

Can't Win 1071

Chapter 1071

"Calm down, Mom. I have an idea," Betty said in Sophia's ear.

"You can wear diapers on the day. Wouldn't that be foolproof?"

"D-Diapers?" Sophia flushed red from shame.

"No one other than me would know about it anyway. You can just go ahead and wear it. Dad has finally eased up, so you need to dress up and attend the horse race to flaunt your beauty. You must get through this and capture Dad's heart again!"

That was right. Betty was right.

It was an opportunity that was hard to come by. She had to do her best to mend her relationship with Javier.

"At this moment ... This would be the only way."

Diapers it was!

It wasn't as if there were no adults who wore diapers! As long as Betty made no mention of it, no one else would find out!

"Can you help me with something, Mom?" Betty seized the opportunity and made a request.

"You little brat, what deal do you want to strike with me this time?" Sophia stared at her with angry eyes as she felt that Betty was being more and more difficult.

She had given her an inch, but she was now taking a mile.

"Mom! Just listen to me!"

Betty immediately recounted the time when she went up to give a dressing-down to the helper who talked bad about her. She conveyed how Javier found out about it and then took away her right to go for the horse race, albeit with some exaggeration.

"Mom! I can help look out for you if I can go to the horse racing event. Furthermore, many affluent heirs will be attending on the day, too. Don't you wish for me to marry into a wealthy family to support you in the future?"

Sophia's expression was gloomy. She nodded slowly and replied, "Alright. I will do my best to convince Javier to allow you to attend the event."

"Oh! My dearest Mom, you're the best!"

Betty flung her arms around Sophia and gave her a hug. Her eyes had a dim, sinister glow about them.

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In the end, Alyssa still ended up deciding to go back home. She prepared herself to bid goodbye to Jasper for a while.

Moreover, everything was already prepared. She also needed to return home to make the necessary arrangements to put on a momentous show.

After taking a steaming hot bath together at night, Alyssa sat in front of the mirror in her bathrobe. Jasper stood behind her with a hair dryer in his hand.

He patiently helped her dry her soft and shiny dark hair. While he was doing so, he also weaved her hair between his fingers and massaged her scalp lightly, trying to relieve her tiredness.

"Ooh ... That's some skill right there."

Alyssa squinted in satisfaction. She felt so comfortable that she curled her toes in, too.

"Mr. Beckett, if you weren't the president, you could consider getting into the massage industry. I will definitely appoint you as my masseur when I visit."

"It seems like you are very pleased with my service, Ms. Alyssa," Jasper replied.

Jasper stroked her hair with his fingers. He leaned down and gently kissed along her ear. Each spot where his lips touched blushed a sweet pink color.

"Ms. Alyssa, would you care to give me a little tip tonight?"

Alyssa's cheeks flushed red from his teasing. She felt soft and numb all the way to the core. She shuddered.

"Well ..."

She shrugged lightly. Then, in a soft and slightly pleading voice, she said, "Please give me a break tonight. I have to be on my way early tomorrow morning."

"There are still tons of things waiting for me to do when I get back. You'll tire me out. My back is almost giving way."

Jasper let out a wide and charming grin. He kissed her cheek and said, "Okay. I'll wait. You can reward me when you get back."

They put their pajamas on and lay down on the bed.

Alyssa rolled nimbly into Jasper's arms. He took her into his arms immediately.

"Lyse."

"Yes?"

"When you have some free time, could you make me another suit set?" Jasper queried to feel her out.

Chapter 1072

That suit was associated with so much hurt and had always been one of Jasper's prized possessions. No one was allowed to touch it.

Nonetheless, he still wanted to get a new set of clothing from Alyssa for good luck. It would be a symbol of a brand new and successful beginning with her.

"Do you really like the clothing that I make for you?"

Alyssa blinked and tickled him under his chin.

She said, "It's not a problem to make one for you. But don't force yourself to wear it if it's not to your taste. I don't want you to force yourself just because of me, even if it's a set of clothing."

Suddenly, Jasper felt a lump in his throat, and his eyes welled up. He kept quiet for a while, trying to contain his surging emotions within himself.

He replied in a husky voice, "Actually, I've always liked it. I was just being stupid and stubborn at that time. I didn't want to admit it and didn't know how to express myself.

"I know I'm being too greedy, Lyse. But, I still hope that I can request from you a chance to repent."

"You're exaggerating. It's just a piece of clothing," Alyssa responded in a relaxed tone.

She no longer wished to be hung up over the difficult times that she experienced in the past. She continued, "Once we get over this busy period, I'll make it for you."

Jasper's eyes turned red. He wanted to say something in response but couldn't find the words to do so.

He could only move in closer to her and kiss her on her soft and moist lips. Their fingers intertwined, and their body temperatures rose.

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The following morning, Jonah arranged for someone to fetch Alyssa and bring her back to Belbanks.

Jasper wanted to send her back in person, but no matter what he said, she disagreed. She simply asked him to rest well and wait for her to return home.

He watched on reluctantly as the Rolls-Royce drove away. He stood on the spot for a long time, unwilling to walk away.

It was just a few minutes after Alyssa had left, and he was already missing her.

Rosie walked over while dusting off her hands.

With a mischievous look on her face, she exclaimed, "Oh, I stepped out to take out the trash and caught sight of this massive, unwavering rock in the distance. Imagine my surprise when I found it stationed right at the door."

Jasper then snapped back to his senses and asked in a confused voice, "What rock? Where is it?"

"Right here—an unwavering husband!"

Jasper's face turned red, and he didn't know what else to say.

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When Alyssa got back to Heightsnew Villa, Winston was not in. He would only be back at night time.

Mandy, Lyla, and Colene weren't around either. So, she was bored and returned to her room to catch up on sleep.

It was already in the afternoon by the time she woke up. Just as she woke up, Tristan called.

"Ms. Alyssa, as expected, Sophia contacted me," Tristan reported with a hint of excitement in his voice.

"She has used up all the medication that I gave to Betty last time. Moreover, per your instructions, I didn't respond to her request immediately. I am still keeping her hanging until now."

"If she doesn't have the drugs to take, will she suffer from incontinence as a withdrawal symptom?" Alyssa asked as she stretched lazily.

"Yes, she will. She will have both urinary and fecal incontinence."

Tristan laughed coldly and continued, "Reading between the lines, it sounded like her body was already on the verge of collapsing. Her physical symptoms seem to be quite severe.

"Plus, she mentioned that she would be attending a horse racing event in Solana City with Mr. Javier this weekend. She hopes to meet me there so that I can hand the medication to her."

Alyssa pressed her lips together. "Oh? Javier has given an exceptional pardon and is letting that bitch out of her cage soon?" she mocked.

"It's not like they have divorced anyway. Moreover, a reputable man like Mr. Javier wouldn't want himself to be embarrassed, so he believes strongly in not letting others know about the shameful things that happen at home. He will bring Sophia along, even if it means putting on a show."

"What's a good show without ups and downs?"

Alyssa had a hopeful glimmer in her eyes as an idea inspired her.

"Dr. McAlister, give Sophia a call shortly. Tell her you agree with her request and will hand the medication to her during the horse race."

Chapter 1073

It turned out that Mandy, Lyla, and Colene had gone to church. After church, they went on a shopping spree.

They also visited a trending café before returning to Heightsnew Villa, feeling satisfied.

In the eyes of the world, they were in awkward positions. People expected them to scheme against one another and to have a cut-throat relationship behind closed doors.

However, the trio were close, like three peas in a pod. At times, even Alyssa felt deep jealousy when she witnessed their sisterhood.

Winston must have saved the universe in his past life for him to have Mandy's, Lyla's, and Colene's loyalty toward him in this life.

"Woah! Why didn't any of you bring me along? I'm sad now ..." Alyssa teased.

She was sitting on the swing in the garden. Like a young and energetic youth, she swung back and forth with the tip of her toes sweeping on the ground.

"Oh, dearest Alyssa, it's not that we didn't want to bring you along!"

Colene approached her from behind and put her arms around her neck.

She hugged Alyssa and said softly, "Why didn't you give us a heads-up that you made a last-minute decision to come home? If we knew that you were coming back, unless anything life-threatening happened to Winston, we would have waited for you at home no matter what!"

Alyssa cringed.

Mandy and Lyla looked extremely awkward. They advised, "Watch your words, Colene. You sound like you are ill-wishing Winston."

"I didn't! If anything were to happen to Winston, where else am I going to find such reliable financial backing?" Colene put her hands on her hips and bellowed.

Alyssa, Mandy, and Lyla looked on gloomily.

It was a good thing that Winston wasn't around. Otherwise, he might just have a heart attack.

"Lyla is a believer, and there was mass today, so the both of us thought of accompanying her to go out for some fresh air," Mandy gently explained while holding Alyssa's hand.

"It's my bad. I should make it up to Lyse by making a delicious feast tonight," Lyla said.

She loved Alyssa more than her own daughter. When she saw that Alyssa was unhappy, she turned and immediately headed toward the kitchen.

"No, don't, Lyla! I was just joking with all of you!"

Alyssa got up in a hurry to stop Lyla in her tracks. She linked arms with Lyla and pouted. "Look at you, can't you take a joke?"

Lyla's introverted and humble self tugged at Alyssa's heartstrings. She figured living such a cautious life must be too exhausting.

"How are you lately, Lyla? Do you feel better now?" Alyssa asked in a warm tone.

"Don't worry about me, Lyse. I'm fine. I've felt much better since a long time ago."

Lyla stroked Alyssa's silky, dark hair. She asked with a gaze full of concern, "How about you? What have you been up to out there lately?"

"Winston has been worried sick because you haven't come back in such a long time. He's lost his appetite and has even lost weight."

"That's right! He couldn't even eat Lyla's cooking. It's obvious how much Winston misses you," Colene chimed in.

Although Alyssa felt rather guilty, she didn't show it on her face.

"The other day, I heard Winston on the phone with you, Lyse. He raised his voice quite loudly. Did you both have an argument?" Mandy couldn't help but ask.

"Not really ..."

"Not really? Wow ... Ever since that day, it was like a dark cloud was looming over Winston wherever he went. Even when he was going out this morning, he also looked livid. He looked just like Hulk!" said Colene as she shuddered at that thought.

"That's right, Lyse. What in the world happened? It's rare for Winston to be angry like that." Lyla was also especially concerned.

Alyssa pursed her lips and tried to control her breathing. She explained slowly, "Jasper and I are back together."

A hush enveloped them.

Chapter 1074

After a while, Mandy, Lyla, and Colene nodded.

"That explains it. It is already quite fortunate that Winston didn't storm into the Beckett family or skin Jasper alive."

Before they could probe Alyssa further, Clark hurried over and

informed them, "Ms. Alyssa, Mr. Winston is back. He asked for you to go to his study."

"Got it."

Alyssa took a deep breath and prepared to leave. Behind her, Mandy, Lyla, and Colene were worried that Winston would be difficult.

So, the three of them also expressed their wish to follow along.

In the study, Winston was drinking tea while sitting on the sofa. His expression was glum.

Whenever he met with Alyssa in the past, they were always joking around merrily with one another. The air around them was always lively and warm.

It was extremely rare for them to have so much tension.

“I wanted to speak with Lyse in private. What are all of you taggin along for?”

Winston gave a displeased, side-eyed glance at his wives. He forcefully set his cup down on the table with a resounding thud.

“She is already an adult of good standing. Do you think that I would still spank her like I did when she was young? Even if I were to hit anyone, I should first beat up that bastard from the Beckett family!”

+25 BONUS

Upon hearing that, Alyssa’s beautiful face turned glum in an instant.

“Winston.”

Mandy was afraid that Alyssa would get a lecture from Winston. So, she stepped up anxiously to speak for her.

“It is true that Mr. Jasper did some absurd things in the past. However, he has already repented. He’s used his life to protect Lyse multiple times. He truly cherishes her.”

“Used his life? What do you mean? Was Lyse in some kind of danger?” Winston leaned forward abruptly when Mandy’s words caught his attention.

“Lyse, she...”

Alyssa immediately interrupted, “I’m fine. What could have happened to me? Mandy was exaggerating.”

It wasn’t that she didn’t want Winston to know about how well Jasper had been treating her and how much he doted on her.

Instead, she was more afraid that Winston would be unable to take the news. She would indeed be guilt-ridden for the rest of her life if he fell ill from being panic-stricken.

She had already lost Jennifer. She couldn't bear to lose Winston, too.

Furthermore, she understood the entire family well. Out of all his children, Winston still loved her the most.

Winston leaned back on the sofa slowly. He glared at her with a gaze that was as sharp as an eagle's.

"I am indifferent to whether Jasper has cast a spell on you or ensnared you with his cunning tactics, Alyssa! As long as I breathe, it matters not if he bestows the entire Beckett Group upon you or offers his entire career as his bride-dowry. I am not going to approve of you

+25 BONUS

"Even if he gives up his worthless life, it is still not enough to make up for all the hurt that he'd caused you. You wasted three years of your youth for him!"

Winston's anger fueled some of his exaggerated statements.

However, within the Taylor family, it was widely understood that Alyssa held a place of unparalleled importance in his life-she was his everything.

When Alyssa just started going to elementary school, she was already as pretty as a doll. Because of her cute look, many boys fancied her. As a result, she became the envy of many girls.

At that time, Alyssa had a spoiled brat as her classmate. She didn't like Alyssa and began to alienate her.

Although she didn't harm her physically, she still tormented her in many ways secretly-tearing up her homework, stealing her hair clips, and filling her bottle with dirty water.

Thankfully, the young Alyssa was kind and smart. She saw through a those tricks with much ease and avoided all of them. She didn't hold any grudges either.

She didn't want Winston to worry, so she never spoke about what happened at school. She was mature for her age.

One particular day, her classmate, seated behind her in class, maliciously cut off her long braid, a cherished length she had been nurturing for quite some time.

Alyssa returned home with her hair in disarray, and it was at that moment Winston discovered the prolonged bullying she had been facing at school.

On that day, Winston, a formidable figure in the business world,

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Later on, Alyssa learned that her troublesome classmate had dropped out of school just three days after the incident.

The family's business faced bankruptcy, and her father was incarcerated. Upon realizing the wrongs she had committed against Alyssa, her mother lived in perpetual anxiety.

In the end, she succumbed to a bout of serious illness.

As such, it was a miracle that Winston hadn't done anything to Jasper yet.

It was Alyssa who was the creator of this miracle.

If it weren't for her telling him over and over not to touch Jasper, he might have already sent someone to assassinate him!

He probably wouldn't need to get the job done personally. Jonah and Axel would most likely have already gotten rid of Jasper.

"Dad, at the end of the day, I am also hugely responsible for the failure of the marriage."

Alyssa didn't address him by his name again. She had a serious look on her face, making it obvious that she was very persistent and earnest about this relationship.

"Back then, I was too desperate to be with him and to call him mine. That was why I insisted on marrying him even though I knew that he didn't like me.

"If the same thing happened to you, would you be able to let it go and accept a woman whom you don't love at all? Moreover, he was in love with another woman at that time."

"Alyssa! Have you gone fucking mad? Has he brainwashed you or something? There are billions of men in the world. Why must you insist there is only one way to Rome?"

In his rage, Winston slammed his fist against the table.

His eyes bulged with anger as he yelled, "I don't care who he was in love with at the time. If he didn't fancy you, he could have chosen not to marry you! Since he married you, he should have been responsible as your husband!

"But what did he do? He was an illegitimate child, unloved by his family. He also couldn't take the pressure from Mr. Beckett Senior. But did that mean he could abandon his old flame and marry a woman he didn't love?

"It is exactly this sort of weak loser behavior that makes me have no respect for him! He is not good enough for you and has no right to be my son-in-law!"

Alyssa curled her fingers into tight fists on her knees. She felt like a boulder was weighing her heart down, and couldn't catch her breath.

"It's not like what you're thinking, Dad."

"That's enough! I don't want to hear another word from you! I want you to break up with him immediately! It must be a clean break! Don't make me do it for you!"

Winston showed no sign of slowing down on his rage.

In a cold and decisive tone, he shouted, "Now, news about your marriage in secret and divorce has already spread. So, you shouldn't be entangled with the Becketts anymore!"

"And yet, you have blurred the lines in your relationship with Jasper. What do you think people will say about you?"

"They wouldn't care about whether you are both in love. They will simply assume that you had no choice but to return to your ex-lover after your divorce. They will think that no one else wants to take you in. No one other than Jasper! Even if you don't feel ashamed about that, at least think about your family!"

"You know me. I have never cared what people think about me. No one can stop me as long as it is something that I want to do. Neither can anyone stop me from loving the man I love," Alyssa responded firmly but coldly.

"You!"

Winston felt the blood pressure rise within him. All of a sudden, his vision became black. He stumbled and quickly grabbed onto the armrests on the sofa to balance himself.

"D-Dad!"

The blood drained from Alyssa's face. She rushed forward and kneeled on one knee in front of Winston. She held his trembling body and tried to support him.

"Are you okay? Are you feeling unwell, Dad?"

"Winston!" Mandy, Lyla, and Colene jumped. Their hearts were pounding, and they also rushed over to check on Winston.

"I'm fine ... Don't make such a big fuss," Winston answered. He closed his eyes and forced himself to suppress the massive headache he was getting. He could barely balance himself.

"Dad! Lie down, quick!"

Alyssa and Colene quickly helped him. They laid him on his back on the sofa. With eyes full of tears, Lyla whipped out her cell phone to call 911.

As for Mandy, she seemed to be unusually calm. In a flash, she retrieved two bottles of medication from the drawer under the desk.

She poured a few tablets onto her hand and fed them to Winston.

"Winston, take your medicine, hurry!"

Winston swallowed the pills and drank some water. As he lay back down, he began to relax his furrowed brows.

Chapter 1076

Alyssa picked the medicine bottle up and took a closer look. The next moment, she covered her mouth in utter shock. She was on the verge of tears.

"Cerebral ischemic stroke. This medication is to treat cerebral ischemic stroke. Lovelace Pharmaceuticals developed this and only produced a limited amount yearly. Even people loaded with money can't buy it."

Mandy looked at Winston painfully. Her heartache was hard to conceal. "However, this year, the medication couldn't stabilize his condition anymore. When your father fell sick twice at the beginning of last year, he pulled through with this medication."

"D-Did all of you know about this? Am I the only one who is clueless?" Tears streamed down Alyssa's face. Her heart was shattered.

"No. Jonah and Silas don't know either. Your father didn't want to tell all of you. He was afraid you would panic and worry.

Mandy squatted down. She took a square silk handkerchief and dabbed the sweat from Winston's forehead. "Lyse, don't be angry at your father. He loves you too much. He was afraid you would get hurt or be looked down upon. He cared for you too much and didn't know better."

"Look down upon? Who would dare to do that?"

Colene's voice was hoarse. Her eyes were red from the tears, but her gaze was fierce. "Lyse is the eldest daughter of the Taylor family. If anyone dared to look down on her, I would scratch that person's eyeballs out and rip their tongue off."

Alyssa held her father's cold hand tightly. She lowered her head deeply.

She should have known better.

She should have been more behaved.

She was too reckless. She went everywhere for Jasper and didn't even care to ask about how the family was doing. She was completely clueless about her father's condition.

She wondered why she behaved this way.

At this moment, the doorbell rang.

Mandy collected herself and went to the door. "Who is it?"

"Mrs. Taylor, you have a guest. He is waiting outside the door," Clark said respectfully.

"A guest at this hour? Who is it?"

"Mr. Jameson."

Alyssa's eyes dimmed. She slowly got up. It was as if a cold breeze had swept the place.

"Mandy, you stay here with Dad. I will go and meet him."

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Alyssa walked out of Heightsnew Villa with heavy steps.

Under the dazzling door light, Jameson stood there alone as he waited patiently. He looked tall under the light. His face looked gentle, and his eyes were bright.

From every angle, he didn't look like a malicious man who only did the worst things.

When Jameson heard the door open, he looked up abruptly. The pair of beautiful eyes behind the gold-rimmed glasses smiled delightfully. His lips curled into a smile as warm as the sun.

"Lyse."

He called for her longingly.

Alyssa's gorgeous face was cold and glum as she stepped closer to the man.

"Lyse, I ..."

"What do you want?" Her tone was icy. She was no longer as warm and friendly as she used to be.

Jameson felt as if a knife had pierced his heart. He clenched his fingers. He was concerned. "I met Uncle Winston at an event I attended today. He didn't look too well when he rested in the VIP lounge. He was struggling to complete the event. I was worried even after I went home. So I came to check on him."

Chapter 1077

Alyssa's eyelashes cast a shadow under the light as she lowered her head.

Back then, she thought Jameson was genuinely concerned for her father. Now, she felt he had ulterior motives.

He was willing to murder her sister and brother-in-law. Her father was nothing, but another body count to him.

Jameson was a vicious man all along.

He desired her so badly. However, he was unwilling to mess with her before getting her and fulfilling his desire.

"My dad is fine. He is as vigorous as a tiger."

A cold smile hung on Alyssa's face. "He doesn't say no to food, though. His stomach isn't the strongest and often gives him problems. He probably had a craving, ate something he shouldn't, and had a stomachache. You don't need to worry about it. Go home."

"Really? But I saw how terrible Uncle Winston looked. His head was hurting badly. It looked serious. It seemed like a cerebral ischemic stroke or something like that ..."

"Jameson, are you cursing my father?" Alyssa interrupted lowly.

A sharp glint appeared in her gorgeous eyes as she asked, "Or did you look into the Taylor family or something?"

"Lyse, I didn't. You've misunderstood."

Jameson saw how annoyed she was. He panicked so much that his eyes reddened. He went to her and grabbed her arm. "I'm just worried for Uncle Winston. I only wanted to see you!"

As if she was stung by a scorpion's tail, Alyssa swatted him away. She staggered backward in anger, creating distance from the man.

"But I don't want to see you."

"Lyse, what is up with you?"

Jameson's pale lips trembled slightly. His anxiety was ripping him apart internally. He wanted to inch closer to her again, but he stopped as she stared him down, wary and distant.

"What happened? Can you tell me? I beg you, please, tell me. Don't be like that with me."

Jameson appeared so innocent.

The innocence in Jameson's eyes felt real.

"Since you want to know, then let me ask you."

Alyssa took a deep breath. She gritted her teeth and enunciated each word coldly. "You know Inigo, don't you? I'm sure he is one of your lackeys?"

"Inigo? Who is he?" Jameson looked at her furious face. He was clueless.

However, his shoulders hiding under his suit were as tight as a fully drawn bow.

He thought he hid it well enough. Even if Alyssa were meticulous enough to figure out he had once advanced in Kontina and liaised closely with the arms dealers in Tsulu, she wouldn't get to the bottom of it.

She couldn't capture Inigo, so she had no proof to confirm it was his doing.

However, he never expected her to question him directly. He wondered why she had so little trust in him.

"Your business in Kontina is booming and covers a wide range of services. You have close relationships with high-ranking officials and high-profile individuals in Tsulu. You even have allies in the army. Inigo is a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Army Ground Forces and was in Kontina in the early years. Do you really not know him?" Alyssa crossed her arms and observed him. She was doubtful.

Even her disdainful expression held such beauty for him that it captivated and enchanted him completely.

"Lyse, I do have some network in Kontina, but you villainized me too much. I'm not as powerful as you paint me to be."

Jameson was like an ant on a hot pan. His eyes were red. "But, if that Inigo guy is causing you trouble and hurting you, I will do what it takes to remove him from the face of the earth."

Alyssa heard his genuine speech and scoffed. "Of course, you would want to remove Inigo. You, of all people, would want him dead.

"You will not rest in peace if he was left free on the street. He is like a ticking time bomb. You're unsure when he will expose your dirty little secrets to the world."

"Lyse ... H-How can you think of me this way?"

Chapter 1078

Tears welled up in Jameson's eyes. He bit his lip until it turned white.

He played a man who felt wronged and pitiful from being misunderstood by the love of his life so well. He was so immersed in playing this character that he had forgotten—he was the man who brought Alyssa these deadly troubles.

Alyssa stared at him. Inexplicable emotions swirled in her lifeless eyes.

"What happened? Can you tell me, Lyse? What did I do to have caused such a misunderstanding? Even if I were to die, I need to die with proper closure!" Jameson kept asking questions. His forehead was dripping with cold sweat.

The elegant and dignified Jameson Schmidt had never been so disheveled.

Alyssa knew she wouldn't be able to get anything out of him all along. Her statements were a calculated warning to Jameson, intending to apply pressure. She aimed to induce panic, hoping he might inadvertently reveal something.

She also wanted to use this cruel way to tell him to stop having fantasies of her. They would never be a couple and would no longer be friends.

"Okay, you're not admitting to knowing Inigo. Fine. How about Miley and Jeremy?"

Alyssa's shoulders trembled violently from her massive rage. "When you were in Kontina, you wanted them dead for your benefit. Are you planning to let this slip?"

"Lyse, some of the people in the Schmidt Group did do heinous things to your brother-in-law, Jeremy. But when I found out that Jeremy's wife was your sister, I immediately ordered them to stop all projects.

"You have to understand I'm not the only voice in the Schmidt Group. Several shareholders in the group have a say, too. When I stopped the projects, they were strongly against it and retaliated.

"I tried to deal with them but couldn't completely stop them, especially when they have more secret tricks hidden up their sleeves."

Jameson's voice was hoarse as he continued to explain, "Lyse, please believe me! I love you so much. I've loved you for 15 years. Why would I risk upsetting you and hurting your family?"

Alyssa only stared at him. A suffocating sense of loneliness sprouted between them.

After a long time, she parted her lips slightly. "Go home. If you don't, I will."

As she turned, Jameson suddenly hugged her from the back. He pleaded, "Lyse, don't leave me."

"Let go! Don't touch me!"

Alyssa felt a chill in her heart. She tried her best to break free like a porcupine with its spike up.

Jameson staggered back. His delicate face was stiff as ever. There was palpable sadness in his eyes.

"Jameson, I love someone else. I have a boyfriend now. Even if I don't, you shouldn't take advantage of me!" Alyssa was repulsed by his touch.

"Is it Jasper?"

Jameson's face fell. It was as if his soul was shattered to pieces. "Did both of you get back together?"

"Why not? Jasper avenged me by risking his life to capture the bad guys. He saved me and Jonah and barely came back from Tsulu alive. I was almost separated from him forever because of Inigo."

Alyssa thought about how Jasper went into a bloody battle for her. He came out tattered and bruised. She instantly choked. "Why would I not want a man who loves me with his life? Why shouldn't I love him back?"

"Leave. I'll investigate this Inigo person thoroughly. I hope you've been honest with your words. If you were truly the instigator, Jameson, you know what I'd do. I don't care who this person is. I will never let an unrighteous person run scot-free."

Jameson gasped for air as Alyssa was about to disappear from his sight. Tears welled up in his eyes.

"Lyse, my mother is seriously ill."

Alyssa suddenly stopped in her tracks, but she didn't turn around.

"She is in the late stages of Alzheimer's. She's hardly lucid, and even eating has become a challenge. Her limbs are paralyzed."

"Lately, I've set aside all my work to be by her side at the hospital. I've managed to find some time in the past two days to address a few crucial matters."

A tear escaped from the corner of Jameson's eye as his voice resonated with bitter guilt. "Lyse, I've been tending to my mother, and in doing so, I've neglected you. You've gone through so much, but I couldn't even help you. I'm sorry."

"Even if you doubt me because of this, I still want to apologize for causing you so much trouble. My mother usually doesn't recognize me, but she always talks about you. She even asked me when she could see you."

"I know it's shameless to ask, but she doesn't have much time left. Please visit her, I beg you. Talk to her. It will help with her condition."

Alyssa had her back facing Jameson. She didn't say a single word.

She had trouble untangling her messy thoughts. As she was about to enter the house, the door opened.

"Mandy?" Alyssa was shocked to see Mandy come out.

Mandy smiled at her. Her face turned glum when she looked at Jameson. "Mr. Jameson, my husband wants to see you. Please."

"What did you say? Dad wants to see him?"

Alyssa's eyes widened. She tried her best to calm herself down. "He is sick. What is he trying to do?"

Helplessness swirled in Mandy's eyes. "Your dad asked for this, so I am merely relaying the message."

"Thank you for inviting me in personally, Mrs. Taylor."

Jameson subtly adjusted his gold-rimmed glasses, and a dark glint flickered in his eyes. An unconscious smile graced his lips.

...

After Jameson entered Heightsnew Villa, Mandy escorted him to the study to meet Winston.

The Taylors usually entertained guests in the guest room or parlor. After all, to a man, the study was as sacred and private as their bedroom.

Apart from Winston's partner-in-crime, Victor, no one had entered his study all these years.

Jameson was the second person. It was clear as day how much Winston valued this young man.

Alyssa was sitting on the sofa in the living hall. Her eyes were gloomy as a storm.

"Lyse, your dad had been pretty close to Mr. Jameson these days. From what I know, this is not the first time he is meeting Mr. Jameson alone."

Mandy held Alyssa's freezing hand. "I think your dad is serious about this."

"Serious about what?"

"For you to marry into the Schmidt family."

"Pfft! He can dream on."

Alyssa clenched her fists tightly. A violent rage surged in her heart. "Over my dead body. They can consider marrying my spirit off after I die."

"Lyse, watch your mouth."

Mandy frowned deeply. Yet, she took Alyssa's words seriously. "I know you will never marry Mr. Jameson."

"Lyla, Colene, and I will do our best to convince your dad not to force you to do anything you're unwilling. You won't marry someone you don't love and struggle in an unhappy marriage under our watch."

"Dad never wanted this marriage to happen. I think he wants to break me and Jasper apart."

Alyssa sullenly closed her eyes and sighed. "He'll go to any lengths to prevent me from being with Jasper. I'm acutely aware of his ruthless nature, willing to do whatever it takes to achieve his goals. I've absorbed this trait from him completely."

"You are right. Out of all your siblings, you resemble your father the most."

Mandy was lost in her thoughts for a long while. Then, she asked worriedly, "Lyse, is Jasper the only one you will consider?"

"Yes, I won't accept anyone but him," Alyssa emphasized each word without hesitation.

Then, her phone rang.

She looked at the name that had appeared on the screen. Her eyes were moist as her lips unconsciously curled into a gentle smile.

She was smitten.

"I won't bother you, lovebirds then. I'm going upstairs." Mandy got up and left knowingly.

Alyssa pursed her lips. Her heart palpitated as she answered the call.

Chapter 1080

"You're awake, Lyse." Jasper's voice was gentle and coy. She could practically get pregnant with that voice in her ear.

Yet, she felt oddly secure.

"I'm not tired." Alyssa got up and went to the balcony. She looked up at the moon in the warm evening breeze.

"Are you finding it hard to sleep after leaving me? No one is there to cuddle with you." Jasper chuckled.

"Pfft, of course not! A man does not consume my everything." Alyssa's face was burning up, but she was stubborn with her words.

"But Lyse, you are my everything."

Her heart beat wildly at Jasper's sudden declaration of affection. She felt her body was burning up and was about to reach boiling point.

She missed him so much.

She had been fine without the call. Now that she had heard his voice, she longed for him endlessly.

"What did you do today?" She switched the topic.

"Apart from breathing, every second was dedicated to thinking about you."

"Jasper, it's fine to sweet talk. But too much of it is like having too much meat to eat. It gets too queasy."

Jasper listened to her and talked about something serious. "I have something I haven't told you. The men I sent to Rolanda came back with news today."

"Rolanda ... Are you trying to find the maid that Sophia ordered to switch your mother's medication for depression?" Alyssa was as quickwitted as a fox. She immediately connected the dots.

"Yes, I've always wanted to search for her. However, she's elusive and cautious. She no longer resides in the city area of Rolanda and has adopted a new name. The restaurant she operated shut down six months ago. There are rumors suggesting that her husband accumulated substantial gambling debts, and the restaurant was liquidated to settle those debts.

"My men scoured every corner of Rolanda. Eventually, they located that maid in a village. She is presently living in destitution, enduring abuse from her husband. Her son, who joined a gang at a young age, is currently serving a two-year sentence for theft. Her life has reached rock bottom."

"Hmph, serve her right! God is punishing her."

Alyssa could hardly contain her anger. With gritted her teeth and a tone filled with hatred, she said, "Even if she lives the most wretched life, it will never absolve her of the heinous deeds she committed. An innocent life was sacrificed because of her greed. She should pay with a life for a life."

"But before that, I have to capture her and hold her captive."

Jasper was calm and collected. He carefully executed his plan. "Plus, everything has to be done in secret. If Sophia or Betty finds out about my plan, they might intercept and kill her."

Alyssa nodded. She naturally understood the gravity of the situation.

"Lyse, how about on your end? How is Uncle W—"

"He's doing well. Everything is okay. "Alyssa tried her best to appear joyful.

"Are you sure? I sensed that you have something bothering you."

Jasper was emotionally connected to her. Even over the phone, he keenly perceived the subtle emotions she attempted to conceal in her tone.

Alyssa took a deep breath. Her tone was gentle as she said, "You should rest as much as you can. I will see you when I get back."

Jasper's cheerful voice was like an earworm, resonating in her ear and stirring her heart.

"I'll always be waiting for you."

Alyssa and Jasper were talking on the phone lovingly.

Jameson stood frozen in the corner, silent and tense. His gaze fixated on her delicate back as he gritted his teeth in frustration, murmuring to himself, "Lyse, I don't care who you are with. Soon, you will be mine and mine alone ..."