

How Death Became My Rebirth by Evelyn Florence (Cassandra) Chapter 1

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Chapter 1 The Demise Of The Real Daughter

“Cassandra, how could you treat me like this? How could you hurt me?” Yulissa Yates’ voice quivered as she wept.

For two long years, Cassandra Yates endured the hypocritical voice of her supposed younger sister.

Cassandra felt that her life after she turned 18 was practically a cruel joke.

‘Hurt you?’ Cassandra parroted mentally.

Truth be told, she truly wished she had hurt Yulissa, as only then could she quell the anguish she had endured these two years.

Their eldest brother, Leonardo Yates, delivered a scornful kick that sent Cassandra sprawling to the ground. “I don’t have a malicious sister like you. Yulissa is my only sister. You’re! Not! Worthy!”

Frederick Yates, their second older brother, seized Cassandra’s throat. “Who gave you the audacity to bully Lisa? Looks like you’re really sick of living!”

Jasper Yates, the third older brother, injected a potent drug that intensified the magnitude of pain a human could tolerate tenfold into Cassandra’s vein. “Since you dare to harm my sister, you shall pay back tenfold!”

Yohannes Yates, the fourth older brother, refrained from laying a finger on Cassandra. Instead, he regarded her with an indifferent gaze as if he were observing a piece of loathsome trash. “If anything happens to Lisa, I’ll make sure you pay with your life!”

Matthew Yates, the fifth older brother, unleashed a flurry of punches and kicks upon Cassandra, who was lying on the ground. "You've truly got a death wish. How dare you bully the little princess of our family? If you wanna die, just say so! I'll grant your wish!"

The sixth older brother, Raymond Yates, wielded an army knife and severed the tendons of Cassandra's hand, then threw out a barrage of punches at her abdomen. "Yulissa is the only beloved daughter of the Yates family. You're just a worthless trash trying to take her place!"

Cassandra stoically allowed her blood to drip from the corner of her mouth while the severed tendons in her hand gushed out blood endlessly.

Irony hung thick in the air.

Cassandra, the biological daughter of the Yates family, was clearly the true victim in this situation. Yet, the roles had inexplicably reversed as they perceived her as the worthless perpetrator.

When she was first brought home, they had promised to ensure equal treatment between the two sisters and assured her they could all live in peace under one roof.

However, the truth was—Yulissa remained the apple of the family's eye, whereas Cassandra had to bear the anguish and torments in silence.

There could never be equal treatment when all of the family members played favorites with Yulissa.

Not once did Cassandra's blood-related brothers stand on her side.

Whenever Yulissa shed a tear, the blame would be laid squarely on Cassandra by her biological parents, Benjamin and Miranda Yates. They insisted that Cassandra was intolerant toward Yulissa and reiterated that Cassandra's path to survival could only be secured if Yulissa lived a better life.

Cassandra's six brothers, all indifferent to Cassandra, treated Yulissa like a precious treasure, while Cassandra, their actual biological sister, was treated like dirt.

'Cassandra, oh Cassandra! So, this is the kind of family affection you've yearned for over 18 years? Is it worth it? You left everything behind just to be regarded as trash by this bunch of bloodsuckers. Is it worth it to lose yourself over them?' Cassandra ruminated.

Tolerating the pain, Cassandra slowly got up on her feet.

"Aaah! Cassandra, please, don't hurt me! I'm sorry!" Yulissa screamed in terror as if Cassandra standing up would threaten her life.

Though Cassandra, hunched and battered, did not even lift her arm, Yulissa plunged a knife into the former's chest.

Cassandra stared at the knife in her chest in disbelief, then lifted her head to take a gander at Yulissa.

"Cassandra, aaah, I'm sorry! I'm sorry! I didn't mean to do that," Yulissa exclaimed in a frightened manner. She even hurriedly pulled the knife out and tossed it on the ground in a panic.

No longer having the strength to stand, Cassandra collapsed.

Yet, her six biological brothers merely glanced at her with contempt.

With disdainful tones, they cursed, saying she'd best die elsewhere, for she'd bring them bad luck otherwise.

Eventually, as they had hoped, Cassandra succumbed to the injuries caused by this treacherous family.

Leonardo simply uttered coldly, "She's better off dead. Have someone toss her into the mountains to feed the wolves. Let's see if she dares to hurt Lisa again."

With that, Cassandra's body was dragged into the deep mountains by a subordinate.

"Ms. Yates, I don't wish to do this, but I'm merely an employee. When you reach the underworld, cast aside every memory of this life and go get yourself reborn. You've truly

suffered too much. I pray that in your next life, you'll be born into a family that genuinely loves you."

Rather than throwing her into the wolf's den, the subordinate dug a hole in a secluded place.

"Ms. Yates, the circumstances are tough, so I dare not prepare a coffin for you. I can only bury you plainly. If luck is on your side, someone might come to claim your body."

The subordinate returned to the Yates residence after burying Cassandra, only to discover that the entire property had been smashed to smithereens.

Benjamin, Miranda, and their six sons, along with the adopted daughter Yulissa, were bound together, covered in bruises from head to toe.

Sobbingly, Yulissa feigned vulnerability, whining to her brothers, "Why is he doing this to me? It hurts!"

"Don't worry, Lisa. We'll protect you," Leonardo comforted her firmly, and the other five brothers echoed the sentiment.

Kenneth Zelinski observed the scene with a stony, predatory gaze as scathing bloodthirstiness emanated from him. "You guys killed your own sister for this impostor?"

Cassandra could not comprehend why she was witnessing this scene.

'Have I become a ghost?' she wondered.

Kenneth, a formidable figure renowned in the capital, Drieso, was supposed to be the sole rightful heir of the Zelinski family. Yet, he found himself thrust into the underground fighting arena in the country of Atharia by his own father, left to fend for himself.

Years later, upon his return to Drieso, he swiftly sidelined his father within a month and sought ruthless revenge on those who had hurt him.

Though notorious for being cunning and savage, Kenneth was undeniably the wealthiest man in Drieso and, quite possibly, the entire country and globe.

'What is he doing here? Is he seeking revenge for me?' Cassandra pondered.

"We only have one sister, and that's Lisa. We don't need a petty, malicious sister like Cassandra!" declared Raymond with conviction.

In the Yates family's view, there was nothing wrong with them loving their little sister.

They believed Cassandra to be malicious and intolerant of Yulissa and unfit to be part of their family.

"Ha! All of you are so blind that you can't even distinguish a pearl from a stone," Kenneth sneered, his smirk tinged with ridicule and viciousness. "Since you guys killed Cassie, you shall die alongside her!"

Bang!

Eight gunshots rang out, concluding the fate of the Yates family. Yulissa was the only one who was still alive.

Terrified, she pleaded, "Please don't kill me! It was them who killed Cassandra. I had nothing to do with it!"

'This man actually fired for real! He blew everyone's brains out!

'I don't wanna die! I don't want to!' she thought in a panic. As such, she could only shift the blame onto her already deceased brothers.

"What did Cassie go through before she died?" Kenneth strode toward Yulissa, gazing down at her from above.

"I-I don't know..." Yulissa stammered flusteredly, trying to evade the question.

She knew she couldn't speak the truth, for it would only lead to a more brutal death.

"Then tell me, where did you people dump Cassie's body?"

The notion of Cassandra not receiving a proper burial and being left to be consumed by wild animals fueled Kenneth's hatred. In his despair, he wished he could destroy the entire world, seeking some semblance of compensation for her tragic death.

"I-In the mountains..."

'At this point, Cassandra's body should have already been devoured by wolves and wild dogs.

'Hahahaha! She doesn't even have a proper burial in death. Cassandra, you can never surpass me in this lifetime!' Yulissa thought smugly.

Kenneth's pupils contracted in shock. He thought, 'Son of a gun, I've let the Yates family off too easily! They shouldn't have died such a simple death!'

"I... I know where her body is," interjected the subordinate who buried Cassandra.

"You know?" Kenneth stared at that man with a threatening gaze.

Yannick Zelinski, Kenneth's subordinate, dragged that man to Kenneth.

"It was... Mr. Leonardo Yates who asked me to throw Ms. Cassandra Yates' body into the mountains. I didn't have the heart to do that, so I dug a hole and buried her."

That subordinate was being honest.

Kenneth ordered his men to inflict on Yulissa ten times the pain that Cassandra had suffered before her death.

He then followed that subordinate to dig up Cassandra's body and take it away.

Cassandra observed all of this as she floated in the air, feeling rather bewildered.

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When Cassandra regained consciousness again, she found herself in a cramped storeroom.

This was the room Yulissa had prepared for her when Cassandra returned to the Yates family, claiming it was the only vacant space for the time being.

However, this storeroom was even smaller than Yulissa's wardrobe.

Yulissa, then laden with remorse, expressed, "I know you are a biological child of this family.

I've never truly belonged to the Yates family. However, I have lived here for 18 years, and putting away all the things I own here is no easy task. So, for now, I'll need you to bear with this humble room until I find a better place."

Upon hearing Yulissa's words, Yulissa's brothers objected, sarcastically accusing Casandra of being melodramatic for wanting a bigger space. They claimed that the latter was merely seeking attention and attempting to replace their beloved sister in the family dynamic.

Despite feeling unfairly judged at that moment, Casandra attempted to appease her siblings, saying, "Please don't be upset. I'll make do with this space."

Casandra grappled with an unsettling feeling amid the stark reality of her surroundings. She recalled her death by Yulissa's blade. The question of why she awoke in this confined space haunted her.

If not for the vivid pain preceding her death, she might have dismissed it all as a dream.

Casandra wondered if fate had taken pity on her helpless and lonely past life by offering her a second chance through a rebirth.

If that were the case, she would have to diverge from the course of fate set for her in her past life!

'Casandra, remember how you were a person of pride before returning to the Yates family?

Yet, in the two months since your return, you were disregarded and considered a disgrace in the family. Don't you feel sorry for yourself? The Yates family isn't worth sacrificing everything for. In these two months, you've been treated like an animal. They boss you around and enjoy the benefits of your hard work while giving you only harsh words in return. What's worst, they manipulated you into believing that Yulissa was the sole heiress of the Yates family and that you would only be given a decent life when Yulissa's desires are fulfilled, thought Casandra.

After a brief pause, she still continued to weigh up the situation. 'Dear, dear Casandra.

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You spent two years pleasing them in the previous life, but all you got was their curses and punishments. Is that truly what you want? Now that you're reborn, you have to put an end to all this tragedy. Do not let history repeat itself, mused Casandra solemnly.

Knock!

Her thoughts were abruptly interrupted by a series of knocks on the door.

"Casandra, are you deaf? Lisa wants you. Who do you think you are to turn a deaf ear to her words?" scolded Raymond, her

sixth brother.

Raymond was particularly known for his impatience and his temper.

The 20-year-old young man was close in age to Yulissa, which explained why they were particularly close to each other.

After composing herself, Casandra opened the door.

"Oh, really? When did Lisa ask for me?" Casandra retorted with a touch of sarcasm.

Yulissa, standing nearby, appeared to be on the verge of tears.

"Casandra, I called you three times, but you ignored me." As Yulissa spoke, tears welled up in her eyes.

"Did you, now? This storeroom is poorly insulated, yet I did not hear anyone calling for me.

Were you just whispering my name? If that's the case, it's not my fault I couldn't hear you," retorted Casandra.

"Casandra, what are you talking about? Lisa invites you, and instead of being grateful, you

throw a tantrum. Do you think I won't rough you up?" When Raymond saw how distressed Yulissa looked, he unfairly pushed the blame on Casandra.

Raymond thought that this was all Casandra's fault. If not for her, Yulissa would not have suffered from such humiliation. He was unable to fathom why, after eighteen years, Casandra had not met her end outside. Why would she return?

"Was there a time when you held back from hitting me?" Casandra set aside any attempt to spare Raymond's feelings.

After all, she had resolved to leave.

"You..."

"Ray, please don't be upset. Casandra didn't mean any harm. I'm the one who has been basking in your affection all this while, and Casandra has every right to resent me. I'm sorry, Casandra." Yulissa truly resembled a princess in her white ballroom gown and exquisite makeup.

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Right now, her eyes reddened as she appeared to be quite distressed.

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"What's going on with Casandra today? How dare she talk back to me? Does she really think tonight's welcome party is meant for her?' Yulissa scoffed inwardly.

Casandra said nothing, choosing instead to watch Yulissa feign innocence.

"Lisa, don't cry. You're a cherished member of this family, so of course, we care about you.

Good girl, don't cry. Raymond tenderly consoled Yulissa, reserving his love exclusively for his family except for Casandra.

"Hmph, Casandra, for the sake of Yulissa, I'll let you off the hook today. Listen, you better listen to whatever Mom and Dad say at the party tonight. Don't cause any trouble, or I won't go easy on you!"

Raymond's warning held little weight with the current Casandra.

'A party? I almost forgot it though, Casandra thought.

While the Yates

birthday celeb, claimed it was a welcome party, it was, in truth, Yulissa's

It was also at this party that Benjamin and Miranda proclaimed Yulissa as their true heiress, relegating Casandra from being the rightful successor to an adopted child.

The party brought the Yates family great reputation in high society for being generous philanthropists like Mother Theresa, and they enjoyed all the admiration they got from their guests. As for Casandra, she played the part of the stray who was adopted by the Yates family.

Now that Casandra had returned to the day when the welcome party was held, it would have been a shame if she did not cause a scene before leaving.

In the banquet hall that evening, the guests were exchanging toasts and greetings as they were seated.

As the moment arrived, Benjamin and Miranda walked Yulissa onto the stage arm in arm. Her six elder brothers followed closely behind, assuming the role of her cavaliers.

In stark contrast, Casandra was totally ignored by them and only stood among the guests, dressed in a T-shirt and faded jeans.

The affluent young ladies in the circle could not resist mocking her, wondering how someone of her ilk managed to secure an invitation to the party.

Everyone wondered where this beggar-like poor girl came from.

“Good evening, everyone. Welcome to my daughter Yulissa’s 18th birthday

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celebration... Benjamin, beaming with pride, spoke effusively about Yulissa, showering her with every compliment he could think of.

Yulissa blushed and modestly replied, “You’re exaggerating, Dad. I’m nowhere near that. great.”

“We are all extremely proud of you,” Miranda added affectionately.

Amid the showering of praises on Yulissa, Casandra felt a sense of bitter irony.

They had lost her while she was a little girl, and instead of looking for her, they adopted a girl of a similar age, brought her into the family, and seemingly forgot about their own biological daughter.

Even now, when Casandra returned home, the Yates family held no joy but disdain in her after their long period of separation.

“Well, you see, Lisa is our kid. To give her some company, my wife and I decided to adopt a kid from the orphanage, just a few days older than Lisa. As such, both girls are our daughters.” As Benjamin spoke, there was a hint of disapproval in his voice.

When Miranda saw Casandra in a T-shirt and jeans, her expression darkened.

“How unsophisticated! On such an important occasion, how could she dress so casually??” wondered Miranda.

While suppressing her anger, Miranda commanded, “Casandra, come over here.”

‘What a disgrace!’ she scoffed inwardly.

However, they couldn’t go back on their words.

Casandra walked onto the stage without haste. To their surprise, her eyes reflected no gratitude, yet sarcasm was written all over her face.

“So, you’re telling me I’m adopted? Didn’t you both, as well as Leo, hand me a DNA test report confirming my biological ties to the Yates family? Was that a lie?” Casandra asked.

The guests in the hall erupted into whispers.

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“What? Casandra is their biological daughter? What about Yulissa? Is she adopted?”

“Didn’t the Yates family state they only have one daughter? Yulissa must have been adopted if Casandra is the biological one!”

“What are the Yates family thinking? Have they truly taken an adopted child as their own and provided her everything, while abandoning their real daughter in an orphanage?”

“I don’t think it was an orphanage. Could she have been abandoned somewhere else. and was only taken back some time ago?”

“Is Yulissa an illegitimate daughter?”

“Well, I also think so. Otherwise, it is stupid of the family to treat an outsider so well and ignore their own daughter.”

There was a lot of chatter among the guests, and those unpleasant words could easily be heard on stage.

That blasted Casandra! She’s trying to ruin me!’ thought Yulissa. Her eyes turned red. from crying, and she stepped back, appearing upset.

Hearing the criticism, the six brothers couldn’t take it anymore.

Raymond lost his temper and shouted, “What on earth are you all talking about? There’s only one daughter in the Yates family, and that’s Lisa. Casandra doesn’t deserve to be part of the

Yates family!"

All the guests were thinking, "Wow, something big's gonna happen! Today's party is fantastic!" "Casandra, don't be absurd. You are the adopted child of our family. How can you claim to be our biological daughter?" Miranda clenched her fists, restraining the urge to fight Casandra, and spoke in the most tactful manner possible.

"Really? But it was you guys who convinced me you're my parents with the DNA test report." Having said that, Casandra took out an A4-sized sheet of paper from her pocket and unfolded it. "The DNA test report had a lot of pages, but I've always had the concluding page of the report on me. Is the report fake?"

A wicked smile graced Casandra's face.

She wanted to back Benjamin and Miranda into a corner and force them to acknowledge who she really was.

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"Of course-" Miranda initially considered lying.

"The report is true!" Benjamin admitted, cutting Miranda off.

However, he immediately regretted what he said.

As soon as he finished, the room was in an uproar.

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"Treating your biological daughter like an adopted child and your adopted daughter like a biological one? How shameless!"

"That's totally beyond me!"

"Why would they prefer their adopted daughter over their own biological daughter?"

"The brothers said they only have one sister, Yulissa. What about Casandra?"

"Could it be that the Yates family doesn't want to acknowledge Casandra because she's too terrible?"

"The Yates family has put in so much effort in raising Yulissa to be a refined and graceful young lady. Casandra can't hold a candle to her!"

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"Since Dad is admitting I am his biological daughter, why did he just say that I was the adopted one? Are you refusing to acknowledge me because you hate that I grew up in the countryside? If that's the case, I'll just leave and give way to Yulissa. Casandra found it effortless to speak in an affected manner.

Yulissa was delighted to hear that Casandra wanted to leave.

She thought, 'Casandra should leave as soon as possible. How dare she compete with me for Mom and Dad's affections?!'

However, Yulissa appeared extremely nervous and distressed. "I'm sorry, Casandra. Don't be angry. It's my fault. I've taken all the love from your parents and brothers. I'm not worthy of being a part of the Yates family. I will give you your parents back. Please, don't leave."

Whenever Yulissa cried, the six brothers would rush to comfort her and cheer her up.

"Casandra, that's enough! What gives you the right to bully Lisa? Didn't you get what I told you at home?" Raymond held Yulissa in his arms and yelled at Casandra.

Casandra snorted. "Home? My so-called home is a tiny storeroom of less than 100 square feet. Even the nanny lives in a room of 200 square feet. But I, the daughter of the Yates family, whom Dad has now admitted, live in a storeroom that is not even as big as Yulissa's wardrobe. What a great home it is!"

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“Cas sandra, are you done? Leave now! Leonardo, take her back to the room, and do not let her leave without my permission!” Miranda glanced at Yulissa distressedly, then turned around to yell at Cas sandra.

She looked at Cas sandra like the latter was an outsider.

“Don’t bother. Since Mom and Dad don’t consider me a part of the family, I’ll just leave.” Cas sandra pretended to be aggrieved.

“Cas sandra, stop it. Let’s just go back to your room,” Leonardo said.

He frowned slightly. Despite his lack of visible emotion, his anger was evident.

“Go back to my room? Are you going to lock me up and starve me for three days?”

Upon the third day of returning home in her previous life, Cas sandra was confused when she noticed that her biological family treated Yulissa, an outsider, better than they treated her.

Therefore, she expressed her frustration by scolding Yulissa.

Unfortunately, the brothers witnessed it.

Jasper then locked her in the storeroom for three days straight. During the whole three days, she received only one meal on the second day, and it was the leftovers of the servants.

Cas sandra learned in her past life that she had to stay away from these people.

Yet now, they all owed her for the life that was taken from her, and what was once taken had to be restored.

“Miranda, what are you talking about?” Miranda’s carefully maintained elegance shattered in an instant.

She couldn’t help but think, ‘Cas sandra is such a disgrace.’

‘How dare she lie? When did we ever lock her up in the storeroom and starve her for three days?’

“Jace knows exactly what happened. The servant brought food for me but it was leftovers. You lost me in the past. I understand if you made no effort to seek me out. But if you are now treating me this way after bringing me home, then there’s really no need for me to be here. I managed the first 18 years of my life without my parents, and I can live the next 80 years without them too!” Cas sandra stated firmly.

“Shouldn’t you be punished for doing something wrong? You bullied Lisa, your younger sister. Do you think you don’t deserve the punishment?” Jasper believed he had not done anything wrong, but rather, he perceived Cas sandra as ungrateful.

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Cas sandra replied, “Lisa is your sister, not me. In the two months since I returned, I’ve heard this so many times that I’ve lost count. You don’t have to remind me of this again and again. Then, she turned to Benjamin and Miranda. “Mr. and Mrs. Yates, thank you both for the affection you pretended to show me during these two months. I won’t reimburse you for the expenses, considering I haven’t spent any of your money over these two months. I estimate that daily expenses for accommodation and meals amount to 200 dollars per day, making it a total of 12,000 dollars for two months. I’ll arrange to send you the money later. You can start treating me as if I’m not your daughter from now on!” Cas sandra was desperate to escape from this

suffocating home.

She wanted to return to her old life and be true to herself.

"There's no such thing as pure and sincere kinship in this world. My mentor lied to me. I don't need this!" Casandra thought.

"Casandra, why are you still throwing a temper? You pushed Lisa at home earlier, and she still reached out to you by going to your room, but you ended to bully her.

Despite that, do you still feel wronged? Why are you so vicious?" Raymond was so furious that he wanted to teach Casandra a lesson now.

Raymond pondered, 'Sharing the same blood with her is so repulsive. Why couldn't Lisa be my biological sister instead?'"

Casandra thought, 'It's fine if they don't mention these things. But they claim I pushed Yulissa? They're clearly skilled at making false accusations.'

"Yes, I am clearly the evil one here. So, I'll disown you willingly. Will that be a problem?"

Chapter 4

"From this moment onward, I, Casandra, have nothing to do with the Yates family of Drieso," Casandra stated loudly.

Benjamin and Miranda's faces were extremely gloomy as they fumed inwardly, 'How dare she! This is absurd!'

"Wow, what a show!"

"Yeah. The biological daughter became an adopted daughter and severed ties with the family!"

"It's so funny!"

"Hmph! Do you think you can leave just because you want to? Dad and Mom gave you life. How can you ever repay them for that? Do you seriously think you can settle it with just 12,000 dollars?" Jasper snorted coldly.

He was the pride of the Yates family, a highly accomplished young doctor who had received several awards.

However, behind his benevolent facade lay a sinister nature toward his own sister.

"Oh, you mean I owe them for giving birth to me? Yes, they gave birth to me, but they never really supported me, so I don't really owe them that much. You don't seriously think these mere two months can be considered 'raising me, right?'" Casandra looked horrified as if the Yates family was a virus.

Every single one of them was evil.

The best way to punish evil people was to be more shameless than them.

Without giving them a chance to speak, Casandra swiftly took out an army knife and cut her own wrist.

In an instant, blood dripped from her wrist.

"Ah!" Yulissa and the others present screamed in fear.

However, Casandra wore a perverse, morbid look. Smiling bloodthirstily, she watched the blood trickle down her wrist.

Jasper's expression darkened. He never expected Casandra to embarrass him in public.

"I'm repaying what I owe with blood. I vow to sever all ties with the Yates family for the rest of my life, starting from the moment I step out of the Yates residence alive."

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After saying that, Casandra left resolutely.

There was nothing important to her in this home.

She came to the Yates residence alone with nothing but two sets of clothes. Now that she was

leaving, she didn't need to take anything with her.

The Yates family never bought clothes or shoes for her. In the past two months, Yulissa received small gifts every day, but none of those gifts were meant for Casandra.

She came with nothing, so she would also depart with nothing.

Casandra walked out with determination. Even her leaving silhouette portrayed a hint of stubbornness.

"There's nothing worth watching at this party now. Let's go."

"Yeah, this is so boring. Even in dramas, those parents can treat two girls fairly when they can't tell who their real daughter is."

"Dude, you are so right."

"The imposter takes over successfully! This must be tomorrow's headlines."

"Ms. Yulissa Yates is truly exceptional. Anyone with the right mind would have chosen her."

"Oh, look, we have some of Yulissa's admirers among us! Yulissa has quite the reputation for being affected, and I can't believe these men cannot see through her facade."

"Come on. That's what men like!"

On the side of the banquet hall, a man observed Casandra's every action attentively, his gaze unfathomable.

He felt an overwhelming urge to rush out and protect her when he saw her cut her wrist.

Nevertheless, he forcefully suppressed that urge.

It was time for Casandra to learn to grow up.

Even if the price was huge, she must grow up.

"Yannick, have someone protect her, take her to the hospital and arrange the best doctor," he instructed.

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He was none other than Kenneth Zelinski, the formidable figure renowned in the capital, Drieso, was supposed to be the sole rightful heir of the Zelinski family. Yet, he found himself thrust into the underground fighting arena in the country of Atharia by his own father, left to fend for himself.

Years later, upon his return to Drieso, he swiftly sidelined his father within a month and sought ruthless revenge on those who had hurt him.

Though notorious for being cunning and savage, Kenneth was undeniably the wealthiest man in Drieso and, quite possibly, the entire country and globe.

"Yes, Mr. Zelinski!"

Yannick nodded, turned around, and went out from the other door, following Casandra.

Meanwhile, Casandra had walked out of the Yates residence.

The excessive blood loss caused her to look a little pale.

She grabbed her phone and dialed a number she memorized. "Jeremiah, pick me up at the Yates residence."

Casandra sat quietly on the stone block outside the mansion and waited for Jeremiah to come and get her.

Yannick, pretending like he didn't know her, stopped his car in front of Casandra.

"Ms. Yates, do you need a ride?" he asked.

"No, thank you," Casandra refused coldly.

At that moment, she didn't trust anyone, especially someone outside the Yates residence.

'Hah. The Yates family must be up to no good again, she mused. In her past life, she barely saw Kenneth, let alone Yannick, who was always with Kenneth. Hence, it was understandable that she did not recognize Yannick. Yannick didn't know what to do. If Casandra refused to get in the car, he wouldn't be able to complete the task assigned by Kenneth. A few minutes later, a flashy pink Ferrari stopped in front of Casandra. Seeing this, Casandra was speechless. 'I'd rather die of excessive blood loss than get in this car, she thought.

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"What happened, Elaine? Are you trying to take your own life by cutting your wrist?"

The man who arrived was Jeremiah Lawson. Casandra found him among the lifeless corpses and saved his life back then.

Ten years ago, a human experimentation took place in Rootland Village, where Casandra lived. Children were taken away and subjected to inhumane experiments. After they died, their bodies were thrown into large pits in the mountains to be eaten by wild animals.

Jeremiah was one of the kids. He was too weak, passing out after receiving two injections of experimental reagents.

After he was thrown into the pile of dead bodies, Casandra happened to walk past the pit and was startled to see the horrifying sight.

Just as she was going to run away, Jeremiah's fingers moved.

Casandra had always been fearless since she was a child.

When she noticed Jeremiah's fingers moving, she dragged him out of the pile of dead bodies and carried him home.

After a period of treatment, the toxins in Jeremiah's body were cleared. He finally regained consciousness following two weeks of recuperation.

Upon waking up, he didn't remember much about his troubled past and didn't want to remember, too. Hence, he spent the next ten years following Casandra around.

"Can you please not assume the worst? Hurry up and take me to the hospital." Casandra's beautiful eyebrows furrowed. Though she didn't get mad, she exuded an intimidating aura.

Jeremiah pouted, shrugged his shoulders, and helped Casandra into the car.

"You shouldn't have called me until you died so that I can collect your body." Jeremiah was filled with fury at the thought that Casandra did not regard him as her family member.

Two months ago, she abandoned everything for her so-called family.

Jeremiah pondered, 'So what's going on now? Did she only come to realize the truth. after getting hurt?'

"You are so noisy!" Casandra felt a headache and wanted him to shut up.

Jeremiah was at a loss for words.

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Chapter 4

'So I can't even joke about her mistake now?' he thought.

"Don't worry. You won't die even if you bleed more than this." Jeremiah's way of reassuring her was annoying.

Casandra pondered, "What does he mean by I won't die?"

"I know," she said.

Casandra refused to communicate with Jeremiah, so she leaned back and closed her eyes. "By the way, get someone to deliver 20,000 dollars in cash to the Yates family later," she added. Casandra believed an extra 8,000 dollars should shut them up.

"Why?" he asked.

"To pay for the food and room they provided for me in the past two months. I'm cutting ties with them," Casandra replied with no emotions.

Without expectation of or hope for kinship, she wouldn't feel pain anymore.

She was killed once by them, and she wouldn't let it happen again.

"Have you thought it through?" Jeremiah asked as he stopped at the red light and turned to her.

"Do you want me to go back to the Yates family?" she asked.

She thought, "That's impossible, right? When I left, he kept begging me not to leave. Is he changing his mind now?"

Jeremiah immediately said, "Of course not. The Yates family is a despicable bunch."

They were all a bunch of scum who couldn't distinguish between what was real and what was fake.

In the past two months, he had been watching Casandra's life. Sometimes, he desperately wanted to rush into the Yates residence and take her away!

Nevertheless, Casandra had made it clear that she would sever ties with anyone who dared to disturb her.

Thus, Jeremiah tried his best to suppress his anger.

Luckily, Casandra had eventually come around.

Chapter 5

In the Yates residence, several people were sitting in the living room, encircling Yulissa with concern..

This was because Yulissa had cried once more.

"It's all my fault. I-if I had moved out earlier, Casandra wouldn't have done this. I blame myself. But I just can't bear to part from my parents and brothers. Why is Casandra so mad at me?" Yulissa cried sorrowfully.

She hadn't expected Casandra to be so resolute.

'But Casandra, don't think you can gain the favor of our parents and brothers this way! They only love me! You are simply making a fool of yourself!' she silently mocked.

"Lisa, don't cry. It pains me to see you in tears," Miranda said, her face filled with distress.

'Lisa is so understanding. If only she were my biological daughter! That darn Casandra is a total ingrate! I've had it with her!' she thought.

"Lisa, you are our sister. Do not say anything about moving out again. Casandra was just making a fuss to attract attention. Leonardo comforted her, his heart aching at the sight of Yulissa's crying face.

At the same time, he was utterly displeased with Casandra's behavior tonight.

'How dare she, a sister who has been away for 18 years... No, she is not our sister. How dare she try to get our attention? She even made Lisa cry. That girl seriously deserves to be taught a lesson! Once she returns, I must lock her up for a week and make her change her temper.

She's really going too far! Completely ill-mannered!' he pondered.

"That's right, Lisa. Don't worry. Someone like her will come back in no time, for sure. She won't leave our family," Yohannes suddenly said, reassuring her.

As a teenage musician and accomplished violinist, Yohannes had obtained numerous awards.

At present, he was on a world tour and gearing up for the Camille International Music

Competition.

Only after he became the winner of this competition could his abilities be recognized by the world.

Yohannes wholly believed that the Yates family had provided Casandra with a good life, and she was only causing a commotion now to seek their attention after witnessing the affection they had for Yulissa.

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Chapter 5

He was confident that Casandra would return to apologize after they had ignored her for two days.

"Will Casandra really come back? Leo, are you lying to me?" Yulissa looked at Leonardo expectantly.

Her gaze almost melted Leonardo's heart.

'Lisa is such an amazing little sister. Casandra seriously doesn't know her place. If she could show the same love to Lisa as we do, we would be okay with accepting her as our sister. But she is such an ingrate, desiring the love that doesn't belong to her, he mused.

Meanwhile, Yulissa snickered in her heart, 'Come back? It's best if she never comes back at all. Only I, Yulissa Yates, deserve to be the daughter of the Yates family.

"She will come back. When she does, we will make her apologize to you," Jasper consoled Yulissa softly.

He always had plenty of patience with this baby sister of his.

Hearing that, Yulissa smiled through tears and nodded cutely.

"I'm glad she'll come back," she said.

Not long after, Robert Zahn, the butler, came in to report.

"Mr. and Mrs. Yates, there's a man outside who claims to have been sent by Ms. Casandra Yates..." he trailed off, adding "to deliver money" mentally.

Robert felt that the Yates family was being too harsh toward Casandra.

They were too ruthless toward their own flesh and blood. He used to think that the Yates brothers were all extraordinary and outstanding individuals, so it was a shock for him to find out how cruel they could be toward a girl.

Benjamin's face fell. He thought, 'What prank is this brat pulling now?'

"Let him in," Benjamin said.

Just in time. I'll have this

done throwing her to inform Casandra to get her as back home after she's

"Yes, Mr. Yates, replied Robert.

Soon, someone came in.

contemplated.

The visitor was an exceedingly refined man dressed in a tuxedo akin to a dapper butler's attire, which made him look noble. His facial features were also very well-

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Chapter 51

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defined; undoubtedly, he was a handsome lad.

"Mr. and Mrs. Yates, I have been entrusted by Ms. Casandra Yates to deliver the two-month accommodation and food expenses that she mentioned at the party. It's a total of 12,000 dollars in cash. Additionally, as a gesture of gratitude to your family for taking care of her during these two months, she is offering you a gift of 8,000 dollars."

The visitor then performed a formal and courteous bow, adhering to the etiquette of a refined gentleman.

Benjamin was annoyed by the man's businesslike tone.

"Nonsense! She's our daughter. How dare she talk about cutting ties with us? Tell her to get her ass back here!" Benjamin roared, his face contorted with anger as he glanced at the 20,000 dollars in cash held by the visitor. He perceived that as a blatant insult.

The man maintained a polite smile. "As far as I know, your family has not admitted Ms. Casandra Yates' identity, so how can she be considered your daughter?"

He continued, "According to her, during her two-month stay in the Yates residence, you and Mrs. Yates never gave her a single cent of allowance, so she didn't have any additional expenses. Most of her meals consisted of leftovers from the help, and she was never served at the main dining table. That means the quality of food she had here wasn't great. As for accommodation, she stayed in a storeroom that was less than 100 square feet, but it was, at least, a sheltered place. Therefore, Ms. Casandra Yates is using the market standard of three-star hotels for her calculation-120 dollars per day for accommodation and 80 dollars per day for food. I believe it is a reasonable amount."

The visitor placed the 20,000 dollars in cash on the coffee table in front of them and turned around to leave.

However, he suddenly thought of something and looked back at the Yates family. "Lastly, Ms. Casandra Yates has a lot of people to love her. Since you guys don't care about her, many others would love to do your jobs. Just make sure you don't regret it in the future."

After saying that, he left straightaway.

Benjamin was so furious that he swept the 20,000 dollars on the coffee table to the ground, and Leonardo's eyes burned with anger.

"That darn girl! How dare she humiliate our family with money? Does she think the Yates residence is some place she can come and go as she pleases?" they thought.

"Casandra is from the countryside. How could she have 20,000 dollars? Could it be that... I heard from my classmates that there are some people in society who, for money, would..."

Chapter 5

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Yulissa fell silent, her words left unfinished, but the presumptuous men of the Yates family had already started their speculations in their minds.

'Casandra is truly a disgrace! How could she do those distasteful things out there? When she comes back, we must teach her a lesson!' they vowed to themselves.

In the hospital, Jeremiah skillfully bandaged Casandra's wound and even topped it off meticulously with a big bow.

"All done. Avoid exposing it to cold water for a few days," Jeremiah instructed.

"You don't have to tell me that." Casandra rolled her eyes.

This was routine for Casandra. It was unnecessary for him to remind her.

'But can I take off the bow? It really affects my image greatly, she grumbled inwardly.

"Where are you going to stay?" he asked.

Casandra had several properties registered under her name. If they continued to remain vacant, they would soon be covered in layers of dust. 'Once she decides where to stay, I'll go over to enjoy free meals!' thought Jeremiah.

"Springmount Townhouse, I guess," she said.

Springmount Townhouse was conveniently located downtown, close to her school.

Cassandra, who was just 18, had already acquired a doctorate degree from various top universities under the alias Elaine. However, after reuniting with the Yates family, she willingly complied with their arrangements and enrolled in an elite high school as a Grade 12 student. In the previous life, after the SAT results were released, Yulissa didn't make it. On the contrary, Cassandra became the top scorer in the city of Drieso with a score of 1574. But what did Yulissa do?

Yulissa cried, blaming Cassandra's existence for her poor performance in the exams. She pleaded for help from their brothers, saying she didn't wanna miss the opportunity to go to college.

Afterward, they let Yulissa take Cassandra's place and enroll at Juset University with a full scholarship.

In this new life, Cassandra was determined to regain the honor that Yulissa had stolen from her.

'Yulissa Yates, just wait and see what I have in store for you this lifetime!' swore Cassandra resolutely.