## Chapter 796 Daughter

Alec gazed at Celia with an adoring look in his eyes. "You know that I have a daughter, right? She has hated me ever since her mother's death. Because of it, I can't bring myself to tell her the truth, that I'm her father. All I can do is just support her in my own way, behind the scenes."

Celia nodded. "I know. However, what does your daughter have to do with me?"

Alec said nothing, but started walking towards her slowly.

Celia felt something akin to familiarity rise inside of her. For some reason, she had the desire to get close to him. But at the same time, she also wanted to push him away.

"The truth is that you're my daughter," Alec said.

Celia was astonished for a moment before a bitter smile curved her lips. "Mr. Wagner, please don't kid around about things like this. It's not funny, okay?"

But deep inside, she knew that it was very likely to be true. However, she refused to believe it.

Alec brought out the paternity test result and gave it to her. "I'm not kidding at all. You are indeed my biological daughter. To be honest, I had a guess when you took out that ring, so I had a paternity test taken in secret. This result confirms that you are both mine and Jenifer's child."

Celia stared at him, her mind going blank in an instant. She then shook her head vehemently, as though unable to comprehend this revelation. "Then why didn't you say so before? I tried to hear you out, but you said that your daughter was someone else. And now, you're telling me that I'm your real daughter. What is it that you really want?"

From the look on her face, Alec could tell that she was unable to believe it. Quickly, he said, "I did want to tell you the truth back then, but when I heard that you despised your father so much, I became afraid. I feared that if I told you the truth, you would hate me even more and reject me from your life. So, I wanted to make a good impression on you first before telling you."

Celia averted her gaze. "Then... why did you decide to tell me now? Is it because you think that you succeeded in making a good impression on me, or is it because you no longer care about what I think?"

"No, of course not," Alec said quickly. "I'm just afraid that the murderer of your mother might come after you, so I want to protect you, as your father."

"Protect me?" Celia shook her head, still finding herself unable to accept all of this. She pointed towards the door. "I don't need you to protect me. Please leave. I want to be alone right now so I can calm down!"

Alec knew that he had given Celia a big revelation, one that was difficult to swallow. Things like this shouldn't be rushed. He didn't want to force or pressure Celia in any way, so he turned around and prepared to leave. However, he paused for a moment to say one last thing. "Please believe me when I say that I wasn't intentionally being irresponsible at that time. A lot of things happened back then. I had been searching relentlessly for your mother since she went missing, and I never gave up until I heard from you about her death."

Celia couldn't deny that she felt a little moved, but she chose to remain silent.

Even after Alec left, Celia still felt conflicted and uncertain about what just happened.

Her mind was in chaos. She did suspect back then that Alec might be her father, but she dismissed the idea after he denied it over and over. But now, she got to know that she was indeed his daughter.

She surmised that Alec finally told her the truth mostly so he could protect her himself. She could understand his thoughts, and she also knew that he had good intentions in his heart. However, she just didn't know how to face him properly after all this.

Her first thought at this moment was to see Tyson immediately.

She went to the CEO's office and knocked on the door before entering the room. Tyson was currently busy handling some documents at his desk. When he lifted his head and saw the downcast expression on her face, he immediately stood up and walked towards her. He then pulled her into a comforting embrace, his voice filled with concern as he spoke. "Why do you look so troubled? Did something happen?"

Celia was quiet for a moment as she tried to form the proper words in her head. "Alec met with me just now."

## Chapter 797 Jenifer's Past

Tyson's expression changed drastically when Celia mentioned Alec's name. He remarked, "I was going to tell you something about him after I finished my work, but I didn't expect him to come to you first. Briar uncovered some information concerning you and Alec. You are..."

Celia cut him off. "Father and daughter, right? I know."

"Did Alec confess to you just now?" Tyson asked, shocked.

Celia nodded. "My mind is a mess. I don't know how to handle this situation. I know he did it for my own benefit, but I still can't get over the fact that he lied to me for so long and that my mother died because of him. I just can't let it go. Tyson, what should I do?"

Tyson consoled her and offered her a document. "No one can decide this for you. I can only provide you with your mother and Alec's past. Maybe you'll figure it out after reading this."

Celia read through the document and confirmed what she had suspected all along. Jenifer was from the Carter family in Captern, and her nickname was Jasmine.

For decades, the Carter and Wagner families maintained a grudge, and Jenifer was engaged to another man. It was impossible for her and Alec to be in a relationship, but a one-night stand turned into an ill-fated relationship by chance.

Jenifer became pregnant with Alec's child after the two fell in love. Her father tried to force her to have an abortion, but she refused and threatened to kill herself. She was then locked up in an attic after arguing with her family.

Not long after, the attic caught fire by accident. Outsiders assumed that Jenifer died in the fire, but only they knew that Jenifer's body was not discovered in the attic.

Finally, Jenifer's father decided to keep this matter hidden from others, and no one was allowed to talk about it again. Jenifer disappeared from everyone's memories in this manner, year after year.

Celia was so shaken up by what she discovered that it took her a while to calm down.

Tyson then embraced her tightly. "Do you want to be a part of the Carter family or the Wagner family? I'm behind you a hundred percent no matter what you decide."

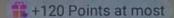
All of this confusion messed with Celia's head. She was at a loss for action. She shook her head and said, "I don't know. I can't make a decision now. After reading this, I feel like I've been living a lie for the past two decades. Could you please give me some advice? What should I do?"

Tyson kissed her on the forehead and added, "Don't worry. Consider your options first. If you want to find out who murdered your mother, then you should tell the truth to the people from the Carter family."

Celia responded, "Of course, I want to know who murdered my mother as soon as possible. But why do you think that telling the Carter family the truth is the right thing to do? I don't get it."

Tyson explained, "I guess the fire in the attic was not an accident. Since the first attempt to murder your mother was unsuccessful, someone was sent to do it again. Only a member of the Carter family could have such motives."

Celia agreed.



As Tyson said, Jenifer's very existence posed the greatest threat to someone from the Carter family, so whoever tried to eliminate her was most likely from within the family.

"So you think I should go back to the Carter family?" Celia asked Tyson hesitantly.

Tyson replied, "It's up to you. I can't decide for you. I'm just telling you that this is a more convenient alternative. But whether you return to the Carter family or not, I will continue to help you investigate who murdered your mother."