

# The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 251

After Sebastian had settled the fight, Royal Court One restored its peace.

“Ms. Wand, let’s decorate the house since it’s Christmas Eve and we’ve got plenty of time on our hands. Look, here are the decorations from last year.”

When Wendy saw that it was only them at home, she quickly took the decorations out.

Before their mother could respond, the children rushed forward.

“I’m taking these ornaments.”

“Then I’m hanging these lovely stockings around the house.”

Matteo immediately carried the stockings to hang on every door when he saw Vivian with the ornaments.

Ian, who had never experienced any festivities at home, watched them blankly.

“Little Ian, can you decorate the garden with these Christmas lights, please? Oh, I know you’re good at wrapping gifts! Can you wrap these up too, please?”

Sasha handed some Christmas lights to her eldest son and encouraged him to accept this “difficult” task.

The little kid’s eyes lit up. “Sure!”

The next moment, he was seen running to the garden with the Christmas lights in his hands.

Wendy sighed in relief at the sight of Ian being so excited.

“It’s so wonderful to have you here, Ms. Wand.”

"Huh?"

"Christmas has always been lifeless here, and you know how quiet Mr. Ian can get. But now it's so much merrier with y'all's presence," Wendy looked around smiling.

When Sasha followed her gaze, she found that even the bodyguard was helping the kids, and they were laughing around and having fun.

It is much merrier indeed!

Sasha smiled without saying anything. She took a bunch of flowers and started decorating, too.

While they were busy with the decorations, someone came to look for Sasha.

"Sasha, come out! Open the door! I need to talk to you." It was Brandon.

She immediately asked the security guard to let him in.

Of course, if Sebastian were there, she wouldn't dare to let him in because Brandon seemed to be very angry with this cousin of his.

"What's the matter?"

"What do you think?"

Brandon, who rushed over, glared furiously at Sasha, who was still casually trimming the flowers.

"How would I know? I can't read your mind."

F\*\*k! What a vicious woman!

She was driving Brandon crazy. "Do you even care? I specially came to see you just because Sebastian took you away as if he wanted to finish you off!"

Sasha was at a loss for words.

Well, this is awkward.

She had the same thoughts as Brandon at first, but it turned out differently, so she didn't know how to respond.

In the end, Sasha could only make some tea for him to calm him down.

"Don't worry, I'm fine. Go back to work in peace."

"Bullsh\*t!" Brandon scolded again. "You heartless woman! Are you thinking of running away from your responsibilities after you're fine? What about my family? You agreed to help!"

Sasha was speechless after a good scolding. Well, I can't even if I want to! That jerk Sebastian won't let me leave!

"It's not like that. I just can't be overseas right now." She sounded guilty.

"I already knew who it is without you telling me."

"Who?"

"Kelly!" the man furiously spat out her name.

Sasha was shocked after hearing this. Kelly? It was her? But how did he find out?

"My brother told me. He said Kelly suddenly came to look for my mom a few days before her birthday party, and they talked for a long time in the living room. After that, my mom told my brother to take care of Xandra on her birthday since she's your ex-husband's fiancée. She also told him to treat that woman like the future daughter-in-law of the Hayes and let her sit with Frederick," explained Brandon as if he saw through her confusion.

After hearing that, Sasha sat dumbstruck, as if being hit by a hard object.

It was actually Kelly? This is too unexpected. How dare she play this trick at the birthday party?

Yet, it seemed impossible to her.

Since I came back and ruined Sebastian and Xandra's marriage, Kelly's hatred toward me must be exceedingly great. It would be best if she could remove me from the equation. Besides, her tactic at the party was actually an intelligent move. If the psychologist successfully hypnotized me that day, Hayes Corporation's secret would be exposed, and I would die a horrible death.

But hold on! Why would Kelly know this secret?

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Sasha's expression changed drastically.

"Sasha, what's wrong? Why do you look so upset?"

She opened her mouth as if she wanted to speak.

In the end, she only suppressed her unease and said, "It's nothing. So what are your next plans? If she's unwilling to confess, I don't think the Emmanuel family's name will be cleared."

Brandon quickly nodded. "That's right. Therefore, I decided to find the evidence of her working together with the psychologist."

"But how?"

"I checked and found that the Sanders will be holding a wedding tomorrow. I think Kelly will attend since she's a good friend of Mrs. Sanders'. Then, I'll find Kelly and steal her phone. The evidence won't be hard to get," explained Brandon.

Well, it could be a plan. It's a high-tech age now, and everyone is using a phone for communication, entertainment, socializing, etc. Besides, even E-commerce is becoming its primary function.

Brandon is right. If he can get the woman's phone, it won't be hard to obtain the evidence. There's still a chance to dig the truth out, no matter how deeply hidden it is.

Sasha agreed with him, and she suddenly came up with an idea. If that's the case, why don't I go with him? But I'm not after the evidence, of course. I want to know if she was the woman who revealed the secret to the psychologist. This is the most dangerous thing.

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Meanwhile, Sebastian stayed at Reston Hotel owned by Hayes Corporation that afternoon.

Since it was the end of the year, the company had to reward its employees before the break.

"Mr. Hayes, there's news from Bulgari Garden. Although Kelly was furious about us beating up Xandra and sending her back, she didn't take further actions yet."

When Sebastian was sitting in the private room listening to the employees' boasts, his assistant, Luke, came and whispered to him.

No actions yet?

The man was a little drunk after a few glasses of wine, and he raised his eyebrows after hearing it. "Then keep it up. Don't just spy on her. Keep tabs on her communication devices, including her IP address. Remember not to overlook any detail!"

"Yes, Mr. Hayes!" Luke broke out in a cold sweat after receiving the orders.

He actually didn't quite understand why Sebastian had to do that, since they had already found out that Kelly and Matilda were behind the Emmanuel family's incident. Why doesn't he just arrest her instead? What is his purpose in spying on her? Is Kelly a bait?

However, the more he thought about it, the more confused he got. He did it for Xandra's aunt, Kelly. But isn't Xandra his fiancée? Since when did they have such a bad relationship?

Dismissing his thoughts, Luke immediately did as told.

Meanwhile, at Bulgari Garden.

Kelly and Xandra, who were staying at home, were more perplexed by Sebastian's actions.

"Is he nuts? How can he beat you up like this? He can't be this cruel just because you didn't get his permission to be there! You're his fiancée, after all!"

Kelly was going crazy at the sight of her bruised and beaten-up niece, who couldn't even get off the bed by herself.

However, Xandra could only weep in bed, and she was too heartbroken to say anything.

When Kelly saw her weeping, she was enraged again. "Why do you have to go to Royal Court One for no reason? Do you think you have the right to go as you please because you're in Frederick's good books?"

"No!" Xandra finally wailed hoarsely. "It's not because of that. It-it's because of that b\*tch! Sasha finally seduced him! I have to kill her! I have to!"

Kelly scowled. Sasha again?

Kelly could feel her head throbbing when she heard the name. This woman sure is a jinx! Since she came back, her every appearance before the two of us has always been bad news.

Kelly became more irritated. "Kill her? You made so many arrangements last time but still failed, and you want to do it again?"

"Why not? Let me tell you something: I'm killing her and destroying that man this time. I won't let anyone possess what I can't have!" Suddenly, Xandra's twisted expression became hateful and murderous.

Kelly was dumbstruck. "How are you going to defeat him? What are you up to?"

Xandra laughed wickedly. "I'll spread the secret and ruin his reputation. He's finished when he lost his foothold in Hayes Corporation!"

Kelly thought it was an absurd plan.

Upon hearing that, her expression changed. Glaring at her niece, who had utterly lost it, she scolded, "Are you nuts? We would lose everything if you ruined him!"

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"I have nothing to lose anyway. When Sebastian kicked me today, I finally understood that I would never be his wife. Why should I let him get away with this?"

Kelly, who was standing beside the bed, was quiet for a very long time. So he was the one who kicked and injured her?

Her gaze finally turned cold. Clenching her fists, her eyes filled with utmost hatred. "Alright. I agree with your plans. However, we'd better find a way out for ourselves before doing that."

"What do you mean?"

"If you spread the news, Sebastian will definitely trace it back to us."

Only someone like Kelly could've thought of something like that at this juncture.

Xandra then looked at her and waited for her to continue.

"At first, it was the anonymous person who frequently sent you emails and articles that brought you to Sebastian. Find her now and ask her to help us out."

"Why should I do that?"

"Don't you understand? She made all those arrangements for you in the first place and helped you to this position step by step. Or do you really believe that she doesn't need you? You're way too naive!"

Xandra didn't expect Kelly would say anything like that, and she was dumbfounded.

What did she mean? That person was actually using me? But I didn't ask for anything else except money, and I would pay her a good amount whenever she sent me the articles. So why would Kelly say that?

Xandra was not as sharp as her aunt and was still more immature. She didn't realize the truth behind those arrangements until now.

"Everything comes with a price. In fact, you're pretty valuable. When she started sending you those emails and turning you into Sebastian's type, she was already launching her plan. I only kept quiet because it was a win-win situation."

At that, a shiver ran down Xandra's spine, and she was at a loss for words.

She stared blankly at her aunt for a long time and finally asked, "So... what's her real purpose?"

Kelly put on a dark expression. "Who knows? Maybe she wants to manipulate you after giving you what you want, then steal Hayes Corporation. Or maybe she wants to expose you and replace you!"

Kelly's words stabbed Xandra deeper and deeper.

She became extremely fearful.

No, this is impossible. Is she even capable of doing that? She's merely someone who sent me the articles! This is clearly just my aunt's guess.

In disbelief, Xandra struggled to get up and got on her computer, trembling.

When she turned on her computer to send an email to that anonymous user like before, she got a pop-up message. User Nonexistent!

Nonexistent!

The woman felt plunged into an abyss.

She frantically tried resending the email like a madwoman. "Impossible! This isn't happening!"

Despite her attempts, the results were the same.

Seeing this, Kelly looked at Xandra sharply. "My guesses are confirmed. Alright, if that's the case, let's give it a try."

"What are you going to do?"

"Spread the rumor, of course. Oh, remember to bring your articles and the book. By doing this, I believe Sebastian will notice this author very soon, and he will find out how the secret is exposed." Kelly smirked wickedly.

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Meanwhile, at Royal Court One, Frontier Bay.

Sebastian got home before it was getting dark to a scrumptious dinner prepared by Sasha and Wendy.

"Daddy, you're back!" Matteo and Ian greeted their father happily.

Vivian went forward too, but she suddenly stopped timidly because she wasn't as close to him as the boys.

After Sebastian had gotten off the car and gave his sons the gifts he bought, he turned around and took out a big, pink mermaid doll.

Vivian's beady eyes lit up at the gorgeous toy.

"Take it; Daddy bought this for you. Doesn't he love you too?" Touched, Sasha encouraged her daughter.

The next moment, the little girl quickly ran over with her chubby legs.

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“Uncle Sebastian, you came back!”

“Yes. Merry Christmas! This is for you. Do you like it?”

Sebastian handed over the giant doll to the little girl. He didn't realize that his tender gaze toward her was the same as how he looked at his sons.

In the meantime, Sasha stood up by the entrance.

When she saw the man entering with the three children, she hesitated but still thanked him.

Sebastian raised his brows. “What for?”

She pointed at the overjoyed, chubby little girl standing beside him. “For her. She's thrilled that you brought her a gift and even saved her.”

“Oh!” The man sneered disdainfully. “I'm just doing it on behalf of her dead father.”

Sasha was at a loss for words while watching him bring the children inside. Isn't it a bad omen to curse yourself to die on such a joyous occasion? Or should I tell him that he's actually the dead father later tonight?

Ten minutes later, the food was served. The kids were waiting obediently at the dinner table after their father had cleaned them up.

“Sweeties, since today is Christmas Eve, let us celebrate our blessings together. Enjoy your dinner!”

"Yes, Mommy!" The kids immediately started feasting on the food.

When Sasha was about to serve her own plate, the mischievous Matteo suddenly gave his father a plate of steak. "Daddy, did you know that Mommy went to the supermarket to pick this out carefully this afternoon? She even cooked it herself for you! Mommy loves Daddy so much."

"Yeah." Ian nodded too.

Sasha blushed at once and quickly denied it. "No, I made it for everyone!" Wow, this little brat is driving me crazy! Did he just say I love that man?

She felt that she had to get out of there, especially when Sebastian was looking at her indifferently.

"Matt, hand it over."

"What?" Sasha looked up abruptly and stared at him with her beady eyes wide open. Did I get it wrong? Does he actually want it?

Sasha looked flabbergasted.

When Matteo compliantly handed over the steak, the man started eating it slowly.

He's really possessed by someone else.

Wendy, on the other hand, smiled knowingly and passed over his favorite black pepper sauce. It looks like we'll be having a lady of the house soon.

About an hour later, the kids were stuffed with food and went upstairs to play in the hanging garden.

Sasha also stood up and started cleaning the table.

At that moment, Wendy came over, took away the plates in Sasha's hands and gave her a box of tea. "Ms. Wand, can you prepare some tea for Mr. Hayes, please? He must be working again since he got back so early."

Sasha hesitated for a moment, but still took it upstairs. He did return earlier than usual, so I'll just do it as an act of gratitude.

Sure enough, when she got to the third floor, she saw the warm light coming from the study brightened the villa, adding some coziness to the villa.

Knock! Knock! She knocked at the door with the box in hand.

Sebastian, who was bending down to connect the computer cable in his study, looked up. "What are you doing up here? What's the matter?"

"Nothing. Wendy asked me to make you some tea." Unable to find an excuse, Sasha could only tell the truth while holding the box.

After shooting her a faint look, he tapped on the table to motion her to come in. Then he sat down and got busy again.

Seeing this, Sasha didn't dare to ask what he was working on and started making tea on the table.

"Oh yeah, I have to go somewhere tomorrow. Aunt Sharon called today, and she wanted me to visit Uncle Jackson since it's Christmas." She suddenly remembered this. After seeing the man quietly working at his desk, she hesitated and carefully brought it up since she couldn't go anywhere without his permission.

Sure enough, the man who was staring at his computer screen scowled.

"Tomorrow? What day is tomorrow?"

"It-It's Christmas! Isn't it Christmas Eve today? I wanted to go today, but I promised to spend time with the children."

Sasha lied to him about wanting to leave today to gain his approval.

His expression turned grimmer than before.

"Running away again?"

"I-I'm not running away! So can I go tomorrow, please?" she pleaded softly once more.

After hearing her voice fall into a whisper, Sebastian's gaze finally moved away from Luke's email and coldly swept toward her.

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"Tomorrow Karl will go with you."

"Huh?"

"And be back by three o'clock."

Sebastian's tone indicated that there was no room for negotiation. After dictating his terms, he turned his attention back to his computer.

Sasha wasn't sure if her intuition was right.

She felt he was more distant all of a sudden. Even his gaze, that was kind and warm a moment before, had turned gloomy and disagreeable.

"Alright, I'm leaving now."

She served the tea hurriedly and left as quickly as she can.

Could something be wrong at the office?

Fortunately, he made her a promise. Even if something went wrong, it wouldn't have anything to do with her.

Sasha returned to her bedroom and relayed the good news to Brandon over the phone. "He promised me I could go tomorrow, but I can't go alone, and I have to be back before three."

Brandon stomped his feet in frustration. "Before three? The Sanders' wedding starts at three! What the hell are you going for?"

Him and his filthy mouth!

Sasha shrugged. "What choice do I have? It was hard enough getting him to agree to out. Do you think he will accommodate me more than that?"

Brandon did not answer.

We'll figure something out when the time comes.

It was possible for Kelly to arrive before the wedding began. She was a close family friend to the Sanders.

At last, the two of them came to an agreement.

The next day, as she was about to leave, Brandon called her with some disturbing news.

"Sasha, did you see? There's a rumor online claiming that Sebastian is mentally ill."

"W-What did y-you say?" Sasha stammered, almost dropping the comb in her hand.

Mental illness?

How is this possible? What happened?

She was distressed. Throwing down her comb, she scrambled for her iPad in her bedside drawer.

Brandon was still ranting on the phone. "Didn't you do online? Apparently a book has been circulating online. People are speculating that the character is Sebastian because of their close resemblance."

Sasha turned pale.

Ignoring Brandon, she launched her browsing app to see for herself.

He was right. The major search engines were trending with this new piece of gossip. They all seemed to be revolving around a novel.

The Tattoo!

Sasha's hands shook with fear.

Filled with trepidation, she scrolled downwards slowly, her worst fears manifesting themselves. Someone actually put two and two together to deduce Sebastian's secret based on a fictional character.

When Sasha was working on the novel, she had based her character on Sebastian. She even included obvious traits like the mole on the corner of his eye.

His eyes were as beautiful as the stars amidst an ocean. The mole was like a shooting star, dashing across his cheek. It left behind a streak of memories. She was always worried that someone would make the connection, but she could not help herself. His features were mesmerizing.

Sasha was a great writer in her prime.

This sentence alone created a cult-like following in adoration of the male character.

They even made comic book adaptations, and the character was cosplayed frequently.

But today, Sebastian Hayes of Hayes Corporation had to endure an attack on his reputation.

Smack.

The iPad in Sasha's hand fell to the floor.

She was shaking all over. A terrifying fear threatened to consume her. The next moment, she had trouble standing upright.

"Sasha, what's going on? Are you alright?" Brandon was concerned with her extended silence.

This silly girl is in shock, isn't she?

These are harmless theories. What is she afraid of?

Brandon quickly comforted Sasha. "Don't worry, these are baseless accusations. Do you really think Sebastian is mentally ill?"

Sasha said nothing.

"I think some people are too bored," Brandon continued. "You wait and see. When the Hayes catches wind of this, they will shut all of them down. Your ex-husband will bury them without mercy for daring to invent such rumors."

Brandon was completely unaware of the truth.

But the fact was, the rate at which this piece of gossip was traveling was rather slow.

It was started by a few insignificant accounts with a small following. Even if people were to take notice, it would only look like a marketing tactic.

Sasha stood motionless for several moments.

Suddenly, the weight of her guilt was too much for her. She bit her lip to refrain from crying out loud.

It was a good thing she did not cry in front of Brandon.

She got dressed immediately and left.