed out.

Dottie and other servants were looking after Oliver and Anne in the living room.

Seeing Archie coming downstairs, they looked at him with expectations in their eyes.

Natalia said she would come back the day before yesterday, but she still hadn't shown up yet. There was no way for Archie to hide this.



Oliver was too young to know what was happening, but Anne was old enough. When she saw her father work around the clock for the past two days, she knew there must be something wrong.

Her eyes were puffy, maybe because she had cried just now. She ran over to Archie as soon as she saw him.

"Daddy!"

Anne hugged his legs and asked, "Will Mommy be back? Can she be back?"

Archie's eyes looked gloomy.

He picked her up and said calmly, "She will be back, safe and sound."

"Really?"

"Yes, I promise."

He would take her back wherever she was and at any cost.

Anne bit her lips and believed him. She nodded vigorously.

"Then I'll wait for Mommy here."

"Okay."

Archie put Anne down and stroked Oliver's head. Then he said to Anne, "Take care of your little

brother. I'll be off for a while. Listen to Mrs. Dottie when I'm not home. Never leave the house, Okay?"

Nancy nodded vigorously again.

Archie strode out of the living room.

Soon after he left, William and Ariana came over.

Those living in the Pinewood Manor knew now about Natalia's plane crash. William and Ariana didn't

know because they didn't come by very often.

This morning, they received a call saying that Natalia might have had a plane crash. They checked the

news and found the plane Natalia flew on that day malfunctioned. It tried to return.

However, they couldn't reach Natalia's phone and couldn't find any other information. Archie wouldn't

pick up their phone.

Only then did they know that a disaster was upon this family.

They couldn't think of anything else then. They called a cab immediately and headed to the Pinewood

Manor.

However, Archie had already left when they arrived. They missed each other on the way.

Fortunately, Dottie was still at home. Seeing how worried William and Ariana were, she tried to comfort them.

The two had already felt soothing when they knew Archie had taken over this on his own.

They never doubted how capable Archie was. Now that he was already there, they assumed there wouldn't be anything serious.

They still had two kids at home now. They didn't want to expose their worry to the kids because that might have a negative impact on them.

They agreed to stay in the villa first, taking care of the children and waiting for further information.

At the same time...

When Natalia woke up in the morning, she found Nancy was missing.

In astonishment, she immediately sat up on the bed.

Just by then, the bedroom door was pushed open from the outside.

Nancy walked in with a cup of water.

"You're awake?"

Nancy smiled. She leaned on a cane and put the cup in front of her.

"Have some water."

Natalia breathed a sigh of relief as she picked up the cup. Then she asked Nancy, "Why are you out by yourself? I was so terrified when I woke up without you by my side."

Nancy smiled and said nothing more.

After Natalia finished drinking, Nancy looked at the door. Then she inclined to Natalia's ear and whispered, "I woke up early, so I checked this place while everybody was still asleep. The door was locked, but there was a window in the kitchen. I climbed out of the window and saw nothing but barren mountains. I don't think we can negotiate with them."

Natalia nodded.

"Yes, I realized that when I came over."

She pursed her lips and fell in silence for a while. Then she said, "We still didn't know who those assassins on the plane were. It's bad that we are being trapped here, but at least we can get rid of them temporarily and stay safer."

Nancy agreed with Natalia.

"It's just that we don't know if they are really human traffickers, and if they really are, we should be more careful."

Natalia curled her lips and smiled, "Don't be afraid. They were after money, not our lives. In that respect, they are better for those assassins."

That was true. Nancy felt less nervous when thinking about that.

After a short rest, they got dressed and went downstairs.

Sammy and his wife were already awake. His wife was making breakfast in the kitchen, and he was sitting on the porch, smoking and reading a newspaper.

Sammy was almost 60 years old now. He was one of the eldest people in this village and the chief.

Everyone called his wife Nico. She was a bit of a pushover and always listened to her husband.

Nancy learned that they had a son working in another village.

The village was a great distance away from here. Given the inconvenient transportation here, it would take a day and night to get there in a bullock cart.

Therefore, their son seldom came back.

Sammy and his wife stayed at home and sometimes farmed. Their life was peaceful.

Sammy was well respected in the village. Most people here would listen to him.

For example, when Nancy got injured, the village doctor treated her first instead of a man in another village because Nancy was saved by Sammy.

Chapter 720 The Village Doctor

In that respect, Sammy and Nico seemed to be nice.

They were warmhearted, respected, and they liked to help others.

They were sometimes weird, but that happened a lot because each place had its own rules and traditions in this world.

Natalia couldn't make up his mind yet.

Fortunately, they hadn't done anything to her yet. Natalia could tell that something was wrong with them, but she couldn't prove it because they didn't hurt Nancy and her at all.

Thinking like this, she felt less on the edge.

She walked to Sammy who was smoking. Then she smiled and said, "Good morning, Sammy."

Sammy turned over to look at her. He narrowed his eyes and said, "Morning, Nico has got some breakfast ready for you. Go bring them out."

Natalia nodded. After helping Nancy with a limp sit down on a bamboo chair, she turned away and walked into the kitchen.

It was a remote village; food was all quite simple.

They were about to have breakfast; Natalia wasn't hoping for any delicacies.

However, Nico seemed to be a very capable woman with a high standard of food. The breakfast turned to be a decent meal, each dish looking exquisite.

There were fragrant porridge, newly baked bread, and even some french fries.

That breakfast might be simple in the city; it might seem a bit ordinary.

However, it was a feast to Natalia and Nancy because this was a place where they could barely find anything to eat in the morning.

Natalia's eyes lit up when she saw the fragrant porridge and french fries.

She exclaimed, "That looks beautiful. It smells so good!"

Nico smiled shyly as if this were the first time she was praised in her life.

"It's just a normal breakfast. I don't know if you'll like it. Just have a try."

Natalia nodded and helped her to bring the food out. Then they sat at the table and started to eat.

During the meal, Sammy asked casually, "I knew your nickname was Seven, what's your real name?"

Natalia hesitated and looked at Nancy. Then she smiled and said, "My name is Natalia."

She didn't want to hide anything because even if she told him her real name, she knew nobody here could possibly have heard about it, let alone recognize her.

Sammy nodded and said, "Your family didn't know you're traveling, right?"

That question was subtle.

Natalia and Nancy glanced at each other again, and then she replied tacitly, "They don't know."

"Then is your home far away from here?"

Natalia smiled and answered, "Far enough. Maybe thousands of meters away."

"Indeed." Sammy's micro-expression changed a bit. Then he smiled and said, "So your family didn't know about the plane crash."

Natalia smiled. "No, they might not know. Everything happened so fast, and we lost our phones. We couldn't get in touch with them."

She then asked sincerely, "Sammy, do you know where we can make a phone call? We want to call our



family and tell them that we are safe."

Sammy touched his messy stubble and said, "Making phone calls? That won't be easy. You have to walk for a whole day to get to the next village. I heard there was a landslide on the way there. They've shut down the road, and no one shall pass now."

Natalia then nodded and frowned after hearing those words.

"Landslide?"

"Yes, that's bad. The way to the town has been shut down. You won't be able to get out of the village within this month."

Natalia and Nancy fell in silence at the same time.

They didn't continue the conversation and seemed worried.

Seeing that, Sammy squinted at them and said, "Don't worry. The villagers need to get out. The road will be reopened sooner or later. It was just a matter of time. It will be long before her leg recovered.

You can't leave here right now anyway."

Natalia forced a smile and said, "That's true. We're just worried if we'll overstay our welcome."

"It's fine, no worries."

Sammy waved his hand and continued, "Girls don't eat much food like guys. If you felt like doing something, just help Nico with her chores."

Natalia and Nancy found his hospitality very hard to refuse, so they nodded and agreed.

Sammy left home after breakfast.

Natalia and Nancy were at home, helping Nico with the chores.

The chores were nothing more than picking beans and drying radishes.

Natalia and Nancy preferred Nico to Sammy because she was silent and easier to get along with.

She looked exactly the same as any other people here on the outside.

However, the lovely breakfast she made and the expressions she occasionally had were totally from other locals.

Natalia sometimes had a feeling.

Maybe Nico wasn't a local, either.

However, she didn't have a justified reason to question Nico, so she could only bury her wild guess in her mind.

In the afternoon, Sammy was back with a doctor.

Nancy knew the doctor. He was the one who treated her legs. Today, he was here to change her dressing.

The village was too remote to have good medical care. They made some of the herbal dressings on their own and applied them to her in traditional ways.

Fortunately, Nancy used to get injured a lot during training.

The frequent injuries made her half of a surgeon.

She could treat bruises and fractures.

She also knew which herbs she could use to make wounds heal faster.

Therefore, she kept asking the doctor questions when he applied the dressings to her. She would make a judgment by herself according to his answers.

The village doctor was a qualified one. She knew everything he gave to her, and she was sure they could do good to her fractures.

After he changed the dressing, Sammy walked the doctor out.

Nico came in with a clean towel. Nancy felt sorry for letting Nico bring her things in the past few days,

so she apologized to Nico. She wanted her to sit down and have a chat.

"I saw you weaving a bracelet just now. What is it?"

Nico took a half-knitted red rope out of her pocket.

"You mean this?"

Nancy nodded.

The red rope had been woven into a neat and geometrical belt. It was pretty.