

The Princess and the Pauper (Arabella)

Chapter 1121

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Chapter 1121

“Alright, you may go.”

Sampson's expression remained nonchalant, but Serena was seething with jealousy.

She would never forget the day Arabella first returned to the family, how her parents showered her with pocket money and all

those beautiful clothes, shoes, handbags.

Even the fashion company was handed over to their own daughter.

Serena, spoiled by her parents for eighteen years, had never received such treatment!

Now, her uncle was lavishing Arabella with expensive gifts.

“Let us have a minute.” Sampson leaned back, his aura still overpowering, “I'll dinner with Serena.”

David wanted to say something, but under his uncle's gaze, he decided to leave first.

Seeing everyone leave, Serena gave a bitter smile, stirring her soup with a spoon, "Uncle Sampson, you want to criticize me too, right?"

"Why would I criticize you?"

Serena's eyes widened slightly. Was someone finally different from others?

"You were pampered for eighteen years. Then one day, a girl comes along, and she is the real heiress of this family. You're told you have no blood ties to this family, and you're someone else's child. Everyone tries to make up for her, treating her well with more affection they once had for you. You can't say that doesn't hurt."

It seemed like Sampson could read her mind, causing Serena's eyes to well up with tears.

"But think about it from her perspective, because of a mistake, she suffered at the Murphy family for eighteen years. Now that she's returned to her biological family, isn't it normal for everyone to treat her well and make it up to her?"

Serena looked up. It did make sense, but it hurt so much. She felt so much jealousy and sadness.

"Who poses the biggest threat to her position when she returned? Isn't it you, who was doted upon by the family for eighteen

years?" Sampson hit the nail on the head, "But she didn't kick you out immediately, instead, she allowed you to continue enjoying the luxury that was originally hers."

Serena was taken aback, suddenly understanding the situation.

"She didn't resent, get angry or jealous that you stole her family and enjoyed the life that she should have had for the past

eighteen years. She didn't hold these against you.

Doesn't it show that she's willing to accept you?"

Serena's tears welled up in her eyes, a bit stunned.

"From your conversation just now, it's obvious that there are some small frictions between you two. Like just now, even though

you were a bit too assertive, she didn't threaten to kick you out of the house, but calmly explained to you not to overthink. In my

understanding of her, she's already making the biggest compromise.

Where's yours? I didn't see it: Serena didn't say anything, her tears streaming down her face.

"You need to understand that she was the one who was wrongly adopted. The family feels guilty towards her.

She could easily use this guilt to kick you out of the house. If she were to say something, how likely do you think it would be for

you to stay in this house?"

She had been warned about this before.

She knew her chances were slim, almost nonexistent.

"Serena, you've been in the center of the family for too long. You've forgotten that this position was originally hers."

Sampson said in a meaningful tone, "While she was suffering at the Murphy family, being treated terribly by her adoptive parents

because they took her as a curse, you were enjoying the affection given by her parents, her brothers, her family. If you were in

her shoes, could you be as generous as her, allowing her to stay in the family and continue to share your family and wealth?"

Serena bit her lip. She knew she couldn't.

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Chapter 1122

"Bella is a smart girl. She knew the trouble she was signing up for by letting you stay in this house, she anticipated the mess, yet she did it anyway. She took a step back for you, right to the edge of a cliff. You can't just push her off. Serena's eyes widened in shock, tears streaming down her cheeks.

"Dr. Mark is in charge of grandma's condition. You should know that." Sampson explained on Bella's behalf, "He calls Bella 'Professor', and when he has tricky cases, he consults her. Out of respect for him, she came to see the patient. I didn't even know that the girl in front of me was my own niece." Serena hadn't expected that it wasn't her parents secretly bringing Bella to meet her grandma and uncle, but Dr. Mark had invited Bella. Because Bella was Dr. Bell! She had a solution for all the tricky cases!

"Only when your parents arrived and saw Bella with me did I realize how grown my niece was." Sampson smiled warmly, "Before that, she even saved me."

Serena was surprised. She hadn't expected things to work out so coincidentally.

Her uncle was a man of integrity. He wouldn't lie. So, her parents hadn't deceived her. It was her overthinking?

Yes, this was not excessive.

But why did all of this seem so infuriating earlier.

"From childhood to adulthood, everyone has spent eighteen Christmases and Christmas Eves with you, but Bella only has this one, and yet you came to cause trouble."

Sampson laughed, but Serena couldn't argue.

Indeed, it was her arrival that upset everyone.

"I heard from Clark that they had already given you gifts before sending Bella hers."

Last time, Clark promised to go shopping with Serena, but he bailed on her last minute because of Carol.

Afterwards, Martha said Serena had bought Christmas gifts for each family member in advance.

Without a second thought, Clark transferred \$3 million into Serena's account, telling her to buy more for herself and not to be thrifty.

Although Serena said she didn't need more Christmas gifts since she already received so many over the years and asked Clark to buy for Bella.

But Clark told her, both she and Bella are his sisters, and he wouldn't leave out either of them.

So before coming to Lidaria, he had already arranged for the gifts to be delivered to Serena.

But Serena was taken aback, all five brothers sent her gifts? Why didn't she receive any???

"Don't be fooled by the price tag on Bella's gifts this time." Sampson smiled at her, "The gifts you've received over the past

eighteen years aren't light either"

Serena felt embarrassed.

"Do you like the gift from me?"

Upon hearing this, Serena was shocked again. Her uncle had sent her a gift too??

Why didn't she see it??

"Haven't you unwrapped it?" Sampson chuckled again, looking gentlemanly and graceful, "Go home and take a look. Let me know if you don't like it"

Serena really hadn't received any gifts. Were they collected by the servants and put in her room?

Why didn't they tell her?

She thought she had been forgotten by everyone.

“Also.” Sampson suddenly remembered something and added, “Your parents have prepared a surprise for you too. If you hadn't shown up here, you would probably be watching fireworks at Reflections Villa by now.”

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Chapter 1123

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Chapter 1123

Serena's eyes widened in surprise. She also had fireworks to watch? Fireworks that belonged only to her?

Suddenly, her feelings were all over the place, not knowing whether to feel happy or guilty.

May gave the French window a slight knock, flashing a mischievous smile, "Sir, Ms. Collins is..."

Her words trailed off as she noticed Serena seated across from Sampson. She was taken aback. When did Serena arrive? Why

was she here? Was she here to stir trouble??

"What about Bella?" Sampson lifted his gaze in Bella's direction, his tone as casual as ever.

The man was truly remarkable, maintaining his calm in such a situation.

"Ms. Collins is distributing presents in the living room." May said, worry for Bella subtly reflected in her voice.

She feared Serena might give Bella a hard time.

"Let's go." Sampson stood up, his hand resting on the back of Serena's chair. He spoke in a gentle tone, "I've arranged some

shows. It would be a shame to miss them"

Serena nodded, rising to match his pace.

"Don't mind if Bella hasn't prepared a gift for you.

Considering your tone towards her earlier wasn't exactly friendly." Sampson

reminded as he led the way.

Serena felt a bit embarrassed and nodded again,

"Uncle Sampson, I won't be as childish as just now."

Although she had previously picked out a Christmas gift for Arabella in a pretentious manner and had it sent to Arabella's room.

But it was just a cheap bracelet.

Under normal circumstances, she wouldn't even wear it.

Even if Arabella didn't present in return, she wouldn't feel anything.

"Dad, mom, this is for you." Arabella, as the artist Mirabelle, had drawn two paintings in a row and, under the guise of calligraphy master Labella, penned a calligraphy piece for Hans to hang in his office or study room.

"Chasel, this is yours." Arabella handed Chasel a small note.

Sympathetic glances were thrown in Chasel's direction, for the note was pitifully small!

Chasel hadn't expected that he wouldn't even receive a painting, just this small note.

But it was a gift from his sister after all, so he was still moved. He ruffled Arabella's hair gently and said, "Thank you, silly girl"

He then unfolded the note and was astonished to find several leads he'd been recently looking into.

How could Bella have information on such confidential matters and even provide him with clues.

At that moment, Arabella laughed, her smile bright and clear, "You've got a painting too."

She had deliberately hidden it earlier, just to see Chasel's disappointed expression. She hadn't expected Chasel to be so indulgent with her.

Even when she gave him just a small note, Chasel didn't blame her.

She tiptoed and whispered into Chasel's ear, "I've found out that Myrna's dad likes Mirabelle's paintings."

Hearing this, Chasel was deeply moved.

"What are you two whispering about? I want to hear too." David came closer, and Arabella handed him two rolled-up sheets of A4 paper.

The surrounding maids chuckled, beginning to feel sorry for David.

David's heart dropped a beat, a chill creeping up his spine. Even Hans and Chasel had gotten paintings, and he was stuck with two sheets of A4 paper??

But when he unrolled them, he found two freshly written songs.

They were custom-made for him by Bella!!

He couldn't help humming them. The melody was catchy, and he was sure it would be a hit!

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"You're simply a treasure, sis." David was over the moon, unable to resist ruffling Arabella's hair.

"What about mine?" Clark was eager, wondering what gift his sister had in store for him. A painting, perhaps? Or something else?

"Check your WhatsApp."

WhatsApp?

Clark was puzzled, but upon checking it, he found a clue.

Bella had already traced Carol's birth family to Summerfield. In no time, they believed they would have a lead.

"There's also this." Arabella handed over a small vial, "You're a forensic pathologist. Sometimes during autopsies, you might inhale toxic gases or accidentally get poisoned. You can use what's in here. There are detailed instructions on the label."

There had been incidents where people committed suicide in sealed spaces using toxic liquids, evaporating the harmful substances into the air. A forensic pathologist had once inhaled such toxic fumes during an autopsy and by the time he was taken to the hospital, it was too late to save him.

"I'll always carry this with me." Clark hadn't expected his sister to be so considerate, and he was deeply moved.

"I'm not sure what Sean likes, so I just sketched a picture. I'll ask Hans to pass it on." Arabella handed another artwork to Hans.

"Bella" Sampson sauntered over, a warm smile on his face.

"Let's see what my darling niece has got me. Is this a painting by Mirabelle?"

Upon seeing the powerful artwork and the stroke details, Sampson knew it was the work of Mirabelle. He was both surprised and concerned about his niece's expenditure.

"Silly girl, you've spent too much."

Sampson was well aware of the hefty price tag of Mirabelle's artwork. It wasn't something money could simply buy.

May, who was standing nearby, playfully reminded, "Sir, if you look closer, does the paper seem familiar?"

On further inspection, Sampson realized it was indeed the spare paper from his study. Only May had the liberty to enter his study anytime.

So, the paper must have been taken by May. But how did this grand artwork end up on it?

"Bella painted it!" May couldn't help but blurt out, laughing.

What? Sampson was stunned.

Kenneth, while admiring the artwork his daughter had gifted him, casually remarked, "Oh, Bella is Mirabelle. She paints really

fast. She can finish three or four pieces in an hour"

Sampson was taken aback. He looked at his brother-in-law and sister, then at his nephews. It seemed like they all knew about Bella's identity.

So, the renowned Mirabelle was right in front of him all along?

Mirabelle was considered a master in the art world, with unmatched skills known far and wide.

The person hailed as the 'Scribe of Astronisia', the 'Master of Painting', was his very own niece!

"Bella, you truly are extraordinary." Sampson praised her genuinely.

Clark chimed in, "Uncle Sampson, you better keep this safe. Bella's artwork is worth a fortune. Many people would kill to get their hands on it."

"If you think the paper is too ordinary, you can give it to me or sell it to me at a high price."

David looked on eagerly as Sampson carefully put away the painting, "Dream on."

Despite its quick creation, Arabella's fluid strokes and bold style achieved a perfect blend of form and spirit, creating a lively and dynamic effect.

True to the reputation of Master Mirabelle, she managed to capture the most challenging aspects of form and spirit in such a short time.

Arabella then walked over to Serena, handing her a gift.

"Do I have one too?" Serena was surprised.

Upon opening it, she saw the words penned by Arabella: "Contentment brings happiness: Knowing that Arabella was indeed Labella, she knew that these words were nothing less than a rare treasure.

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Chapter 1125

Recalling the meaning of those words, and thinking about the inexpensive bracelet she had given to Arabella, along with some advice from her uncle.

A shade of embarrassment crossed Serena's face.
"Thank you, Arabella."

There was a hint of guilt in her heart.

Everyone was surprised that Arabella had a gift for Serena as well, their gazes towards her softened.

The atmosphere seemed to instantly become more harmonious.

Sampson noticed that the handwriting seemed familiar, as if it was from Labella.

"Forgot to mention, Bella is Labella."

Sampson looked at his sister incredulously, "What did you say?"

It took Sampson a while to digest this fact.

He hadn't expected his niece to be so talented and have so many identities.

Next, everyone sat on the couch, Sampson clapped his hands, and the entertainment started rolling in.

Ballet dancers gracefully performed their routines.

A magician appeared in the middle of the living room, showing off his fantastic tricks.

There were clowns, skit performers and so on.

At that point, Arabella checked the time, it was almost nine. She remembered her promise to

Romeo to spend a little time with him.

[Where are you?] Arabella sent Romeo a message on WhatsApp.

Romeo, whose hands were freezing cold, replied as quickly as possible, [Done with your work? I'm nearby, whenever you're free, I'll come pick you up.]

[Now.] Arabella sent the message then quietly informed her uncle, [I'll be out for a bit.]

Sampson thought she meant going out to get some fresh air in the garden, he nodded and asked, "Do you need your uncle to accompany you?"

"No need."

Romeo got into his car and had it driven to the opposite side of the mansion.

The heater inside the car was very warm, the driver couldn't help feeling happy for Romeo.

He thought, "Mr. McMillian was finally remembered! We no longer had to stand outside in the cold! We could finally leave this dreadful place!"

After a while, Romeo got out of the car and walked towards the mansion.

A beautiful girl exited the mansion, her features were exquisite, her clear eyes were like stars in the sky.

So, she was the one Mr. McMillian had been waiting for.

Such a beautiful girl, she looked several years younger than Mr. McMillian. The driver wondered if she was even eighteen yet.

So, Mr. McMillian wasn't staring at the mansion earlier, but at the girl he was in love with! Finally, Romeo saw the girl he had been longing for. He pulled her into his embrace and whispered in her ear, "Merry Christmas Eve, Merry Christmas-"

White snowflakes fell from the sky, like a light mist. "Your present.' Arabella had drawn an extra picture just before.

Since she was at her uncle's house, she couldn't do much else but draw something quickly on paper.

"Do I get another gift?" Romeo's eyes lit up with joy. He opened it to see a snow-filled sky with a couple tightly embracing each other.

The couple's figures and outfits were clearly them. Romeo was beyond happy, he touched the girl's face, excitedly saying, "I love this gift so much. Did you spend a long time preparing it?"

Arabella didn't dare to admit that it took less than 20 minutes.

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"It must have taken you a while,' Romeo noted, emotion welling up in him as he realized Arabella's silence.

"Have you been carrying it with you all this time?" Arabella didn't dare to admit that she had just drawn it on the spot.

"How can you be so endearing?" Romeo was deeply moved, "I have a gift for you too."

From behind, he hugged her and handed her a small remote control. "Press it."

Arabella pressed the button, and thousands of drones flew towards them in an orderly manner, like a shower of stars in the night sky.

In the night, they formed a spectacular message:
Bella, I love you.

"Mr. Sampson! Mr. Sampson!"

In the garden, May saw this scene and rushed into the house.

Sampson, seeing her panic, immediately stopped his performance and asked calmly, "What's wrong?"

"It's Ms. Bella." May was panting heavily.

All the family members stood up anxiously and asked, "What happened to her?"

"Someone confessed to her, taking up the whole night sky!"

Everyone rushed out of the house, only to see the night sky filled with drones, forming the words: Bella, I love you.

David was the first to react to the grand confession, "It must be Romeo. Only he could pull off something like this."

"You mean Romeo is here? Where is he?" Kenneth looked towards the direction of the mansion, but didn't see anyone.

"This kid thinks he can win our Bella over with a little romance? Clark watched the drones in the sky, suddenly feeling that the surprise he had prepared for Carol wasn't surprising at all.

At least not as romantic as this.

"It's so tech-savvy and creative!" May looked at the night sky and couldn't help but exclaim, "So, does Ms. Bella have a boyfriend now? He seems to love her a lot."

The drones split apart, forming a shape of a couple embracing, followed by a line of text: I want to spend every day, every hour, every minute with you.

Then, the drones shifted positions again.

Many of the servants called out in surprise.

"Are you kidding me? If every day, every hour, every minute is given to him, what about us?"

"This kid must be nearby."

"Where's Bella?"

"She said she was going out for a bit, could it be Romeo's here?"

Was she with Romeo?

Everyone realized what was going on.

The drones in the night sky formed various romantic patterns, then turned into a large bouquet of flowers, delivered into a girl's hand.

"Is this your Christmas gift to me?" Arabella turned her face just in time to catch a kiss. She smiled, her eyes softening, "I love it, thank you~"

"There's more."

Romeo took out a ring box from his pocket, inside was a beautiful heart-shaped diamond ring.

“This ring is different from the others.”

Romeo took it out and placed it on her slender finger.

It was a rare blue diamond.

The largest purity natural colored blue diamond in the world, weighing 39 carats.

Long ago, it was purchased by the royal family for 80 million dollars, but now it was in Romeo's possession, having paid an even higher price, and shaped into a heart.

“I want to take you somewhere.” Romeo took her hand and they got into the car.

Along the way, all the skyscrapers belonging to the McMllian Corporation began to put on one light show after another.

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