

Yo Daddy 521

Chapter 521

Anthony hummed before saying, "Don't you think that Nat's gentler than before?"

Benjamin blinked. "But Nat's always been gentle."

"What are you talking about? She used to be so inflexible. It's not that she's gentler now, but... something else." Anthony wracked his brain for the right word, but despite his long contemplation, he failed to find a suitable term for the feeling.

Benjamin studied him from head to toe. "Tony, you used to be Nat's die-hard fan. No matter how Nat is, she's always the best person in the world to you. What's wrong? Have you changed your mind?"

"I..." Anthony pressed his lips tightly together before saying, "Nat's still the best person I know. I'm just pointing a fact out."

"And the fact is that people change. Doesn't that apply to you as well?" Benjamin questioned.

Anthony nodded after a while. "You're right."

At Anthony's speechlessness, Benjamin chuckled.

"Fine. Ignore everything I said!" Anthony huffed and turned to leave.

Benjamin walked over and placed a hand on his shoulder. "All right. I know what you mean. I'm not dumb, so how can I not sense Nat's change?"

Anthony turned to look at his brother. "Then why did you pretend not to know anything?"

"I just wanted to see you rendered speechless."

"You—"

Just as Anthony was about to retort, Benjamin interrupted, "Regardless of everything, I'm fine as long as her change is for the better."

Anthony nodded in agreement. "That's true, but I am worried about something."

"About what?"

"We asked Nat whether or not she found the truth last time, and she told us yes. But she refused to tell us who it was."

Benjamin continued, "So you're worried that Nat will continue trying to seek revenge?"

"It's not a worry; she'll surely do that."

Benjamin lowered his gaze for a moment before inclining his head. "Nat's been troubled by this for so many years. She's not going to let it go so easily." Then, he lifted his head to look at Anthony and asked, "What do you think about this?"

"Since Nat wants to settle this herself, I think we should find out who it is. Even if we don't intervene in this, we can at least have our guards up," Anthony pointed out.

Benjamin bobbed his head. "Agreed."

"I'll leave this to you, then."

The younger boy continued bobbing his head, but he soon registered what Anthony had just said. "What?"

Anthony laughed at him. "I'm sure you'll do this well."

"No, wait, why me again?"

"You're the most obedient child of us all. You're not as chaotic as Denise, and you're not as nosy as I. Nat has always been most contented with you, so you'll catch her off guard if you were the one to ask her," Anthony pointed out.

"Anthony, you—"

"We're taking turns. If anything crops up again, it'll be my turn," Anthony quickly said.

"Well, then you should go first!"

"I've already asked her, and you saw how Nat responded. That's why I'm sure she won't say anything if I were to ask her instead."

"I'm always glued by your side. Won't she know that you'll know if I ask her about it?"

"Then come up with a plan and fish for information from her as nonchalantly as you can."

"Are you overestimating my capabilities, or are you underestimating Nat's capabilities?"

"Just try. We'll think about what else to do if it doesn't work," Anthony insisted.

What else could Benjamin say after that? He could only give Anthony another glance before reminding

him, "You said it yourself. It'll be your turn next time."

"Of course!" Anthony nodded fervently with a sincere look on his face.

Benjamin then let go of him and walked toward his bag.

After taking out a drawing book, he turned to head out of the room.

"Where are you going?" Anthony cried out after him.

"To look for Nat and fish for what we want." With that, he pulled the door open and stepped out.

Anthony curled his lips as he watched his brother leave.

Once Benjamin was gone, he turned back to his computer. On the screen were Kyle's numerous messages.

The last message he sent was: Anthony Watson, are you trying to play dead? Respond to me!

Despite Kyle's impatience, Anthony took his time typing his reply: I'm just chatting with my dear mommy. No need to rush me.

Meanwhile, in the room, Natasha was sitting by the side of Kenneth's bed. Just as she adjusted the blanket and sat down, someone pushed the door open. It was Benjamin.

"Nat."

Natasha lifted her head to look at Benjamin. "Not heading to bed yet?"

Benjamin walked over to her. "I couldn't sleep, so I came to have a chat with you." As he spoke, he passed the drawing book to her.

Natasha lowered her gaze to look at it.

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Natasha's concern wasn't the biggest problem for her. To her, the biggest worry she had was regarding Benjamin's future.

I don't know what the future holds for someone like him.

After a long moment of pondering, Natasha looked at the boy. "Benjamin, do you really like to work on these designs?"

Benjamin nodded. "I love it."

Natasha continued, "First of all, your situation is unlike Anthony's. But I'm sure of one thing. Both of you are intelligent kids with unparalleled talents. Benjamin, to be honest with you, I don't know what the future holds for you. But I support you in the things you do. Other than that, I have a few words for you."

Benjamin gazed at her. "What is it?"

Natasha took a deep breath while her eyes were still locked on Benjamin. "Benjamin, using your design and thoughts on the wrong party will cause irreversible hurt and damage to many people and countries. That's why I hope you will use it on the correct people and that you will be a person that contributes to society and the country. Making a weapon is all about protecting people, not hurting them. Do you understand?"

Benjamin didn't think things through before. To him, it was merely an interest that motivated him previously. However, Natasha's words knocked some sense into him. He finally realized that there were still many aspects and concerns that he had to ponder about.

Understanding what Natasha was talking about, Benjamin contemplated for a second before nodding. "All right, I understand. Don't worry, Nat. I won't turn into a bad person. I will become a person that you will be proud of."

Natasha smiled upon hearing Benjamin's response. She closed the album before focusing her gaze on the latter. "I will always be proud of you no matter what you do in the future. Your existence itself is what I'm proud of."

Looking at Natasha, at this moment, Benjamin finally understood what Anthony had meant. With her soft-spoken manner, it seemed like a light radiated from Natasha.

Benjamin smiled and nodded. "All right. I got it."

In response, Natasha reached out and caressed his head.

At that exact moment, Benjamin mumbled, "Nat!" before leaning his head onto Natasha's arm.

Natasha paused. He and Anthony had always acted cute before me since they knew how to. Benjamin's action warmed my heart, though.

She leaned in, so the boy could feel more comfortable lying in her arms.

"What's the matter?" Natasha asked.

"I was really, really worried about you during the time that you were gone."

Natasha peered at Benjamin's round and cute head. Benjamin acting coy brought out inexplainable feelings in Natasha.

The woman lowered her gaze and murmured, "I'm sorry for worrying you."

"Nat, you don't have to be sorry. I know that's something that you can't get over. No matter what you do, we will always support you."

Natasha reached out to stroke Benjamin's soft hair.

Benjamin lifted his eyes, focusing them on Natasha before asking, "But then, Nat, when can you finish exacting revenge for Granddad?"

The mention of revenge sent disappointment flashing across Natasha's eyes. "I'm afraid I can't do that anymore."

"Huh?" Benjamin's face scrunched up. "Why?"

Natasha took a deep breath as regret filled her eyes. "Because he is dead."

Benjamin looked at her. He thought about it for a second before questioning, "Who is dead?"

Natasha lowered her eyes and looked at Benjamin. "General Will."

Benjamin froze. "You mean the General Will from Vermillion Base?"

Natasha nodded.

Benjamin paused before looking at Natasha. "He's gone? What happened? When did that happen?"

Why didn't we hear anything about General Will's death?

"Today!" Natasha replied.

"Nat, you're so well informed. We haven't heard anything yet!" Benjamin spoke.

"I got the news from Mr. Dave." Natasha gazed at Benjamin.

Benjamin nodded his head thoughtfully. "Who killed him?"

"Boss."

"What? Internal conflict?"

“Something like that. Anyway, being unable to end him myself...” Natasha remarked as regret filled her eyes.

Benjamin didn't know what to say. After a while, he said, “I think it's because Granddad doesn't want you to dirty your hands. That's why he let things turn out this way.”

Chapter 523

Benjamin saw Natasha putting her fingers on her temples as a pained expression appeared on her face.

“Nat, what's going on?” Benjamin asked anxiously.

Natasha closed her eyes as she shook her head. “Nothing.” Even though she felt like needles were running through her head for a moment, the pain was gone within a few seconds.

Benjamin was still worried, though. “Let me get Mr. Dave!”

He turned and walked away.

“There's no need for that, Benjamin.”

Natasha's words didn't convince Benjamin. He had already disappeared from her sight.

Meanwhile, Natasha sat beside the bed as her headache slowly stopped. After a while, she was feeling fine. It was as if the excruciating pain earlier was her illusion.

Soon, Benjamin walked into the room with Dave and a doctor.

“Nat.” Benjamin sat beside her. “Are you okay?”

Natasha was positioned beside Kenneth's bed. She shook her head when they walked in. “I told you I was fine.”

Dave strolled over and took a look at her. “Let the doctor check on you. At least that can help ease our worries.”

Since the doctor had already made his way to the room, Natasha didn't refuse. “Sure. Thanks.”

Dave gazed at the doctor and nodded his head. The doctor immediately went over to Natasha to start checking on her.

Just then, Anthony ran into the room after hearing the news. He shouted, “Nat!”

Benjamin quickly stopped Anthony when he spotted the latter.

"What happened to Nat?" Anthony asked.

Benjamin was about to speak when Natasha spoke first. "I'm fine. I just had a slight headache. Benjamin was the one who made a big fuss."

"Headache?" Anthony frowned. "Why would you get a headache out of nowhere?"

He was about to speak further when Dave walked behind him. The man reached out and covered Anthony's mouth. "Let the doctor finish his checkup before we make any conclusion."

Anthony looked at Dave grudgingly while the latter remained expressionless.

Natasha grinned as she watched the exchange between Anthony and Dave.

The doctor finished his checkup after a few minutes. He asked Natasha, "Do you have these headaches frequently?"

"No. I only had a fleeting headache just now. My kid overreacted." Natasha shook her head.

The doctor nodded his head. Then, he turned and looked at Dave. "Nothing's wrong with her after checking on her. Maybe she is exhausted after overusing her energy. She should be fine after a few days of rest."

"Don't you need to go through another round of tests?" Dave questioned.

"If you are still worried, maybe she can undergo a brain CT scan at the hospital?"

Dave was going to say something when Natasha interrupted him, "That won't be necessary. I know my body best. Thank you very much."

The doctor turned around. "I'm going to give you some painkillers. You can eat them if the pain attacks you again. However, these are medicines, and you shouldn't take too much of them. It's best if you can rest more."

Natasha nodded. "All right. Thank you."

"It's what I should do." The doctor nodded in return.

That was when Dave looked at the doctor. "Let's go. I'll send you out."

The doctor nodded before following Dave to leave. Benjamin and Anthony immediately went up to Natasha the moment they left.

“Nat, are you feeling better?” Benjamin asked.

“I'm fine. The pain was only temporary.”

Anthony spoke. “But you've never had a headache before. Plus, you just came back from Vermillion Base. You should pay more attention to your body condition.”

Natasha smiled. “I was young. Now that my age is catching up with me, isn't it normal for me to have headaches?”

“Do you know this, Nat? Your words are going to cause an uproar among other people.”

Natasha raised her brow.

“Besides that, I have a word of advice for you. It's okay for you to say these things at home. Please don't mention those words again if you are out and about.”

“Why so?” she asked.

“People will look down on you for praising yourself like that,” Anthony explained.

His words rendered Natasha speechless, while Benjamin agreed with Anthony's words.

Natasha curled her lips into a smile. “Bootlicker!”

Upon hearing that, Anthony gave Benjamin a pointed look. “You heard that? Nat is talking about you!”

“Are you sure she is not talking about you instead?”

“I'm telling the truth, though. Since when did I butter her up?” Anthony retorted.

His words caused Natasha's mind to wander. I'm sure Anthony's words epitomize the highest form of buttering up to someone.

At that moment, Benjamin walked over and stood behind Natasha. “Nat, I'll massage your head for you.”

With that, he put his hands on Natasha's head. The strength he used was so comfortable that Natasha closed her eyes.

She nodded, praising him, “Hmm. Not bad.”

Chapter 524

Natasha looked at him and nodded.

Just then, Kenneth walked toward her and asked, "Are you hungry? Let me get you something to eat."

She swept her gaze across the food and nodded at him once again.

Without saying another word, Kenneth held her hand and turned around.

Natasha said nothing and allowed him to lead the way.

Meanwhile, downstairs, Anthony, Benjamin, and Dave were eating. When they saw what was happening, they grew curious.

"Why is it so calm?" asked Anthony. "This isn't normal!"

Benjamin glanced at his brother and said, "This is the calm before the storm."

When Anthony heard that, his eyes darted from side to side before asking, "Shall we check out the storm?"

"That's not appropriate..." replied Benjamin as he flashed a look at his brother.

To that, Anthony responded, "We won't get another chance like this."

Therefore, the two brothers got up from their seats and were about to walk away.

However, a force appeared behind them and pushed them back into their seats.

Anthony turned around to find that it was Dave. "Just eat your food, kids."

"I want to check if Nat is all right," uttered Anthony.

"With your daddy around, you don't have to worry."

"Daddy has just woken up. I want to go and see him." Anthony tried his luck again.

In response to that, Dave looked at him and said, "Don't you know absence makes the heart grow fonder?"

Anthony paused momentarily, staring at him, and asked tentatively, "Given Daddy's condition... I doubt anything will happen, right?"

Dave flicked his gaze upward. "As long as he's still alive, nothing is impossible."

Both Anthony and Benjamin were speechless.

Should he be saying such things in front of us? We are children, after all.

The two boys exchanged glances before Anthony spoke up. "Mr. Dave, why did you say that? Does it stem from your understanding of Daddy, or does Daddy have some kind of interesting past?"

Dave lowered his eyes and peered at the nosy boy. He pondered for a while before saying, "Take a guess."

How is it possible for us to guess?

"Mr. Dave, you are so close to Daddy. I'm sure you know a lot about him. Tell us!" begged Anthony.

"Are you sure you want to hear about them?" teased Dave as he raised his eyebrows.

Anthony immediately nodded his head.

"What you are about to hear may change the relationship between your daddy and Nat. Are you sure?" asked Dave.

"So, it's true!"

"Even if I have three days and nights, I won't be able to finish telling you all of your daddy's stories!" proclaimed Dave.

"Then, why don't you tell us a little anecdote? Something that we can accept!"

Dave chuckled at the boy.

"Why are you laughing?" queried Anthony.

"If you want to know, then you should go and ask him yourself."

"If we could, we would have. We wouldn't be asking you."

Dave shot Anthony a mocking look. "If I tell, that means I betray my buddy. I will do no such thing!"

Anthony frowned and spoke after much contemplation. "Mr. Dave, you're teasing me. I heard that when Daddy was leading a wandering life, he stayed away from women!"

"Oh? Who told you that?" inquired Dave.

"Uh..." Anthony was about to blurt out the name when he caught himself and stopped. He then looked

at Dave and said, "That's not important. The most important thing is the truth."

"And you will believe whatever I tell you?" asked Dave.

"Not really." Anthony shook his head.

"Then why do you bother to ask?"

"I just want to hear the kind of stories you will come up with," said Anthony with a smile.

Dave narrowed his eyes and studied the boy before reaching out to embrace him. "You little brat! How dare you tease me?"

"Mr. Dave, that's why you should never lie to children."

"I'm glad you realize you are a child!"

Laughter ensued among the two of them amidst their banter.

Benjamin, who was eating, looked at them and shook his head haplessly.

Meanwhile, upstairs in the room, Kenneth sat Natasha down by the side of the bed.

He held up some food. "These are your favorites. Have some."

Natasha just gazed at him.

"What? Do you want me to feed you?" asked Kenneth as he quirked his brows.

Natasha looked him straight in the eyes and asked in a hushed voice, "When did you wake up?"

"Last night after you went to bed," replied Kenneth.

Natasha nodded.

Kenneth scooped a spoonful of oatmeal and tried to feed her. Returning to her senses, she reached out to take the food and said, "I'll help myself."

All of a sudden, Kenneth moved aside as she reached out.

Natasha looked confused.

"Let me feed you," he said.

After that, Natasha did not move anymore. Kenneth began to feed her spoonful by spoonful. He was so gentle in his movement that it felt as if she was the one who was injured.

After a few mouthfuls, Natasha asked when she saw him raising his arm, "Does your wound still hurt?"

Kenneth nodded. "Yes."

The moment he answered her question, she spoke up. "Then why are you still feeding me?" As she said so, she reached out to take the food. "I can eat on my own."

There was no response from Kenneth. He let her do as she wished and kept his gaze on her.

Natasha was deep in her thoughts as she ate. Somehow, she sensed Kenneth staring at her. She frowned and questioned him, "Is there something on my face?"

He shook his head.

"Then what are you staring at?"

Chapter 525

Natasha gazed at Kenneth, momentarily at a loss for words.

I can't believe he has finally remembered everything after all these years. But how can this be?

She still found it hard to believe.

Seeming to sense her doubt, he said, "What's the matter? Don't you want me to recall the past?"

Natasha continued to stare at him. Although he claimed to have regained his memories, she still felt a sense of unfamiliarity. "No, it's not that. I'm just a little surprised. Have you—"

Here, Kenneth leaned in suddenly and whispered in her ear, "You're so beautiful, Nat. When you grow up, I'll marry you. Okay? Then, we'll travel around the globe together and eat all the delicious food. What do you say?"

When she heard his voice say those familiar words close to her ear, she thought for a split second that she had been transported back to her childhood.

Under a blue sky dotted with white clouds, a young Kenneth had gazed at her just like he was doing so now and uttered the same promises.

At that moment, she felt a tingling sensation as though an electric current was coursing through her body, and she looked at him with an indescribable mix of emotions.

"What's wrong? Aren't you happy that I remember everything?" he pressed.

She shook her head. "It's not that..."

Before she could say anything, he fixed his gaze on her and asked with a mischievous twinkle in his eyes, "Or perhaps you're afraid of what I've recalled?"

She gave him a puzzled look. "What would I be afraid of?"

"You're afraid I'll find out you married me because you have feelings for me..." Kenneth replied, enunciating every word. His voice was deep and husky, and it exuded an inexplicable charm.

Natasha's long eyelashes fluttered slightly as she gaped at him, utterly stunned again.

"Isn't that right, Nat?" His lips curved into a sudden smile, and there was even an unexplainable warm and gentle expression on his face.

"No!" She shook her head, denying it.

"No? However, someone told me you like me, and you have for a long time at that. That's why you got married to me. Are you still planning on denying it?" He narrowed his eyes as he continued to study her carefully. His voice was magnetic, causing her heart to waver.

Then, he smirked as though he had gained an advantage over her.

"Who told you that?" Natasha enquired.

"Does it matter?"

"Of course! If you don't have a witness, then you're just spouting nonsense." She maintained a steady tone as she spoke, sounding neither meek nor condescending.

"And what if I do?"

"Then get whoever it is here so I can confront them in person."

"Confront, you say? What need is there for a confrontation? Why would you have married me back then if you didn't have feelings for me?" he countered. That's clearly the best proof, and there's no need to prove anything else.

She did not know what to say as she stared at him. Indeed, it wouldn't really make sense to say that I had no feelings for him.

After pondering for a moment, she decided to be frank. There's no shame in admitting I had feelings for the young Kenneth. Until now, I still think of him and that boy as two different people.

"Even if that's the case, so what? My feelings changed after that," she said.

A jumble of emotions flashed in Kenneth's eyes when he heard that. Dropping his roguish air, he gazed at Natasha. "I did feel that I did the wrong things and behaved like a jerk back when I first fell for you, but only now do I realize the extent of how ridiculous my actions were. The regret I feel now is as deep as my love for you previously. How could I have done those things to you? How could I have had the heart to hurt you even in the slightest at the time? However, I'm back, Nat. I'm really back. Give me one more chance, okay? Let me make it up to you. I'll atone for the broken promises. I promise I'll never let you suffer any more harm or injustice. Okay?"

When Natasha saw how sincere he was, memories from her childhood replayed in her mind.

"Can I be friends with you, Nat?"

"Nat, this is for you. My parents gave it to me, but I want you to have it!"

"Does it taste good, Nat? I brought all these for you. See which ones you like, and I'll buy them again for you next time."

"What's wrong, Nat? Do you miss your parents? That's all right. You have me to keep you company in the future. I'll never leave you and stay by your side always!"

"You're so beautiful, Nat. When you grow up, I'll marry you. Okay? Then, we'll travel around the globe together and eat all the delicious food. What do you say?"

"It's dangerous, Nat! Hurry up and leave! Quick, run!"

Then, a fire had taken away the boy who only had eyes for her.

Even now, I can still recall the look in his eyes when he last gazed at me. It was so dangerous, yet he protected me without regard for his safety.

That thought jolted Natasha back to her senses. As she stared at the man in front of her, his gaze gradually overlapped with the one from her memories.

At that moment, she felt as though the boy who only had eyes for her had returned.

A tear slid down her cheek without her knowing why.

Then, the corners of her lips curved upward.

Kenneth frowned, his heart aching to see her cry. He reached out to wipe away the tears at the corner of her eyes and asked hesitantly, "What is it? Did I say something wrong?"

He had never seen her cry, so he could not help feeling panicked. "All right. I won't force you, okay? It doesn't matter if you don't forgive me—"

Chapter 526

Kenneth deepened his kiss.

Unable to keep himself in check, he pushed Natasha onto the bed.

Just when their lust and passion were about to ignite at any moment, Natasha suddenly felt a sticky sensation on her hand.

When she opened her eyes, all she could see was blood on her hands.

Subconsciously, she turned to look at his wound.

Just as she had expected, blood was seeping out of his bandages.

"Kenneth..." She quickly pushed him away.

The man dipped his head, looking at Natasha. The veins on his forehead were slightly bulging. "What's wrong?"

"Your wound is bleeding..."

"I'm fine." Unconcerned, Kenneth did not bother looking at the wound as he leaned over, wanting to continue kissing her.

"Stop messing around..." Natasha murmured gently, pushing him away from her.

"Nat!"

"It's pointless even if you call me that now." At that moment, Natasha's eyes had already turned bright and clear without a single trace of sexual passion left.

As Kenneth took in the woman's persistence, he knew that the suggestive atmosphere had disappeared for good.

Natasha got up and said, "I'll go and get the doctor."

Unexpectedly, Kenneth reached to grab her hand. "Nat, I think I can still hold on a little longer."

“Hold on to what?”

Kenneth's lips curled into a smile as he looked at her.

However, Natasha glanced at him and replied, “Don't even think about it.” With that, she got up and strode out of the room.

As he watched Natasha leave, Kenneth lay on the bed and sighed in exasperation.

I can't believe my useless wound ruined my plans!

Meanwhile, Dave was playing chess with Benjamin and Anthony downstairs.

Just then, Natasha came downstairs. When she saw them, she asked, “Dave, is the doctor still around?”

Dave looked up and saw that it was Natasha. He then nodded and replied, “What's the matter? Did something happen?”

“Nothing serious. It's just that Kenneth's wound is slightly torn and may need to be re-bandaged,” explained Natasha explained calmly.

Benjamin, Anthony, and Dave exchanged glances with each other.

Was their intercourse so intense that even his wound tore open?

Noticing Dave's silence, Natasha asked, “What's the matter? Is there any problem?”

Dave snapped back to his senses immediately and shook his head. “Nothing! I'll give him a call now. Stay calm, all right?”

Natasha nodded. “I'll go upstairs first, then.”

Dave nodded and took out his phone to make a call.

After some time, they headed upstairs together.

Back in the room, Kenneth was already lying obediently on the bed, which looked rather messy as if someone had just wreaked havoc on it.

At that moment, both Benjamin and Anthony shared a look with Dave once again before averting their gazes tacitly.

The doctor treated and bandaged Kenneth's wound again before reminding him, “Strenuous exercises are not recommended. Remember, if your wound is torn open again, I'm afraid it'll be difficult to heal

properly.”

Kenneth looked at the doctor and asked, “So what kind of exercise is considered strenuous?”

The doctor was dumbfounded.

He did not expect Kenneth to ask such a question.

Natasha promptly shot a glare at the man, making him sit upright and nod at the doctor's words. “All right. I'll be careful.”

Dave was rendered speechless.

Even Anthony and Benjamin were at a loss for words as well.

All three of them were stunned. There was no doubt that they noticed the warning look in Natasha's eyes. Is this still the Kenneth Hamilton that we know of?

Before turning to leave, the doctor put on an awkward smile without saying anything.

Natasha spoke up. “I'll go and get the medicine.” With that, she left the room as well.

Both Anthony and Benjamin said in unison, “Let's go too!”

As a result, only Kenneth and Dave were left in the room.

The latter walked over and gave Kenneth the side-eye before teasing him, “The situation's intense, but it's obvious that you lack combat power!”

Kenneth knew exactly what Dave meant the moment he finished his sentence.

To be precise, Kenneth knew exactly what was coming when he noticed the mischievous look in Dave's eyes when the latter entered the room.

Arching his eyebrows, Kenneth said, “I don't think you'd understand after being single for so many years.”

Dave sneered, “I may be single, but I'm not lonely at all.”

Kenneth looked at him before adding, “Dave, as someone with a lot of experience, I'd advise you to save some dignity and modesty for your future partner, lest she'll regard you with disdain in the future.”

Upon hearing those words, Dave looked at Kenneth. “Does Natasha regard you with disdain?”

"Don't lump me under the same category as you. I'm not like you!" Kenneth retorted.

Dave looked at him and chuckled. "Oh, Kenneth, how I hope you could see yourself in the mirror just now. You acted exactly like a man who's afraid of his own wife!"

"So what if I am?" Kenneth countered Dave's taunts with a question. Raising his brow, he appeared nonchalant. "I'm willing to listen to my wife because she's beautiful and outstanding!"

Dave stared at Kenneth in utter disbelief.

"Are you still the Kenneth Hamilton that I know?" Dave asked.

After giving it some serious thought, Kenneth broke into a smile. "No. I'm the Kenneth Hamilton whom Nat knows."

At that moment, his mind was filled with the words that Natasha had told him just now.

The boy who only had eyes for her had returned.

Chapter 527

It had been a few days since they last heard from Thalia.

Anthony was on the phone with her downstairs.

"Thalia, is it true that you have returned to Darknetz?" asked Anthony.

"Not yet. But soon." On the other side of the line, Thalia sounded a little awkward.

When Anthony heard that, he knew something was wrong. "Spencer went after you when you left that day. Did he manage to catch up with you?"

Thalia said nothing.

"Are the two of you together?" guessed Anthony.

"Uh, yes," answered Thalia half-heartedly before asking, "Is there anything you want to tell me?"

"It's nothing really. Things are almost done here, so I'm meaning to say, if you want to return to Darknetz, you can take Benjamin and me with you," said Anthony.

"Has Nat agreed?"

"We have spoken about this before, and Nat has agreed. I just need to convince my daddy. But it should

be fine. He will surely listen to Nat,” replied Anthony.

After giving the matter some thought, Thalia responded, “All right. I got it.”

“Then...”

“I’ll contact you before I leave,” said Thalia.

The moment Anthony heard that, he knew something was going on between Thalia and Spencer. He immediately said, “Okay, there’s no hurry. The two of you go ahead with whatever you have to do. I’ll be waiting for you whenever you are ready.”

After that, there was no response from the other end of the line before the call was disconnected.

Anthony glanced at his phone and shook his head helplessly. “Once she’s found friends of the opposite gender, she forgets about her buddies.”

“But, aren’t you also a friend of the opposite gender?” Just then, someone behind him spoke.

Anthony turned around to see Miguel standing not far away.

“What are you doing here?” he asked, narrowing his eyes.

At that instant, Miguel walked up to Anthony and stared at the boy with those X-ray eyes of his.

“Is there something on my face?” questioned Anthony.

“I think you must be Anonymous!” guessed Miguel.

Anthony was taken aback and said, “Are you crazy? What gives you that idea?”

He turned his head and saw Miguel getting down on his knees.

Anthony was dumbfounded, his adorable face filled with shock.

“W-What are you trying to do?” exclaimed Anthony.

“I know you are Anonymous! Please accept me as your disciple!” begged Miguel.

“I’m really not—”

“Yes, you are!”

“I’m not!”

"You are!" proclaimed Miguel with such persistence and determination. "I have secretly recorded a video showing how Anonymous operates. I may not have watched the video ten thousand times, but I have definitely watched enough that I can remember everything very distinctly. The day when we were fighting against Vermillion Base, I found your style of doing things very familiar. However, I find it hard to believe that the infamous Anonymous can be a child. But, one of my buddies noticed your smooth operation that day and recorded your moves. After repeated comparisons and days of analysis using the computer, I can finally confirm that you are Anonymous. There can be no mistake about this," declared Miguel.

Anthony looked at him and was at a loss for words momentarily. He is usually such a bubbly and energetic person. No wonder he looks so unkempt right now. It turns out that he hasn't been sleeping for the past few nights.

At that moment, Anthony scanned the surroundings to make sure that no one was around. He then leaned over, squatted down, and pondered before saying, "Has it ever crossed your mind that Anonymous is the one who taught me those skills? That's why the way we operate is similar."

"Even so, it won't be exactly the same. It's the same logic with twins. They may look alike, but are their fingerprints the same?" retorted Miguel.

Anthony fixed his gaze on Miguel for a long time before helping the latter up. "Please get up first. If other people see this, what am I supposed to say?"

Miguel stared at him and begged once again, "Then, please take me as your student!"

"Why will I do that? I don't know anything. I learned my techniques from someone!" said Anthony.

Miguel looked at the boy begrudgingly and still refused to get back up on his feet.

"You really have no intention of getting up, right?" asked Anthony.

"If you don't accept me as your student, I won't get up."

"Are you threatening me? Let me tell you something. I will never be threatened by anyone!" claimed Anthony.

"Fine then. I'll continue to kneel here. Later on, if anyone asks, I will tell them the truth."

Anthony was speechless.

Initially, he was quite determined not to give in. However, as he looked at Miguel, he could feel his resolution weaken.

"You can't behave like this, you know? You need something from me, but in order to get your way, you're threatening me. That way, even if I've agreed to take you as my disciple, I might not teach you properly, right?"

Miguel kept his eyes trained on the boy and remained silent.

Anthony tried to fool him into getting up. "Please stand up first, and we can talk this out."

"Really? You are going to discuss this with me?" asked Miguel.

Anthony nodded. "Sure! Of course."

Miguel then got up reluctantly.

Chapter 528

The scene was wholly witnessed by someone on the upper floor.

Kenneth was making a call by the window when he saw Miguel kneeling in front of Anthony.

He furrowed his brows as he watched on. What exactly is the matter that could make a young man kneel to a child?

As the distance was a bit far, Kenneth could only see that Anthony seemed to be denying whatever Miguel was saying to him. Moreover, Miguel's back was facing Kenneth, so the latter couldn't make out what he was saying.

Just then, Natasha walked over and saw Kenneth engrossed in something. She looked at him and asked, "What are you looking at?"

By the time Natasha followed Kenneth's gaze and looked down, Anthony and Miguel had just walked away.

Kenneth snapped out of his daze and looked at Natasha, revealing an innocent smile. "Nothing."

Natasha nodded lightly.

"By the way, Nat, did anything happen while I was unconscious for the past couple of days?" Kenneth asked.

Natasha thought hard about Kenneth's question before looking up at him. "Yes."

"What happened?" he asked.

She hesitated for a moment before answering, "Something happened to General Will of Vermillion Base."

He should be dead by now.”

The man frowned when he heard that. “Dead?” He pondered for a bit and a thought came to his mind. “Was it Boss?”

Kenneth had a sharp mind; he was able to link things up fairly quickly based on a small clue.

Natasha nodded, acknowledging Kenneth's conjecture.

Kenneth smirked. “Well, only he is capable of pulling something like that.”

“He may be a crazy person, but I guess he sort of took revenge on my behalf...” Natasha murmured.

Kenneth kept his gaze trained on her. “Took revenge on your behalf?”

As that topic was brought up, she looked up at him, her flawless face shining brilliantly. With a smile, she said, “I've figured out what happened to my father during my trip to Vermillion Base.”

He looked at her skeptically. “Is that so?”

With a nod of her head, Natasha explained in detail, “It was true that my father was one of the earliest batches of hackers in Vermillion Base. However, later on, he thought of leaving the organization as he did not agree with their inhumane and ruthless ways of doing things. After he left, the general in charge back then issued the order to kill him.”

“The general in charge back then?” Kenneth rubbed his chin and did a mental calculation. “Based on the timeline, that general should be very old now. General Will's age doesn't match your story.”

“That's right. Although it was the general back then who gave the order, Will was the one who suggested killing my father. The general listened to Will as he was his most trusted aide!” Natasha revealed.

Kenneth took a while to digest the information. “Was Will the one who told you all this?”

“Not all of it,” Natasha responded. Now that the matter was settled, she did not want to hide anything from Kenneth anymore. “It was Boss who told me. He had a voice recording of him and General Will.”

Kenneth did not suspect the authenticity of the recording because he believed Natasha was smart enough not to be duped easily.

Scenes of his childhood flashed across his mind at that moment. If he remembered correctly, the child he met back then must be Boss. Boss' appearance at that place could not be a mere coincidence.

With that thought in mind, Kenneth sounded Natasha out. “Has it ever crossed your mind that the

murderer might be someone else?"

"Those people back then are all dead, except for Will. I thought I will kill him myself but I did not expect him to die in Boss' hands," said Natasha.

She paused momentarily and continued, "I guess that's fine as well. He might not have died in my hands, but ultimately, he's dead. With that, I can let go of this rock in my heart. I finally can lead a normal life and no longer be tormented by nightmares."

Kenneth initially wanted to discuss more about this matter with Natasha, but after hearing what she said, he dropped the idea.

Now that Natasha could finally find peace with herself after such a long time, it would only worsen her pain if he were to dig further into this matter.

Moreover, it would be best for her to forget her painful past and live happily.

With that, Kenneth turned to look at Natasha with a tender smile. "You're right. The person is gone and so is your pain. From now on, you no longer need to torture yourself with this matter anymore. Just live a carefree, peaceful life. When we return, I will settle the company matters and fulfill my promise to you—be by your side, protect you, and travel with you around the world."

Natasha smiled as Kenneth's words warmed her heart. "I'd like to pay my respect to my parents when we return this time."

"I'll accompany you," said Kenneth.

Natasha gazed at Kenneth and nodded in response.

At that moment, Kenneth reached out his hand. Natasha glanced at it and placed her hand in his palm.

The man gently tugged at her hand and pulled her toward him, leaving only a few centimeters of space between them.

"Nat, does that mean you've agreed?"

"Agreed? To what?"

"Agreed to reconcile with me."

"Reconcile? What do you mean?" Natasha asked in perplexion.

Kenneth narrowed his eyes. "Are you going to play dumb now?"

Natasha looked at Kenneth playfully. Her pretty smiling face was as vibrant as the sun. "Kenneth, I don't recall you asking me anything. So what am I supposed to agree to?"

Chapter 529

Inside a room in Vermillion Base, Boss stared at the man lying on the bed.

With a glint of hostility flashing across his eyes, he broke into a smirk. "How does it feel lying there? Good?"

Will glared intently at him, eyes burning with defiance.

Boss let out a chuckle. "Don't give me that look. You're the one who brought this upon yourself."

Mustering all his strength, Will asked, "W-Why?"

Suddenly, an insidious look descended upon Boss' face. Through his gritted teeth, he explained, "Why? What do you think? Why didn't you ask yourself that question when you harmed my sister back then? How is she a threat to you at seven years old?"

At the mention of the topic, Will's eyes turned red.

"When you did her in back then, you should've done the same to me, but you didn't. Instead, you tormented me throughout the years. Nonetheless, I still have you to thank, as I wouldn't be where I am without the suffering you have inflicted upon me," Boss remarked in a nonchalant tone as a devious smile flashed across his face.

"K-Kill me!" Will cried out breathlessly.

Boss shot him a glare. "Kill you? That would be letting you off too easily. After years of torture at your hands, I intend to return the favor. Besides..." Boss suddenly leaned in. "You're more useful to me alive than dead!"

With that, a triumphant smile emerged on his face.

Even though the sight of Boss sent a chill down Will's spine, the latter was unable to move at all.

"Stop wasting your energy. The poison in you has been specially formulated to progress slowly. Only when there's enough of it in you would you end up in your current condition." As Boss spoke, he exuded a wicked aura underneath his calm chiseled face.

Will's eyes widened further as emotions raged within him.

"Relax and don't worry. I'll get someone to take good care of your family." Boss then got up and left, paying no heed to Will's fiery eyes.

To be precise, it was the look in Will's eyes that fueled Boss' sense of satisfaction.

Finally, he, too, has a taste of his own medicine.

Outside the room, Boss took a deep breath.

Now that vengeance was served, the hatred he had been harboring all this while gradually eased.

As he opened his eyes and prepared to leave, he suddenly saw a group of people discussing something noisily.

Hence, he approached them. "What's going on?"

The group quickly got up at the sound of his voice, but amidst their anxiety, one of them dropped something.

"Boss..." They looked at him, quaking in their boots.

Boss looked at the item on the floor, and his sharp eyes immediately recognized it to be Natasha's accessory.

Without a moment's hesitation, he hurried over to pick it up.

"Boss, I-I found it—" the person explained.

Boss raised his gaze to look at the man and everyone else around. "You found it?"

The man nodded at once. "That's right. General Will locked the woman up in the southern camp that day. She probably left it there back then."

Only then did Boss recall the matter. "Is there anything else?"

The man shook his head at once.

After tightening his grip on the necklace, Boss got back up and left.

"Boss..." Just when the man wanted to comment about how expensive the necklace looked, Boss' intimidating aura caused him to hold his tongue.

After all, Boss was now a different man from the past.

Suddenly, Boss stopped in his tracks as if something hit him. Thereafter, he took off his watch and threw it at the man. "I suppose this is enough?"

The man's face lit up in delight. "Actually, you don't have to, Boss."

Boss' gaze swept across the men. "Going forward, I will definitely not treat you the same way General Will did. I won't take advantage of you or bully you. We will share all our profits and go through thick and thin together. As long as your loyalty lies with me, you'll definitely be well rewarded."

The group asked excitedly, "Really?"

"You'll soon see for yourselves!"

"Hurray!" The group erupted in cheers. "Boss, we swear to follow you to the death!"

At the same time, another group of men at the side yelled, "We swear to follow you to the death too!"

Hearing the commotion, everyone around began to gather one after another. After a brief discussion among themselves, they, too, shouted, "Follow Boss to the death!"

Staring at them, an indiscernible expression descended upon Boss' face as he clenched the necklace in his fist.

Inside his room, Boss was sitting in his chair and staring at the necklace. He recalled Natasha wearing it the first time he met her.

This is probably one of her favorite things.

Boss began to reminisce about the days he spent together with Natasha.

It was then that Gavin walked in. "You wanted to see me?"

Chapter 530

After a few days of recuperation, Kenneth's wounds were almost healed.

It was just that his behavior annoyed everyone to no end.

At the sight of Natasha, his eyes would glimmer with delight, and he wouldn't stop calling her "Nat," which caused everyone to be filled with disbelief.

That day, Dave was chatting with Kenneth downstairs about some serious matters.

"Now that Boss has assumed control of Vermillion Base, I heard he has earned more loyalty from the men than General Will did," Dave related.

Kenneth responded with a smirk, "After biding his time for decades to get where he is now, he's

naturally going to do his best to maintain his position.”

“I managed to capture some men from Vermillion Base. During the interrogation, they revealed that Boss hasn't given up looking for you and has already extended his reach here. Do you want to see them?” Dave asked.

“There's no such need,” Kenneth replied. “It's normal for him not to give up. In fact, it would be strange if he did.”

“What did you do to him to make him hate you so much?” Dave asked curiously.

Kenneth pondered for a moment. “Hmm... Maybe it's because I stole a batch of his goods? Kidnapped him and shot him? After the exchange, I made a fool out of him?”

“No wonder he wants to kill you.”

A smile flashed across Kenneth's face. “That will depend on whether he's even capable of doing it.”

“To a warrior, humiliation is worse than death. Kenneth, his animosity toward you is no surprise at all. You truly are as ruthless as ever,” Dave remarked.

Kenneth curled his lips. “It's clear that he was the one who started it first.”

Dave never doubted Kenneth's words.

Since his retirement, he was prepared to leave everything behind. If Boss hadn't provoked Kenneth first, the latter wouldn't have gone this far.

“No matter what, you had better maintain your vigilance for the time being.”

Just as Kenneth nodded, he suddenly remembered something. “By the way, Dave, there's something I need you to verify for me.”

At the sight of Kenneth's serious expression, Dave inquired, “What is it?”

“Help me find a picture of Boss when he was a child.”

“Why do you need it?”

“I need to confirm something.”

Without further questions, Dave nodded. “All right.”

He had barely finished talking when he looked at Kenneth again. “Wait, shouldn't you get your son to

help you with this?”

“My son? Which one?”

“Anthony!”

“What for?” Kenneth was clueless.

Dave cocked a curious brow. “Don't tell me that you still don't know?”

“Know what?”

Dave burst into sudden laughter upon seeing the look of confusion on Kenneth's face. His face tells me he doesn't know anything yet.

“What are you laughing about?” Kenneth stared blankly at Dave.

“I was considering whether to tell you or to continue keeping you in the dark,” Dave teased.

“Tell me quickly or I'll strangle you to death,” Kenneth warned.

After giving it a quick thought, Dave related what happened the other day.

When Dave finished, Kenneth was stunned speechless.

“How can it...” said Kenneth a while later.

“You don't believe it?” Dave raised a brow.

“I find it hard to do so,” Kenneth replied.

“If I'm not wrong, your son is probably with Miguel now. Shall we drop by to take a look?” Dave asked.

Thereafter, Kenneth gave the other man a complicated look.

Meanwhile, inside the hidden room, Anthony—lying down languidly on his reclining chair—was giving out instructions while popping grapes into his mouth.

“Faster. You need to pick up your pace. Given how slow you are, how are you going to become a hacker? You might as well become a programmer,” Anthony remarked in a nonchalant tone.

“I'm going as fast as I can.”

“You call that fast?” Anthony narrowed his eyes with a contemptuous look on his face. “Why did I ever

take in a student who's as dumb as you are?"

Miguel took a deep breath. "Why don't you do it?"

"Fine, I will!" Anthony got to his feet and slipped into the former's seat. "Just this once. Watch and learn."

With that, Anthony stared at the screen as his fingers danced across the keyboard at incredible speed. Finally, he completed the objective in less than a minute.

The demonstration stunned Miguel. "H-How did you do that?"

"Talent," Anthony quipped with a cocked brow. Upon returning to his seat, he raised his eyes to be greeted by the sight of Kenneth and Dave standing behind him.

Their sudden appearance gave him a shock.

"Daddy, Mr. Dave..."

Kenneth gave him a grim look. "Come with me."

"Okay."

After glancing at Miguel, Anthony put down his grapes before leaving with Kenneth.

When he walked past Dave, he gave the latter an accusatory look but said nothing.

At the same time, Miguel's trailed his master's figure with a worried gaze.

"Dave, will my master be all right?" Miguel asked.

"Master?"

Cognizant that he had said something he shouldn't have, Miguel retracted his gaze and continued practicing his hacking skills.

When Dave took a look, his eyes narrowed accordingly.