

Can't Win Me Back Chapter 1446 - 1460

Chapter 1446

Alyssa asked, "Is this Josh's scheme?"

"It's probable. This incident also damaged the relationship between Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt. Mrs.

Schmidt had caused Jameson, who was never favored in the family, to be shunned in Kontina.

"He was left there for 15 years with no support. During these years, Mrs. Schmidt's health deteriorated,

causing Jameson to lose his only support in the Schmidt Group. He did not receive any financial

support and lived a difficult life in Kontina."

Alyssa was somewhat surprised. "Are you speaking for your love rival?"

Jasper laughed. "No, I'm just stating facts. What is right is right, and what is wrong is wrong. Even if he

is my love rival, I wouldn't preach what is wrong."

Alyssa was moved. She wrapped her arms around his neck and pecked his lips.

Jameson would never be as upright and open-minded as Jasper was.

"So, he had every right to hate. If it were me, I would have done what I could to come back and take

revenge for my mother," Jasper said with gloomy eyes.

"However, this is not the reason for his downfall."

Alyssa still shook her head. "Plus, if he wanted revenge, he could get back at the Schmidt family alone.

Why is he targeting you, Jonah, and Miley? How could he not know Jeremy was my brother-in-law

when he was in Kontina?

"He confidently said he likes me, but ruthlessly hurt the people I love behind my back. He conspired

with Inigo to kill Jonah quietly on Shalland Island because Jonah didn't like him. He is suffering alone.

"Yet, he wants to drag everyone down with him. He would put anyone who didn't follow his way to

death, even if they were the loved ones of the person he likes!

"How many bridges does he want to burn before he is satisfied? He is so selfish and ruthless!"

Jasper blinked, unsure of what to say. He felt petty cursing Jameson with Alyssa.

Alyssa was silent for a while. Then, she asked suddenly in confusion, "Back then, Jameson and his

mother were alone in Kontina. Jameson was so young and far away from far with no one to help him.

How did he turn things around and grow his business this big?"

Jasper's eyes glistened. "Good question, Alyssa. I've been pondering about the same question, so I've

been secretly investigating it." "Even you had your grandpa's full support to secure your position in the

Beckett Group. There is no way Jameson didn't have someone to support him."

A doubtful glint appeared in Alyssa's gleaming eyes. "Someone of great position and power must be

supporting him in Kontina. He must have used this person as a tool to deal with illegal and dangerous

businesses. He might have even used him to get involved in drugs, control the elections, and remove

everyone who stands in his way."

Jasper stared at Alyssa deeply. His heart quickened. He couldn't help but kiss her soft lips deeply.

Her analysis was exactly what he thought. They were two peas in a pod.

"Hmm." Alyssa gasped and finally pushed him away. "If we can find out who Jameson's backer is, we

can overturn Jameson's hideout and get rid of him once and for all!"

Jasper swallowed hard as he felt a sudden surge of jealousy.

Alyssa was constantly thinking about getting rid of Jameson. He knew she was doing it for justice.

However, she thought so much about Jameson that she had no time to think about him.

Jasper laughed affectionately and pinched her waist. "It's getting late. Let's head to bed."

"Hmm... I feel fine." Alyssa slapped her round belly.

"Let's go canoeing?"

Alyssa's heart shuddered and moved coyly in his arms. "L-Let's go canoeing then."

Jasper was speechless. He wondered if Alyssa was tired of him. It appeared as if he needed to learn

some new tricks.

Chapter 1447

A helicopter exploded in the air in the countryside. It was a massive piece of news. Moreover, the

residents nearby recorded the entire process and uploaded it online, causing a huge stir.

This was a negative incident. However, the police issued a notice through official channels claiming

that internationally wanted criminals were trying to escape capture through the helicopter.

All six of them were found dead. When the news was released, the comments took a different turn.

Everyone in the country was thrilled and thought they deserved it.

David's forensics report came out and confirmed it was mechanical asphyxia. Plus, from the direction

of the laceration and the wounds left from the struggle, he was murdered.

However, out of hundreds of inmates and police officers, no one found out who did it.

Perhaps someone was secretly obstructing the case investigation, hoping that the truth would never

come to light.

All sorts of comments were flying through the internet about David's death.

One comment said, "What a relief! I was thinking about how to sentence him to death. Now, justice has

been served! This is amazing!"

Another comment said, "This is letting that animal off too easily. He should suffer a few years in jail, not

being allowed to eat every day and suffer a beating every day. He deserved to be tormented to death!"

One comment agreed, "Exactly! He died way too early. It's a shame that he hasn't tasted the bitterness

of suffering!"

"It's a bigger shame that the victims did not witness David tried by the law. He hasn't suffered utter

humiliation by the public. What a shame!"

However, it didn't matter what was said. No one was standing on David's side. Only a person out of his

mind would do that.

The Schmidt Group had never publicly expressed their stance yet. They were so quiet as if they didn't

know David.

Victor's son, whom he had spoiled for two decades died and suffered so much humiliation on the

internet. Yet, he didn't dare utter a word, hoping that the citizens of this country would stop hounding on

their family affairs.

However, David's funeral was done sloppily. No one else came to send their condolences except for his

family.

No one of status and power would come and pay their respects to a terrible animal like him. They

would be too shameless if they did that.

Time passed, and it was finally two days before Sophia's trial.

In the morning, Alyssa visited Jasper's mother, Anne, with him.

In the quiet and solemn cemetery, desolation and sadness filled their hearts.

Alyssa placed her mother's favorite bouquet of lilies respectfully before the tombstone. An

overwhelming sense of sadness overtook her. Her eyes reddened as she stood behind Jasper.

Jasper knelt on one knee and used a clean white handkerchief to delicately wipe the tombstone.

Alyssa noticed this tombstone was the cleanest and most well-kept in the entire cemetery. It was clear

that Jasper visited her every year. He cared for this place day and night, ensuring his mother could rest

in peace.

"Mom, I'm here to see you again."

Jasper was teary-eyed as his fingertips shakily grazed his mother's face in the photo. "However, it's

different this time. I didn't come alone today. I have company.

"I remember you were always worried I would have no one with me when I was younger. You always

worried I would be lonely. Mom, you don't need to worry now. I'm doing well. Since you left, I-I found my

happiness once again."

He stood up, walked to Alyssa's side, and hugged her tightly by the shoulder. His lips curled into a

bright smile. "Look, what do you think of her? I think she is beautiful, just like you."

"Y-You're exaggerating..."

Alyssa's cheeks blushed. She was more beautiful than any other woman in the world. She knitted her

fair and delicate hands together, completely shy and reserved.

It was as if Jasper's mother was standing right in front of her.

"Mom, let me introduce you to her. Her name is Alyssa Taylor. She is the love of my life." Jasper

choked as he shakily said the last word. "I don't want anything but her in this lifetime." "Jasper." Alyssa

murmured, teary-eyed.

"I'm sure you're happy for me wherever you are now."

Suddenly, a delicate breeze lifted a strand of Alyssa's black hair hanging next to her beautiful face. It

blew away the tears at the corner of her eyes like an invisible hand caressing her face gently.

Alyssa's face started beating wildly. Her eyes widened as she stared at the warm, smiling woman in the

monochrome picture.

She wondered if it was Jasper's mother, answering Jasper silently.

She must have been watching over her son in heaven, protecting and blessing him.

"Auntie Anne, we will win this war. Please bless Jasper wherever you are in heaven."

After they finished, they both paid their respects before Anne's tombstone, hand in hand.

Jasper's eyes were filled with tears as he paid his respects to his late mother. His lips curled into a

happy smile.

He was overjoyed to have brought Alyssa to finally see his mother.

Both of them stayed for a while. Alyssa wiped and cleaned the tombstone. Then, she was ready to

leave peacefully.

Suddenly, unfamiliar footsteps inched closer to them.

"Jasper?"

However, the familiar voice was like a sharp ice pick that stabbed Jasper's back.

Alyssa turned back before he did to look. Her pupils dilated as Jasper's grip, already tight, tightened

even more.

Javier stood tall in a black suit a few steps away. Rory and four bodyguards were right behind him.

The resounding presence of the Beckett Group's chairman shattered the serenity of the cemetery.

Chapter 1448

Alyssa watched as the glum look on Jasper's face set in like the moon setting into the vast sea.

Jasper's shoulders trembled slightly underneath his suit. His eyes were bloodshot. He turned into a

volcano as an overwhelming wave of emotions erupted in him.

Alyssa squeezed his hand, trying to hint for him to maintain his composure.

She wasn't a goody-two-shoes who would buy into the "a harmonious family would prosper" gimmick.

She wanted to help Jasper by giving Javier a piece of her mind.

However, fighting in front of Jasper's mother's tombstone didn't seem too respectful of her. Jasper's

mother would be rolling in her grave in anger if she saw it.

"I didn't expect you to visit your mother today. You should have told me earlier, and we could have

come together."

Javier carried the authority of a father, but his tone remained gentle. "I think your mother would have

loved it."

"My mother would have loved it?" Jasper stared at him coldly. Hatred pierced through his voice. "You've

got to be kidding me, Mr. Javier."

"What are you saying, Jasper?" Javier frowned deeply.

"As a husband, you've never cared about her depression when she was alive. When she passed, you

didn't arrange for anyone to tidy her tombstone up even once. For the past 20 years, there have been

more gardeners here than the number of times you've visited Mom. Now, you're talking nonsense

about her wanting to see you."

Jasper laughed and shook his head. Anger burned in his heart. "Mr. Javier, my mom had slept by your

bedside for years and had loved you. But there has to be a limit to however shameless you want to be."

Alyssa was shocked as she nervously pursed her lips.

She wondered if they would start fighting physically, whether it was necessary to step in to get Jasper

to step down.

However, she agreed with what Jasper said. She didn't want to step in. She wanted to scold Javier, for

he was nothing but an obnoxious and shameless old man!

If they fought, so be it. She would have clocked those bodyguards one by one.

Javier was outraged. Anger reddened his stiffened face.

Rory and the bodyguards kept their mouths shut, terrified for Jasper.

"Rory, give me the flowers." There were outsiders around, so Javier didn't want to look bad. He held his

anger in and instructed Rory coldly.

"Yes, Mr. Javier." Rory quickly brought a bouquet of white chrysanthemums to Javier respectfully.

He took it with a lowered gaze and walked to the tombstone glumly.

Everyone gasped in shock.

"Mr. Javier, my mother and I do not welcome you."

As he said it, he went forward and stomped on the white chrysanthemums.

"Pretense... Are you saying that I'm putting on a show?"

Chapter 1450

"If you try to lay your hand on Jasper, I'll be the first to stop you. You might not care for him, but I do.

Even if I'm not around..." Alyssa's sad eyes looked at Jasper's mother's tombstone.
"Don't you think

Auntie Anne would care? As the noble, high, and mighty chairman of the Beckett Group, don't you think

it's distasteful to get physical in front of the deceased?"

Alyssa had just uttered the deadliest and harshest words in the most nonchalant tone.

The look in Javier's eyes sank. He clenched his jaw so tightly that it was about to break open.

"Mr. Javier, I think it's not a great day for you to pay your respects to Auntie Anne today. We appreciate

the gesture. I'm sure Auntie Anne feels the same way. I think it's best if you leave."
Rory and the

bodyguards sighed in relief as Alyssa loosened her grip.

Javier's face was as pale as a ghost. Yet, he gritted his teeth and was unwilling to give up. "I've

canceled everything today to come and see her.

"I'll leave after I see her for a while."

"You wish!" Jasper suddenly pulled Alyssa behind him.

Javier and Jasper fell into a tense confrontation again. "You were fooling around, and you even married

Sophia when you already had my mother. Plus, you condoned that unscrupulous and vicious woman to

mistreat my mother. If you didn't do these things, none of this would have happened! My mother

wouldn't have died!"

"You." Javier was consumed by anger. His expression darkened.

"The worst five years of her life weren't starving in poverty or getting really sick. It was her being a

trophy by your side that couldn't be seen by anyone. You took advantage of her and caused her to die!"

"Nonsense!"

Javier was breathing heavily from his anger. "Anne died of her depression! She couldn't take the pain

and took her life to relieve herself of it! Her death had nothing to do with me!"

Relieve. Javier had actually thought Anne was relieving herself from the pain.

Alyssa frowned deeply. She shook her head, angry and helpless.

Until now, Javier had never understood the condition of Jasper's mother's heart, let alone everything

Sophia had done.

Perhaps he had loved Anne.

However, his love for himself was far beyond his love for Anne.

"My mother is not a victim who used death to get a sense of relief. She died because Sophia."

"Jasper! Enough!"

Alyssa grabbed Jasper's arm and stopped him in time. Jasper, who was consumed by anger, regained

his senses and shut his mouth.

Rory was dumbfounded by what had happened.

Jasper had never even respected Javier when his temper acted up. Alyssa managed to tame Jasper

with just a word from her.

There must have been something different about Alyssa.

She had Jasper under her control.

Rory tentatively said, "Mr. Javier, let me prepare a new bouquet and send it to Ms. Bartley."

"What did Jasper mean when he said that? Is he implying that... Sophia killed Anne?"

Chapter 1451

Amidst the chaos, a profound sense of worry and fear emerged, intensifying the turmoil reflected in

Javier's twitching eye.

"I-I don't know what Mr. Jasper meant." Rory's forehead glistened with beads of sweat. Trapped

between the devil and the deep sea, he felt the looming threat of trouble for anything he might utter.

"D-Didn't you say that someone might have been behind Anne's death? Jasper said Sophia was

behind it. Does he even have proof? Does he?"

"I-I think you should clarify with Mr. Jasper. I don't know anything about it..."

Javier released his tightly clenched hand, feeling a sudden weight on his shoulders. Slouching, he

struggled to catch his breath, his earlier confidence replaced by uncertainty.

He had accepted and tolerated so much. Sophia had crossed a line.

He was utterly disgusted by Sophia. Yet, to protect the Beckett Group and his reputation as president,

he repeatedly swallowed his pride and looked the other way.

However, he was unable to accept one thing—Sophia was behind Anne's murder.

He found himself resorting to self-numbing and brainwashing.

He tried to convince himself that Jasper's words were fueled by anger, a deliberate strategy to inflict

suffering and guilt upon him. He believed that Jasper aimed to provoke disgust and trouble within him.

Rory noticed how much pain Javier was in. He cautiously asked, "Mr. Javier, do you want me to."

"No! Don't do anything!"

Shaking with terror, Javier firmly grabbed Rory's arm, his eyes wide with fear. "The trial is about to

happen. You have a lot of other things to do. Don't get distracted!

"There is nothing more important than to help the Beckett Group weather through the rough waters."

Rory knew what he was implying.

As Sophia faced an impending trial, the internet buzzed with negative comments about her. Caught in

the crossfire due to Sophia being his wife, Javier, the president of the Beckett Group, couldn't escape

the fallout. The company's reputation and reliability took a hit from the impact of these adverse

comments.

"How is the press conference coming along?" Javier composed himself, though his suit was soaked in

sweat.

"Everything is in order. The press conference will start at 3:00 pm sharp tomorrow."

Javier nodded, gazing at Anne's tombstone with an inexplicable and troubled expression. His fingers

were clenched so tightly that his nails dug into his palms. After a prolonged silence, he grimly said,

"Let's go back."

As they returned from the cemetery, Jasper's expression remained cold and pallid, much like the wintry

surroundings.

Alyssa gently clasped his tensed hand with both of hers, sensing an icy chill that made her heart ache.

After a moment of hesitation, she gently said, "Jasper, I hope you understand why I stopped you

earlier."

"I understand your intentions, Lyse."

Jasper hugged Alyssa and caressed her face with his calloused hand. Suppressing the pain in his

heart, he croaked, "You're concerned I might reveal to Javier about Sophia's involvement in my

mother's murder.

"You're afraid that my father didn't love my mother enough, and he might stop me from avenging my

mother to protect the Beckett's Group's reputation."

Alyssa leaned against Jasper and nodded lightly. "Yes, but not exactly."

"What else is there?" Shocked, Jasper looked at her deeply.

"Pfft! Will he even regret it?"

Jasper's eyes were red. "He didn't have a hint of remorse when my mother died. It has been two

decades. Will his heart still feel the pain?"

Upon arriving home, Jasper changed his clothes swiftly and headed straight to the Beckett Group.

He had no pressing tasks at hand other than meetings to attend. However, he felt burdened and chose

to bury himself in tasks, fearing that his negativity might affect Alyssa.

Before he realized it, it was nightfall.

If Alyssa had not urged him to come home for dinner after multiple calls, he would have sat in the office

until midnight.

Xavier drove Jasper back to the villa.

As they opened the door, both of them stood frozen in shock.

Chapter 1452

A thick yet warm smoke enveloped them, and the stark contrast between the lively scene behind the

door and the desolation outside took Jasper aback. His reaction was visceral.

As he stared at the bustling living hall, his heart raced.

Seated on the couch were Tatiana and Julien, and alongside them was Rose, who had been studying

overseas and hadn't crossed paths with Jasper for several years. They were joyfully chatting while

skewering vegetables.

The kitchen buzzed with activity as Jonah, wearing an apron, showcased his culinary skills, with Cyrus

assisting in preparing barbecue sauce.

Silas and Sean were focused on putting meat on the skewers, their attention fixed on Tatiana and

Rose. Sean's concern for his girlfriend was evident, while Silas watched in helplessness as Rose

engaged in an animated conversation with Julien.

Silas sighed sadly, unsure of the unease he felt witnessing their interaction.

"Dr. Lovelace, you're nailing those skewers! Your hands are so skilled!" Tatiana exclaimed as she

noticed the perfectly arranged food on Julien's skewer, resembling a carefully crafted assembly. She

couldn't resist showering him with praise.

"Really? I'm just putting the food on a stick," Julien replied nonchalantly, humming a tune as he

examined the perfectly arranged plate.

The skewers Tatiana and Rose assembled were nowhere as beautiful as Julien's.

"Look at the one I did. It's all over the place like a chicken claw." Rose pouted sadly.

Despite being an internationally renowned fashion designer, Rose had fashioned countless exquisite

outfits with her skilled hands, but her culinary prowess was lacking.

Life, it seemed, was fair. Meanwhile, God appeared to have favored Alyssa by granting her everything.

"It's really simple. Let me teach you. You see, this is how you do it..."

Julien hunched over, almost pressed against Rose, his head nearly touching Tatiana's. Both Rose and

Tatiana listened attentively, unaware that this proximity set off significant alarm bells for Sean and Silas,

who were not far away.

"Jonah, why is Julien meddling where he shouldn't?"

Cyrus approached Jonah, gossiping as he mixed the ingredients, "Check out all the guys getting stuff

done. Axel is out there starting the fire. Can you believe he's flirting with the ladies on the couch? How

oblivious can he be?"

Jonah furrowed his brow slightly as he stirred the mixture vigorously with his spoon.

"Jonah, you should keep a closer eye on him."

After a prolonged silence, Jonah lowered his gaze and said, "The kitchen is messy and dirty. Since he's

clean, I didn't let him come in."

Cyrus, being straightforward, didn't grasp the subtext. Puzzled, he exclaimed, "Huh?"

"Julien isn't a Taylor; he's Lyse's guest. It's nice that he's pitching in. Don't expect too much from him."

Jonah slipped in his words and swiftly changed the subject, his face warming up.

Sean couldn't ignore the closeness between Tatiana and Julien. Unable to contain himself, he snapped

the skewer stick in his hand.

"Ouch! It hurts!" Distracted by the situation, Silas lost his focus and accidentally pricked his finger with

the skewer stick.

"The two of you..."

It seemed as if Jonah had eyes in the back of his head. He shot a glance at the jealous men and said,

"If you've got all that energy, help Axel with the fire on the balcony. Maybe your frustration can help him

light it up."

Jonah thought them both idiots.

He wasn't even jealous. He couldn't fathom why they were overreacting.

Everyone was busy with their tasks and enjoying each other. No one noticed Jasper and Xavier

standing by the entrance.

"M-Mr. Beckett, we're at the right house, right?" Xavier was dumbfounded. It was as if they had

returned to how the Taylor family was in Belbanks.

"Hey, you're back, Mr. Jasper!"

Mrs. Rosie stood behind him with shopping bags in her hand. She nudged him gently. "Why are you

standing here? Don't you recognize your home?"

Jasper looked at Mrs. Rosie absent-mindedly. He croaked, "Mrs. Rosie, they."

"Ah, the guests were invited by Madam Alyssa."

"Lyse did this for me?" Jasper's eyes welled up as he felt a lump in his throat.

"Who else would this be for? Madam Alyssa mentioned Sophia's case going to trial. Seeing you

stressed these past few days, she arranged a barbecue for you to unwind."

Just then, Alyssa descended the stairs with a radiant smile, and a young woman adorned in a light blue

dress, complete with a crystal hairpiece, followed closely behind her.

Chapter 1453

"Wow!"

All eyes turned to Maggie, who timidly hid behind Alyssa. They were in awe.

Indeed, the way one dressed had a significant impact on how others perceived them.

Upon her initial arrival, Maggie wore modest attire, appearing charming. However, her passive

demeanor and hunched posture exposed a palpable insecurity that was difficult for onlookers to

handle.

Maggie underwent a complete transformation thanks to Alyssa's efforts. A single glance and a stranger

would easily assume she was born into wealth.

"Wow! You're so beautiful!"

Tatiana clapped with a radiant smile on her face. "Maggie was already beautiful. Now, she's practically

sparkling in that dress! She looks absolutely lovely!"

"That dress is quite impressive!" Julien, who typically carried himself with confidence, couldn't resist

offering praise.

"Hmph! I crafted that myself! It's a one-of-a-kind creation. I dare anyone to call it ugly." Rose lifted her

chin with pride, crossing her legs. She gazed at Maggie as if her masterpiece was showcased on an

international catwalk for everyone to admire.

"I was about to say it looks like one of your pieces, Rose."

Tatiana regarded Rose with admiration. "When it comes to the best designer in the country, you're right

up there after Sharon. Sigh, if only I were lucky enough to meet Sharon once. I believe she is the best

in the design industry! I will definitely get her autograph and take a picture with her!"

Rose took a sip of her tea, glancing at Alyssa with a chuckle.

Julien's eyes widened in surprise. With his overseas downtime often filled with watching fashion shows,

he was well aware of Rose. Nevertheless, he never imagined that Rose would be the woman struggling

with assembling food next to him.

Alyssa's friends were out of this world.

"Ms. Emerson," Julien called her.

"Yes, Dr. Lovelace?" Having heard about Julien from her mentor, she was friendly toward him.

Julien cleared his throat and asked, "Can you help to design an outfit?"

Julien feigned nonchalance and briefly glanced at Jonah's back. "A suit for a man."

"I'm booked for the next six months."

"Oh." Julien seemed to resign to the situation, his eyes reflecting a profound disappointment.

"However..."

Rose rested her cheek on her hand and smiled at him. "You are a good friend of my mentor. I'll

definitely make an exception.

Julien withdrew his intense gaze from Jonah's back, his lips curling into a smile.

"Alright, I'll get the

measurements for you promptly. Thank you."

"Jasper? Xavier? When did you both get back?"

No matter how chaotic the environment was, Alyssa instantly noticed them standing at the entrance.

She was overjoyed.

With Maggie's hand in hers, Alyssa smiled and pulled her along as they approached the two standing

at the entrance.

As Xavier locked eyes with Maggie, a profound intensity overcame him. His body tensed, and his heart

pounded uncontrollably, his emotions spiraling.

Maggie shyly pursed her lips as Xavier's intense gaze lingered on her. She felt unsure of what to do in

response.

Chapter 1454

"I-I'm sorry..." Maggie's face was as red as a tomato.

"Ms. Madison," Xavier's breath sank as he spoke softly, just enough for her to hear, "you look beautiful

today."

Maggie's face burned with embarrassment. Panicking, she hastily withdrew herself from his arms.

Jasper struggled to contain the overwhelming emotions within him. He hugged Alyssa tightly and

whispered, "Thank you for doing this, Lyse."

Alyssa leaned into Jasper's arms with a smile, reveling in her luck to have found Jasper as her other

half. "It's no big deal. I just asked everyone to come over for a meal.

"Oh, yeah. Lauren caught a chill from leaving the window open while she slept the past two days.

Landon is home caring for her. They won't be coming. He asked me to tell you to enjoy your meal and

eat their share."

"Okay." Jasper looked down at her face, his heart beating wildly as his eyes turned misty.

"Thank you, Madam Alyssa."

Xavier was incredibly excited to see Maggie. He was so touched that he found himself at a loss for

words, unable to stop thanking Alyssa.

"What is there to thank me for? Maggie is my lifesaver. I've been wanting to treat her to a meal but

have yet to find a good time to do so. This gathering had fulfilled my wishes."

As she spoke, Alyssa turned to look at Maggie warmly. "On the contrary, I should thank Maggie for

showing up."

"M-Ms. Alyssa, don't say that. I'm so honored to be here. enjoying a meal!"

Maggie's face blushed from

panic as she rambled.

She could never have dreamt of attending Alyssa's gathering at her home. Wearing such a beautiful

dress and surrounded by such an astounding group of people, everything felt surreal to her.

"Jasper!" Tatiana waved at Jasper happily.

Rose, whom he had not seen for a long time, said as she sipped her tea, "You're late, Mr. Jasper. I

think you owe us a few drinks."

Despite Jasper winning back Alyssa's heart after all that transpired, Rose couldn't resist teasing him

whenever the chance arose.

Jasper said, "Okay."

"A few drinks aren't enough. Jasper, don't be so conservative. Let's do a few rounds." Julien wanted to

pull Jasper's leg.

Alyssa frowned, ready to retort, but was taken aback when Jasper agreed effortlessly. "Sure, let's do it.

We won't stop until we're both drunk."

Amidst the joyful banter, Axel came downstairs with ash on his face. He yelled at everyone at the top of

his lungs, "Hey! Cough! Cough! Is the grill cursed? Why won't it light up?"

"Axel, did you go out scavenging? Why do you look like this? Don't scare the ladies," Silas couldn't help

but tease him.

Jonah said lightly, "Silas, Sean, go and help. I'm sure both of you can get it started."

Silas and Sean were rendered speechless.

He walked past Axel and patted him on the back. "Thank you for trying, Axel."

Staring in astonishment, Axel couldn't fathom how Alyssa had managed to tame Jasper, the unruly

beast!

Chapter 1456

In the midst of the cheerful feast, everyone remained unaware of Jasper and Alyssa's belated arrival.

The couple had even changed their clothes.

The dose of love energized Jasper, sweeping away the sadness in his heart. He was like a different

person as he proudly stood next to Alyssa. Even amidst the remarkable gathering of Taylors, he stood

there loud and proud, completely stealing the show.

"Wow, you look amazing, Mr. Jasper."

"Wow, Jasper is absolutely unbeatable."

Tatiana and Maggie were side by side, holding their heads as they fangirled over Jasper.

While they had their respective partners, no one could help but admire beauty. Stealing a few more

glances at a masterpiece was not a crime.

However, Sean and Xavier were sitting beside them miserably. Like two shotguns, they stared fixedly at

Jasper.

No matter how jealous they were, they could only keep quiet. Openly attacking Alyssa's man would

make them dead meat.

Everyone exchanged drinks and laughter throughout the gathering.

Somehow, it felt like Alyssa and Jasper's appreciation dinner.

Rose was extroverted and the life of the party. After making Jasper drink with her, she held Alyssa by

the waist and sang into the karaoke microphones.

Silas frowned as he continuously stuffed meat into his mouth. His burning gaze didn't leave Rose's

beautiful complexion for even a second.

"I like Rose. She has a great personality and is straightforward. She seems chill but is emotionally

sensitive. She takes care of others well."

Sitting next to Silas, Jonah elegantly sliced the meat with a knife and unexpectedly shared his

thoughts.

Silas chewed the meat hard as his eyelashes fluttered slightly. "She is just a dim-witted, crazy lady.

What is there to like?"

"If she is that bad, why can't you stop staring at her?" Jonah chuckled.

Jonah, having an intimate understanding of Silas, playfully called him out.

Silas nearly choked on his food, his face turning as red as a tomato. "That's because she's terrible at

singing! It has affected my appetite!"

"That can affect your appetite? I don't believe you."

Taking a bite of meat on a skewer, Cyrus glanced at Silas and smiled. "Nothing can affect your

appetite. I remember when you used to work overtime, you'd eat while reading forensics reports. This

is nothing compared to that."

Silas' face burned as he tried to alleviate the embarrassment with a sip of water.

Jonah had just finished carefully slicing a plate of meat. Before he could take a slice for himself, the

meat was gone.

It turned out Julien was the sneaky culprit who had taken all the meat.

"I haven't had enough yet. Slice more, please," Julien's voice was soft as he playfully pleaded in

Jonah's ear.

"Sure!" Julien's eyes glistened as he nodded enthusiastically.

"In your dreams," Jonah sneered, his knife never ceasing its motion.

"Can't it be reality? I remembered what you told me in the car the last time. Are you trying to get away

with it, Mr. Jonah?

Chapter 1457

"Behave," Jonah rasped out, though his expression was solemn.

Julien cocked his head and grinned a devastatingly beautiful smile. "No, I won't."

Meanwhile, Jasper seemed to be in an excellent mood. He hadn't backed down after taking on the

challenge of downing several rounds of alcohol. After toasting everyone, Jasper began a one-on-one

drinking duel with Axel.

He didn't usually drink alcohol. He was only doing so mainly because he didn't want Alyssa's brothers

to think he was a coward. After all, he was Alyssa's man.

"Do you know what my nickname is?" Axel draped his arm over Jasper's shoulder as he topped up the

latter's wine glass. "They call me the Son of Spirits, never getting drunk no matter how much I drink. I'm

worried you'll ruin your family's pride if you try competing with me."

Jasper looked down at his full glass of wine and smiled lightly. "In my experience, Axel, the ones who

try to make themselves look tough at the start are the ones who fall first later on. No matter though,

since you're drinking in the comforts of your own home. Your family will care for you no matter how

drunk you get."

"I don't need no one to take care of me!" Axel glared at Jasper and clinked his wine glass with the

latter's, making wine splash out some. "I'm going to drink this now. You do so whenever you're ready!"

While more drinks were being poured at this end, Rose had caged Alyssa against a wall somewhere

else.

She slyly asked, "Why's your waist so tender, Madam? Your voice is rather raspy, too. Say, what were

you up to with Jasper earlier when you two went missing?"

Alyssa blushed and cleared her throat. "N-Nothing much."

That horndog!

Jasper knew exactly where Alyssa's erogenous spots were, yet he'd continued caressing them and

torturing her.

Alyssa ended up soaking her clothes and ruining her makeup because of it. In the end, Alyssa had to

panic and leave in a hurry to tend to the guests, while Jasper behaved coolly as if nothing had

happened.

Alyssa was so frustrated.

"Hey, we're all adults here. Why are you still so shy?" Rose giggled and whispered in Alyssa's ear, "But

I didn't expect you two to finish so soon. Jasper doesn't last long, does he? Feed him some oysters

later. They're the best stimulant for men!"

Alyssa hushed Rose, hurriedly defending Jasper. "Yes, he does! He's really good at...

The two best friends then chatted in hushed tones. "Holy shit! That's so hot!"

"Shh! Keep your voice down!" Alyssa quickly covered Rose's mouth, her face flushed to the ears.

Rose was Alyssa's best friend, so there was nothing they couldn't talk about. They could share

everything, even those shy little secrets.

The two women stood in silence for some time.

Rose then took an exquisitely crafted cigarette pack from her bag and placed a cigarette between her

lips.

"Gone back to smoking again?" Alyssa asked.

"Why do you make it sound like I'm a drug addict? It's just a cigarette." Rose chuckled.

The warm night lights cast their glow on Alyssa's face, highlighting her features, which were twisted

with worry and concern.

Chapter 1458

"I'm doing really well." Rose's eyes narrowed as she flicked ash off her cigarette.
"The world is my

home.

I have no family or kin to my name."

"What are you talking about? If you don't have family, who am I then?" Alyssa held Rose's arm lovingly.

"The moment I become your mentor, you'll always be my... you know how it goes."

"Taking advantage of me now, aren't you?" Rose teasingly pinched Alyssa's chin with the hand holding

her cigarette.

Rose had a natural physique, taller and broader than Alyssa. Their affectionate and teasing

movements made quite the sight. They looked like a couple of lesbian lovers.

Meanwhile, Silas was in the crowd some distance away, watching Rose's every move.

He didn't like people who smoked. Every time Axel started smoking, Silas would try and find a way to

snatch the cigarette away.

Yet for some reason, as Silas gazed at Rose holding the cigarette with her slender fingers, the smoke

swirling around her face, and the relaxed look in her eyes, he couldn't help but be mesmerized by her.

Right now, Rose was the most stunning creature to Silas, especially while doing something he hated

the most.

His breathing quickened. He quickly looked away and downed an entire glass of iced water from the

table.

It had been some time since Silas had met Rose. They hadn't contacted one another prior, but Silas

would look at her social media account nearly every single day. He had followed her and constantly

paid attention to any updates from Rose.

Silas had thought he and Rose would naturally grow closer tonight because of what happened last

time.

But Rose hadn't spoken to him nor so much as glanced at him.

It made Silas uncomfortable. So he snatched a glass from the table and downed it quickly, uncaring of

what was inside it.

"Fuck me, Silas! Good on you, man!" Cyrus exclaimed, smacking Silas' back excitedly. "That was a

shot of El Lukadore tequila with 55 percent alcohol content. I myself needed to take a break after taking

a sip yet you downed all of it in one shot? What a lad!"

Silas was stunned.

Tequila? 55 percent alcohol content?

Silas felt his internal organs and digestive tract burn in the next instant. He dashed right to the

washroom.

Rose glanced in Silas' direction as he ran off, her eyes twinkling slightly.

"So what? I don't need a man. All that matters is that my designs are beautiful."

Rose smiled

nonchalantly, though there was a hint of self-depreciation in her words.

"He didn't look too well earlier. I think he's had too much to drink," Rose said faintly, though she was a

bit concerned.

"Oh. Then hurry over to check up on him." Alyssa nudged Rose gently. "Go on then. Silas did help you

last time. You should go see if he's doing okay."

Chapter 1459

Silas was retching by the restroom basin, heaving all the tequila he'd drunk out from his stomach.

His alcohol tolerance was the lowest among his siblings. Usually, he could barely manage a sip of

tequila.

Yet even after Silas had retched everything out, his mind was still heavy and throat burning as if

doused with acid.

"Look at yourself, Silas... Why are you still so worked up over her? She clearly doesn't care about you

at all," he mumbled to himself.

Silas splashed his face with some cold water and combed his fringe back with his hands. Even in such

a dire state, he was still remarkably handsome.

"I really am working myself up too much over this." Silas gently massaged his temples, unable to stop

feeling frustrated.

As he opened the door, he bumped right into someone else.

"Ah!" Rose gasped.

She had worn high heels that night, so her body rocked with the force and fell backward.

Though Silas was still somewhat drunk, his speed was still exceptional. He swiftly wrapped an arm

around Rose and pushed her back up to her feet.

Their eyes met as their bodies pressed closed against one another, flushed.

Silas' breathing quickened. He recalled the deep kiss that he'd had with Rose, which started out as

CPR. Silas still hadn't gotten over that until today.

Right now, he didn't want to let go of Rose.

"Can you. Let me go now?" Rose looked anxious. She instinctively pressed a hand on Silas' chest.

"Why. Why are you ignoring me?" Silas was usually a straightforward man. With the addition of the

alcohol earlier, his words, which he'd been holding back tonight, were finally blurted out. "Don't we

know each other already? Or are you just forgetful?"

"How could I forget?" Rose's fingers curled slightly on Silas' chest as she tried to calm herself as best

as she could. "You're the second son in the Taylor family, Lyse's second brother."

"Then why are you ignoring me?" Silas persisted.

"I didn't bother to." Rose's eyes were dodgy.

Silas' brows knitted together as the irritation in his chest grew. "Didn't. bother. to? I'm probably the

closest person to you in my family, next to Lyse. How could you not bother to?"

"Mr. Silas, I don't have to say hi to every acquaintance of mine, do I? It's not illegal not to." Rose's heart

clenched. She struggled in his arms. "Now let go. I need to go back out there."

Silas grew angry, arm tightening around Rose's waist. "Every acquaintance? Would you kiss your

acquaintances, then? I'm afraid you have a misunderstanding about the term acquaintance, Ms.

Emerson."

"Kiss? When did we."

All of a sudden, a memory struck her.

Their kiss.

"Rose. Hold on!"

She opened her eyes, finally recalling everything.

Chapter 1460

Wine was a mesmerizing thing.

But only Silas knew whether his kiss stemmed from being drunk or liquid courage invoking his deepest

desires to light.

"Based on the look on your face, I take it you've remembered?" Silas smiled teasingly. "You were the

one who wouldn't let go of me last time, so now that I'm initiating things, we're even."

Even?

Silas had forcefully kissed her and taken advantage of her. Yet, this was what he had to say for it?

Rose grew angry in an instant. Alyssa's brother or not, she was going to give Silas a tight slap in the

face, even if it meant cutting ties with Alyssa.

But Rose wasn't as skilled as Alyssa was. Plus, her body had long turned weak with the large amount

of wine she'd drunk. Her hand waved in the air but was swiftly caught by Silas.

Rose's heart raced in the next instant.

Silas gently placed her palm against his cheek, eyes turning into fond slits. "Don't get angry. Be careful

with your body."

A droplet of water fell down his temple, adding a sensual flair to Silas' handsome face. "Keep on

exhausting yourself if you still want me to do CPR on you."

"You!" Rose flushed red with both embarrassment and anger.

She couldn't deny the fact that Silas was really hot. While bearing a resemblance to Jonah, a deeper

acquaintance revealed their stark differences as distinct individuals.

Jonah's demeanor carried an inscrutable weight, whereas Silas' eyes consistently radiated brightness,

youthfulness, and directness.

Rose composed herself mentally and quickly took control of the situation by placing her hands on Silas'

shoulders. With a seductive smile, she asked, "Seems like you care a lot about me, Mr. Silas. Could it

be that you like me?"

Like her...

Silas' eyes brightened upon hearing those words. He gazed seriously at Rose. "Is that a serious

question, Rose?"

"Do you have the guts to answer it?" Rose guessed that Silas didn't.

The Taylor family was an elite one, and all its children were people who made their father incredibly

proud. All of the Taylor family sons had important positions and tasks. Only some princesses or

members of royalty could be on par with them.

Rose was neither. She was only an international fashion designer. She might have a superb reputation,

but her background would always involve her mother, a killer.

Rose couldn't possibly be a good match with Silas. No matter how close her relationship with Alyssa

was, Rose would never dare to dream of it.

"I like you."

Silas' sudden confession cut off Rose's thoughts.

"What did you say?"

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Silas' gaze was passionate as his heart pounded in his chest.

He had to admit to himself that the alcohol had given him liquid courage and not merely sparked

feelings for Rose from nowhere.

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Rose was stunned into silence.

A tried and true prosecutor was able to confess his feelings in such a refreshing, reasonable manner.

"Plus, I kissed you."