

Can't Win Me Back Chapter 1340 - 1460

Chapter 1341

On the same night, Alyssa and Jasper decided to move back home. Before they left, Lauren cried her heart out in Alyssa's arms, crumpling Alyssa's black dress in her tight grip and staining Alyssa's outfit in tears. People would have thought the two were saying a final farewell.

Alyssa spent some time consoling Lauren and promised to visit. Besides that, she reminded Landon to bring Lauren out for fresh air instead of treating her like a bird in a gilded cage.

Landon immediately vowed to do so. Hugging his crying wife, the two stood at the entrance and watched as Alyssa and Jasper departed.

On the journey, Alyssa couldn't hold back anymore. Tears slid down her cheeks like fallen stars in the night sky.

"Lyse, don't cry." Jasper breathed heavily when he saw her crying. He wrapped an arm around her shoulder and offered a comforting hug. He rubbed his chin on her hair, saying, "You'll see each other again. If you miss Lauren, just invite her to stay at our place."

"Or how about I buy a bigger place for the three of us to live together? I'll appoint Angelina as the president's secretary. That ought to keep her busy. Mrs. Rosie will take care of Lauren instead. Doesn't that sound good?"

"Hmph! Are you sure you're Landon's friend? That's a rotten idea." Sniffing, she poked at his chest.

"They haven't spent much time together. Are you seriously trying to separate them just to make me happy? Jasper, you're a heartless prick. Even if Lauren doesn't protest, Landon will curse you every day for it."

Taken aback by her reaction, he soon responded by kissing her lips. After some intimate moments, he smiled bitterly and admitted, "I didn't think it through. I thought it was a good idea since Lauren looked reluctant to part with you."

"It was you who told me not to interrupt them," she playfully accused, her breathing labored after the kissing.

Eyes brimming with tears, she added, "So, leave them alone."

Staring at her alluring eyes, he grinned. "Lyse, are you telling me to leave them alone because you want some private time with me?"

Her cheeks burned from shame. She bit her lips and mumbled, "I... I'm not telling you."

He smiled dotingly and was about to kiss her when he was interrupted by her ringing phone. She struggled to leave his arms and grumbled, "Mmph... I need to take the call."

Her chest tightened when she saw it was a call from Tatiana. Tatiana was the only sibling who rarely got into trouble. She'd never call unless there was an emergency.

Alyssa immediately answered, "Taty, what's wrong?"

"Lyse, please! Please save Sean..." Tatiana broke down upon hearing Alyssa's voice. Tears flowing, she revealed, "He. The police have arrested him!"

Feeling her heart sinking, Alyssa rasped, "Sean's arrested? When was that?"

Jasper's eyes wavered. He silently grasped her sweating palm.

Tatiana confessed, "It. It happened a few days back."

Chapter 1342

Days of worry had driven Tatiana to the brink of insanity. Shedding tears, she said, "Mom and I tried to come up with a solution."

The Lynch family tried to get help, but we all failed to get him out."

"What? Why did you only tell me now?" Alyssa gasped, her heart leaping into her mouth.

"Lyse, keep calm. You don't want to scare Taty," reminded Jasper.

He held his hand and gently calmed her down. "Tell Taty not to panic and share everything with you."

Taking a deep breath, Alyssa apologized with guilt. "Sorry, Taty. I was too harsh on you earlier. Don't cry. Tell me everything. I'm eager to know which idiot laid a finger on my staff. I'll make them pay for it!"

Although they were panicking, Jasper had to stifle a laugh when he heard Alyssa's adorable threat.

"It's. It's the Schmidts." Tatiana sobbed. "I think his family was upset that he got beaten up after what happened to me. They're now giving Sean trouble.

"Sean was arrested for aggravated assault. David Schmidt even underwent a health assessment and blamed all his injuries on

Sean. The police concluded that Sean had severely injured David."

Naturally, David seized the opportunity to blame his impotence on Sean's attack. With the Schmidts' influence, manipulating the assessment results was a breeze.

"That son of a bitch! I've shown him mercy by sparing his life. How dare the Schmidts hit back at us?" Anger rolled through her.

Tatiana added, "The Schmidts do not plan to settle in private..."

"Yeah, there's no way they'll do that. They want Sean dead!" Alyssa rubbed her temples. Hatred pulsed through her, causing her heart to race. "Only Josh Schmidt could do something like this. Maybe Simon's involved too!"

"Simon? Simon is Sean's brother. He couldn't possibly do that!" Tatiana was in disbelief.

"It's very plausible." Jasper caressed Alyssa on the back. His eyes were as deep as an abyss. "Simon Lynch is a top attorney in Solana City, but he hasn't done anything since his brother was arrested. Doesn't that sound odd to you?

"Besides, after hearing you and Alyssa out, it seems that Simon and Sean have a strained relationship.

He might take advantage of David's situation to get Sean into trouble, and you know why."

"But Sean is his brother! How could he?" Tatiana growled in resentment.

"Simon only cares about fame and power. To him, family isn't important. That's how heartless he is."

Alyssa punched the car window, startling Xavier and Jasper. They were concerned about whether she had injured herself.

She seethed, "I was the one who taught David a lesson, but they went for Sean. They were clearly bullying the weak!"

"Lyse, I'm here for you," Jasper whispered, gently caressing her swollen hand. "Knowing Sean, he'll keep everything to himself because he doesn't want to burden me," Alyssa said, choking on tears. "I've been careless. All I cared about was revenge. I never thought that I might endanger the people around me. Why am I so useless?"

Once meticulous, she had become desensitized to the world's dangers since falling in love.

"Lyse, don't blame yourself for what happened to Sean," Tatiana comforted her.

Jasper held Alyssa's shaking hand and took her phone. He replied, "Taty, don't worry. Leave the matter to me. I'll make sure he comes home before tomorrow evening."

Chapter 1343

Alyssa widened her eyes, staring blankly at Jasper's attractive side profile. Tatiana fell silent on the other end of the line. She was sobbing quietly.

"What's wrong? One of you is staring at me. The other one went quiet." Grinning, he pinched Alyssa on her cheeks. "Is no one willing to trust me?"

"No, that's not it..." Tatiana said with gratitude, "Jasper, thank you so much for helping Sean. I'm really thankful."

"We're family. Don't mention it." Once Jasper soothed Tatiana's emotions, he hung up and instructed Xavier, "Make a turn. Let's head to the police station."

Xavier immediately made a U-turn.

"Jasper, what's your plan?" Worry was etched on Alyssa's face. On the contrary, he appeared calm.

"No matter what, let's focus on saving Sean for now." Sighing, Jasper locked his fingers with her and tightened his grip. "Taty and Sean went through a lot just to be together. I do not wish to see them going through a tough time anymore. I want to protect them from harm."

Alyssa held her breath and mused, "Are you empathizing with them now?" He shook his head and pulled her into a hug. "I used to be, but not anymore because I have achieved my happiness."

Sean had been detained at the filthy detention center for two weeks. If the Schmidts refused to settle in private, he might have to stay on longer. Despite the challenges, he refused to rat on Alyssa and Jasper. Even if he were to go to prison, he would shoulder all the blame and maintain his integrity.

At that moment, Sean stood with his back against the wall. He crossed his arms and shut his eyes.

Across from him, a few men cowered in the corner and shot cautious glances at him while chatting with each other.

"You're disturbing me." Without looking at them, Sean threatened, "Shut up, or I'll beat you up."

The men in detention promptly fell silent as they trembled under his threat. Seeing that, Sean let out a melancholic sigh. Life had been chaotic ever since his first night at the detention center.

The Schmidts had specially arranged for his cellmates to rough him up, having no idea that Sean had a black belt in martial arts.

Sean ended up beating up his cellmates.

Sean shook his head. He was surprised that the Schmidts arranged for him to stay with a few weaklings. They seemed to have underestimated his ability.

Anyway, he treated it as a test run. In the worst-case scenario where he was sent to jail, at least life wouldn't be as difficult.

Little did he know that Alyssa and Jasper had arrived at the police station. Aware of Cyrus Taylor's presence in the police force, the Schmidts had slickly got Sean detained at the West Division of the Solana City Police Department, where the police chief Gabe Barrett was a friend of theirs.

Gabe looked wary when Alyssa and Jasper showed up. He hurriedly called up Josh, "M-Mr. Schmidt, Alyssa Taylor and Jasper Beckett are here in the meeting room. W-What do we do?"

"Do what you need." Josh gritted his teeth. "Why are you scared of them when you have the backing of our family? Your

promotion depends on your handling of the case. You must stand up against them, no matter how they pressure you. Do not

release Sean Lynch. We need to charge him with aggravated assault."

"Sure, I'll try my best." Gabe wiped away his sweat and added, "But Mr. Schmidt, I wonder why you're hung up on Alyssa Taylor's

secretary. You gain nothing from making yourself the enemy of the Taylor family."

"That's none of your business. Just do as I say," Josh hissed and hung up with a look of malice. "How could he say that I'll gain

nothing? Pfft. I never lose out."

Josh had bribed the few witnesses whom the police had contacted. The female victims would "admit" that they had engaged in

consensual sex with David in their relationship with him.

With the accounts from the witnesses and the injuries David sustained from Sean's assault, Josh could effectively paint David as

the victim.

Not only that, Alyssa would be at the center of public criticism and perceived as abusing her power to right personal wrongs.

Considering the toxicity of the online environment, the netizens would be more than eager to release their frustration on the rich

without caring for the truth.

Josh popped a bottle of champagne and enjoyed it alone. He cackled. "Alyssa Taylor, are you trying to fight me? You were still a fledgling when I was already in the business!"

Gabe stared at the two VIPs in his office. He forced a smile despite being drenched in sweat. Even with the backing of the

Schmidts, he cowered under the pressure of the two dazzling and intimidating figures.

Smiling, he greeted them, "So, what brings you here?"

"We're here for what the Schmidts have done," Alyssa offered a piercing reply with a snicker, which he perceived as threatening.

Alyssa's formidable presence hung over Gabe like the sword of Damocles. He chuckled nervously.

"How about some tea for now?"

"It's fine. That's some truly expensive tea that I can't possibly accept," Alyssa addressed him coldly, crossing her legs. "Release my secretary from detention. This is a private matter between the Taylors and the Schmidts. Stay out of this if you still want a promotion and want to avoid trouble."

Alyssa had always gone straight to the point without wasting time. That nearly wiped off Gabe's smile, but he persisted, "Ms.

Alyssa, I understand your feelings, but based on my three decades of experience dealing with multiple cases in the department, those brought in are mostly guilty.

"Sean Lynch might be one of your staff, but he has committed aggravated assault after beating up David Schmidt. Besides, I've turned in the assessment results to my superiors."

Frowning deeply, Alyssa tightened her fists on the arm of the chair. Gabe went on, "You might be two important figures in Solana City, but everyone is equal before the law. Even scions and heirs are not above the law. My apologies, Ms. Alyssa, but I can't grant your wish."

"Mr. Barrett, you're glib, aren't you? Equality before the law?" Jasper sneered as he held Alyssa's cold hand.

He authoritatively questioned, "If so, you shouldn't falsely accuse an innocent citizen. Don't you think?"

Alyssa's eyes widened in shock. Suddenly, she seemed to have understood Jasper's move, which added to her astonishment.

"Mr. Beckett, what do you mean by that?" Gabe exclaimed.

"Sean Lynch did not beat up David Schmidt. I did." A smirk played on Jasper's lips. The gleam in his eyes resembled that of a blade. "Release Sean Lynch and arrest me instead."

Holding her breath, Alyssa grabbed Jasper's hand. "Jasper! You..."

Meanwhile, Gabe stared agape at Jasper. He was at a loss for what to do next.

"What's wrong, Mr. Barrett? Since I've turned myself in, shouldn't you do your job now?" Jasper said with calm, caressing Alyssa

on her waist to comfort her. "Why? Does your 'equality before the law' only apply to the ordinary citizens but not scions?"

"No, no. Mr. Beckett, did you hear yourself." Gabe started to stammer and stutter from the shock.

He was in a dilemma after the Beckett Group's president turned himself in, claiming that he had beaten up David Schmidt. Josh's warning rang in his ears, but he was too afraid to arrest Jasper.

"If so, count me in," Alyssa spoke with a lift of her brow. She grinned knowingly.

"Didn't you ask David Schmidt the person who fractured his fingers and broke his front teeth? Oh, by the way, I'm also the reason behind his erectile dysfunction. Did that bastard not tell you about these details at all?"

"M-Ms. Alyssa, aggravated assault comes with a heavy sentence. I know you're eager to protect your employee, but you can't fool around!" Gabe wiped away his sweat furiously.

"Lyse, don't play around," Jasper chimed in and pinched her on the waist.

"I'm not. I'm serious." Looking deep into his alluring eyes, she smiled. "I'll go wherever you are because we're a couple."

Her words shook him to the core. His heart raced wildly, and his breath quickened. Alyssa was his wife, and she'd be his only love in this life.

"Hmph! I did not expect the two of you to resort to this dirty trick just to protect Sean Lynch." A sarcastic voice boomed in the office. In walked Josh Schmidt with a scowl.

Chapter 1345

Gabe nearly shed tears of relief when Josh showed up to the rescue. Following closely behind Josh was Simon Lynch, to everyone's surprise.

After the call just now, Josh was plagued by concern and decided to drop by. He also reached out to Simon and updated the latter, inviting him to settle this issue concerning David.

Initially, Simon thought of refusing as he had not gotten over Josh's humiliation.

However, when he learned of Alyssa and Jasper's intervention, he immediately grabbed the chance to humiliate the couple.

Alyssa gritted her teeth as rage flashed across her eyes. Josh's despicable face resembled that of a movie villain.

"Mr. Schmidt, I had no idea you engaged Simon Lynch's legal assistance." Jasper snickered. "You probably know his relationship to Sean, don't you?"

"Of course. So what?" Josh flashed a malicious smile. "Is there anything wrong with hiring Simon Lynch, the top attorney, to work on my brother's case?"

"Why doesn't Simon Lynch support his own brother? Instead, he's helping the plaintiff to put his brother in prison. What do we call this? Selling yourself to the enemy?" Jasper's eyes were filled with disdain. Simon glared at Jasper with a smug look on his face. "Gosh, I'm honored to be criticized by you, Mr. Beckett. I'm simply doing my job here. Why would you stand at the moral high ground to criticize me?"

"You're only making things difficult for us attorneys. Based on your logic, do attorneys who defend murderers deserve to be punished as well?"

As if that wasn't insulting enough, he blinked, feigning innocence. "Mr. Beckett, are you feeling worried because you didn't hire a good enough attorney for Sean? Had I known, I would have declined Mr. Schmidt's offer!"

Alyssa's veins were throbbing from the anger. She would have knocked out Simon's teeth and kicked him in the balls, sending

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him to the hospital just like what she had done with David.

"I have no need to hire an attorney for Sean because he's innocent." Jasper, to Simon's surprise, wasn't provoked by the insults.

Instead, he laughed out loud. "Even if I need an attorney, I would never hire you.

"Even animals care for their flesh and blood, unlike you, who have no ethics at all. It's best if you work for Josh Schmidt—birds of a feather flock together."

"Pfft! Well said, Jasper!" Alyssa laughed and applauded Jasper's speech. Gabe, however, found no humor in the situation.

Cowering in a corner, he feared the conflict might escalate.

"Jasper Beckett, there's no point in arguing," Josh, blinded by rage, retorted. "Our family will make you pay for what you did to David. You're delusional if you think you can save Sean by leveraging your influence."

Simon patted Josh on the shoulder, cautioning him against saying more to avoid legal consequences.

He then turned to Gabe and remarked, "Mr. Barrett, you and your colleagues need to improve your efficiency. We've been conversing with Mr. Beckett and Ms. Alyssa for a while now. Why hasn't the paperwork been processed yet?"

Gabe and Josh were similarly confused by Simon's remark. Just then, they heard a knock on the door.

A policeman entered with a file in his hand, which he handed to Gabe. He reported, "Chief, this is Sean's admission of guilt. He's signed it."

Alyssa and Jasper's faces fell upon hearing this

Chapter 1346

"Sean? Why would he?" Alyssa's mind went blank. Had Jasper not held her right in time, she would have lost her balance.

"Is this true? Has Sean Lynch admitted to all the charges?" Gabe's eyes lit up. He repeatedly checked the document for confirmation.

"It's true, Chief. It's in black and white. Sean Lynch has admitted to assaulting David Schmidt, and he's willing to receive the punishment."

The turn of events was a welcomed change for the Schmidts. Despite sending in different policemen across shifts to continuously interrogate Sean, Sean did not budge at all. He'd rather be imprisoned indefinitely than admit to his guilt.

But why the change of mind? What exactly happened?

"Lyse, how are you feeling?" Jasper was concerned by Alyssa's pale face. He hugged her tight on her waist and sensed her body stiffening. He felt sorry for her.

"Sean did not do anything wrong. Why did he admit to his guilt?" Alyssa's eyes filled with hatred. She shook her head indignantly.

"Is he an idiot? He can't just admit to guilt without care! Does he want to go to prison?"

"Right. How could he?" Simon squinted with a knowing smile. "I'm sure he was aware of the consequences as a former top student in law school. Ms. Alyssa, what's the point of poking your nose into his case?"

Feeling a stabbing pain in her heart, she suddenly connected the dots.

An hour ago, Gabe gave Simon special permission to visit Sean discreetly. There wasn't an ounce of affection between the siblings when they met, only tension and hatred.

"Tsk tsk. Look at you, Sean. What have you done to yourself?" Scrutinizing Sean, Simon shook his head and clicked his tongue.

"If Dad and Mom know you're going to prison for Tatiana Taylor, they'll pass out from crying. You've given them so much trouble."

"Didn't your owner put you on a leash today? It's annoying, you barking in front of me." Sean closed his eyes, unwilling to look at his brother.

Simon merely scoffed. He did not seem provoked, merely saying, "We're brothers. Let's play nice."

"Don't call yourself my brother. It disgusts me."

"Haha! Fine. Let's talk about something that might be of interest to you." Simon slowly slid his phone to Sean. A video was playing. "Take a look at this."

Frowning, Sean turned to the video. Dumbstruck by what he witnessed, he rose and punched the table, yelping, "Simon Lynch, what are you planning to do?"

The video was a recording of Alyssa and Jasper breaking into the hotel room at the Jesseltons' event.

What happened later was history.

Soon, the scene showed Jonah beating up David, who had already been badly roughed up then. The video clearly recorded Jonah dragging David away.

Oddly, Sean's presence was nowhere to be seen, even though he was at the scene that night.

"Ms. Alyssa and Mr. Beckett were meticulous. After beating up David, they wiped the footage of their crime from the hotel surveillance camera, but they slipped up this time. They forgot that deleted footage is recoverable within a week with the help of experts."

An evil grin played on Simon's lips. He added with a sigh, "To recover the footage, I went to Mosgravia and spent hundreds of thousands to hire the best hacker. Thankfully, it all paid off."

"Simon, you're falsifying evidence! Aren't you scared of losing your license and being investigated by the Department of

Justice?" Sean growled at his brother, his face turning white. His veins bulged.

"Falsification of evidence? Where?" Simon opened his arms and smiled cunningly.

"My dear brother, you were at the scene that

night. You knew who roughed up David Schmidt. It's obvious from the video that Alyssa and Jasper acted out, and Jonah helped

them to clean up the mess. When did you even beat David? At least I didn't see it."

Sean felt a piercing pain in his chest. He bellowed, "Just come at me! Do not do anything to Ms. Alyssa!"

"Oh, I need to tell you this as well." Simon's fingers intertwined. Leaning forward, he stared coldly at Sean, "Ms. Alyssa is on her way to save you. If my guess is correct, she'd turn herself in and take all the blame to secure your release."

"Ms. Alyssa... No..." Sean repeatedly shook his head as he grappled with the headache.

"Either you or the Taylors would have to take the responsibility. The video evidence and David's injuries won't lie. Sean, you're close to Ms. Alyssa. You wouldn't want her involved, would you?"

Chapter 1347

To protect Alyssa, Sean turned himself in without hesitation and signed his admission of guilt. Without seeking Josh's approval,

Simon executed a bold maneuver to resolve the issue once and for all, catching Alyssa and Jasper off guard.

Jasper hugged Alyssa tight and shot a glare at Simon's smug face. "Simon Lynch, what trick have you pulled on Sean to make him confess?"

"Tricks? Mr. Beckett, I'm breaking under all your verbal assaults. You might have to compensate me for moral damages." Simon rubbed his chest, but the glee on his face betrayed his feelings. "It's the police's job to interrogate the suspect. As an attorney, I have no place to do so. Look, Sean willingly signed the admission of guilt. I did not force him at all."

"Simon Lynch, karma will hit you one day. Besides, it's too early to claim you've won." Alyssa stared at him resentfully as she clutched Jasper's hand tightly, the only way to keep her composure.

"We shall see. I'm intrigued to learn how you'll beat me. Don't keep me waiting too long." The malicious smile on Simon's face was at odds with his gentlemanly appearance.

They had been negligent, forgetting about the threat Simon Lynch posed. Despite the marked contrast in integrity between the brothers, Simon knew Sean inside and out, having grown up together.

Alyssa and Jasper had not arrived at the police station when Simon engaged Sean in the conversation.

At that time, Simon threatened Sean with Alyssa and Tatiana's wellbeing, knowing that Sean would willingly sacrifice for them.

The look in Josh's eyes darkened. He was amazed by Simon's secret maneuvers that saved the day.

Despite securing Sean's admission of guilt, Josh did not feel thankful to Simon, who had betrayed his family for personal gains.

Josh agreed with Jasper on one thing—Simon was a heartless bastard. If Simon could betray his sibling, Josh knew it was a matter of time before Simon sold him out for personal gain. Therefore, he had to be wary of Simon.

"Mr. Barrett, now that the suspect has admitted guilt, we may kickstart the legal procedure and bring him to court," suggested Simon.

He couldn't wait to indict Sean to get back at Alyssa. Gabe shared the same goal, as he wanted to ingratiate himself with the Schmidts. Therefore, he agreed with Simon, "Now that we have evidence, let's kickstart the procedure.

"Wait a minute!" To everyone's astonishment, a loud, clear voice cut through the tension, startling everyone.

Alyssa gasped, "Jonah!"

"Lyse, you should have told me if you planned to come here." Jonah playfully glared at his sister. "Am I nothing to you now that you have your man?"

"Exactly! We have been worried about the two of you," Julien chimed in, standing behind Jonah.

Despite the stern tone, Julien winked playfully at Alyssa from behind Jonah.

Chapter 1348

Alyssa was rendered speechless at Julien's behavior in this tense situation.

Suddenly, it occurred to her that Jasper did not seem surprised by Jonah's arrival. Was he in the know?

"Jasper, did you call Jonah..." Her voice trailed off.

She widened her eyes, staring quizzically at Jasper. His eyes twinkled as he whispered into her ear,

"Sorry, Lyse. It wasn't my intention to keep it a secret from you. I didn't ask Jonah to show up. I merely told Xavier to give Jonah a heads-up after we left for the police station.

"I didn't expect him to show up at all. It shows how much he cares about Sean, but more importantly, he's concerned about you.

By the way, why is Dr. Lovelace here as well? Why do they always show up together?"

While Jasper was musing, Alyssa grinned and gestured at him to come close. He inched closer, and she revealed in a whisper, "I called Dr. Lovelace."

Jasper was surprised at the revelation. It seemed that Alyssa had kept a secret from him as well. The calculating couple seemed

to operate in sync.

"Is a secretary worth that effort?" Josh snickered at Jonah. "Anyway, it's too late now. Sean Lynch has confessed. Do you remember what your dad said in an interview before? One should take responsibility for one's actions. I'd like to remind you of the same."

As heirs of their respective family businesses, Josh and Jonah would inevitably clash as business rivals. Despite making all the necessary preparations, Josh had lost out to Jonah in every competition for projects the KS Group was interested in.

Frustrated by maintaining a friendly facade for the sake of family friendship, Josh relished the opportunity to express his animosity now that they were in direct opposition.

Jonah faced the situation with calm. Squinting, he warned, "Sean is not just any ordinary secretary. Did you not know that he's my dad's godson? You're his brother, but his life is worth more than yours." After learning that Winston Taylor had taken Sean as a godson, Simon's face reddened in anger.

Envious, he thought, "It seemed that all of Sean's bootlicking has paid off."

"Mr. Barrett, do you not care about evidence at all? Let's say I make an outrageous claim right now. Are you going to arrest and charge me?" Julien took a step forward, smirking.

Gabe swiftly clarified, "Our decisions are based on evidence. Sir, please refrain from making baseless accusations." "Really?

Why don't you take a good look at this, then?" With that, Julien tossed an envelope onto the table.

Gabe picked it up with astonishment and extracted the document from within. His eyes widened. "W- What is this?"

"It's David Schmidt's previous diagnosis. God knows how much effort and networking I put in to get this from the hospital archives."

Josh and Simon's expressions dropped upon seeing the evidence. Meanwhile, Jasper gazed at Alyssa with admiration.

Chapter 1349

Jasper finally understood the reason behind Alyssa calling Julien. It was part of her plan from the start.

"No... How is this possible?" Josh seized the diagnosis from Gabe, meticulously scrutinizing its contents. His eyes bulged out of his head.

At the same time, Simon turned white, and his heart drummed.

"Mr. Schmidt, I can't believe your family has kept the diagnosis secret. Alyssa, or Dr. White, has saved David's life upon your father's request." Julien glared at Josh disdainfully. "You don't seem grateful to her. Not only that, you're also making her responsible for David's old injuries. You hid the truth by manipulating the diagnosis. That's a really despicable thing to do."

Before this, Josh and Simon had discussed pinning David's erectile dysfunction on Sean to indict Sean under aggravated assault, which carried a heavier sentence.

Therefore, Josh hid away the real diagnosis and worked with Gabe to charge Sean. To their dismay, their carefully crafted plan had been overturned by Julien with ease.

Alyssa cast a grateful look at Julien. He replied with a look in his eyes, telling her not to worry about it.

The Schmidts had thought they were invincible in Solana City, but they finally had a taste of the Lovelaces' ultimate authority in the medical field.

"Alyssa Taylor must bear full responsibility for David's impotence!" Josh blurted out in the heat of the moment.

He accused, "David wouldn't be in this situation if she hadn't performed that surgery on him!"

A hush descended upon Gabe's office. Simon's heart sank, realizing it was too late to stop the guilty Josh, who had crumbled under pressure. Josh's actions validated Julien's claim that Sean was not responsible for David's erectile dysfunction.

"What a dumbass!" Simon seethed, wondering how a loser like Josh was appointed the president of Schmidt Group in the first

place.

"Gosh, Mr. Schmidt, are you illiterate or visually impaired?" Julien crossed his arms in annoyance. "It's all written down in the diagnosis. The cause of David Schmidt's erectile dysfunction was the anesthetic and hormonal injections performed before and after the surgery. Lyse had nothing to do with it." Jonah grinned at Julien, his eyes full of affection.

"W-Who even are you? It's not your place to speak!" Josh curled his fists in anger as he approached Julien.

Julien's expression hardened upon facing the threat. Jonah almost instinctively stood in front of him to shield him from danger.

Before Josh knew it, Jonah had shoved him onto the floor.

"No! Mr. Schmidt, watch out!"

Josh stumbled backward amid the screams of Gabe and Simon. He'd have crashed hard onto the floor if they had not grabbed him.

"Mr. Jonah, are you seriously planning to commit physical assault in a police station?" Simon confronted him through gritted teeth.

"Of course not." Jonah tightened his fists and cracked his knuckles as he cast a menacing look at Josh.

"However, if he raises his voice at Dr. Lovelace again, I might break his nose."

Chapter 1350

"A love rival?" Alyssa rested her cheek on her palm while feeding Jasper blueberries. She mused, "It's quite unfathomable for Landon Harper to have a love rival. That's new."

Jasper snickered. "Lauren's living a secluded life because you're overprotective. She doesn't have a chance to meet with anyone outside it's just you and your secretary. She doesn't even have a healthy social life, so what's all that talk about a love rival? You must be dreaming."

"Isn't that right?" Landon slammed a fist on the table as his voice broke from the tension.

He recalled the scene from last night where Lauren mumbled the name of this guy, Cyrus, while sleeping in his arms. How could she call out the name of another man in her dreams?

His heart immediately shattered into pieces.

Alyssa shot him a piercing glance. "Do you mean my brother, Cyrus Taylor?"

Jasper froze. He grappled with the far-fetched notion, struggling to imagine Lauren and Cyrus together.

Landon widened his eyes, looking amazed. "Oh, Lyse, how did you know? Are you God?"

"Hah, drop it." Feeling speechless, she told him, "You're an open book-I can tell from your face. I saw you standing across from Cyrus yesterday, staring at him fiercely, and I immediately knew something was wrong.

"But Mr. Harper, you shouldn't look down on the gentlemen of the Taylor family. None of them would ever get involved with unavailable women. You shouldn't imagine him as a love rival just because he spoke to Lauren."

"Cyrus isn't that type of man. Landon, you shouldn't even suspect Lyse's family to start with." Jasper hugged Alyssa by the waist as he pondered the absurdity of Landon's accusation.

Landon sighed and held his tongue out of fear of sounding like a disgruntled housewife.

"Ah! No wonder you're in a hurry to register your marriage with Lauren. Looks like the 'love rival' has plunged you into a crisis."

Alyssa immediately read Landon's mind. "Seriously? Did you lose your head over a non-issue? Are you a child?"

Landon pressed his lips sheepishly.

"Let's have a careful discussion about the marriage in the future." Jasper put on a serious face and advised Landon, "Your priority should be sorting out the mess in your family. Once you've established your power in the company, everything will fall into place."

Despite Jasper's advice, Landon felt bothered. He had acknowledged Lauren as his future spouse, but the same might not be

true for Lauren. He worried that, given her naivety, she might fall for the tricks of another man.

That was his punishment for being too deep in love.

When Jasper and Alyssa finished breakfast, Xavier returned from his mission and exclaimed, "Madam, you're spot on! David Schmidt has been arrested!"

Casting an admirable glance at Alyssa, Xavier professed his amazement, "The media has swarmed the entrance to the police station. The police have gathered evidence of David Schmidt sexually assaulting multiple women, two of them minors!"

"Fuck! He's the scum of the earth!" Landon slammed the table indignantly.

Similarly, Jasper was disgusted to learn about David's reproachable behavior.

Besides that, he was amazed by Alyssa's capability. Holding her shoulders and carefully pulling her into a hug, he praised, "Lyse, Landon was right. You're like God. You're wittier and prettier than everyone around."

"Pfft! You sweet talker," she playfully chided him but secretly enjoyed the compliments. "Too bad David was caught in action. I

heard a few reporters on stakeout had live streamed him completely naked, having no time to blur out the nudity!

"Alas, I missed the live stream. How exciting would it be?"

Jasper looked amused by Alyssa's often surprisingly bold remarks, which he once found hard to accept. Now, he thoroughly enjoyed her snarky behavior. He'd much prefer to date a sassy woman.

"The videos online have blurred out the nudity. If you want, I'll get you the raw video," Landon suggested with sincerity and winked at her. Jasper and Alyssa, rendered speechless, wondered if Landon was truly out of the situation or simply feigning naivete.

"Now, Daisy and David Schmidt are done for. Josh has lost two of his right-hand men." A frosty expression unfolded on Jasper's face. "He must be panicking now since he has lost his support pillars. Next, he'll be fighting Jameson head-on for power in the

Schmidt Group. "Josh might be cunning, but that's all he has going for him-he lacks the talent to helm a company. Watching him fight Jameson will be as exciting as a cage fight."

Frowning, Alyssa did not seem pleased by the imminent victory. She cautioned, "Let's not get ahead of ourselves. Josh Schmidt is way more of a threat than we think

"You know what? I reached out to Jonah yesterday to get him to purchase massive amounts of the Schmidt Group stocks at a low price to take control of the company.

"To our surprise, someone from the Schmidt Group had pulled the strings, injecting a large amount of capital to stabilize the volatile stock price. That's why Jonah failed to purchase anything."

Jasper knitted his brows, pondering, "Was that Jameson Schmidt's work?"

"He was able to sway the local election results from far in Kontina. Do you think he can't manipulate the stock price? After 15 years of preparation in Kontina, he must be ready for a power grab in the Schmidt Group." Closing her eyes, she gritted her teeth and vowed, "We can't let him take control of the Schmidt Group no matter what it takes."

"It's fine even if we fail to stop him." Jasper gazed at Alyssa tenderly and planted a kiss on her forehead. "A greater humiliation would be destroying his beloved Schmidt Group from within."

Her eyes shimmered as she nodded in agreement.

"By the way, there's something else I'd like to inform you," Xavier suddenly interjected.

Feeling thirsty, he had no time to take a sip of water. He began, "I'm not sure if this is worth reporting, though. J-Jameson

Schmidt just bought a private jet and got it delivered to Solana City last night.

"Just... Wow. I checked out the photos captured on my phone. It's such a luxurious jet, and it's the latest model compared to Mr.

Beckett's jet. Jameson must be filthy rich."

Looking upset at Xavier's comparison, Jasper pouted. "If you like private jets that much, you should work for Jameson Schmidt instead and jet around."

Chapter 1351

Xavier inhaled sharply and hurriedly replied, "No! Jetting around sounds cool, but there's no way I'm risking my life for that!"

"Come on, Jasper. We all know Xavier's loyal. Why fuss over a jet?" cooed Alyssa as she brushed her fingertip across Jasper's jawline. She squinted, looking regal and haughty. "I'll get you a better jet than Jameson's for your birthday this year. How does that sound?"

Their exchange was envy-inducing. Alyssa was indeed a Taylor, having the wealth to buy a private jet as a gift.

Jasper widened his eyes and held her hand with a straight face. "Lyse, I'm yours, but I'm not a kept man. I should be the one who buys it for you."

"Pfft! Don't overthink it. Everything we own belongs to each other. Let's not waste time on nickel-and-dime stuff," she remarked generously, much to the envy of Landon and Xavier.

Their interests lay not in a potential Sugar Mommy but in their shared enthusiasm for cars, tanks, and jets..

Jasper shook his head bitterly. "Lyse, you don't have to buy me anything. You've given me enough. I even have a room to keep all the gifts you've bought me. Every time I get home, I'll visit the room and check out the gifts repeatedly."

During the time he lost Alyssa, he acted abnormally akin to a hoarder. He'd always stay in the room, even spending nights in there.

He was known for his composure, but his longing for Alyssa drove him crazy in private. It was a tumultuous period for him.

Staring affectionately at him, she caressed his cheek with trembling fingers, which betrayed the calmness on her face.

Jasper added, "Besides, I don't need any gifts. You're the best gift I've ever had." It was not his first time confessing to her, but every time, he said it with the same level of sincerity as the first.

"You fool..." Alyssa's voice trailed off. She expressed her love by sealing his lips with a kiss.

"Ahem! I must be an incredibly senseless guy. That doesn't sound at all romantic to me, just perverted," taunted Landon.

He had goosebumps from the thought of Jasper swooning over Alyssa's gifts.

They were interrupted by a flurry of urgent footsteps. Angelina dashed down the stairs and hurried to Landon. "Mr. Harper, we found Inigo Montiye!"

"What? Did he show up?" Alyssa and Jasper sat upright at the same time, resembling each other in their excited reaction. They finally tracked down the villain after searching high and low in Solana City. Landon started blabbering due to the excitement, "S-So, where's that jerk right now? Have we not taken him down?"

Angelina shook her head with a heavy expression. "My apologies, Mr. Harper. Inigo Montiye was not alone. When we surrounded him, we got into a clash with his men and suffered injuries. Two of our men are still in critical condition."

Alyssa and Jasper looked astonished by the development. Landon growled in disbelief, "We're in Solana City, not Shelland

Island! I can't believe that we got defeated on our own turf. Didn't they call for reinforcements?"

"Of course they did, but it was too late!"

Chapter 1352

Despite putting on a brave face, Josh had been gripped by fear. His legs went weak. Simon kept his silence under Jonah's intimidating gaze.

Alyssa found herself moved by Jonah's protectiveness. Knowing Jonah, he was aloof and rarely displayed his emotions. Apart

from family and Sean, he showed no care for almost anyone else.

Hence, she was surprised by his unusual action toward Julien. At the same time, she noticed Julien gazing at Jonah tenderly, prompting her to muse over their seemingly intimate connection. Why did they look like a couple in her eyes?

Before she could delve further into her thoughts, Simon interjected, " Mr. Jonah, Sean will face assault charges even if we start

anew. According to the law, confirmed assault, supported by a medical expert, carries a three-year sentence. Sean can't escape his fate."

Simon argued vehemently, displaying a hostility that made it hard to believe he was Sean's older brother. The materialistic and selfish world had transformed him into a heartless monster.

"Josh Schmidt." Jonah ignored Simon, whom he perceived as the Schmidts' lapdog. He began, "Sean did not lay a finger on anyone even if he wanted to. I was the one who roughed up David Schmidt, and I have a video as proof."

He turned to Julien and addressed the latter gently, "Julien, show me the video." After some hesitation, Julien bit his lower lip and played a video for everyone to see. David's agonizing screams echoed in the office as the video depicted Jonah beating him into a pulp.

"Pretty solid evidence, don't you think?" Jonah flashed Josh a devilish and frosty smile.

Gabe and Simon nearly blacked out from the shock. Jonah's evidence had shattered their hope of indicting Sean.

"Jonah, how did you..." Covering her mouth in shock, Alyssa rested in Jasper's arms.

Jasper held her trembling shoulders while looking at Jonah with complicated feelings. He understood and appreciated Jonah's foresight and effort. Jonah had seen this coming and prepared accordingly.

"Mr. Barrett, can we have Sean released now?" Jonah looked at Gabe in amusement.

Gabe stammered, "Uh, well..." He stole a glance at Josh.

Jonah pressed on, "I have reported your mistake to Mr. Galini, your superior. He was infuriated when he heard it. I'm afraid this spells the end of your career."

Gabe's face turned pale. Without hesitation, he rushed out of the office to process Sean's release.

"Josh Schmidt, I know you're a snob. I'm not going to waste more time on you. Xavier!"

"Yes, Mr. Jonah?" Xavier hurried over and stood by Jonah. Alyssa was surprised to learn that Jonah had been utilizing Jasper's

secretary.

Still, she acknowledged Xavier's flexibility. People would have thought he was working in the capacity of the secretary of the KS Group president.

Jonah shot Xavier a look. Xavier, getting the hint, handed an envelope over to Josh. Opening it, Josh's pupils dilated in shock.

"There's a contract of a Tsulian resort project and a settlement agreement in there," Josh began icily.

He added, "If you agree to settle in private, our family will transfer the project to the Schmidt Group to compensate for your brother's injuries.

"If you do not agree to settle in private... That's fine, too. I'm bored of serving as the president, and I don't mind spending a year or two behind bars. My sister could officially take over my role. Striking two birds with one stone, isn't it?

"Anyway, I don't see a reason for you to decline since you're not exactly in a favorable position now."

Josh chose personal gain over his family in the face of Jonah's enticing offer. A chameleon, he signed the settlement without hesitation and left Gabe's office as though nothing had happened.

Meanwhile, Simon fumed when his efforts went down the drain. Not only did he fail to indict Sean, but he also failed to get back at the Taylors. In the end, he had only made a joke out of himself.

"Simon, I was right." Alyssa fixed a piercing gaze on Simon's disgusting face. "Evil will never prevail over justice. You'll never win against us."

"Damn it! It's just sheer luck!" Simon, gritting his teeth, stormed out of the office. Before he left, Julien suddenly called out to him with a wide grin, " Attorney Lynch!"

Simon halted and snapped, "What?"

"Did you enjoy having your face stuffed with feces that night?"

Chapter 1353

However, Sean lost his composure and teared up when he saw Jonah and Julien tagging along with

Alyssa and Jasper. What had he done to deserve their concern?

"Sean." Jonah grinned, lightening up the mood. "You must have suffered. We're here to take you home."

"Mr. Jonah—" Sean choked on his tears and struggled to speak.

All of a sudden, Alyssa dashed over to face off with Sean before Jasper could react to it. Jasper's heart raced upon seeing that, and he tensed up.

He thought Alyssa had calmed down, but she seemed incensed the moment she saw Sean.

"Why did you admit to your guilt?" Panting heavily, she blushed in anger.

Sean grappled with the piercing pain upon hearing her question. His dry lips parted. "Ms. Alyssa... I'm sorry."

Rage colored her teary eyes. She lifted her arm, ready to punch Sean in the face.

"Lyse, no!"

"Lyse!"

Sean did not move at all. His eyes grew mistier. Finally, she landed the punch on his shoulder. She hissed, "Why did you do that? Are you crazy? We should take responsibility for beating up David Schmidt. It's not your place to play the hero!"

"Ms. Alyssa, I was just worried for you." Sean struggled to get his words out. "You went through a lot to be with Mr. Beckett again. I didn't want to see you in trouble."

Jasper felt a deep, searing pain that shook him to his core. Alyssa, who had been holding back, started sobbing even though she

had not noticed it. "Sean, do you think I'll be grateful to you? Not at all! If Jonah hadn't kept a card up his sleeve, you would have been in jail now!"

"Why would you claim that you are doing this for us? Do you know you're not alone now? You have Taty. What would she do if you were in jail? Have you ever thought about her?"

Tatiana. A jolt coursed through Sean's body. His chest tightened in pain.

"I hate you! I hate you so!" Alyssa proceeded to punch Sean, only to be stopped by Jasper from behind.

Giving her a back hug, Jasper soothed her, "Lyse, calm down. Sean is free, and that's all that matters now. It's all in the past."

"I know you're worried sick for him, but he must have suffered for days. Why don't we let him rest at home before offering you an apology? How does that sound?"

She finally calmed down under his coaxing. Jonah and Julien exchanged looks. Jasper seemed to be the only person who could handle the sassy and rash Alyssa.

A car was waiting for them at the entrance. They were about to see Sean off when he suddenly spun around. His heart beat wildly as he opened his mouth and yelled at the top of his lungs, "Taty... Taty!"

Chapter 1354

Alyssa and the others followed in the direction of Sean's passionate gaze. They found Tatiana standing alone under the dim streetlight. Her hair fluttered in the night breeze, bristling against the tear stains on her face.

"Sean," she called out to Sean in a melancholic tone as tears streamed down her cheeks.

She was nearly enveloped by the darkness. It was a pitiful sight that was heartbreaking to watch.

Sean ran toward her without hesitation and hugged her with all his might. He maintained his composure, but his ragged breathing betrayed him. "Why are you here at this hour? It's dangerous to be out alone at night."

"Sean, I'm waiting for your release. I missed you so." She cried harder, staining his shoulders with her tears.

She had been waiting before dusk, even calling Alyssa and Jasper for help at the same spot. She waited for Sean to be released, no matter how long it'd take.

"Me too. I missed you like crazy." He felt sorry for her and gently wiped away her tears.

Then, he suddenly pressed against the small of her back. He lowered his gaze and kissed her passionately on her lips.

Alyssa broke into a smile upon seeing the couple reunited. She rubbed her swollen eyes and said,

"Mm. That's awesome."

Jasper held her by her wrist and whispered in her ear. "Lyse, I'll show you something more awesome when we're home tonight."

She buried herself deeper in his embrace and blushed at his flirtatious remark.

"Lyse, Jasper, get some rest at home. We'll head to Belbanks now. Keep in touch."

Julien waved at them with a smile.

"Jul!" Alyssa no longer put on airs in front of Julien and addressed him by a nickname. "I have you to thank for today. Tell me, how can I thank you?"

Julien blinked and cast a knowing glance at Jonah. Instead of being called "Jul", he'd rather Alyssa treat him like a brother-in-law.

Still, he couldn't bring the matter up as he didn't want to shock Alyssa. He merely replied, "I see Jonah's sister as mine as well.

It's what I should do for you. Don't sweat about it.

After Alyssa and Jasper headed back to their home in Solana City, Jonah and Julien returned to Belbanks with Sean and Tatiana.

The first light of dawn was about to illuminate the boundless, velvety sky.

Chapter 1355

"Why? Do you finally notice me beside you?" teased Julien while he admired Jonah's perfect side profile.

He grumbled, "You've been ignoring me for a good half an hour. I was thinking of ignoring you forever if you kept giving me the cold shoulder."

Despite being fatally attracted to Julien's childlike behavior, Jonah hid his feelings and asked calmly,

"Do you often join Mandy and the others for tea?"

"Yeah."

"You're a young man. Don't you feel bored when you hang out with a bunch of middle-aged ladies?"

Jonah scrutinized Julien. "You led a carefree life in Mosgravia. There's no need to suppress your wants. Just do anything you feel like doing."

"What if you can't handle me if I let go of myself?" Julien drawled and cast an irresistibly flirtatious look at Jonah.

Jonah felt bitter, but he remained as distant as ever. "That's none of my business."

"Oh, right. You're busy with your work as the president. You won't have time to worry about me," replied Julien with a hint of disappointment.

Jonah pressed his lips hesitantly.

"I just wanted to be closer to Mandy and the others, in case we become family one day. This is a social skill, Mr. Jonah."

Become family? Jonah's mind was messy with thoughts. Julien pressed his body against Jonah's, his crisp scent lingering in the air. He purred, "Anyway, we're kind of like family because my Aunt Mandy is married to your dad. Isn't that right?"

Jonah sat upright in the car with a hint of emotion in his eyes. He casually remarked, "Lyla said you love nuts." Staring ahead, he tensed up as he added, "You ate all the dried fruits at home."

"Yeah! I have loved that stuff since I was a kid. Hazelnuts, pistachio nuts, roasted chestnuts—you name it. I can't stop once I start eating them." Although Julien was a man, he looked like a young woman when he was excited. "Aunt Mandy always peeled the nuts for me when I was a kid. I could munch on the nuts forever, but she peeled them for me without complaints until I was full."

Jonah stared at Julien and rasped, "I'll do that for you the next time."

Feeling elated, Julien placed a finger under Jonah's chin and breathed at Jonah's lips. "Sure. I'd love to eat the nuts you peeled for me."

Jonah curled his fist the moment he read Julien's mind—he noticed Julien's expectations and more importantly, Julien's desire for him.

Alyssa was spent when she reached home. On their way back, she had complained about feeling tired.

She was truly tired, but at the same time, she was hinting at Jasper to go easy on her when they made love later.

Jasper lifted Alyssa in his arms and brought her into the house. Her legs dangled, and her heels fell onto the floor.

Since Jasper had no free hands, Xavier had no choice but to pick up the heels for Alyssa.

Back in the bedroom, Alyssa and Jasper took a bath. Then, he patiently waited for her to complete her skincare, haircare, and manicure routines. By the time she was done, dawn had broken.

They lay in the bed in exhaustion. He eagerly pulled her into a hug. She drifted to sleep with her head on his shoulder. She mumbled, "Mm... You sure behave well today."

He kissed her forehead and smiled. "If I didn't, you would have to take a nap instead."

"Thankfully, you're not an animal." In between consciousness, she gave him a peck on his lips. "Good morning. I'm going to sleep now."

With that, she fell asleep. He listened to her even breathing with tenderness. "Good morning, my darling wife."

Chapter 1356

It was afternoon when Alyssa woke up the next day. She might be sleepy, but Jasper, a light sleeper, had woken up after a few hours of sleep.

Even after he woke up, he did not leave the room at all. Instead, he worked remotely on the couch, handling the group's affairs and guarding by her side.

"Ah—" Suddenly, Alyssa jerked awake and shot up in bed. Jasper immediately put down his work and went up to hug her. He

asked gently, "What's wrong, Lyse? Was it a nightmare?"

She patted herself on the chest. Then, she grabbed his hand with a flushed face.

"Jasper, guess what was in my dream?"

He swallowed hard and attempted to kiss her, but she shunned him and exclaimed, "Jonah and Julien got married in my dreams!"

"Hmm?" Jasper stared at her in surprise. She added, "Our entire family was at the wedding. And I caught Julien's bouquet!"

Jasper looked pretty speechless.

"I woke up right as they were about to kiss. Damn it! Why do I have to wake up at the most important time?" She slid her fingers through her hair in regret as her heart raced.

"Lyse, you're adorable." He warped an arm around her shoulders and tapped her on the forehead.

"What's going on in that mind of yours?"

"I was too tired and fell asleep last night after I got home. I had so much to tell you." She gulped and stared nervously into his eyes. "I have a feeling that Julien is interested in Jonah. And Jonah doesn't seem to mind it at all.

"When they showed up at the police station last night, they seemed pretty close to me, even when they hadn't done anything.

They look like a great match!"

Jasper took her words seriously. Not only did he not humor her, but he also gave it some thought.

"I know Dr. Lovelace is gay, but Jonah isn't."

"You got a point. I don't know what happened to me. How did I dream of such a realistic dream?" She rubbed her forehead and sighed. "I always think of Jonah as the best. No woman would be good enough for him.

"Well, it's not that they're bad. They just lacked something. But I find his perfect match in Julien. It's so unbelievable."

"Lyse, if it were true, would you struggle to accept them?"

Hearing that, she shook her head. "I'm more worried that Winston might struggle with the truth. Winston reluctantly accepted

Jonah when Jonah said he wouldn't get married or have kids because of his faith. But what if Jonah turned out to be gay?"

She then added, "Gosh, what am I thinking? Even if Jonah is gay, Winston will come to terms with it one day. After all, didn't he come to accept you as well?"

Jasper wondered if he should feel sad or glad at her remark.

Mrs. Rosie interrupted them at that moment from outside the room, "Mr. Beckett, Madam Alyssa, are you both up? Come have lunch before you go back to sleep. You'll sleep better when you're full." An awkward expression flashed across Jasper's face. Similarly, Alyssa clutched the blanket in embarrassment, thinking, "Oh, Mrs. Rosie, you underestimated Jasper Beckett. He's the most energetic when he's starved; he would totally devour me in bed!"

Chapter 1357

After washing up, Alyssa changed and went downstairs for lunch with Jasper. It had been a while since she enjoyed Mrs. Rosie's cooking, and she wolfed down the food as Mrs. Rosie watched on with a motherly look.

"Wow! It's delicious!" Alyssa licked her lips and burped after finishing the food. Then, she handed Mrs. Rosie the plate and said, " Mrs. Rosie, one more plate, please! Pile as much food as you can on it!"

"Roger that, Madam Alyssa!" Mrs. Rosie happily went to refill the plate for Alyssa. Like any parent, she felt glad to see Alyssa eating well.

"Lyse, take your time. You don't want to stuff yourself," Jasper reminded Alyssa dotingly.

He picked a napkin and wiped away the grease on her lips.

"Why aren't you eating? Are you on a diet?" She leaned toward him and enjoyed his service.

"I'm not too hungry."

"You should have told me earlier! Mrs. Rosie makes wicked seafood dishes. I left some for you because I'm worried there wasn't enough food for us!" She reached

out for the grilled fish like a gluttonous kitten. "If you're not eating, I'll eat them all!"

He tenderly watched as Alyssa dug in. He wanted Alyssa to be carefree in front of him. He couldn't care less for a gentle and obedient partner. All he wanted was for Alyssa to be herself.

After the meal, Alyssa slumped on the couch in satisfaction. Jasper was about to serve desserts when Mrs. Rosie stopped him.

Lowering her voice, she began, "Um, Mr. Beckett... I talked to some of my friends when I was home. They are nannies for esteemed families, and they told me that their young madams struggle with conceiving.

"So, I got some tips from them. I'll send it to you later. Why don't you take a look and get Xavier to buy some of the medicinal herbs for Madam Alyssa? Maybe..."

"Mrs. Rosie." Jasper's expression darkened.

Mrs. Rosie gestured a three-finger salute. Her eyes filled with worry. "Mr. Beckett, I swear to God that I didn't tell them anything! I told them a kid of my relative was sick-never had I brought up Madam Alyssa's name! Besides, they're longtime friends of mine. They're good people!"

He frowned and scowled. "Mrs. Rosie, this is not the first time I have told you this. I don't care whether or not Alyssa bears a child for me. I'll love her no matter what.

"It's not like I have a throne to pass on. Even if Javier Beckett takes away my president role because I can't continue the bloodline, I don't care.

"All I want is for Lyse to be happy and healthy. It's tough enough to raise a child. What's tougher is trying all imaginable ways to conceive -that's just torture. I don't want to put Lyse through the suffering even for a bit."

"Mr. Beckett, you did reach out to the experts in Swizo, didn't you? That's why I thought I could be of help..." Mrs. Rosie choked on tears. She felt sorry for Alyssa.

"I declined their help." Jasper stared at the ground and shook his head. "Just like you, I wanted a cure for Lyse. I wanted to see her healthy and to make amends.

"But the more I tried, the more I reminded her of the sad past. She might even think that I'm hung up on her fertility issue."

"I didn't give it enough thought." Mrs. Rosie rubbed her sore eyes. " Ah, well. I will not bring up this topic anymore. What matters is you and Madam Alyssa lead a long and happy life together."

After Jasper collected himself, he carried the desserts to the living room. He had been too busy chatting with Mrs. Rosie to notice

Xavier's arrival.

Xavier announced, "Mr. Beckett, Madam Alyssa, I have a few things to report!"

Chapter 1358

Jasper took a seat by Alyssa's side and placed the desserts in front of her.

She greeted Xavier, "Xavier, it's hot out there! Here, have some water and desserts before we discuss." She then pushed the platter of desserts to Xavier.

"Thank you, Madam Alyssa! You care for me!" Xavier looked touched by her concern.

Envious, Jasper shot Xavier a look and snapped, "Hurry up. Let's get down to business soon."

Xavier gobbled up a piece of cake and dabbed his lips with a hanky. Sitting upright, he reported, "I informed Mr. Galini about Sean Lynch's arrest per your orders. I've even submitted a detailed report to him.

"This morning, Gabe Barrett has been suspended from his duty due to abuse of power. The authorities have taken him away for investigation.

"Hmph! He's surely losing his job because of all the illegal deals he's involved in. The Schmidts will lose one of their lackeys.

"Okay." Jasper nodded calmly.

People like Gabe, who were tasked to clean up the mess of the Schmidt Family, were everywhere. Getting them arrested was a piece of cake.

Alyssa widened her eyes in shock. "You did that? When?"

This was not Jasper's first brilliant maneuver. He had always made a move behind her back to ambush his enemy.

"I was at work after midnight-after you went to sleep."

Blinking, she grabbed his arm, feeling moved by his help. "You could have waited until we woke up."

"You were stressed out because of Josh Schmidt and Gabe Barrett. I lost sleep because of it-I couldn't sit back any longer." He gently caressed her hand.

Noticing his dark eye circles, she felt sorry for him. "You have headaches, remember? You need enough sleep for your health. Are you still going to sacrifice your health and upset me?"

"I just wanted to do my best for you and the people around you."

As Alyssa remained unhappy, he had to coax her. "It's all my fault. I'll listen to you the next time."

Xavier interjected, "By the way, the Schmidts have taken over the project and reached out to the Tsulian authorities. Hah! They must be in urgent need for the project."

"Sigh... That's a windfall for Josh Schmidt." Alyssa rolled her fist indignantly.
"He's been on Victor's wrong side and losing to

Jameson because of David and Daisy's problems. Landing a huge project must be a relief for him."

Jasper grinned. "Sometimes, all that glitters is not gold. It might be a problem."

She lifted her brow in curiosity. "Hm. What do you mean by that?"

"Mr. Beckett spotted a fatal flaw in the Tsulu resort project that Mr. Jonah bagged. He had advised Mr. Jonah to let go of the project as soon as possible," Xavier blurted out eagerly.

Shocked, Alyssa questioned, "Jonah isn't a loser like Josh. He would have noticed any issues from the start. How did he miss that problem?"

"The land auction process in Tsulu is unregulated, unlike in Cyrris." Jasper decided to share everything with her, "The resort project is strategically located, but transportation will be a major issue.

"To reach that area, we'll have to pass through a small village less than a mile away. The village is home to around ten families.

"That village will pose a huge problem for the developer if they ever decide to expand the resort. They'll even run into trouble just to repair the main road.

"All these potential issues weren't marked out in the land use plan because the local government was too eager to attract foreign investment."

Alyssa fumed upon learning that. "How could they? Isn't that a scam led by the authorities?"

Chapter 1359

"Madam Alyssa, the land auction process is messed up in Tsulu. Don't you agree?"

Xavier took the opportunity to praise Jasper

to the heavens, "Fortunately, our wise Mr. Beckett brought up the issues to Mr.

Jonah, just in time to turn things around. Mr.

Jonah would suffer a greater loss if the construction kicked off."

"Xavier, are you implying that Jonah isn't as wise?" Alyssa crossed her arms and

directed an imitating gaze at Xavier. The latter

tensed up and clarified, "M-Madam, please don't misunderstand! That wasn't what I meant!"

"Xavier, watch your mouth." Jasper cast a piercing glance in Xavier's way. "He

who talks much errs much. Remember, your

bonus..."

Xavier was even more intimidated by Jasper's subtle threat on his bonus.

To err was human nature, and the same applied to businessmen. Jasper wasn't born with keen business acumen. It was the

cumulation of experience from years of running the Beckett Group and making various mistakes along the road.

He was slightly more knowledgeable about Tsulu than Jonah, which happened to be of help.

"I pointed out the problem for Jonah to transfer the land to someone else, but he

struggled to find a willing buyer," Jasper

explained calmly as if he hadn't done much to help.

More than a willing buyer, they were looking for a victim. To their surprise, they

found the perfect victim when they dealt with

Sean's case.

"That's why you thought of using the project as a peace offering to the Schmidts.

Was that why you called up Jonah and had him

hurry over with the agreement of transfer at the last minute?" She squinted with a gleam in her eyes.

Jasper caressed her radiant tresses and remarked, "I can't hide anything from you at all."

"Tsk tsk. If you're not a businessman, you could consider running scam operations. I'm sure you'll be equally successful."

Beaming proudly, Jasper replied, "Well, I did not lie to Josh Schmidt. All I did was to lure him. It was totally up to him to take the

bait or not. We had never pressured him into anything. If he truly cared for David, he could have declined Mr. Jonah's request for a settlement."

"Hah! Quit it. Just admit you're full of tricks. I have goosebumps just looking at you." She playfully jabbed him in the chest. Then, she added, "Your plan has a few flaws. Josh Schmidt could send his team for an investigation before he officially took over the project.

"At the end of the day, you knew he'd take the bait because he was in a difficult spot in the Schmidt Group. Plus, he's impatient and greedy for success. No doubt, he'd walk into the trap when you dangled that carrot in front of him.

"Family does not matter to him. All he cares is to reestablish his reputation. He's long forgotten about that bastard David Schmidt."

Jasper admired the beauty and wits of the woman in front of him. "It's all psychological warfare."

"Hah! Josh Schmidt must have thought he won the lottery, but he's soon going to cry in regret." Alyssa grinned widely. She was in such a good mood that she reckoned she could eat more.

However, Cyrus' call immediately dampened the cheerful atmosphere.

He began, "Lyse, I have some bad news. Promise me to keep your calm. You must stay calm!"

Then, Cyrus inhaled sharply and informed her, "Just now, Victor and Josh Schmidt came in and bailed David out.

Chapter 1360

"W-What? Did that bastard walk away scott-free?" bellowed Alyssa.

She left Jasper's arms and stood up in shock, nearly giving Mrs. Rosie a heart attack from her sudden yelp.

Jasper's expression fell after he overheard Cyrus' update.

"That's impossible! Jameson will ensure that he has his enemy crushed. So, how did they manage to bail David out? Is there something wrong with the evidence?" She froze from head to toe and trembled incessantly.

Jasper quietly stood up and placed a hand on her waist to comfort her.

"We have solid evidence against David, or we wouldn't have issued a warrant."

Cyrus sounded upset. "We did not expect the victims to suddenly change their stances. The girls told us that they weren't sexually assaulted. They said they willingly had intercourse with that bastard. The same goes for the two minors."

"How is that possible? Why didn't they mention it until now?" Worried, Alyssa pleaded, "Cyrus, something's off. The police must look into it!"

"Of course, something's off. We all know that. I even sent a few experienced policewomen to talk to the girls, but it was of no use. The victims had decided to withdraw the lawsuit," Cyrus explained with a sigh.

"Mr. Beckett, Madam Alyssa, it's on the news!" Xavier waved his phone anxiously.

Jasper instructed, "Show it to me."

Xavier played the video, which captured Josh at a press conference in front of the police station.

"Fuck! This prick sure is busy, isn't he?" Xavier seethed at Josh's fakeness. "Is Josh Schmidt a mop, cleaning up one mess after another for the Schmidt Group?"

Alyssa and Beckett stared squarely at the screen while holding hands tightly.

Facing the media, Josh seemed aggrieved. "Ladies and gentlemen, if my brother were a rapist, we couldn't have successfully bailed him out. This shows that he has been framed.

"Someone is trying to drag my family's name through the mud! Rest assured that I will look to the bottom of this. I can't have my brother unfairly accused."

"Look into the bottom of this? He's paying lip service." Xavier was angry and snarky.

"He has no choice but to put on an act when the world's watching." Alyssa seethed, unknowingly digging her fingernails into Jasper's palm out of rage.

It hurt, but Jasper didn't mind. At that moment, he was filled with sympathy for Alyssa. How he wished he could offer her a peaceful life, but once in a while, troubles would surface and shatter his hope.

"But Mr. Schmidt, two of your brother's victims are minors!" A reporter grumbled persistently. "Even if they retract the lawsuit, it doesn't change the fact that he engaged in immoral activities involving minors! He should be publicly condemned!"

"The two minors dressed up skimpily like adults. They even lied about their age when they approached David and got him into legal trouble. So, who's the immoral one now?" Josh snickered.

He argued further, "David had no idea they were minors, or he wouldn't have thrown away his future by getting involved in them.

"The Schmidt family is prestigious and wealthy. I understand the desire of some girls to social climb. But when it comes to minors, shouldn't their parents be held responsible for their actions? Why do we have to take responsibility for parental negligence?"

"Damn it! His argument is a red herring!" Alyssa was filled with resentment. Another reporter pressed on, "Mr. Schmidt, remember David's indecent act when he was arrested? The video is still circulating online. His behavior resembled a drug addict. What are your thoughts on that?"

"He has never taken drugs. His response was the result of taking illegal medication." Then, Josh flashed a troubled expression.

"David got into a serious car accident before this and nearly fell into a vegetative state. His legs would hurt every time it rains, so he has no choice but to take potent drugs as painkillers.

"We're fortunate to engage Alyssa Taylor's help to perform the surgery on David and save his right leg. At least, he could lead a

relatively normal life now. The Schmidt Group is extremely grateful for Ms. Alyssa's assistance. Without her, David would have been as good as dead."

The revelation caused a stir among the crowds. They were amazed by Alyssa's godlike expertise, but more importantly, they couldn't believe that Alyssa—known as the Earth Angel and Light of Justice— had once performed a life-saving surgery for that bastard David Schmidt!

Hailing from an influential family, she certainly did not have money troubles. No one could pressure her into performing the surgery if she refused to. Therefore, the only logical conclusion was she willingly offered to help.

Was her positive image just an act? Had she been faking her Good Samaritan ways while bowing down to the rich and powerful?