

Chapter 396 An Old Friend

Melissa's question was answered with silence.

Then the man in the car withdrew his hand. The window slowly rose, and the door made a crisp click.

Was he coming out? Anticipating the worse, Melissa tensed up and took a few steps back.

The distance between them was short. It wasn't enough for her to run to her car, open the door and escape. What should she do?

As she thought about how to escape, the door opened, and shiny leather shoes stepped on the ground, followed by a familiar figure in an expensive suit.

Aloys held the half-open door with one hand, his eyes burning as he smiled at her.

"I'm sorry, Dr. Sherman. I'm not Aloys' subordinate."

"Aloys!" All the fear from Melissa's body drained as she took in her friend. Relieved, she laughed and looked at him with a bitter expression in her eyes, complaining, "Why didn't you tell me you were coming back? I had no idea you were returning today!"

"I wanted to surprise you." Aloys' eyes flashed a smile as he stepped forward and affectionately touched her head. "I haven't been here these days. You must be tired."

"I'm fine, Aloys."

It was true that a lot of things happened during that period. Some of them even endangered her life. But she learned a lot, such as how to be calm in the face of danger.

Then, Melissa pointed at the black box he had tried to give her.

"Is that for me?"

"Yes." Aloys nodded and said, "Open it."

With a questioning look, she grabbed the box and tore at its wrapping. "Is it something valuable or..."

Before she could finish her question, the box was opened.

Snuggled inside was a small bag with complicated patterns. It was obvious that it was made by people abroad.

From where it lay, she could smell the faint fragrance of flowers that emanated from it.

Melissa's eyes lit up with excitement.

"What's this? A sachet?"

"Yes. I bought it on the roadside when I was on a business trip abroad. The old lady who sold it to me owns a garden. She made the sachets with the flowers she had grown herself."

Aloys approached her, a mysterious look on his face.

"Inside, there are dozens of flowers. It's good for sleep, so you should put it beside your pillow."

Eyes shining, she looked at him and rewarded him with a large smile that lit up her face. "Thank you, Aloys." She gently closed the box and cradled it against her chest. "I like it very much."

At her graciousness, his eyes softened, and he whispered, "I'm glad you like it."

Standing in the empty space, the two of them chatted for a long time before they thought of going back to the car.

Deciding it was time to leave, Melissa headed to her car, asking, "Where are we going now?"

As soon as Melissa opened her door, Aloys snaked around her and sat in the driver's seat before she got the chance to.

"You just need to sit. I'll drive."

Laughing, Melissa slid into the passenger seat, and Aloys looked straight ahead, deftly starting the car. As the machine hummed to life, he stated, "Let's go eat first. I came back without letting anyone know and wanted to see you before anything else. I'm a little hungry now."

"Then let's go have dinner."

Although Melissa was still worried about the result of the blood samples, she didn't ask. When he was settled, she would find the time. For now, she wanted to enjoy his company.

Aloys chose not to tell her immediately. He had his reasons. After all, he was in a bad situation now.

In silence, they drove toward the most bustling restaurant downtown.

When they arrived, dinner was in full swing, so there were a lot of people waiting to get in. A long line stretched from the restaurant's open door to the sidewalk.

Ignoring the long line of people, Aloys walked to the front desk and said a few words to the receptionist, who greeted him with a large smile as he finished.

"Hello, sir. The room you booked is ready for you. Please follow me."

The receptionist led them to a room in the corner.

Although it was a private room, it was adjacent to the hall, and even with closed doors, the noise outside could be faintly heard.

"What can I get for you, sir?" A waiter handed a menu to Aloys before saying, "You can order online through your mobile phone if you want."