

Yo Daddy 771

Chapter 771 Seduction

Natasha shook her head. "Nope, but I can start having one now."

A hint of mischief flashed across her eyes. Kenneth knew she was merely trying to use that method to persuade him.

He bored his dark eyes into her and remained quiet because her effort was insufficient to convince him.

Sensing his silence, Natasha knew he still had reservations about that matter.

After contemplating briefly, Natasha lowered her gaze, took a step closer to him, and reached out to gently tug the corner of his shirt before looking up at him. "All right, Kenneth. I know you're worried about me and have my best interest at heart. But please just agree with this decision, okay?"

"What if I don't agree?" he asked.

"If you don't agree, you'll leave me with no choice but to keep you trapped in this room," she threatened while staring at him.

He glanced at her. "Do you think you're capable of doing that?"

"We'll find out the answer once we give it a try," she replied.

Kenneth swept his eyes across her and stood up to leave. At that moment, Natasha suddenly launched a sneak attack from behind.

Walking toward the door, he heard the sound of Natasha thrusting her fist. As if he had grown eyes in the back of his head, he extended his arm to grab her hand.

Noticing that, she continued to strike, and the two began to spar in the room.

When she saw Kenneth swinging his fist at her, her eyes gleamed with a hint of cunning glint. The next second, she staggered backward and collided with the table.

"Ouch..." Natasha grunted and furrowed her brows in agony.

Seeing that, Kenneth immediately withdrew his arm and approached her. "Nat, are you all right?"

"It hurts," she murmured in a dulcet tone.

Kenneth frowned, too anxious to remain cool-headed. "B-But I didn't exert that much force..."

"But it's really painful," she said piteously.

He gazed at her with tightly knitted brows. The next second, he carried her and put her on the bed.

"Where does it hurt? Can you show me?" he asked.

Taking in his concerned expression as he examined her body, Natasha's eyes glimmered, and she pounced on him, pinning him onto the bed.

He looked up, and upon seeing that she seemed to be doing fine and catching the sly look flickering past her eyes, his gaze darkened.

"Well? Do you think I can trap you here now?" she asked with her brows arched.

"Nat, since when have you learned to put on a pitiful act to garner sympathy?"

She shook her head. "No, I'm not doing this to garner sympathy." Natasha leaned forward, inching closer to his lips as she spoke. The look in her eyes became increasingly charming as she whispered, "This is an act to seduce you." And with that, she pressed him on the bed.

Meanwhile, inside the lab, Spencer stared at the antidote with complicated emotions churning in his dark eyes.

Natasha's words and various scenes from the past flashed across his mind. He knew that was a selfish act, but he had no other choice. Even if this is selfish, I'm willing to pay the price for it.

At that thought, he put the antidote away.

His eyes shone with determination.

At the same time, inside the shooting room, Thalia walked around the place and couldn't help but nod at the interior design and layout. "It seems like Dave is very generous toward you, using all the best materials in the construction."

Benjamin stood nearby. "But I designed this place."

Thalia shifted her attention to him. "For someone who's even capable of designing firearms, designing a place like this is a complete waste of talent."

Hearing her compliment, he smiled.

"Still, you've already set everything up here, so what do you need my help with?" she asked.

“Um... I didn't expect the place would be so perfect. In that case, why don't you look around and give me some suggestions?” he chirped.

Thalia glanced at Benjamin after hearing that. “I can't believe you've learned nothing useful from Anthony except for being narcissistic.”

Benjamin pondered briefly before responding, “Actually, I'm not quite like Anthony.”

“Oh? How are you different?”

“He's a narcissist, while I'm just being honest,” Benjamin said.

Thalia couldn't stop herself from laughing. She considered anyone who would criticize Anthony in front of her kindred spirits.

The two reached out and high-fived each other.

As they laughed and chattered, they turned around to look behind them. Usually, Anthony would've chimed in to banter with them. However, at that moment, he sat not far away with his brows furrowed, seemingly having a load on his mind.

Noticing Anthony sitting there absentmindedly, Thalia and Benjamin exchanged glances.

“What's up with him today?” she asked.

“It's not just today. He's been like this for the past couple of days,” Benjamin replied.

Thalia frowned, and the two walked toward Anthony.

When they reached him, they sat down on either side of him.

Anthony still appeared deep in thought, seemingly oblivious to their arrival, as he didn't react in any way.

Chapter 772 Protect The People I Love

Thalia didn't bother listening to his rambling. The only information she received from his reaction was that he had a secret but wouldn't tell her!

Frowning, Thalia fixed her gaze on him and said, “Anthony, are you not a man of your word?”

“I—”

“That's not what you said to me previously. You've changed!”

"I didn't—"

"Benjamin and Denise know about your secret, right? Yet you refuse to tell me!" Thalia appeared to be hurt by his refusal to tell her the truth. She then nodded in resignation and said disappointedly, "Okay, I understand. You never really considered me as a friend..."

Anthony held his forehead in frustration and finally gave in. "Fine, I'll tell you."

Thalia immediately regained her solemn demeanor. "You should've told me in the first place."

Anthony looked at her in exasperation. "Your acting skills are so good that I think you should become an actor like Denise."

Thalia didn't think he was being sarcastic at all and replied seriously, "Darknetz has special acting classes, so you guys will have to learn it, too. Don't worry, for you'll soon be better at acting than me!"

Anthony was speechless.

"Okay, cut the crap. Tell me everything," Thalia urged.

Anthony glanced at Thalia. He actually intended to consult her about this matter and just hadn't found a chance to talk to her yet. He was about to speak when Thalia suddenly thought of something. "Wait a minute."

Anthony's words were stuck halfway in his throat as he stared at her.

"If it's really private, forget it. I'm not someone who likes to pry into other people's privacy," Thalia said.

"Really?"

Thalia nodded. "Of course."

"Then we're done!" Anthony shrugged with his hands spread out.

Thalia was dumbfounded.

"That's it!" Anthony said.

Thalia took a deep breath. "Anthony Watson, do you take me as a fool?"

Seeing that she was about to explode with rage, Anthony couldn't help laughing out loud. "You said you wouldn't listen if it's a private matter!"

"Benjamin knows, so that means I can know too. I'm just being courteous yet you really think I mean it!" Thalia retorted.

"Women always say one thing and do another..."

"Do you have a problem with that?"

"No, I don't!" Anthony immediately admitted defeat.

Thalia kept her eyes trained on him, still feeling something was off. "You've been surrendering too easily lately. What's the deal? Have you become enlightened enough to start being all respectful and caring toward others?"

Anthony raised an eyebrow. "I'm just being considerate because you're not in good health."

"Oh, I see. Wow, you have sympathy for others now?"

"It's not about having sympathy. I just don't want to argue with the sick and the weak," Anthony replied.

Thalia was rendered speechless by his quick-witted remarks.

His tongue is still as sharp as ever.

"But if you're not used to my current demeanor, I can still act like I did before," Anthony offered.

Thalia flashed him a halfhearted smile and urged him to get to the point. "Hurry up and tell me about that secret of yours!"

Anthony took a moment to gather his thoughts and spoke while looking at her. "I have an idea."

"What idea?" Thalia asked casually as she grabbed some snacks from the table, popping one into her mouth.

Anthony pursed his lips. "I've revealed part of it to you before this."

"What is it? Just tell me!" Thalia stared at him.

"I'm thinking of forming a team."

Thalia was momentarily stunned and turned to look at him.

"I mentioned it briefly when we were in the uninhabited zone. I've been thinking about it for a long time. I want a team that I can fully control and that only answers to me," Anthony explained his idea.

Listening to his thoughts, Thalia narrowed her eyes. "So... are you saying you want to leave Darknetz?"

"No, I don't have any intention of leaving Darknetz. I just want a team that completely works for me outside of Darknetz. That way, I can handle any personal grudges myself," Anthony explained.

Thalia instantly understood his point.

The look in her eyes darkened as she looked at Anthony. "Anthony, actually, you can already mobilize the forces in Darknetz. You know full well that you can do so if you need to. It's just a bit more difficult to handle the current situation due to the relationship between Kenneth and Darknetz."

"I know, and I understand," Anthony replied. "I don't know how things will turn out between Daddy and Darknetz, but what if this problem is never resolved? The main reason I joined Darknetz is to protect the people I care about, so if this issue limits what I can do, what's the point of me staying in Darknetz?"

Thalia frowned. "Anthony, you can't say that. Are you not happy being in Darknetz? I know you're anxious about Natasha's matter, but don't deny the significance of your presence in Darknetz. I can tell that you're happy being a part of Darknetz and you have big ambitions to achieve. Darknetz can help you realize your goals. Otherwise, you wouldn't have joined in the first place, right?"

Anthony listened and frowned slightly.

Chapter 773 The Plans Of Anthony

"If you're not afraid of a three-way dogfight, let him come and meet me!" exclaimed Anthony.

Thalia frowned when she heard that. This is indeed a problem.

Then, Anthony looked her in the eyes and said earnestly, "I understand your concerns, Thalia, but you're fretting about nothing. I told you about this matter myself, but you wouldn't be aware if I didn't, would you?"

"You—"

"I told you because I treat you as a friend and also to let you know that no matter what team I set up, it will not pose a threat to Darknetz. Heck, it will even be of great help to Darknetz in the future!" he enunciated while keeping his gaze fixed on her.

Thalia had to admit that the sincerity in his expression made her waver.

"So what if I believe you? You still need Kyle and everyone in Darknetz to believe you," she uttered.

"We'll discuss this matter later. Let's talk about the situation at hand."

“What's the situation at hand?” she asked.

At that moment, Anthony took a piece of paper from his pocket. “These are the plans I made. You must know a lot of people since you've traveled far and wide. Please have a look and see if anyone meets the criteria here.”

Thalia finally understood the boy's intention and scrutinized him with narrowed eyes. “You didn't tell me because you treat me as a friend. You are clearly asking for my help!”

“It's precisely because you're my friend that I asked for your help. Otherwise, I won't be able to trust you and feel at ease, can I?” he reasoned.

He never failed to persuade her.

Thalia gave him a look before lowering her gaze to study the piece of paper that was filled with details about Anthony's requirements.

However, after seeing all the criteria he listed out, she frowned. “What's with these weird requirements? Adept at using poison? Disguise? Why is deception one of them? What are you trying to do? Form a super elite team?”

After hearing her mocking question, he replied, “That's right. I want to form a team that can do anything.”

Thalia swept a curious gaze over him, sizing him up. “Sometimes I wonder what's in that head of yours!”

“Just tell me. Is there anyone you know of or are acquainted with that meets the criteria written here?” he inquired.

She withdrew her gaze, turning her attention back to the paper. “Con artists are easy to find. They are practically everywhere.”

“I'm looking for the real deal, a master of deception, a true con artist. I won't settle for anything less!” Anthony said firmly.

Thalia looked at him and thought about it seriously. “I did meet one in the past who duped me and several of my friends...”

Anthony's eyes immediately lit up when he heard that.

“It's just that I don't have the person's contact details,” she continued.

Her words rendered him speechless, and he instantly deflated.

Thalia noticed his reaction and curled her lips into a faint smirk. "I do know someone who is good in disguise, though."

Anthony fixed his gaze on her, not daring to show too much anticipation.

She returned his stare and, upon seeing him completely unfazed, continued, "That person used to work for a prominent thieving family, assisting them with disguises. However, he was later betrayed by his friends and apprehended. He stopped doing this job after he got out of prison and now wanders around the border all year, taking up some small businesses."

After hearing that, Anthony said with conviction, "This is exactly the kind of person I want. Do you know him? Introduce him to me."

"I do know him, and he's in the neighboring country, which isn't too far away. But after being betrayed by his friends, he vowed never to join another team. It's not going to be easy to convince him to join you," Thalia said straightforwardly.

Anthony's eyes narrowed slightly. "He probably felt bitterly disappointed after being betrayed by his friends."

"Indeed. He has good skills. Many people wanted to recruit him, but he turned them down every time, even when offered an astronomical sum of money," Thalia stated the fact calmly.

He pondered for a moment before looking at her. "Do you know him very well?"

"Not exactly. I've interacted with him once or twice. He's a deeply distrustful person and never confides in others, so we've only had some business dealings," came her reply.

After a moment of contemplation, Anthony asked, "You know where he is, right?"

"Yes. He's usually active near the borders and never goes anywhere else, so locating him is easy."

Anthony had an idea and looked at her. "How about you go with me?"

Thalia frowned when she saw that he was not discouraged. "I told you that he won't join any team. It's useless even if you go."

"Yes, he won't join other people's teams, but it doesn't mean he won't join mine," said Anthony.

"Don't you think you're being too confident?" She stared at him.

"I'm certain he's the kind of person I'm looking for, so I must give it a shot. Just say if you'll help me, Thalia."

"How can I help?"

"It's simple. You only need to take me to him. I'll do the rest on my own," he said.

Thalia frowned when she noticed how serious he looked. "Are you serious about this?"

Chapter 774 I Was Driven To Madness

Anthony happened to brush past Denise as he walked out.

Noticing his haste, Denise went over to Thalia, who was sitting at the table, and asked curiously, "Where's Tony off to?"

"He has gone crazy. He's seriously out of his mind," Thalia muttered as she munched on the snacks on the table, preoccupied with her thoughts.

Just then, Benjamin walked over and sat down. "Yes, he has gone crazy. What about you?"

Her gaze fell upon him. "I've gone crazy too, but I was driven to madness by him!"

"Judging from your expression, however, I don't see any signs that you were driven to madness."

"They're all in here," she responded while pointing at her heart.

Denise knitted her brows as she listened to their conversation. "What are the two of you talking about?"

"Tony asked Thalia to help him look for people. They've set their eyes on someone and will head out sometime over these two days," Benjamin explained tersely.

Hearing that, Thalia stared at him in surprise. "Why, look at you! You weren't here, yet you know everything."

"I wasn't standing nearby, but that doesn't mean I couldn't hear you," came Benjamin's reply.

Listening to the pair teasing each other, Denise immediately said, "I want to go too!"

"Whatever for?" Thalia asked, turning to her.

"I want to help Tony look for that person, of course!"

"It's a dodgy place and too dangerous. You'd better stay here," Thalia answered.

"No! I want to go with you. Besides, you'll be there to protect us, won't you?"

Thalia retorted, "I can't take on that many opponents on my own. How am I supposed to protect all

three of you?"

"Looks like you've counted me in already. Good. I don't have to say anything then," Benjamin piped up.

Thalia was stunned. What she said was purely a slip of her tongue. "I wasn't—"

Before she could finish her sentence, he rose to his feet and continued, "In that case, I'll be heading back to my room too to get ready."

Dumbstruck, she frowned as she watched him walk away. What on earth has gotten into these brats?

Seeing that, Denise immediately pouted in dissatisfaction. "Thalia, do you also think that girls aren't as capable as boys?"

Turning to see her looking disgruntled, Thalia protested, "Not at all. That wasn't what I meant."

"Then why did you agree to let Ben go but not me?"

"I didn't agree to it!"

"Well, are you going to be able to stop him?"

Thalia paused for a moment. "I most probably won't be able to stop him."

"See? We're both girls. How can you not believe in me?" Denise pressed on.

"I'm just worried for your safety, that's all."

"So, you're not worried for Tony and Ben?"

"They're tough and strong. Even if they have to suffer a little, they'll be fine. However, you're my precious little darling. How could I bear to let you suffer? Am I right?" Thalia responded, giving Denise a gentle pinch on her chin.

Denise shook her head. "Nope. I may be a girl, but I'm not afraid of a little hardship. I already don't get to spend much time with you guys, so I must make the most of it!"

"But—"

"Oh, Thalia. Just bring me along. Can you really bear leaving me here all by myself? Besides, I'll miss you terribly if I don't get to see you for even a day. Come on, Thalia. Pretty please?" Denise wheedled while hugging the woman's arm.

Thalia felt dizzy as Denise shook her back and forth. Who can say no to her when she acts all adorable

like this?

"All right, all right, fine. I'll take you with me, okay?"

Denise paused her movements immediately and looked at Thalia. "Really?"

"I've agreed to it, so it's okay by me. However, you'll still have to convince your parents, and I won't help you with that," Thalia replied with a shake of her head.

Her bright eyes darted from side to side, then she nodded. "No problem. I'll take care of that myself."

"Okay. I'll wait to hear from you guys, then."

Denise beamed, then got up and started walking away.

"Are you going to ask them now?"

"I'll pack my stuff first before talking to them."

"We're only going for a few days, so don't bring too many things."

"Got it!"

Thalia could not help but smile as she listened to Denise's voice ring out in the distance. After spending time with these three, I realize I've rediscovered a sense of childlike innocence within me. It's as though I'm slowly recovering bits of my childhood that were missing.

She continued eating some snacks for a while as those thoughts ran through her mind. Then, she dusted her hands off, got up, and walked out.

Outside, the sun shone brightly, and the sky was clear and blue, bestowing an indescribable sense of calm and peace upon her. I hope the future will be just as brilliant as the sunshine today.

Dave and Miguel were in the midst of a discussion when Anthony arrived at the hidden room.

"Master," Miguel greeted with a smile as soon as he saw the boy.

Anthony nodded in acknowledgment, then looked in Dave's direction.

"Are you here to see Dave?" Miguel asked.

Anthony nodded again.

Turning around, Dave asked, "You're here to see me? What's up?"

"I need to ask you for a favor, Mr. Dave," said Anthony.

Chapter 775 Natasha And Her Views

It was nighttime, and Anthony had finished packing his things. After much hesitance, he still decided to seek Natasha's approval. He went looking for her and found her sitting on a bench in the yard.

Beneath the starry sky, Natasha looked relaxed yet elegant in her pale dress with a black and brown shawl draped over her. She appeared as if she was on vacation in a holiday retreat.

"Nat," Anthony called out softly as he approached her.

Lifting her gaze, the woman noted Anthony's approach. "Why aren't you asleep?"

"It's still not my bedtime yet," Anthony replied, then sat down across from her.

There were some snacks on the table before them that were all Natasha's favorite foods. Anthony assumed Kenneth must've prepared them.

Anthony leaned over and began to help Natasha remove the nuts shell with practiced ease.

As if used to him helping her, she poured him a cup of coffee. "Is there a reason you're looking for me?"

Anthony placed the peeled nuts in front of her and nodded, looking into her eyes. "Yeah."

"What is it? Speak your mind." Natasha lifted the cup of hot coffee to her mouth and gently sipped on it.

"I..." Anthony realized that whatever words he had assembled in his mind shattered under Natasha's gaze.

"You what?" Natasha raised a brow. "Since when do you hesitate to speak your mind?"

"I'm scared that you won't approve," Anthony answered with an ingratiating smile.

"How do you know I'll disapprove if you never told me in the first place?" Natasha arched her brow. Her exquisite features seemed to exude a faint glow under the moonlight.

After contemplating briefly, Anthony stated, "It's like this, Nat. I want to start a team of my own, and I already have a list of candidates. Coincidentally, Thalia knows one of the people who meet my criteria, and that person is in our neighboring country." He paused to study Natasha's expression.

Natasha took another sip of her coffee and raised her brow at his sudden pause. "What's wrong?"

Continue.”

Seeing that there was hope, he seized the chance to strike the iron while it was still hot. “I would like to make a trip there with Thalia.”

Natasha finished her cup of coffee and looked into Anthony's eyes. “That's it? Anything else?”

“Nope.” Anthony shook his head.

Scrunching her delicate brows, she asked, “Why are you telling me this? Just go if you want to. The problem is whether Thalia is willing to go with you.”

Anthony immediately nodded. “She said she'll go with me as long as you agree.”

“I don't see any problem with that,” Natasha consented.

“Does that mean you agree?”

“Yeah.” Natasha nodded without hesitation.

Anthony's lips curved into a smile, but he was still slightly worried. “T-Then, what about Daddy?”

“Ignore him. You can leave that to me,” Natasha said.

Anthony instantly placed the nuts he had finished peeling in front of her. “You're the best mom in the whole wide world, Nat!”

Dropping her gaze at the nicely-peeled treats in front of her, she felt as though they were reliving the times when he was still a young toddler. Flashing a tiny smile, she said, “You're the best son in the world too. Um, one of the best sons.”

Anthony beamed at her.

Suddenly, Natasha remembered something. “But how do you plan on getting there?”

“Thalia said it'll be too slow if we drive since the person is in the neighboring country. The most efficient way of travel is by helicopter.”

Natasha cast him a glance as soon as he finished his words. “A helicopter? Looks like you guys are making your departure quite a big scene.”

Anthony laughed. “I already borrowed it from Mr. Dave. Everything is set once I have Daddy's and your permission.”

Natasha pondered for a while before saying, "I only have one request."

"What is it?" Anthony questioned.

"Be careful. Contact us immediately without delay if anything happens to you there. I forbid you from hiding your situation from us."

The corners of Anthony's lips curled to form a smile. "Okay! No problem!"

Natasha poured herself another cup of coffee and sipped on it. When she caught Anthony still peeling the nuts, she said, "That's enough. Stop peeling and have some yourself."

"I don't like eating them. I just like to peel them for you," Anthony said.

Natasha smiled at him. "Have some coffee then."

"This I can do," Anthony complied, lifting the cup to his lips and taking a few sips leisurely.

The mother and son conversed beneath the sky full of stars as they sipped on their drinks.

"When are you leaving?" Natasha asked.

"Tomorrow night if everything goes according to plan."

Chapter 776 I Will Not Give Up On Myself

That night, Thalia paced in her room anxiously, devising an idea on how she should spill the truth to Spencer.

This trip would take at least two days or longer. Hence, before leaving, she had to make sure that the poison wouldn't act up.

She was busy racking her brain to come up with a reasonable explanation for Spencer when someone suddenly knocked on the door.

Glancing at the door, Thalia said, "Come on in!"

Spencer pushed the door open and walked into her room.

Thalia's gaze softened when she saw him. "Oh, you're here. I was about to go find you."

After entering her room, Spencer couldn't help but remember Natasha's words when he spotted Thalia.

Perhaps she's right. I should try that.

"What's wrong?" Thalia waved her hand in front of Spencer when she noticed him staring at her blankly.

Spencer snapped back to his senses as his lips curled up slightly. "Oh, it's nothing. Do you have something to tell me?"

"Yes, I have something to tell you," Thalia replied.

Spencer nodded. "Go ahead."

Pursing her lips, Thalia revealed, "I might need to head out with Anthony for at least two days or longer. before I leave, I need you to help me..." She trailed off and stretched her slender arm out.

Spencer lowered his gaze to look at her fair arm. He then looked back up at her and asked, "Where are you going? What is the purpose of your trip?"

"I'm helping Anthony find someone in the neighboring country. It isn't far away," Thalia explained.

Hearing that, Spencer furrowed his brows.

"What is it? Is there anything wrong?" Thalia raised a brow.

Spencer's lips thinned. "No, you can't go. It's too dangerous!"

Thalia assured him, "We just want to find someone. It won't be that dangerous."

"Did you forget what happened previously?" Spencer demanded. "What will you do if you run into an enemy again?"

Thalia chuckled aloud. "That was your enemy, not mine. Besides, those I met when I was carrying out missions were already dead!" she announced confidently.

Spencer lowered his gaze. "Anyway, you can't leave!"

"Why not?" Thalia questioned.

"You might not have enemies, but what about Anthony and the others? They might have enemies!"

"They are too young to have enemies. Even if they do, their enemies don't even know their true identities," Thalia protested.

"Even so, what if you offend some locals? It's still too dangerous, so you can't go," Spencer insisted.

Thalia was strangely calm. She regarded him and asked, "If you put it that way, are you saying that I should leave Darknetz?"

Spencer narrowed his gaze.

Thalia tilted her head askew and gave him a look. "Are you prepared to provide for me? If the answer is yes, I might consider leaving Darknetz."

To her surprise, Spencer responded, "You don't need to worry about anything. Just leave the organization as I am more than capable to support you financially."

In the past, Spencer would definitely change the topic or avoid the question, so Thalia had no idea he would answer her question directly.

Refusing to believe what she just heard, she stuttered in shock, "W-What did you just say?"

Spencer met her gaze calmly. "I have some savings, so I should be able to provide for you financially."

This time, Thalia heard his words loud and clear.

"A-Are you serious?" she asked.

"You know I never joke around," came Spencer's answer.

Thalia observed him carefully before reaching out to touch his forehead. Seeing that, Spencer knitted his brows.

After touching his forehead, Thalia touched her own and muttered, "You're not running a fever!"

Spencer grabbed her hand and pulled it down from her forehead. "I'm serious. This isn't a joke."

Thalia maintained eye contact with him, a hint of caution in her beautiful eyes. "But why does it feel strange when you're being serious?"

Spencer held her hand as a bitter expression flickered across his face. "I was a fool before this, and I didn't think things through. But now, I promise to give you everything you deserve. I'll do everything in my power to treat you well."

Thalia had to admit that she was pleased to hear his promise.

Her rosy lips curled into a faint grin. "Are you serious?"

"Yes!" Spencer gave a firm nod.

Beaming in delight, Thalia flung her arms around Spencer to give him a hug.

Spencer froze in surprise. This time, instead of pushing her away, he slowly placed his hands on her back.

"I don't know why you suddenly thought things through, but I'm really happy!" Thalia let out a contented sigh.

Her efforts for the past years had not been in vain, after all.

Chapter 777 Cannot Be This Selfish

"You can go, but before that, you must consume this," Spencer said, pouring out a pill from the bottle.

Thalia frowned. "What is this?"

"This is..." Spencer thought about it briefly before saying, "An antidote I've developed to delay the poison attack."

Thalia's eyes lit up. "When did you develop it? Oh, you're amazing!"

Spencer flashed a sheepish smile. "Just recently."

"Wow, no wonder you've been spending so much time in the lab lately. Turns out you were up to something big!" she exclaimed. Taking the pill from him, she examined it closely. "I'm really grateful that you developed the antidote. Now I won't have to go through the trouble of getting my blood extracted or feeling weak all the time."

Thalia was about to swallow it when she added, "Get me more so I can keep them as spare for my journey."

Spencer shook his head. "No need. One is enough."

Thalia was about to pop the pill into her mouth but halted in her tracks. "How long can it delay the attack?"

Spencer seemed torn as a conflicted look crossed his face, but he looked at her and said, "It should last for a long time. I'm not sure about that."

Thalia's lashes fluttered. She remained composed and asked cheerfully, "Has Natasha tried it yet?"

Spencer felt his heart sink when he heard Natasha's name, but he told himself to stay calm and replied, "Not yet."

Thalia stretched her hand out.

“What?”

“Give the antidote to me, and I'll deliver it to her!” Thalia said cheekily. “It's not every day that I find someone who suffers from the same rare condition as me, so we'll have to take the antidote together.” She gestured at him. “Come on, give the antidote to me.”

Spencer forced out a smile. “You don't have to do that. I'll deliver it to her later.”

“No, I want to do it myself,” Thalia insisted.

A troubled and hesitant look flashed across Spencer's handsome face. He seemed to be caught in a tight spot as he remained silent.

The smile on Thalia's lips slowly disappeared. “This is the only antidote, right?”

Spencer met her gaze.

Thalia gazed at the little pill in her palm. “If I'm not mistaken, this is the 'antidote' Kenneth got when they went out that night.”

“Thalia—”

“Am I right?” Thalia cut in icily.

She rarely showed her stern side to him, but it was clear from her attitude that there was no room for discussion.

A while later, Spencer caved in and nodded in resignation. “You're right.”

Thalia's brows scrunched up as she gazed at him for a long time. “So what's with this pill you gave me?”

“Nothing. Just eat it. You'll recover after taking it,” Spencer snapped impatiently.

“What about Natasha? What will happen to her?” she asked.

Spencer pursed his lips and said nothing. He was already filled with guilt and remorse about this, so he wanted the matter to end as soon as possible with no regard for the consequences.

As he said nothing, Thalia continued, “You can also tell me that you've succeeded in developing the antidote and you're giving this one to me first...” She looked at him, her gaze deep and penetrating. “Spencer, tell me the truth.”

Spencer lowered his gaze and remained silent.

His silence merely served to prove Thalia's guess.

Her expression was tense as she snapped, "I understand now."

Without a word, she hopped off her bed and strode to the door.

Seeing that, Spencer rose to his feet hastily and grabbed her arm. "Where are you going?"

"I'm going to see Natasha," Thalia answered without turning around.

Frowning, Spencer took a deep breath and asked, "Why would you go to her?"

"Why else?" Thalia whipped her head around to glare at him. "I don't understand why you'd take the antidote and lie to me, but they were the ones who brought it back. It should be theirs!" She then turned around to leave.

"You're right," Spencer declared once she turned around.

Thalia halted in her tracks.

"There is only one antidote. I have studied the components of this pill, and I can say with certainty that there is a specific ingredient that I don't have. I can't reproduce it," he revealed in a low voice.

Thalia was startled to hear that.

"This might be the only antidote."

Chapter 778 A Game

Spencer went after her the moment she stepped out of the room.

Undeniably, Thalia's words had struck a chord within him.

It was extremely hard for him to make the decision and ask for the antidote from Natasha because he knew how selfish and wrong his action was. However, he had no choice but to do it. Now, Thalia had crushed him and his idea entirely with a single sentence.

Spencer stood rooted to the spot and mulled over it for a moment before chasing after her.

After exiting the room, Thalia went straight to Natasha's room.

She wanted to barge into the room as soon as she reached the door, but she held herself back. Instead, she composed herself and knocked on the door.

When she heard no response from inside the room, she hammered the door a few more times in an urgent manner.

Still, no one came to the door.

Right when she was about to storm into the room, Spencer grabbed her wrist.

Thalia froze momentarily and turned around. Seeing that it was Spencer behind her, she struggled to break free. "Let go of me!"

"Just stop!" Spencer refused to let her go.

"Leave me alone!"

"Thalia!" Spencer suddenly shouted in a stern tone.

Startled, Thalia stared at him.

Spencer took a deep breath, looked into her eyes, and said, "I know it doesn't matter what I say now. Perhaps I'm a selfish person in your eyes, but I don't care what you think of me..."

Thalia couldn't bring herself to blame him because she knew he had her best interests at heart.

While looking back at him, Thalia narrowed her eyes slightly and answered, "I know you're doing this for my sake. Frankly, I'm happy because you're doing everything you can to save my life. If that person weren't Natasha, I wouldn't mind. But I'm close friends with the three kids, and I've also known Natasha for so many years. Besides, you guys are friends, right? If you do this, you're going to regret it for the rest of your life. If you have to live in guilt for the rest of your life just so I can survive, I would rather not live."

Spencer kept mum and stared at her with his dark and conflicted gaze.

"Spencer, Natasha had already saved my life by transfusing her blood to me that day. Thanks to her, I'm still alive. We can't be so selfish. Do you understand?" she asked.

"I don't want you to die." Spencer fixed his gaze on her, the expression in his eyes deep and profound.

In response, Thalia smiled. "I won't die. With your skills, I'm sure it's only a matter of time before you develop the antidote."

Spencer's eyes were red. "I don't even believe in myself."

"Spencer, you're great at what you do, so you must believe in yourself. Besides, I strongly believe that you have the ability to keep me alive!"

Spencer said nothing in response.

Thalia smiled and turned around to enter Natasha's room.

"She's downstairs..." Spencer's voice suddenly rang out from behind her.

Thalia halted in her tracks upon hearing that, knowing that Spencer had relented. He's only telling me that because he has accepted what I'm about to do.

With that in mind, Thalia flashed another smile and said, "Okay. I'll go downstairs to look for her." With that, she went downstairs.

After only taking a few steps forward, she stopped and turned back to glance at Spencer. All of a sudden, she walked back toward him and hugged him.

Spencer merely looked at her without saying a word.

"Thank you for loving me so much." Thalia let go of him, smiled, and went downstairs.

At that moment, Natasha, Kenneth, and Dave seemed to be in a discussion downstairs.

Thalia descended the steps without hesitation and called out, "Ms. Watson."

Natasha lifted her head to see Spencer walking down the stairs behind Thalia. Upon seeing the different expressions on their faces, she seemed to have figured something out.

Kenneth heard Thalia's voice and looked up as well. When he saw Spencer, he narrowed his dark eyes instantly, and a sharp glint flashed across them.

Meanwhile, Thalia walked up to Natasha and said, "I need to talk to you."

Tilting her head, Natasha said, "Have a seat."

Initially, Thalia was in a rush to speak her mind and get everything off her chest. For some reason, however, she became calm when she saw how composed Natasha was.

Therefore, she took a deep breath and took a seat opposite Natasha.

There, the two of them sat face to face with a table in between.

"What is it? Speak your mind," Natasha said.

Thalia didn't know how to start, so she thought about it for a while and whipped out the antidote

Spencer gave to her. "I'm returning this to you." With that, Thalia pushed the tiny bottle toward Natasha.

Everyone at the scene was staring at that bottle, and the place promptly fell silent.

Natasha lowered her gaze and swept a glance at it. "What's the meaning of this?"

"Well, this belongs to you," Thalia uttered.

Just then, Kenneth and Dave shifted their gazes toward Spencer.

Chapter 779 Live Well

A faint smile graced Natasha's lips, and she gazed at the woman before her. "It's a simple game. Let's guess whether the next person walking through the main entrance is a male or a female!"

"We have a lot more female housekeepers than male housekeepers, right?" Thalia queried.

Natasha nodded elegantly. "I'll let you take your guess first."

"Female," Thalia answered.

"Okay. I'll just pick the other option."

Natasha and Thalia stared intently at each other.

"I hope you'll stick to your words later," Thalia said.

"Well, of course! I won't go back on my words." Natasha smiled faintly.

Then, the two fell silent as they locked gazes.

This appeared to be a competition, but in fact, they both wanted their opponent to win.

Meanwhile, those three men stood by and watched quietly. This game decides who lives and who dies! Considering the stakes, the game might be too simple but is the only fair way to decide their fates. We should just let them settle this themselves and watch from the side.

As time continued to tick by, no one came through the door.

Dave, who was usually calm and composed, couldn't help feeling somewhat nervous.

Since it was late, most of the housekeepers were outside, and only a few were inside. Hence, the situation became tense, and it felt as though time ticked by slower than usual.

Dead silence filled the hall, and it was so quiet they could even hear the clock ticking.

Natasha and Thalia grew tired of staring at each other, so the former summoned one of the housekeepers, "Please make me a cup of coffee. Thank you."

With that, she shifted her gaze toward Thalia. "Do you want a cup of coffee?"

Thalia was wondering how Natasha managed to stay composed in a situation like that. My odds of winning are greater than Natasha's. If Natasha can manage to stay calm, why can't I?

"Sure." Thalia nodded.

Natasha even turned toward the men and asked, "How about you guys? Coffee?"

"We'll have one cup each," Dave answered.

The housekeeper nodded with a smile. "All right. Please wait for a moment."

Although silence ensued again immediately after the housekeeper left, what Natasha did actually eased the tension in the air.

Oddly, the usually bustling hall was extremely silent at that moment.

Soon, the housekeeper returned with the coffee and served them one cup each.

Natasha took a sip of her coffee and savored the fragrance.

Her relaxed and calm vibe influenced the others, and everyone soon realized it was a game neither of the players wanted to win. Therefore, Thalia also relaxed.

After taking a few sips of her coffee, Natasha raised her gaze toward Thalia and asked, "Anthony told me you're bringing him out. Is that so?"

"Yes." Thalia nodded.

"I don't know what that fellow is up to, but I'm leaving him to you," Natasha said.

"Of course. Don't worry. I'll take good care of him," Thalia replied.

"I'm not worried. In fact, I feel at ease knowing you're with him." Natasha beamed.

Thalia lowered her gaze when she heard that. I don't like the sound of that. Why does it feel like she's saying her last words?

With a frown, Thalia said, "I'll take good care of him when we're outside. When he's home, however, that's your job."

Natasha merely raised her brows in response and did not say anything to refute.

Thalia looked at her and was about to say something when all of a sudden, footsteps sounded from the entrance.

Upon hearing that, everyone turned at once to see a female housekeeper walking toward the entrance from afar while holding something in her hands.

Needless to say, everyone's expression changed the moment they saw the female housekeeper.

Thalia's initially tense expression soon relaxed as she turned to look at Natasha. "You lost."

"It only counts if the housekeeper walks in." Natasha continued sipping her coffee without even looking up, seemingly unfazed.

At that precise moment, the female housekeeper was just about to walk in when someone suddenly called out to her from behind.

Thalia and the rest looked outside and saw the female housekeeper conversing with someone. Although they couldn't hear what was said, they saw the female housekeeper lowering her head and passing the things in her hands to the man who stopped her. After that, the female housekeeper turned to walk away.

The man then checked the things in his hands and walked in.

Obviously, the abrupt turn of events took everyone aback.

The moment the man stepped through the door, Thalia furrowed her brows in disbelief and rose to her feet. Subsequently, she looked in the direction of the entrance and shifted her gaze back toward Natasha. No! This is impossible! How could there be such a coincidence?

In the meantime, Dave seemed as though he had figured something out, and an incomprehensible look flashed across his eyes. I must admit, Natasha is an incredibly smart woman.

While Thalia was looking at Natasha in bafflement, Natasha put her coffee aside and smiled. "Nothing is certain in this world. Looks like I got lucky."

You're Out Daddy

Chapter 780 A Smart Woman

Natasha turned around to look at Thalia, who appeared unwilling to accept the outcome. Raising her

brow, she asked, "What's wrong? Don't tell me you're refusing to admit you've lost?"

Thalia knitted her brows. "No..."

"That's good." Natasha then turned to Spencer and said, "Make sure she takes the antidote." With that, she headed upstairs.

"Natasha!" Thalia called out, but Natasha did not even bother turning around.

Thalia was exasperated. Left with no choice, she grabbed the medicine bottle, wanting to throw it out. Before she could even do that, Spencer stopped her.

He grabbed her hand from the back and took the bottle from her. "There's only one pill. Don't waste it if you're not going to eat it."

In truth, Thalia never wanted to throw it. She just did not know what to do.

I should be the one to win. Why did I end up losing? Also, why did Natasha seem so confident as if she had foreseen everything?

Glancing at Spencer, she asked, "How did this happen?"

Spencer returned her gaze and muttered, "That's how she is. She always acts like the victor no matter the outcome, and strangely enough, in the end, things will always go her way."

"I just can't help but feel something's off..." Thalia uttered.

"All right, just stop thinking about it," Spencer advised.

Thalia lifted her gaze to look at him. "Spencer, I still can't accept the antidote."

With a look that suggested he had already predicted her answer, he said softly, "I know. I knew you'd be like this no matter the outcome."

"Is there any other way?" asked Thalia.

"I can't give you any advice because I don't know, either," answered Spencer.

"But—"

Just then, Spencer stuffed the medicine bottle into her hand again. "Here. No matter what your final decision is, no one will blame you for it."

With that, he got up and left as well.

He understood Thalia's character well. She was not a selfish person. In fact, she would do her best to return someone's kindness tenfold or even a hundredfold, even if it was only a tiny gesture. Not to mention, this was Natasha Thalia was dealing with. In essence, both Natasha and Thalia were similar. They had few friends and lived in their own world. Moreover, they had their own special way of being kind to someone without making it obvious.

Thus, Spencer knew what Thalia's decision was.

Up until that day, he had been trapped in his own emotions, unable to accept the fact that something would happen to Thalia. That was why he proposed such a selfish request to Natasha. Deep down, he knew better than anyone that he was out of line, so he had been hounded by his guilty conscience. However, what Thalia and Natasha did that day made him realize something.

Kenneth cared for Natasha just as much as Spencer cared for Thalia. Even so, he said nothing about the matter.

After all, they had to allow the two women to settle their own affairs.

Even though Spencer had belatedly realized that, he felt less guilty after thinking things through.

The only thing he could do at that moment was to do his best in developing the antidote rather than helping them decide who should take the antidote.

As soon as he went upstairs, he got busy in the laboratory. No matter how difficult the process was going to be, he was determined to overcome every obstacle and create the antidote.

After watching everyone leave, Thalia, who was still downstairs, shifted her gaze to a figure sitting not far away from the living room.

Dave was still sitting there, staring at something. Upon noticing him, Thalia strolled over and sat across from him.

Dave was slightly taken aback to see her when he lifted his gaze. "Do you need anything?"

"No. I'm just a little depressed."

Hence, Dave continued sipping on his coffee while staring at the items on the table as if she did not exist.

After hesitating for some time, Thalia looked at him and asked, "Do you have nothing to say to me?"

"Like what?"

“The fact that we only have one antidote for two people?” Thalia said.

“Don't you two have an answer already?” Dave asked in return.

“But... don't you get the feeling that she had predicted the result?” Thalia asked.

Dave stopped sipping on his coffee. An inexplicable glint flashed past his eyes, and without even lifting his head, he said, “She has always been smart.”

Of course, Thalia could not deny that. Still, she felt that something was strange.

She pondered for a moment and suddenly thought of something. “What does this have to do with being smart?”

Dave said nothing.

Eyeing him suspiciously, Thalia pressed on, “Do you know something?”

Dave looked up with a calm gaze. He knew what Natasha's plan was, but he would never reveal it.

“About what?” asked Dave.