

Benefits 113

Chapter 113: Lunch Date

"My favorite girl is finally here to meet me. Nora, my child, how are you doing?" Grandpa William exclaimed, and Nora quickly hugged him, smiling widely. "Hey! Don't tease me! I know I'm only your second choice. Grandma is the top pick."

William Doughby gave a deep loud laugh and said, "I do not lie, girl. You are my favorite girl in your generation of course."

Nora shook her head as she sat opposite the old man and smiled, "You always have an answer for everything."

"Hey! The gift of the gab is what keeps me in business kid. Now what are you going to eat?"

"This place is famous for its spaghetti, so I'll try that." Nora answered quickly.

Grandpa William nodded approvingly and quickly placed the order before looking keenly at Nora...

Nora fidgeted under his gaze before quickly muttering, "Grandpa, don't give me that interrogating look, alright. I know why you've summoned me here."

"Well, you should know! I thought we agreed that you would come to me with any problems. And yet, here we are, with me having no knowledge of what you've been through."

"Grandpa, I did not mean to hide anything from you. But everything happened so suddenly. First there was the stalker, then mother's attack and then the stalker again. After that, I was prepping to be presented as Demetri's wife. And then I'd barely gotten over these other things when the dog attack happened. It almost feels like the Lord of Death has been taking a keen interest in me. I almost lost my life not once or twice but thrice in three months."

"And not once did you come to me." Grandpa William spoke softly, his eyes shining with disappointment.

"Grandpa, I knew you would be worried. Even now I can see that reflected in your eyes. But, Grandpa, you can stop worrying a bit. It's been a challenging time, but I'm okay. It's a lot to take in, but I'm navigating through it. I was not alone in this. Demetri has been a great support in everything."

The old man's eyes sharpened as he heard Nora's words and a look of discomfort passed over his face which was missed by Nora as the waiter placed the steaming bowls of spaghetti in front of them.

"Demetri helped you?"

The vibrant red sauce clung to the pasta and Nora quickly dug into her bowl, savoring the comforting taste, almost missing the question. However, William Doughby was not someone who did not know how to make people talk without them realizing.

Through the lunch, he carefully fished out the details about how Demon had helped Nora handle the police, and the stalker and even carried on the subsequent investigations.

"He has also been investigating the dog attack. Previously, I never realized that Demetri would use his own means to investigate. It seemed like too much trouble. However, this time when he started investigating the attack, I decided to beg him to involve me as well so that I could learn these things. But whoever the perpetrator is, they are very sharp."

"They had the dog tested and he was not drugged. Demetri had someone test my clothes also in case there was something on them that agitated the dog but they were also normal with no other suspicious traces. The dog has been kept under observation before he is put down. But the dog seems calm always. So, his people are all testing about various things that might have caused the dog to attack me. But I am not too worried. I am sure he will find the person who wants me dead."

Grandpa William smiled and passed her the dessert menu to choose from as he said, "You really do admire Demon Frost, hmm?"

Nora looked up in surprise at the observation and shrugged her shoulders, "What's not to admire? He is a good man- kind, strong and protective. And he is good in..."

"And what?" Grandpa asked with a raised brow.

She answered with a mischievous grin, "And he is good in Math! He is a genius in fact. My scores have been soaring since he started teaching me!"

To say the old man was surprised with every word that came out of Nora's mouth was an understatement. She knew of his protection, but she had no idea the retribution that Lara had received. There was a reason Demetri was called Demon. He was not kind nor was he a good man. Good men were bound by morals. They had limitations while Demon Frost had none. The only reason he had chosen Demetri was because he had believed that the man would not be much concerned about her.

However, his difference in behaviour made him worry. He couldn't help but warn, "Nora, it doesn't take much for admiration to turn into something more. Be careful. You cannot fall in love with him."

Nora paused in the middle of biting into the pastry and looked up at the old man in astonishment. For a second, there was silence before Nora placed down her spoon and smiled softly, "One cannot immediately unlove what they loved or it was never love to begin with. I may not think of Antonio anymore and may have put him in the past, but I've learned a valuable lesson because of him. The only person I love at this moment is myself. So, I have no intention in falling in love with him."

Grandpa William nodded slowly. He could see that she believed what she told him but from where he sat, things were very different. And he understood that at this point if he tried to tell her to be wary, she might inadvertently move closer to Demetri. So, it was better to change the topic, "Nora, what do you think of going to country A, at Isabella's university? Now that you have secured your inheritance, you can move there and be with your best friend, while also being free of danger. Why don't you consider doing your next year there?"