Can't Win Me Back Chapter 341 - 350

Chapter 341

Jasper sat in his office, quietly gazing at his desktop. Each time he clicked his mouse, a different picture

would appear on the monitor.

All of the pictures featured none other than Alyssa herself.

These were the pictures Xavier had taken after shadowing her over the past few days.

His initial goal had been to gather information about KS World Hotel's next move. However, he had only

succeeded in capturing these candid, everyday-life images of her.

Jasper's gaze was intense as he examined the pictures, as though he were hoping they might spring to

life at any moment.

Just then, his phone vibrated.

Then it vibrated again.

Then again.

It went on for ten more times.

Jasper pursed his lips as he looked at the notifications.

What he saw made his heart leap to his throat. He swiftly got his coat and ran out the office door.

Alyssa and Cyrus had a blast catching up with each other at the Tenggrian barbecue place, topping each

other off with wine every twenty minutes.

Alyssa began to get drunk. "Tell me, Cyrus. When can I expect a hot-cop sister-in-law, hm?"

"Hm... you're just like my mother. I have a dangerous career, Alyssa. I can't go looking for someone in the same field. One of us

has to be safe at all times, right?" Cyrus murmured, quietly swapping out Alyssa's

drinks for plain water.

"What is up with all the men in our family? Why are none of you thinking about settling down yet? When

Can I get some nieces or nephews to dote on?" Alyssa sighed, annoyed.

"Isn't having all of us around to dote on you enough? Aren't you worried you'll lose our affection once we

find our one?"

"Oh, stop it! Because of you guys, I couldn't have a single boyfriend until I graduated college! I still

because of stuff like that!" Alyssa whined, cheeks flushed and heavy with alcohol. She was flipping through old scores now. This was something the Taylor family was especially good at

doing.

"Don't start. My mother thought I was dating someone because of all those chocolates. She even had people wait for me outside

the gates to catch me!"

Cyrus still remembered how sore his ass had been after being spanked.

"Really? I had no idea!" Alyssa's eyes widened. "Did you tell Mandy the snacks were for me?"

"She had instructed the dean and teachers to ensure I didn't involve myself with anyone during that

period. It was close to exam season, after all.

"I was as innocent as Mercutio amidst a backdrop of tragedy I had no part in,"

Cyrus huffed, even pouting

as he reminisced about those years.

"A plague on both your houses!" Alyssa teased, giggling.

"It just so happens that I got nominated as the hottest guy in school then.

Everywhere I went, girls would

look at me or flirt with me in the silliest ways.

"My lockers were filled with so many gifts. You wouldn't even believe it!" Cyrus scowled. "Good thing Mom stepped in and helped

stop all that bullshit."

"What?" Alyssa gasped. "So you mean to say you used me to end your suffering, which I wasn't

responsible for?"

She flicked his forehead, to which he grinned. "Back to the point-I don't want to marry right now. My wife

might easily end up a widow."

"Hmm. Fair point. I Don't want to either."

"Hey, no. You still have to marry. That guy from before who came to visit? He peeled your shrimp for you, remember? He was

pretty dedicated, didn't he? What do you think of him?" Cyrus suggested, then quickly

muttered, "Though, he is kind of pale... He doesn't have any terminal illness, does he?"

Alyssa scowled, shoving him lightly.

"Seriously, though. Finding a good match with proper genes would be good for

you. That way, we'll have

healthy, fit descendants."

"I wouldn't mind if they were disabled. It would still be better than someone who has shitty morals."

Alyssa pursed her lips, her flush even more apparent now.

After finishing their meal, the siblings exited the restaurant where Sean awaited. Sean hurried out of the

car to help Alyssa get on. She was so drunk that she had to lean on Cyrus to walk. "Hands off," Cyrus snapped, holding onto his sister and nudging Sean away. "I can

"Hands off," Cyrus snapped, holding onto his sister and nudging Sean away. "I can handle it."

With that, he rendered Sean blinking awkwardly, standing to the side.

Chapter 342

Cyrus wasn't fond of males who got close to his sister, save their siblings. 1 "Cool it, will you, Cyrus? He's no stranger," Alyssa chuckled.

"No, he's not. But he's still a man." Cyrus shot Sean a look. "You should really consider a female personal

assistant."

"Damn, dude. This police job is really getting to you. Not everyone's a criminal, you know," Alyssa said,

swaying on her feet."

"No harm in being alert."

Cyrus helped Alyssa get in the car and shut the door. Sean nodded politely at him and was about to head

to the driver's seat when Cyrus said, "Wait."

"Yes, Mr. Cyrus?" Sean asked solemnly.

"I understand that given your position as Lyse's secretary, you have to stay around her nearly 24/7."

Cyrus' gaze was sharp as a hawk. "However, you are also expected to keep yourself in check. What

doesn't belong to you will never belong to you, so don't cross the line. Ever.

"I am not as tolerant as Jonah or Silas. I have seen the vilest depths of evil a human is capable of, so I do

not presume anything good in anyone I don't know nor care for."

Sean took a deep breath, clenching his hands into fists.

"Don't even think about Alyssa in any way other than as your superior, nor act on any of those stray

thoughts. Or else."

"I am learned in the law, Mr. Cyrus," Sean responded. "The law can stop one's actions, but not their

thoughts."

Sean continued speaking, holding back his tears, "I won't do anything to Ms.

Alyssa, ever, because I love

and respect her from the bottom of my heart.

"That is the truth, and you cannot stop me from feeling this. I am not wrong for having love for her."

Cyrus cocked an eyebrow. He didn't like this kid, but he was pretty honest.

"Remember your words tonight.

"Hey," Alyssa said, having rolled the car window down. "What are you two rambling on about? I'm trying to

get home and sleep here!"

"Right away, miss." Sean smiled.

Cyrus made a phone gesture. "Call me when you reach home."

Alyssa made an "okay" sign in return, then waved at him before Sean drove them away.

Cyrus watched until his sister had left before allowing the warmth in his eyes to fade and be replaced by a stark coldness. He

then turned toward the opposite side of the road and walked away.

Across the road, Xavier was in the Porsche, observing everything. He had just sent his location to Jasper when he noticed Cyrus

was gone.

"Weird... Where'd he go?"

Just as Xavier was wondering to himself, the car door suddenly opened. His neck was enveloped in a

tight, crushing grip before he was dragged out the door like a helpless chicken.

"Oy! Heck, what are you doing?" he yelped, alarmed. "L-Let me go! Or I'll call the police!"

"No need." Cyrus showed Xavier his police officer ID. "You'd be turning yourself in anyway."

A cold chill rose in Xavier's spine as he gaped at the ID card.

Alyssa had nearly dozed off in the car when her phone rang. "Cyrus? What's up? I'm not home yet-"

"Do you know who Xavier Hall is, Lyse?"

Alyssa instantly turned sober. "Why?"

"He's a damned pervert, Lyse. His phone is filled with pictures of you. You're lucky I caught him in time!"

Chapter 343

When Jasper finally reached the barbecue restaurant, Alyssa and her "companion" had long left. He

gritted his teeth, recalling how she had been so intimately close to him in the pictures Xavier sent him.

Jasper felt like a fool at the moment. However, he couldn't shake his concern about Alyssa coming to

such a place late at night for a meal. Did she not understand the concept of boundaries?

His phone suddenly rang with an unknown number.

"Yes?"

A monotonous female voice asked, "Is this Mr. Jasper Beckett?"

"Yes."

"This is the East Solana Police Bureau. What is your relation to Xavier Hall?" Jasper's brows furrowed. "He's my secretary. What's going on?"

"Please come over to the station."

The night seemed to be passing by like a dream. Jasper couldn't for the life of him figure out how Xavier

had gotten himself arrested by the police.

When he entered the police station, he came face to face with a man in a black leather jacket. This was

the man who was with Alyssa earlier!

Cyrus carefully eyed Jasper, then sneered. "So you're Jasper Beckett? Coming to Xavier Hall's aid?"

Jasper narrowed his eyes. "What's that got to do with you?"

"Good question." Cyrus snickered. "He's in here because of me, so it's got all to do with yours truly."

"Are you doing this to get revenge?"

"Revenge?"

"Revenge on my secretary for revealing your illicit relations with Alyssa Taylor." Jasper's rage prevented

him from identifying Cyrus as a police officer. All he could see was that Cyrus was a male escort.

Cyrus laughed. "How you managed to become CEO with this level of intelligence, I have no idea."

"I could say the same to you, snarking around here in the police department even though you're just a

Cyrus was filled with disbelief. He couldn't comprehend what Jasper was saying. He wondered if he

looked like an escort or if Jasper was projecting his own thoughts onto him.

Those well-defined abs hidden under his coat might earn him a couple of thousand dollars in a single

night!

Just then, two officers walked past. They greeted Cyrus respectfully as they did. "Chief Taylor!"

Cyrus nodded, acknowledging them.

Jasper's breathing hitched as he stared at the man in shock.

This... this man was a police officer?

And he was a Taylor, too?

Suddenly, Jasper found the man had exceedingly familiar features.

"Cyrus! Big brother, what are you doing here?"

Jasper tensed up upon hearing that familiar voice.

How many sons did Winston Taylor have?

Chapter 344

Jasper turned around slowly to find Alyssa standing a couple of steps behind him. Her eyes were cold

and flat as they locked onto him.

"Why did you come all the way here, Lyse?" Cyrus ignored Jasper and went up to her. "I told you I would

handle this myself. You should be getting to bed."

"No. I need to take care of this myself." She then turned to Jasper, her gaze icy.

The sight made Jasper's

heart clench.

She had never shown him an ounce of warmth since their divorce.

Jasper was honestly more frightened than angry over this nowadays.

Deep inside, he felt terrified at the thought of being treated like a stranger by

Alyssa. He would rather she hated him with all her

passion than treat her so coldly.

"Alyssa ..."

"Walk with me," Alyssa said, then walked out of the police station.

Jasper was about to walk when Cyrus grabbed his shoulder. "Hey! Let me remind you to keep yourself in

line. This is the police department. Any silly moves, and I'll lock you up for a week!"

"You're her brother. You should know what my relationship with Alyssa is like," Jasper snapped, "I

remained courteous to her while we were married. There's no need to worry about that changing now that

we're divorced."

"I doubt it." Cyrus sneered. "Nearly all of the men I've arrested for stalking and taking photos of their ex-

wives are either psychopaths or serial killers!"

Jasper was left speechless.

Alyssa and Jasper went to the compound behind the police department, where the silence allowed them

to speak freely.

They were both important people, after all. It would be bad for both of them if any paparazzi or members

of the public happened to take pictures of them in the police department together. "Jasper-"

"Did you drink?" Jasper stepped close to her, his shadow casting over her features. Cyrus was filled with disbelief. He couldn't comprehend what Jasper was saying.

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Chapter 345

Alyssa had almost snaried the word "shameless".

Winston Taylor's children had always been cherished and nurtured by him and his wife, Lyla. They were provided with abundant

support and room to chase their aspirations and realize their dreams.

Alyssa had once thought she could do the same for her love with Jasper, choosing to leave her home to

be with him.

However, all that transpired was her putting herself in jeopardy and Jasper

gradually stripping away her pride and her heart,

layer by layer, until she could bear it no longer.

She had acted foolishly then.

Now that she had regained her senses and returned home, her decision to take on the mantle as the family's heiress was to

empower her siblings to do the same.

Alyssa didn't want her and her family's life to be disrupted any further, but that seemed to be all that Jasper was accomplishing.

She couldn't take it anymore.

"Shameless?" Jasper's eye grew hooded. He pressed his hands beside her head, leaning in close. "So you decided to get

revenge on me by having Xavier arrested because you think I'm shameless?" Revenge?

Now, Alyssa was infuriated.

Why the hell was Jasper so obsessed with himself?

He was the one who had sent Xavier to spy on her in the first place!

Not only did he fail to offer an apology, but he was also still slandering?

Alyssa couldn't help but think that Jasper was such a god-awful jackass.

"How would your brother, a cop, have arrested Xavier without reason other than at your behest?" Jasper

hissed, "Do you hate me just because I won this once, Alyssa?"

"Are you jealous?" Alyssa sneered. "Are you jealous that my brothers dote and care for me? Are you

jealous that they are leaping to my defense?"

"Alyssa!"

"But didn't Ada already choose to attend your welcoming party instead of ours? Isn't it shameless of you

to still have your secretary follow me around, even taking pictures of my brother?"

Chapter 346

Jasper was about to punch Cyrus in the face when Alyssa cried, "Don't hit my brother!"

That made Jasper freeze instantly, and his hand paused in mid-air.

Cyrus leaped on the chance to land a punch on his cheek, the skin at his lip breaking from the force.

Jasper hissed, the taste of blood filling his mouth. He stumbled back just the slightest, wincing in pain.

Alyssa looked on in shock, not expecting Jasper to have actually listened to her. Jasper just stood there and let Cyrus hit him.

Cyrus hurried back to protect his sister, glaring at Jasper, whose lip was now bleeding. "Touch my sister

again, and I'll kill you, bastard!"

Unbeknownst to him, Alyssa was grateful that Jasper had actually let up on her brother. If he hadn't, Cyrus

might have ended up in the hospital.

Alyssa didn't press charges in the end. She knew what kind of person Xavier was, having spent time

knowing him for three years.

Xavier followed Jasper back to the car like a wounded dog, hunched over and with a metaphorical tail

between his legs.

"I'm sorry, sir. I let myself get caught by that asshole cop and caused you this much trouble."

"It's fine," Jasper quipped, mouth still sore.

"Y-You're hurt!" Only now did Xavier notice the blood on Jasper's lip. He cried, "Was it that cop? I'm going

to sue him! I'm going to sue him for attacking an innocent civilian-"

Innocent?

He wasn't so innocent when he caged Alyssa in earlier.

"Just drop this."

"But-"

"That 'asshole cop' is Alyssa's seventh sibling, one of Winston's many sons."

Jasper should have realized

that earlier. He did share similar features with his father.

"Damn! The seventh sibling?" Xavier exclaimed. "They're practically matryoshkas at this rate! Why do we

keep on crossing their paths?"

Jasper closed his eyes and leaned back in his seat, sighing as he brushed away the flaked blood at his lip.

He prayed that he'd meet all of Alyssa's brothers in one shot. He really couldn't take it anymore.

Just then, his phone rang. It was a call from Zoe.

"Jasper?"

Jasper suddenly understood why Alyssa had said what she said. "You're allowed to have so many little

sisters to play with. Why can't I have my brothers watching my back?"

So this is what she meant!

Jasper sat up straight in his seat, now alert.

"I've prepared the compositions for the piano performance for the welcoming

party. Do you want to take a

look?"

But Jasper hadn't heard a single word she said. All he could think about was why Alyssa had said what

she said.

So, she still cared about the fact that he was involved with other women. Did that mean she was jealous? "Jasper? Jasper! What's my big brother doing, hm?" Zoe called. "Are you paying attention?"

"Can you not call me that?"

"Huh?"

"Landon is your brother, not me."

Zoe was taken aback. "You... Do you not like it when I call you that?"

"No, I don't. Don't call me that again."

Jasper then hung up the call.

Chapter 347

Three days passed in a blur. News of Ada Kingsley's arrival in Solana City reached both national and

international media in a blitz of reports.

On the night of the welcoming party, Ada Kingsley arrived at Berenike Hotel dressed in a lavender haute

couture gown, her hair styled into waves that cascaded down to her knees.

Sophia had invited herself to the party.

Her hair was styled in an elaborate bird's nest atop her head, revealing two large sapphire earrings and a

teardrop-shaped sapphire at her neck. They were named "Halcyon" by its creator. It looked like she had a

mini apartment building on her head.

"Didn't you have another piece of crystal prettier than this teardrop, Mom? Why aren't you wearing that

one?" Betty asked curiously.

Sophia gritted her teeth, hand clenching around her necklace. "Because of that

bitch, Liana! God knows

what she and her family got into, owing that much debt!/

"With my shop having no sales and the police still on the lookout, I had no choice but to sell that crystal

off to help them!"

"Goodness! If it were me, I'd cry myself to death. That was a birthday present from Dad!" Betty cried, "I

i don't understand why you keep helping the Gardners. You should just let them rot away and die."

"Hmph. I wish I could..." Sophia grumbled.

Unfortunately for her, she had never anticipated losing this game of power when she made Liana her

pawn to win Jasper's heart.

Not only did Jasper become even more hostile toward her, but her pawn was also turning against her now!

Liana had contacted her from Mosgravia asking for more money a couple of days ago, nearly making

Sophia sends out the order to kill her.

But she couldn't, not yet. She had to utilize Liana while she was still useful. That was why Sophia had

promised the girl she could return to Solana City soon.

"What do you think of my dress, Mom?"

Betty did a little twirl, showing off her purple dress. Ever since she saw Landon in that purple-colored suit,

she had dreamed of wearing something that matched him, like they were a couple. Betty added, "I wanna dazzle everyone tonight!"

"Forget about it," Sophia scoffed, "Ada is the star of the event tonight. You'd never top her."

She then pulled the dress down until Betty's cleavage was more visible.

Sophia remarked, "You won't have a lot of chances to get close to Landon Harper, so focus on how to

utilize those slim opportunities rather than compete in this useless peacock pageant.

"You could be the prettiest one tonight, and Landon still might not want you!" Liana had backfired on her, and Lauren was useless, so Sophia could only rely on Betty now.

She hoped Betty could marry rich. That way, she could use her son-in-law's influence to further smoothen her journey to get all

the power in the Beckett family.

"Don't worry, Mom. Landon will definitely want to marry me!" Betty grinned, puffing out her chest.

"Oh? What's your plan?"

"His sister, Zoe, is back in the country. She has promised to help me! Landon dotes on her sister, so I can definitely get his

attention if she helps me put in a good word!" Betty said giddily, as if she was already dating Landon.

"Zoe? Zoe Harper?" Sophia frowned, recalling that pale, doll-like child who always came to Seaview Manor looking for Jasper.

Sophia believed that Zoe was obsessed with that bastard, Jasper.

Sophia sighed, checking her painted nails as she lazed on the couch. "Things are never that simple. Zoe

wouldn't help you for nothing. What did she want in return?"

"No wonder Dad is so obsessed with you, Mom! You're so keen!" Betty sat down beside her mother in her

flamboyant gown. "Zoe likes Jasper. She has asked for my help to assist her to marry Jasper."

"What?" Sophia shrieked. "No! Zoe's brother is close friends with that bastard Jasper. If she marries him,

I'll lose my place in this family!"

Chapter 348

"But Mom, I'll be able to help you when I marry Landon." Betty was pale with shock at her mother's

reaction.

Sophia pursed her lips, eyes turning dark. She suddenly asked, "How far along is Zoe and Jasper?"

"What do you mean by how far along? Jasper seems to be still infatuated with that whore, Alyssa. Zoe has

no chance whatsoever."

"Good."

"Mom?"

"Don't you see? This is a great chance to distance Landon and Jasper from one another!" Sophia prodded

her daughter's forehead.

She continued, "Landon is his father's only son. Even if his father is still leading the company and family,

Landon is bound to take over the mantle sooner or later!

"Using Zoe to form a rift between Jasper and Landon was a far better deal than having her marry into the

family.

"I know Jasper. He never surrenders no matter how much you push him.

Regardless, Zoe will still become

the thing that separates them in the end!"

Betty looked in awe at her mother, now understanding her plan.

Suddenly, a faint knock echoed from the door.

Sophia composed herself, putting on a kind expression. "Come in."

The door slowly opened, and in came Lauren with her teddy bear in hand. Betty gritted her teeth angrily

upon seeing her sister. She fought the urge to tear the plush toy from her hands and rip it apart.

"What is it, Lauren?" Sophia asked lightly.

"Mom... Mommy..." Lauren clung to her bear, asking quietly, "Can... Can I attend tonight's party?"

Both Sophia and Betty were taken aback by her request. This was the first time this near-non-existent

young woman had asked anything for herself.

"Tsk tsk. Your sweet little persona is nearly crumbling at the seams, little sister,"

Betty mocked, "You want

to go because Landon will be there, don't you? What a horny little bitch you are."

"N-No!" Lauren had long forgotten about Landon, including how they had kissed and held one another

that night in the garden.

"No one can get so lucky twice, little sister. Besides, did you forget about your mental illness? Do you

really think he'd like a crazy little bitch like you?" Betty rolled her eyes. (1) Lauren stiffened up, her grip on her teddy bear tightening.

"It wouldn't be appropriate for you to attend tonight's event, Lauren. Stay at home and-" Sophia cleared

her throat. "Forget whatever happened between you and Landon.

"Do not get in your sister's way or cause her any trouble from now on.

Understood?"

"But Mommy, I wanna go because I ... I really like Ada Kingsley's movies! I want to meet her!" Lauren

begged, tears welling up in her eyes.

"Who would believe you, brat? Don't listen to her lies, Mom. She's a scheming little bitch. That's what she

She's trying to steal Landon away from me!"

"Stop this, Lauren. You've already caused enough trouble," Sophia said sternly. It was as if she was

ordering some housekeeper around.

Lauren could only stand there miserably, sniffling and hurt.

Her mother's apathetic attitude and her sister's hatred toward her had led her to become a meek and frail

little creature who could never stand up for herself.

She was always labeled as the sick one. She was the daughter who brought shame to her family-the

daughter who shouldn't have been born.

Chapter 349

The headlines for the next three days were all about Ada Kingsley's visit to Solana City. The news had helped Berenike Hotel

regain its footing in international recognition.

They had enjoyed a reputation like no other for several decades, becoming the number one place to stay

for all kinds of personalities.

Their guests included diplomats, athletes, doctors, professors, and other

world-famous bigshots. Even

Cyrris' previous president stayed in this hotel once.

However, its reputation had steadily soured as one scandal after another rocked the Beckett Group.

Nowadays, when discussions turned to the company, all that netizens could talk about were Jasper being

cuckolded and Liana's reprehensible actions.

Reputation and goodwill were something that took time to build. Yet, they could always shatter into

nothingness in the blink of an eye.

Ada's arrival would not only promote Berenike Hotel, but it would also help build Beckett Group's image

back up.

That was why Jasper wanted nothing more than to have this win.

The hotel entrance was swarming with paparazzi and fans by six in the evening, all waiting to get a

glimpse of Ada. A red carpet had been rolled out, too, fitting for a woman of the celebrity's stature.

"I'm Ada's number one fan! I've watched all her 'The Deadly March' movies and know them by heart! I can

finally see her in person after ten years!"

"Berenike Hotel has outdone themselves this time. KS World Hotel cannot compare whatsoever!"

"But the Becketts seem to be really lost and confused these days..."

"That doesn't mean their hotel will be affected. Ada's arrival here means she approves of the Berenike

Hotel!"

A limousine came to a stop at the end of the red carpet. Guards kept the crowd at bay as one opened the

door for Ada.

The moment she stepped out, the crowd burst into cheers and excitement.

Ada Kingsley was of mixed blood with both Cyrris and Furancian blood in her. She sported curly brown hair, her Syrian beauty

accentuated by her Furancian physique. Standing at a height of 5 feet 10 inches, She was in a good mood today as her fans welcomed her. A faint smile rose on her lips as she gently waved at the crowd.

"Ada! I've watched all your movies!"

"You're gorgeous!"

Ada entered the hotel with her manager and bodyguards, then went to the banquet hall via elevator.

Jasper and Xavier were already waiting outside when she arrived on their floor.

Jasper calmly went up to her and offered his hand. "It's a pleasure to meet you, Ms. Kingsley. Welcome to

Solana City."

He was dressed in a full tuxedo tonight, looking quite princely. He nearly matched Ada herself with his

regal, serious air.

"Same to you, Mr. Jasper." Ada shook his hand.

"How is the city treating you?"

"Well. My mother is Cyrrian, born and bred in this very city, after all. Though this is my first time here, I'm

already falling in love with its sights and society."

Jasper chatted with Ada as the two strode into the main hall. Countless other

celebrities and guests were

inside, all invited over tonight for the party.

Many of them couldn't resist the urge to take pictures with Ada. After all, this was the first time they had

seen this A-list, award-winning actress in person.

Many of these celebrities were also intrigued by Jasper. They couldn't keep their eyes off him and didn't

plan to.

Now that Liana was out of the picture. Dreams of being the next Mrs. Beckett were not too far-fetched.

Sophia and Betty stood to the side, unwillingly blending into the background. Not even their makeup

could hide how angry they felt right now.

"Why did Jasper put us here, Mom? We're Becketts, too!" Betty whined. Her

mother's face was scrunching

up like dried rubber.

As wife to Beckett Group's president, Sophia barely ever became a speck in the background with the

limelight on everywhere else but her. She quickly put on a fake, kind smile and sashayed over to Ada and

Jasper.

"It's so good to finally meet you, Ms. Kingsley.

Ada glanced at her, then back at Jasper. "Who is this?"

Chapter 350

Sophia instantly introduced herself, a hint of pride in her tone. "I'm Beckett Group's president's wife, Sophia Kirkman."

"I don't understand what she's saying, Mr. Jasper. You don't need to translate for me, though. I'm not interested in her." Ada

didn't look at Sophia again, continuing her conversation in Furancian with Jasper. Sophia could only understand a quarter of what they were saying. When she was about to re-introduce herself in Furancian,

Jasper said lightly to Ada, "We don't see eye to eye, and I don't plan on introducing

irrelevant people to you either, Ms. Kingsley."

Sophia froze in place upon hearing that.

A flurry of snickers and sarcasm rose from the crowd around her.

"Wow! Ada's really brave for turning down Mrs. Beckett like that. Who knew she was just as flawless when

being herself as she was when acting?"

"Are you kidding me? Why would Ada Kingsley give a shit about our country's business and economy? She's Mosgravian, for

God's sake. 'Beckett Group's president's wife' my ass!"

"Right? Sophia Kirkman can shove her snobbishness elsewhere!"

Sophia's face flushed in embarrassment. Still, she had to keep her image up. So, she forced another

smile. "We're happy you decided to attend our hotel's party tonight, Ms. Kingsley. "I'm sure you know all about our competitor, KS World Hotel. As the company's matriarch, I am truly honored you chose us over them."

Jasper's gaze grew cold when he heard Sophia referring to herself as the

company's matriarch. He

scoffed inwardly.

Xavier quickly stepped in to translate for Sophia out of kindness.

"I'm afraid you've misunderstood my being here." Ada shook her head. "Both Berenike Hotel and KS World

Hotel are wonderful in their own right, but I didn't choose to attend your event because of the hotel's

reputation.

"I did so because Mr. Jasper has proven himself an honorable, sincere, and charismatic individual worthy

of my attention."

Sophia's cheeks burned once again as if she had been slapped.

Though Ada seemed distant from the mundane affairs of the world, she was secretly an intelligent and

keen woman.

If she had agreed to Sophia's words in public, she would be acknowledging that Berenike Hotel was

better than KS World Hotel.

Not only would that offend the latter, but it would also mean she had chosen Berenike Hotel to have her

wedding at.

Ada wasn't so stupid as to fall for Sophia's trap!

Right when the atmosphere grew awkward, the main hall doors opened.

Zoe walked in in a Swavroski studded pink tulle gown, looking like some fairytale creature.

"Is that world-famous pianist Christina Hammond's student Zoe Harper?"

"She's not just her student. She's also Landon Harper's kid sister!"

"Landon Harper's kid sister? You mean my future sister-in-law?"

"Who would my sister-in-law be in that case? Betty Beckett? Ugh! I don't like her. She's fucking weird, man.

In a corner of the hall, Betty sneezed.

She had noticed Zoe already. She was scanning for Landon next. Unfortunately, the man was nowhere to

be found. It looked like she really had lucked out with him.

Zoe was unbearably pleased with how the crowd's gaze turned from Ada to her.

She had persuaded Jasper to allow her to perform tonight, aiming to gain fame within Solana City's elite

society. She didn't want to be known as merely "Landon Harper's sister" forever. She slowly went up to Jasper, a lovely smile on her face.

But Jasper's responding glance had no hint of affection in them.

It made her shiver.

Just then, there came loud, firm/clicks of heels on the floor outside the door.

Jasper's breaths grew chaotic as he swiftly realized how familiar the sound was.