

Love Amidst the Shadow

Chapter 12

I nodded, smiling. "All right, thank you." Cheryl took the itinerary and handed it to me with a smile, asking, "Miss Lovelace, do you have any plans later?" I shook my head and said, "Nothing important. Do I still need to work in the afternoon?" She smiled. "No, not exactly. The morning meeting took a long time, and it's already past noon, so President Turing asked everyone to have lunch together. If you have time, why don't you join us? After all, we'll be working together in the next few days. It's best for us to get acquainted with each other." At her words, I naturally had no reason to refuse. Hence, I nodded and left the company with her, while the others had already gone to the restaurant in advance. When Cheryl and I arrived, everyone happened to be seated already. Cheryl led me to greet them before looking for a place to sit. "Vivi, you should sit next to President Turing. If he has any questions later, he can ask you directly. After all, there are many jargons, and you are more well versed in this," Cheryl said, raising her hand to nudge me slightly. After taking a seat next to Xavier, I greeted him with a smile. He was handsome and gentle, and said with a small smile, "Miss Lovelace, you are really good at interpreting. Did you have any previous experience in this field?" I shook my head. "I had a family emergency previously, so I have been working part-time." He smiled blankly. Seeing him like this, I thought he had forgotten about what had happened in Halonox before. After all, the room was dark at the time, and I was in a messy state. He probably didn't pay attention. Unexpectedly, when the meal was about to end, he looked at me and said, "Miss Lovelace, I've asked someone to investigate your father's affairs, and it is indeed Turing Corporation's fault. I'm sorry for causing you all this trouble." His words surprised me. When I learned that my father's affairs had come to fruition, I hurriedly said, "Thank you so much. I really appreciate it." If it weren't for the people coming and going in this hallway, I probably would've bowed to him and thanked him a long time ago. He looked at me and couldn't help but smile, saying warmly, "You don't have to do this. It's me who has to thank you. The Turing Family is complicated, and it's inevitable that some things will be overlooked. Your father's case is not a big deal, but it's not a small issue either." I admired Xavier's gentle and casual approach, without a sense of distance. Talking to people like him made me feel relaxed and at ease, as though one was being caressed softly by a spring breeze. As it was pointless to keep thanking him, I was just about to invite him to a meal to express my gratitude. But before I could speak, I got pushed by the passing crowd. Losing my balance, I fell toward Xavier. He instinctively supported me and asked, "Are you okay?" I shook my head. I wore some higher-than-usual heels when I came out this morning, so I probably twisted my ankle. I tried to distance myself from him, but the pain in my ankle made me break out in a cold sweat. "Xavier!" A woman's gentle voice sounded, and Xavier and I were taken aback for a moment. Following the source of the voice, we saw Kelly walking over with Emil, their arms intertwined. Subconsciously, I looked at Emil. His face was dark, his gaze a little cold. I couldn't read his expression. Enduring the pain, I stood up from Xavier's arms. With my fall earlier, it might have looked as though I

deliberately threw myself into his embrace. Kelly looked at me and said in surprise, "Oh, it's you, Miss Lovelace." Then, she looked at Xavier somewhat meaningfully before turning her gaze to me and back to him. She asked, "Xavier, you're dating Miss Lovelace?" Sure enough, it seemed that she had misunderstood my actions with Xavier. However, what took me by surprise was that she knew that I had answered Emil's phone that day, but now, she was mocking me as though nothing had happened. *This woman is not an easy opponent!* Xavier's gaze softened, and he raised his hand to poke Kelly's nose dotingly. "Don't be ridiculous!" Kelly stuck out her tongue playfully. "What's the problem? If you start dating, wouldn't I have a sister-in-law? Then, Mom wouldn't have to worry about your marriage anymore." Unable to rebuke, Xavier looked at Emil and asked, "Are you here for business?" Emil pursed his lips. "Yeah." After that, there seemed to be nothing else to be said between the two men. Some time later, Emil mentioned something came up, saying he was unable to send Kelly home. After handing her to Xavier, he left. Since I was free in the afternoon, figuring I had sprained my ankle, I planned to go to the hospital for a checkup. Outside the restaurant, Xavier and Kelly drove away not long after Emil left. As I stood by the entrance, looking to hail a cab, a black Bentley stopped by the roadside. The next moment, the car window rolled down, revealing Emil, who was looking at me coldly. He said in an aloof voice, "Get in the car."