## **Chapter 196**

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Newton's face was bone white as he quivered just the slightest. "What is this, Alice? What is going on?

He found it and to change the way he addressed her.

"How is this possible layer's ego

stomach these claims.

the shame such news would bring if it were leaked to the public, nor to

Everyone on the questist tonight are close friends and family. No one would dare to do this! There must be some misunderstanding. Maybe Jonah got food polooning, or –

Javier said, "We have the state's best security here. They would have found the culprit by now!

efficient at what they do, so the results should come out very soon," Alyssa said firmly, her gaze a cold, glearning blade,

"You can choose not to believe me, but the truth will come out eventually. Our doctors are very

She continued, "You said it yourself—you have the best security guarding this house tonight, with only family and friends attending the celebration. That means the culprit is most likely among you."

Javier looked like he had eaten a cockroach.

Meanwhile, Liana hid behind him, and the other Beckells were absolutely terrified.

Liana tried to calm hersell. She told herself that everything would be alright. After all, she hadn't done a single thing. Betty was the one who had laced the drinks.

Belly's heart was pounding and leaping into her throat. They had planned to have her drug Jonah while Liana drugged Alyssa, so why was the latter completely fine?

Did Liana not do as agreed then?

Did Liana really capsize the boat and leave Betty to drown?

Belly couldn't help but curse at Liana inwardly. "This bitch! This lying, cheating whore!"

"Ms. Alyssa, that's a bit of a serious accusation, isn't it?" Sophia quickly piped up. "Our families have nothing against each other. Why

would we want to harm Mr. Jonah?"

"Be quiet, you! This is not the place for you to speak!" Newton barked out fiercely.

Alyssa gazed steadily at Sophia as she replied, "Maybe it wasn't my brother the culprit was coming after. Maybe their target was me."

Instantly, Jasper turned to glance at Sophia and Betty.

From the start of the night, he had thought it strange how Winston and Jonah Taylor had shown up for the birthday celebration when they

hadn't been invited.

Then he recalled how Sophia had gone on and on about his relationship with Alyssa in front of Winston, followed by all this mess.

It felt as though this had all been planned out, as opposed to being a coincidence.

"After I finished the performance, a kitchen servant told me Jonah was feeling unwell and asked me to check up on him. I wanted to make sure he was okay, so I went. I never anticipated this would happen." Alyssa's hands were balled into fists.

"To protect me, Jonah even cut himself with porcelain. That was the only reason the culprit's evil scheme did not go as planned! Someone amongst you set your sights on me because I kept my identity a secret. If they had known who I was, they would have found another way

to get at me."

Winston was outraged. "You'd better give some closure to this nonsense tonight, Javier Beckett, or don't blame me for what I will do in

retaliation!"

"There must be a misunderstanding, Mr. Taylor," Javier cried worriedly. 1

Winston scowled. "Enough excuses! My son and daughter have been set up in some evil plot while under your roof! I don't care if it was your family who did this. It happened in your home, so I demand an answer!"

Javier's face was beet red. "That's too difficult a request to get done, Mr. Taylor."

+15 BONUS

"Un, I don't think so. Your children aren't the ones getting drugged tonight, so don't talk to me about difficult! Winston snarled. Are you Incompetent or just scared of what you'll find?"

Javier gritted his teeth, overwhelmed with anger.

Seeing her father stand up for her and Jonah made Alyssa feel unbelievably warm inside. Her father was a playboy, sure, but he really knew when to protect his loved ones!

Liana's dress had been soaked through with sweat by now, while Betty was getting more fearful by the second. She had been slowly stepping back, ready to escape at any moment's notice.

"Where are you going. Ms. Betty?" someone called out from the other end of the hallway.

Betty nearly screamed with fright. She turned to see who it was.

Landon was slowly walking toward them, his eyes bristling with rage. In his arms was a girl who had fallen sound asleep.

When Betty saw who it was, hatred and jealousy clouded her gaze red. 1

Lauren Beckett was in Landon's arms!