Can't Win Me Back Chapter 901 - 920

Chapter 901

Nina trembled as she curled herself in the wardrobe with a red wine bottle in her hand.

She was overwhelmed by shock, and her face drained of color. Her eyes were bloodshot, as if she had

cried profusely.

What was she supposed to do?

She was frantically trying to find an answer in her mind.

She wondered who she should break this groundbreaking secret to—Jasper or Alyssa?

After Betty helped Sophia settle in, she returned to her room.

When she helped Sophia out of her clothes, she noticed needle marks on the latter's arms. Betty couldn't

help but shudder at the thought of it.

Javier and Sophia no longer stayed in the same room. Since Lyla's accident, the couple had had more

bad blood between them.

Had they been sleeping on the same bed and Javier had seen those needle marks, Betty had no idea how

he would react to them.

When she reached her room, Betty saw Nina standing outside the door blankly as she waited for her with

a red wine bottle in her hand

She didn't look well.

"Ms. Betty, I've brought the wine you asked for. Would you like me to help you with it?" Nina asked

carefully.

"There's no need for that. Give it to me. You don't need to stay here anymore." Betty snatched the wine.

bottle from her. Then, she got into her room and slammed the door.

Nina stood by the door, looking lost. Her maid's uniform was drenched in cold sweat.

By the time Betty had returned to her room, she had lost her mood to drink.

The more she thought about Sophia's doctor, Dr. McAlister, the more fearful she became. She needed to

find time to get to the bottom of things with this guy.

Betty took off the face mask that had already dried up. She cleaned her face and took off her bathrobe.

Suddenly, she froze. Her heart tightened.

atty was a careless woman

However, she was very careful when it came to her personal belongings.

She would notice any fine details, no matter how small they were.

She could tell that someone had messed with her wardrobe. She could sense the stifling warmth cascading from it.

Betty suddenly remembered that she heard a noise in the bedroom when she had been talking to Sophia.

She took her phone immediately and opened a surveillance app on it.

It turned out that even someone as dim-witted as Betty had installed a hidden surveillance camera in her

room.

She had installed it a long time ago. She was like her mother, who never trusted a single soul. She was suspicious of the maid messing with her belongings when she wasn't around.

She gritted her teeth and replayed the surveillance footage..

She saw Nina walking into the room with the wine bottle not long after she had left the room. Nina hid in

the bedroom. Then, as Betty approached the room, Nina hid in the wardrobe.

Betty shrieked and threw her phone away.

She realized Nina had eavesdropped on her entire conversation with Sophia. That meant Nina now knew

about the treacherous secret!

Betty's back broke out in a cold sweat. She clenched her teeth as she paced around her bedroom

anxiously.

She picked her phone up. Her fingertips trembled as she dialed Sophia's number.

"What's up? I'm about to go to sleep," Sophia asked lazily.

"Mom, we're in big trouble!"

Betty curled up on her bed. Panicked, she said, "Nina heard everything we said. She was hiding in my

wardrobe the entire time. I caught her on my surveillance camera."

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Chapter 902

She was like an ant on a hot pan, jittering with worry.

The other end of the phone was exceptionally quiet.

"Mom? Mom! Did you hear what I said? What should we do now?"

"We need to get rid of that maid," Sophia said sinisterly after a long time.

"Pretend nothing ever happened. Let's keep it down and get someone to spy on her. When the time is

right, we'll make this little troublemaker disappear from the face of the earth!"

Alyssa was discharged from the hospital after she recovered.

Axel wasn't there when she was discharged because he didn't want to see Winston. Everyone else from

the Taylor family came. Even Winston's wives rushed over from Belbanks.

The wives were empathetic women. When they saw how scrawny the princess of the family had become,

tears streamed down their faces. Alyssa had lost her usual radiant appearance.

"My dear child, you've suffered so much."

Lyla was the most sensitive of all. Her eyes were swollen after all the crying. She went to Alyssa and

hugged her tightly. "It's our fault that we didn't protect you. I'm sorry, my dear."

"Lyla, I'm the one who should be apologizing" Alyssa returned Lyla's hug. Pain surged in her heart.

"Are you feeling better now? Did Dad buy you anything like bags, clothes, or jewelry?

"Whoa, don't tell me that he's so stingy that he didn't buy you anything!"

please don't say that. On the other hand, Lyla bought a lot of premium ingredients and local

products to cook for you for a month. She wants to replenish your b*dy again," Colene said, laughing as

she hugged Manday's waist.

"Huh? I'm not in confinement or hurt. I don't need these." Alyssa beckoned with her hand. She was a fan

of Lyla's cooking, but she was worried about gaining extra weight.

She had to go for countless rounds of kayaking to burn everything off.

At this moment, Jasper was on the other side of the road. He stood alone in the chilly woods, staring at

He stared deeply at her beautiful smile, unable to pull his burning gaze away from her.

When he had heard that she was leaving the hospital today, he had pushed all his important meetings and

rushed here.

Yet he could only be a shadow in the dark, silently standing there as he stared longingly at the woman he

once called his.

She had once shared a bed with him. Now, she was a dream that was out of reach.

Jasper looked at Alyssa's face. He hadn't seen that smile on her face for a long time. He recalled how she

had shrieked and scowled at him. She had even tried to hurt him.

Jasper shuddered as he clutched at his chest.

Waves of pain tore his chest instantly. It was so painful that it felt as if someone was ripping his heart out with their bare hands.

Yet he didn't know who to blame for things progressing this way.

Was he supposed to blame Liana? Or Jameson?

It seemed like he could only blame himself.

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"Lyse... Lyse..."
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Jasper blanked for a moment. His b*dy rebelliously moved forward, wanting to be closer to her.

At this moment, a luxurious car came to a stop before Alyssa.

It was Winston's car, an antique Rolls-Royce. It was the only one in the country. Neil got out of the car. Then, he opened the passenger door.

Alyssa thought her father would get out of the car. However, the next second, she was stunned.

A man got out of the car in a suit and tie. He was elegant and gentle. It was Jameson.

Chapter 903

The Taylor family members were flabbergasted when they saw Jameson getting out of Winston's car.

Alyssa frowned.

Winston was an arrogant man who always sat on his high horse. No one from the younger generation except his children had ever sat in his car.

Jasper was the most reputable, capable, and influential person in Solana City. Yet Winston had never thought that Jasper was worth his time.

However, as of this moment, it seemed that Jameson had successfully gotten close to Winston. Anyone would be lying if they weren't shocked.

If Alyssa remembered correctly, Winston used to be cold to Jameson. What was with the 180–degree change in his attitude after merely a few days?

"Lyse, you look so much better. That's great."

A gentle smile appeared in Jameson's eyes. He walked toward Alyssa with a vibrant bouquet of pink roses in his hand and gave them to her. "This is to celebrate your getting discharged from the hospital."

Alyssa looked at the beautiful roses before her. Her eyes fluttered slightly.

"Thank you, Jimmy." She took the bouquet.

"I know these flowers are your favorite. I picked them fresh from the field this morning." The sincerity in Jameson's eyes glistened like a shiny diamond.

Everyone present exchanged glances. The atmosphere was subtle.

"Thank you for thinking of me, but you didn't have to do this." Alyssa held the roses in her hand as her l*ps parted slightly. An inexplicable glint rested in her eyes..

"I will do anything for you." Jameson looked at her deeply, unable to hide his tenderness for her.

Alyssa pursed her l*ps. She didn't know what to say. The blatant confession from him was a more intense move than the roses in her hand.

Jasper witnessed the interaction between Alyssa and Jameson. He felt a bitter and painful prick in his dry throat. He could taste the smell of blood.

The next second, his breath tightened.

He saw Winston's tall and slender figure get out of the Rolls-Royce. He walked to Jameson. They stood

side-by-side like father and son.

Jameson greeted the old man with a warm smile. He had successfully integrated himself into the Taylor

family.

Winston S

his shoulder with a smile. Both of them exchanged a few words. Their relationship had

indeed taken a 180-degree turn,

Jasper's eyes instantly became bloodshot. He punched fiercely into the tree bark

This wasn't fair!

Yet, what could he have done even if he had walked over? Help clean the Taylor family's eyes? And risk

upsetting Alyssa?

He couldn't bear to hurt her anymore. That could never happen,

"Pfft, and I was wondering if you had what it took, Mr. Beckett. You can only stay here helplessly,

simmering in your anger."

A sharp, mocking voice came from behind him.

Jasper slowly turned around. He was met with Axel's mocking yet dark eyes.

"The high and mighty Mr. Beckett is nothing more than a mere loser." Axel hated Jasper. He didn't spare

Jasper mocked.

Axel was protective of his sister. He only cared about relationships and wasn't one to be reasoned with.

It didn't matter if it was a good or bad person. Anyone who hurt his dear sister was guilty of high treason.

"I know I should never appear in Lyse's life again. But can't I just look at her from a distance?" Jasper's voice was hoarse, and his eyes were red.

He hadn't had a good night's sleep the past few days. He would lay in bed with his eyes wide open every night until the day broke.

His heart felt like it had run dry.

Axel squinted his eyes slightly. He stood beside him and looked at Alyssa. "Honestly, I really hate you, Jasper."

Jasper pursed his l*ps slightly. He looked down silently.

"But I'm not a fan of that Schmidt guy either. My sister is a good person. I'm not sure what she did to be

Axel stared at Jameson angrily. He scowled.

"I don't know what's wrong with Winston I just complimented him for having good taste not long ago, Now, I have to take my words back. If he gives Alyssa's hand to this Schmidt quy, I'll snatch her back

myself"

Jasper was rendered speechless.

Chapter 904

He had heard about a love rival snatching someone's hand in marriage. But he had never heard of a

brother snatching his sister's hand in marriage.

However, Axel had never been afraid of anything. It wouldn't be a surprise if he did something like that.

"Hey, bastard!"

Axel looked at Jasper from beside him. "If, and I mean if, Jameson asks my sister's hand in marriage, will

you interfere?"

Jasper felt as if an arrow had pierced through his heart. Pain consumed his b*dy.

He couldn't entertain the thought of Jameson and Alyssa getting married.

"Shit, forget it. Neither you nor Jameson should think about getting my sister. None of you is worth her

time, Axel cursed. He thought it was a stupid question to ask.

"I only want Lyse to be happy. As long as she's happy, I'm willing to do anything for her. Jasper felt as if something was stuck in his throat. His voice broke as he spoke.

"Then, can you help me separate Lyse and that Schmidt guy? Seeing them as a couple is a real pain," Axel asked through gritted teeth.

Jasper looked at him in surprise.

"Don't think too much, I'm not doing it for you, but for Lyse. The onlooker sees most of the game. She's in the middle of this, so she might not see it. But things are crystal clear to me from where I'm standing.

"Behind those glasses, he's a casanova, I'm not comfortable leaving Lyse in the hands of someone with malicious intent. I'm worried she will fall into a trap." Axel was concerned for his sister.

Jasper was worried for her too.

"Let's work together to keep them apart." Axel clasped his fingers.

"What if she wants to be with Jameson? Jasper asked, even though the thought made his heart feel like it was being ripped out of his chest.

"Based on how well I know Lyse, she won't for now. I know how Lyse is when she fancies someone. No.

one knows it better than her brothers."

Axel scoffed at Jasper as he said that.

Jasper gulped hard. His face burned with guilt and regret. He knew Alyssa was a hopeless romantic.

She once had given her passionate heart and loyal devotion to him. He was once been loved

unconditionally. Yet he had been blind and foregone this true love.

"That's why we have to strike while the iron is hot, Lyse doesn't have any feelings for Jameson now. We

need to nip it in the bud before it even starts."

Axel narrowed his eyes and gnashed his teeth. "If we allow their relationship to develop further, I'm afraid

Lyse won't be able to withstand his fervent advances. Then, it will be too late.

"Think about it. But you don't have any reason to turn me away. We have the same goal—if we can't have

that person, no one should either."

He was about to leave.

"Are you helping me because we were friends in school?" Jasper suddenly asked, looking at Axel's back.

Axel stopped in his tracks. He perked an eyebrow. "Oh, how thoughtful of you to mention it. We went to

school together, but we were never friends. Goodbye."

Jasper was left speechless.

On the way back, Winston allowed Alyssa and Jameson to sit in his car. Even a blind person could tell

Winston was trying to create some alone time for them.

Winston's wives didn't ride in separate cars on the way back. Instead, they sat in one car to ease gossip.

"What is Winston thinking? Is he trying to set Lyse and Jameson up?"

Colene could barely hold it in as the car started. "Pfft, this must be an opportunity for a lifetime for that

pipsqueak. He will sleep with a wide smile on his face every night if he becomes part of our family."

"The Schmidts aren't as influential as the Becketts in Solana City. I don't think Mr. Schmidt's status is

suitable for our son-in-law," Mandy said helplessly.

*Lyse had always had her eyes on Mr. Beckett. Has she moved on? Is she ready for a new relationship?"

Lyla hit the bullseye with her question,

"The best way to forget an old flame is to start a new relationship. If Lyse doesn't date another man, she

will never forget that Beckett guy."

Chapter 905

Colene thought about it. Perplexed, she said, "Winston's attitude seemed odd to me. He told us he wasn't fond of the Schmidt family's sons. Why did he suddenly change his attitude toward Jameson?"

Mandy frowned slightly.

Jameson seemed to have some tricks up his sleeve.

Alyssa stared out the window the whole time. She was uninterested in speaking to Jameson.

Meanwhile, Jameson sat beside her quietly. His eyes didn't leave her for a second. He thought he was the

luckiest man in the world, even if he was watching over her silently.

*Jimmy, thank you for keeping me company while I was at the hospital."

Alyssa didn't look at him, but her tone was gentle. "I'm sure you're tired. Make sure you rest well when you

get back. Please don't look for me for now."

"Lyse, d-do you not wish to see me?" Jameson frowned as his heart tightened.

"I don't know what you told my father, but if you still want to be my friend, I hope everything stops here."

Alyssa looked at him this time, but her eyes were as cold as ice. "Jasper and I will never happen. Neither

will you and I."

"Lyse, I think there's a misunderstanding. I didn't say anything to Uncle Winston. I..."

Alyssa closed her eyes and shook her head. "Your image of me is still stuck in the past. 15 years have passed. I'm no longer your guiding light. I can't do anything for you anymore.

"Our childhood friendship has brought us together after all this time. I cherish our friendship dearly. I hope

you won't destroy what we have.

"If you still choose not to listen to me, I'll have to choose not to see you again."

Alyssa had tried her best to soften the blow and reject him politely.

Yet, each word was like a cold dagger piercing Jameson's heart, leaving a trail of blood.

He gasped hard. His fair complexion was now completely drained of color. He clenched his fists.

He loved Alyssa with all his heart. Yet she treated his heart like a target, aiming her arrows at it again and again. He was deeply hurt. He wondered why she was so cruel to him.

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again. He was deeply hurt. He wondered why she was so cruel to him.

In the tense atmosphere, Alyssa's phone vibrated.

She looked down at her phone screen. Nina's name appeared. Her heart shuddered as she quickly

answered.

"What's wrong?" She lowered her voice since she had company.

"Ms. Taylor, a-are you free tonight? I need to see you!"

Nina sounded anxious. She was whispering. "I have something important to tell you. But I'm with the Beckett family now. They have eyes everywhere, so I can't tell you over the phone,"

Alyssa's heart was caught in her throat. She looked at her watch for the time. "I'll find you tonight. Let's

talk when we meet."

Jameson didn't move an inch. He observed her silently. She spoke very softly, so he didn't hear a thing.

"No, no! Please don't come to me. I will come to you."

Nina was trembling in fear. Her voice shook as she repeated, "I will come to you. Let me know where to

meet you

"Okay, I'll send you a location shortly."

Alyssa knew Nina was in danger, so she didn't say more than she needed to. She hastily hung up.

Jameson noticed the inexplicable look on her face and asked, "Did something happen, Lyse? Is there

anything I can help you with?"

"There's no need!" Alyssa rejected him with lightning speed.

Jameson was stunned. His eyes looked glum. No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't get close to her.

An invisible block of ice stood firmly before her. He wondered if he would ever break that barrier between

them.

Alyssa took a deep breath as she massaged her temple. "I'm sorry, Jimmy. You don't need to take me

back to Belbanks. I have some matters to attend to at the hotel. I'll drop you back."

Chapter 906

Nina paced back and forth in the garden after speaking to Alyssa on the phone. She was in distress.

This was the first time she had ever done something like this in her life. Her heart wasn't strong enough to

take it.

She returned to the villa anxiously.

All of a sudden, her heart stopped for a second. Jasper, who hadn't returned for a long time, entered the Exvilla.

"Mr. Beckett... Mr. Beckett!"

Nina broke into a sweat. Her face paled as she ran after Jasper. She went in front of him to block him.

She had been working as a maid here for many years, but she never dared to talk to him. She had no idea

where she got the courage to charge toward him.

Jasper frowned slightly. "What can I do for you?"

"1–I... You..." Nina cursed herself for getting tongue–tied now.

"You can take your time." Jasper looked at her lightly.

He had never had this level of patience before. Now, Alyssa had completely influenced him. He was more

easygoing and rational now

Nina bit her l*p hard. Her face reddened. She contemplated telling Jasper the truth–that Sophia had killed

his mother.

She doubted if Jasper would believe her.

She took a step forward. She made sure no one was around and lowered his voice. "Mr. Beckett, I'm

meeting with Ms. Taylor in secret somewhere tonight. C-Can you join us?"

Jasper was shocked as his eyes constricted. He leaned his b*dy forward abruptly. "What did you say?

You are meeting-"

"Nina! What are you doing?"

Suddenly, a shrill voice came from above them.

Nina looked up and saw Betty's fierce expression. She was terrified.

Jasper noticed how oddly she was behaving. He had noticed her stuttering earlier. He deduced that Betty

Or was that a secret plen for help?

Eyes blazing. Jasper felt invigorated and needed. He had a strong urge to protect Alyssa.

Xavier asked with concern, "Mr. Beckett, do you want me to go with you?"

Sighing, Jasper shook his head. "No. Nina only wants me there, meaning they don't want the others to

learn about their plan."

Still concerned, Xavier said, "Does Ms. Alyssa know you'll be there? If it's only Nina's wish for you to be

Will Ms. Alyssa be angry when she sees you?"

"If that's the case, I'll keep an eye on her from afar," Jasper replied.

His eyes

eyes filled with affection when he thought of Alyssa. He said, 'She's always out creating trouble. I'm

worried about her."

At 9:00 pm, Becky left the house, all dressed up. Soon after she left, Nina, dressed in black and wearing a

cap, sneaked out of Seaview Manor from the back entrance

After Nina was gone, a black sedan silently emerged from the shadows. The driver asked, "Ms. Betty, do

we tail her?"

Jeffrey Snyder was a trusted staff member who worked as a special assistant for Sophia. Since he had served Sophia and Betty for many years, Sophia had ordered him to assist Betty's mission that night.

Betty replied, "No, we don't have to. We'll make her suffer for selling us out. If we tail her closely, we might

land in trouble if someone takes photos

s of us."

After years of living with and learning from Sophia, Betty had honed her skills in executing unscrupulous

plans.

"Alright. I'll wait for Madam Sophia's orders and take action when the time comes," said Jeffrey

unemotionally, just like a robot.

Betty asked, "What do you plan to do?"

"Get up here quickly. I received some clothes earlier. Come and help me organize them. Hurry up!"

Yes. Ms. Betty Nina pursed her l*ps. Torn, she looked at Jasper.

Jasper inched closer to her. He spoke to her voice in a voice only audible to both of them, "I will ask

Xavier to get in touch with you. Please let him know where you are meeting Ms. Taylor tonight."

Nina returned to Betty's room at lightning speed. Betty had a mountain of clothes for her to manage.

Betty sat on her couch with her legs crossed. She drank some wine as she stared coldly at Nina, who was

working busily

"What did you tell Jasper earlier?

Nina felt like she had a knife at her back. She tried her best to say firmly, "I bumped into Mr. Beckett, so I

greeted him. He asked me to get him a bottle of red wine from the wine cellar and take it to his study.

"Hmph, Jasper is surrounded by tons of maids to help him. He has Xavier, too. Why would he ask you?"

Betty's eyes turned grim as she mocked, "Don't tell me you have other intentions. Are you trying to curry

favor and win him over? Why don't you take a look at yourself in the mirror? Know your place."

Nina heard the insult and let out a sigh of relief.

Ι

"Nina, you know how close I am to Jasper. If you run to him and tell him some nonsense, I will make sure

it will be the end of you

"Okay, I understand." Nina complied,

Betty lazily leaned on the couch. I'm going out for some fun and probably won't come back tonight."

Nina was secretly overjoyed when she heard that. She had been worried about how she would excuse. herself to see Alyssa. Now, the chance had fallen into her lap.

"You don't need to serve me tonight. You can bead back and rest earlier. Consider this a holiday from me.

"Betty gestured with her hand, portraying a generous air

"T-T-Thank you, Ms. Belly"

Nina organized the clothes and left the ro

The moment the door closed, the look on Betty's face changed. She called Sophia.

Mom, I gave that bitch, Nina, time off tonight. I want to

Jasper privately earlier. That little bitch may be the spy Jasper placed around me.

"Take the bait?" Sophia's tone was harsh.

"Yeah! Why would a maid like Nina have the guts to do something like that? Someone must have her back. This way, I can lure the person giving her orders out. Then, we will see who we are up against."

A sinister smile appeared on Betty's face. She was proud of her scheme.

"You imbecile! How could you be so stupid?"

Sophia scolded her. "You're laying trouble for us for the future. Did you know that? I asked you to keep an eye on her. Now, you're letting her loose to talk to other people?

"You don't need an extra brain cell to know who we're up against. It's either Jasper or Alyssa. What if she secretly meets Alyssa tonight? What are we supposed to do? If she tells anyone what she knows, we'll be

ruined."

Betty shuddered and slapped herself hard on the forehead. She was so shortsighted not to see this

coming.

"Nina will take action tonight."

Sophia exhaled hard. Her voice was chilling and sinister. "She can walk out of Seaview Manor. But if she walks out of here, don't expect her to come back ever again."

Chapter 907

Jasper returned to his study and waited for Xavier. As he smoked by the window with a contemplative

look, Nina's words echoed in his mind, making his heart race.

Did that mean the maid had been secretly in touch with Alyssa? Why?

He mused, "Alyssa, what exactly do you plan to do? Why do you always make me worry?"

He answered when he heard a knock on the door. Taking another drag of his cigarette, he flicked the

cigarette ashes with his calloused fingers.

Xavier shuffled into the room, shut the door, and handed Jasper a note, explaining, "Mr. Beckett, this ist

the address that Nina wanted to give you. She'll meet Ms. Alyssa here tonight."

Jasper felt his chest tighten, and even his fingers shook as he accepted the note. He cast a quick glance

at it, immediately memorizing the address.

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Then, he questioned, "What else did Nina tell you?"

Xavier shook his head. "Mr. Beckett, I feel that she's spying on this family for Ms. Alyssa."

"She is a spy without a doubt," replied Jasper, clutching the note tightly.

Alyssa had always concocted plans under his nose and stirred up trouble.

Xavier wondered aloud, "What's Ms. Alyssa trying to do?"

His eyes lit up when a thought crossed his mind. He exclaimed, "Did she get a maid to spy on you

because she still has feelings for you? It looks like Ms. Alyssa still has a place for you in her heart. That's

good news!"

Jasper shot Xavier a gloomy stare while taking another puff helplessly,

He wasn't delusional. Alyssa hadn't placed a mole in the Beckett family because of her feelings for him.

She was a busy and ambitious career woman who had no time for that.

Only one possibility remained. She must have been worried about certain problems within the Beckett

family.

Jasper wondered if Alyssa was thinking of ways to avenge Lyla. If that was the case, all she had to do

was discreetly carrying out the plan with Nina.

Why did Nina run to him and expose her plans with Alyssa?

Or was that a secret plea for help?

Eyes blazing, Jasper felt invigorated and needed. He had a strong urge to protect Alyssa.

Xavier asked with concern, "Mr. Beckett, do you want me to go with you?"

Sighing, Jasper shook his head. "No. Nina only wants me there, meaning they don't want the others to

learn about their plan."

Still concerned, Xavier said, "Does Ms. Alyssa know you'll be there? If it's only Nina's wish for you to be there, will Ms. Alyssa be angry when she sees you?"

"If that's the case, I'll keep an eye on her from afar," Jasper replied.

His eves filled wi

His eyes filled with affection when he thought of Alyssa. He said, "She's always out creating trouble. I'm

worried about her."

At 9:00 pm, Becky left the house, all dressed up. Soon after she left, Nina, dressed in black and wearing a

cap, sneaked out of Seaview Manor from the back entrance

After Nina was gone, a black sedan silently emerged from the shadows. The driver asked, "Ms. Betty, do

we tail her?"

Jeffrey Snyder was a trusted staff member who worked as a special assistant for Sophia. Since he had

served Sophia and Betty for many years, Sophia had ordered him to assist Betty's mission that night.

Betty replied, "No, we don't have to. We'll make her suffer for selling us out. If we tail her closely, we might

land in trouble if someone takes photos of us."

After years of living with and learning from Sophia, Betty had honed her skills in executing unscrupulous

plans.

"Alright. I'll wait for Madam Sophia's orders and take action when the time comes," said Jeffrey unemotionally, just like a robot.

Betty asked, "What do you plan to do?"

Chapter 908

Betty raised a brow leisurely and asked Jeffrey, "Does my mom want to kick Nina out of the family or get

rid of her for good?"

"Madam Sophia wants Nina gone for good to avoid any future trouble," Jeffrey replied with indifference.

Betty gasped, "She's ruthless!"

"If Madam weren't heartless, you wouldn't be enjoying a comfortable and pampered life."

"Hmph. Even if Mom did nothing, I would still have enjoyed the same life." Betty dismissed Jeffrey's

statement.

Jeffrey looked at her through the rearview mirror with disdain. "Are you sure, Ms. Betty?"

Betty was upset at Jeffrey's contempt. In her eyes, Sophia had resorted to underhanded tactics to marry

Javier out of desperation to elevate her status as a mistress.

But Betty considered herself different. She didn't need to lift a finger to secure her position. She had been

born into wealth and status as Javier Beckett's daughter.

Fed up with Sophia constantly branding her as dumb, Betty was determined to prove her capabilities. She was determined to show Sophia that she was supe

superior.

With that goal in mi

goal in mind, she leaned forward and whispered to Jeffrey maliciously, "Jeffrey, I have a brilliant

idea to remove those who wish harm upon my mom and me."

He cast her an amused glance. "What is it?"

"Why don't we let Nina meet the mastermind behind this? Then, we'll get rid of them at once. Doesn't that

sound exhilarating?"

Grinning evilly, Betty added, "Besides, I'm very sure that Nina's a spy working for Alyssa. It's a shoddy

method, unlike what Jasper would normally do.

"And if Nina was working for Jasper, she wouldn't have had to take the risk of sneaking out of the house

late at night."

Jeffrey nodded. "So you want me to get rid of Alyssa Taylor?"

Betty's heart raced at the idea of getting rid of Alyssa. The thought made her nervous, fearful, yet excited.

It was her dream to get rid of Alyssa.

However, if Betty got rid of Alyssa, she knew that Winston would go to lengths to avenge his daughter. It

Still, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity to take action against Alyssa, especially given that she would

meet with Nina without much security around.

Betty prodded cautiously with a menacing look. "Do you have the guts to do it?"

"It's no big deal to me. This isn't my first stint," Jeffrey answered.

Coming from an assassin background, he was trained to be a murderer. In his eyes, Alyssa's life was

nothing

Betty's eyes glimmered. She laughed loudly and said, "Today shall be her death anniversary if you dare to

take her life!"

Alyssa and Sean waited for Nina at a park on the west side of Solana City. There was no one around.

Given her current status and fame, Alyssa would attract unwanted attention if she met Nina in crowded.

public areas, which would only bring trouble for the latter.

Sean checked his watch a few times nervously. He muttered, "Why isn't she here yet? Did she run into

trouble?"

Alyssa frowned in concern.

Sean questioned, "Ms. Alyssa, did Nina ask you to meet up because she got hold of some important clues

against Sophia?"

"We'll know when she arrives."

Soon, they heard urgent footsteps nearing them. Nina sprinted to them, sweaty and pale. She exclaimed."

Ms. Alyssa, run! Someone has been following me, and they're here now. Run now!"

Alyssa quickly held the limp and scared Nina in her arms. She fixed an intense gaze on Nina and

comforted the latter calmly. "Don't worry. As long as you're with me, I won't let anyone hurt you.

Chapter 909

When Nina had been speaking, Alyssa and Sean had heard heavy footsteps approaching.

Sean ward

warily shielded Alyssa and Nina behind him, clenching his fists as the muscles beneath his suit

tightened.

Nina was in shock, but Alyssa calmly fixed her gaze on the three men in black in front of them as she

tightened her hold on Nina.

She swiftly examined the leader, Jeffrey, and immediately sensed that he was a tough nut based on her

years of experience.

Sean gritted his teeth and asked, "Who are you?"

Jeffrey tilted his head and looked past Sean to stare at Alyssa. He said flatly. "You must be Ms. Alyssa."

"I am," she replied firmly

"You're indeed a beauty, as the rumors say," Jeffrey remarked, flashing her an ugly smile.

La

"What a pity"

Alyssa clenched her jaw as she trembled in rage at his audacity. She growled, "Are you working for Sophia

Kirkman? Did she send you here to kill me?"

"Ms. Alyssa, you could have lived a comfortable life, but you had to get into trouble and poke your nose.

into others' business. It's only fair that you take responsibility for your actions"

"Responsibility?" Alyssa guffawed fearlessly.

"Try laying a finger on me. You better pray you kill me today because if I survive, I'll make sure you and

your men die a nasty death."

Jeffrey smiled, unfazed, recalling how those who had issued similar threats to him had all perished.

Sean rolled his fists and urged Alyssa to leave. "Ms. Alyssa, I'll hold the fort. Run with Nina!"

"Nina, leave," Alyssa instructed, shoving her away.

Then, she turned to Sean with determination. "I'll back you up. You can't fight three men alone."

"Ms. Alyssa..." As Sean exchanged glances with Alyssa, he felt a warm current surge through his b*dy.

He was destined to be an important work partner for Alyssa in this life. They would never be anything more than that. He might marry someone and start a family one day, but no one could replace Alyssa.

What had once been romantic love for Alyssa had transformed into unwavering loyalty.

Meanwhile, Nina was reluctant to escape and leave them behind, but she knew her weak physique would

only be a burden.

Nodding tearfully at Alyssa, Nina was about to leave when two men surrounded her, cutting off her

escape. The trio found themselves cornered

There was danger in the air. They might not be as lucky this time.

Jeffrey cracked his neck, never once shifting his gaze from Alyssa "Let's not waste time. Get the job done, but leave Ms. Alyssa for me. I will get rid of her with my own hands as a show of respect."

A black Lamborghini drove over and parked by the desolate road.

Jasper emerged and cast a heavy glance at the shadowy park. He cautiously approached the park, the chilly wind stinging his face. An ominous feeling accompanied the silence

He and Alyssa shared a telepathic bond, perhaps due to his constant thoughts of Alyssa or the numerous life—or—death situations they had faced together:

Chapter 910

Jasper's phone rang at that moment. The caller ID was unknown. He recalled that he had asked Xavier to

share his personal phone number with Nina just in case of an emergency.

He rarely received any calls on his personal phone, which meant that the caller must be Nina.

Bracing for what he sensed might be bad news, he swiftly answered, "Hello?"

"Mr. Beckett, save Ms. Alyssa. Save her! We're—Ah- Nina abruptly dropped her phone as she screamed.

Holding his breath, he stared at the dark screen as his heart pounded wildly.

Alyssa's name echoed urgently in his mind. With beads of sweat forming on his forehead, he raced.

toward the park while calling Xavier.

He said urgently, "Something's happened to Alyssa. Send backup my way right now."

The sounds of a scuffle rang through the park as Sean expended every ounce of energy to fend off the

attackers, desperately delivering punches and kicks

Despite his swift moves. Sean found himself overpowered by a group of men armed with knives. Soon, he

was pinned down after ten grueling rounds of fighting.

By this point, he had suffered deep, bloody cuts to his left arm and right legs. His clean suit was in tatters,

and his white shirt was blood-stained. He looked pitiful and disheveled.

However, he held on and endured the pain due to his strong conviction to protect Alyssa.

Jeffrey lost his patience with Sean. He grumbled, "He's surely a difficult one." With a swift motion, he drove a knife into Sean's left shoulder and twisted it mercilessly

Sean grabbed Jeffrey's hand that was holding the knife as he grimaced and wailed from the excruciating.

pain.

He felt as though his flesh and bones were crushed, and he wondered if he would lose his left arm for

good.

Jeffrey whispered in his ear, "It's troublesome to kill you off because we can't be bothered to dispose of your corpse. Otherwise, I'd stab you in the stomach and cut through all your intestines."

After that, he kicked Sean, making the latter land hard on the ground.

Seething with anger, Alyssa snapped the arm of one of the black-clad attackers.

Lying on the ground in a pool of blood, Sean stared at Alyssa through tears of guilt. He didn't fear death,

but the thought of leaving Alyssa unprotected haunted him.

Enraged, Alyssa seized a knife from her opponent and avenged Sean by driving it into the attacker's left

shoulder.

Jeffrey looked amused as he observed Alyssa's moves. Unlike other young ladies from prominent families, she displayed not only courage and strategy but also remarkable combat skills, just like a man.

Had Alyssa not come after Sophia, Jeffrey would have spared a talented beauty like her.

After defeating an attacker, Alyssa rushed to Sean's side. Yet a bad feeling gripped her as she sensed

someone approaching from behind.

Sean summoned the last of his energy to warn her, "Ms. Alyssa, look out!"

His heart nearly stopped with fear,

Behind her, someone had raised a dagger, ready to strike and take her life like a Grim Reaper.

Chapter 911

"Ms. Alyssa!" Turning white, Nina screamed and fear.

chut her eyes in

Alyssa was overwhelmed by fear, and her eyes wavered as she surrendered to fate.

At that moment, all her senses shut down. Scenes from her life flashed across her eyes, and they were all

memories of Jasper.

She recalled their memorable first encounter 13 years ago, their days on the Luminara battlefields, their

marriage, divorce, and holding on to each other amid a landslide.

She took a deep breath, and tears streamed down her face. People always say that one faced their real

self before dying

Was she still in love with Jasper, or did she hate him so much that she thought of him before dying?

She heard a whiz, a sound that caused her eardrums to reverberate. Death didn't arrive as she had

expected.

Caught by surprise, Jeffrey felt a sharp pain in his wrist. Before he knew it, someone had kicked the

dagger in his hand away, making it drop into the pond.

Alyssa turned around and saw the angry Jasper come to her rescue. The despair in her eyes vanished,

replaced by renewed hope. Her heart raced, and tears welled up in her eyes.

He had come. He had come for her.

Breathing heavily, Jasper stared deeply at her. He was enraged to see the cut on her arm, which was

bleeding now. At that moment, he appeared intimidating, even to Jeffrey, who was used to killing.

Worse, Jeffrey had failed to anticipate Jasper's arrival.

Jasper glared at Jeffrey while shielding Alyssa behind him, offering her careful protection. He questioned,

"I have seen you before, haven't I? Do you work for Sophia?"

Alyssa's heart skipped a beat. Sean was furious to learn that.

Alyssa wasn't surprised that Sophia wanted to harm her. But why now? It didn't make sense. Sophia's rash

move would only expose her wrongdoings.

Alyssa also considered the possibility that Sophia wanted Nina dead and had only decided to get rid of

her at the same time.

Why would Sophia want to harm Nina? Has Nina discovered a huge secret?

The other three attackers looked mortified when they saw Jasper. However, they had no other choice but to fight him to the end. They hoped that they could subdue Jasper and get out of this situation unharmed.

"Who's Sophia? I don't know her," Jeffrey remarked while holding his wrist, which was numb from the pain.

He shot Jasper an evil grin and added, "That doesn't matter. All I need to do is make sure none of you

survive."

Jeffrey, who was bold enough to attempt to kill Alyssa, wouldn't flinch at the thought of killing Jasper at

all. To him, Jasper was nothing more than Javier Beckett's bastard son.

"I only wanted you arrested, but seeing as you've hurt my woman, I have to kill you," Jasper threatened.

Tightening his fists, he dashed toward Jeffrey before the latter could react.

Meanwhile, Alyssa blushed, and her breathing became uneven upon hearing Jasper call her his woman.

Chapter 912

However, Alyssa was pulled out of her thoughts as Jasper engaged in a fierce brawl with Jeffrey. Each

punch he delivered was forceful and rapid.

The three other men ran toward Jasper, aiming their knives at him. They were determined to kill him.

There was no other option.

"Jasper, look out! Behind you!" Alyssa shouted, beads of sweat forming on her forehead.

Since Jasper hadn't fully recovered, facing Jeffrey alone would be a daunting task for him. Now, things

were worse with the trio of attackers closing in on him.

Not only that, Jeffrey was a merciless man whose each move aimed to kill.

Jasper was empowered when he heard Alyssa's warning. Without looking back, he grabbed the attacker's

wrist and snapped it. The attacker's agonizing scream pierced through the night.

Alyssa's heart was pounding wildly. Memories of Jasper's valor on the battlefield flooded her mind.

In the next instant, she watched as he decisively stabbed the attacker. As a doctor, she realized that

Jasper hadn't stabbed the attacker in any vital parts of his b*dy. He had intentionally spared the

attacker's life.

Despite having lived a comfortable life for years, he had retained his excellent combat skills, which were

more than sufficient to take down the three attackers.

Jasper clutched the dagger in his hand and questioned Jeffrey. "Were you the one who hurt my woman?"

Jeffrey ground his teeth and snickered.

Jasper threatened, "If she's hurt, I will break your leg. If she bleeds, I'll make you pay with your life."

He felt pained when he thought of the cut on Alyssa's arm. However, he dared not look her in the eye,

fearing that she might be annoyed at him.

Alyssa pressed her pale l*ps when she listened to him. Her breathing quickened as she grappled with her

mixed emotions.

Jeffrey cackled loudly. The situation had spiraled out of his control. Fueled by anger, he boldly brandished

a gun and aimed it at Alyssa's shocked face.

He hadn't used the gun earlier because he had wanted to kill Alyssa quietly. To his dismay, Jasper's

abrupt arrival had disrupted his plans. With no other recourse, he had to speed things up.

"No! Ms. Alyssa!" Sean paled.

He was desperate to shield Alyssa, but he found himself unable to move.

After a momentary shock, Jasper quickly rushed up to grab the gun from Jeffrey, but it was too late.

"Mr. Beckett, say goodbye to your woman!"

What followed was an ear-splitting gunshot.

Trembling from head to toe, Jasper bellowed in despair, "No!"

Alyssa's eyes were misty. She could hear the sound of the bullet coming in her direction.

Since her days as a battlefield medic, she had developed an acute sensitivity to the sound of gunfire. Even after she had returned home, she had suffered from PTSD until she had sought help from a mental

health professional and worked on her trauma for a while.

Closing her eyes in dread, she anticipated the worst, only to be startled by a weak moan from the ground.

beside her.

Confused, she opened her eyes. Gaping in shock as she exclaimed, "Ninal"

Chapter 913

Nina threw herself in front of Alyssa, protecting the latter with her feeble frame. Her opened arms fell limply, and her b*dy collapsed onto the floor.

Jasper and Sean were shocked by the sight. Alyssa hugged Nina, only to feel the wetness in her hands. Trembling, she lifted her hand and teared up at what she saw.

"Nina! You"

"Ms. Alyssa, listen..." Nina was losing her consciousness fast.

She opened her mouth with difficulty as the color drained from her face.

Alyssa hurriedly stopped her from speaking. "Stop talking! You need to conserve your energy. I'll get your to the hospital!"

Crying. Alyssa tried to lift Nina in her arms, but she failed because she was too exhausted from the fight. Instead, she offered, "I'll stop your bleeding!"

Nina shook her head, muttering. "It's too late. I know Sophia's secret. She killed Madam Anne... the evidence... the phone..."

Alyssa felt a sharp pang course through her b*dy. A coldness enveloped her. She looked at Jasper through tears as he wrestled the gun from Jeffrey. She also heard the police siren nearing

Realizing he couldn't escape, Jeffrey turned and leaped into the pond, Jasper fired two shots at him, after

which the gun clicked empty. Jeffrey vanished beneath the water.

"Nina, we're safe! Nina!" Alyssa cried, removing her jacket to apply pressure to Nina's nonstop abdominal bleeding.

She cried, determined to save Nina's life, but as a doctor, she could tell from experience that Nina was

dying.

"Mr. Beckett! Madam!" Xavier arrived at the scene with the Becketts' security force.

Jonah, Axel, and Cyrus followed closely behind him.

"Lyse! Lyse!" Alyssa's brothers called out to her.

However, she was focused on Nina, watching helplessly as Nina's face turned pale and her eyes closed slowly.

Witnessing the scene, Jonah clutched a cross in sadness. Xavier, who rushed over to assist Jasper,

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He said, "You're badly injured. The ambulance is here. You need to get treated at the hospital,"

Despite his contempt for Sean, deep down, he knew that Sean was a kind man. Moreover, it was all

thanks to Sean that Alyssa was safe. Xavier couldn't bring himself to picture the alternative scenario.

Jasper stared at Alyssa, who was holding Nina in her arms and crying. His heart ached for her. No matter how hard he tried to suppress his emotions, tears welled in his own eyes as well.

Just as he mustered up the courage to approach Alyssa, Axel showed up by her side and attempted to

carry her.

Axel said, "Lyse, I'll take you to the hospital. This young lady is badly injured. She'll need to be sent to the hospital as well."

The medical staff swiftly moved Nina onto a stretcher and into the ambulance.

"Axel, is Nina... is she going to wake up? Will she be fine?" Alyssa questioned, eyeing Nina while exhaustedly resting in Axel's arms.

Frowning, Axel lifted Alyssa into his arms and comforted her. "She'll be fine. She will."

When he turned around, he shot a glance at Jasper. When their eyes met, Axel nodded at him glumly.

Jasper watched them leave. Despite Axel's silence, Jasper understood the gratitude he had expressed

with that nod.

Chapter 914

After Alyssa and Sean left with the Taylor siblings, the police arrested the attackers. With blood everywhere, the scene looked like a mess with blood.

ver stood fro

on the spot with the gun in his hand. Given his combat skills, taking down the attackers had been a piece of cake.

Still, he felt more exhausted than he had during his days on the battlefield.

Cyrus approached him with two policemen and, after casting a look at the gun, said sternly, "Please come

to the police station with us to assist in the investigation."

"Hey! What's that supposed to mean?" Xavier exclaimed, shielding Jasper from the authorities, his face.

flushed.

He explained, "Mr. Beckett wrestled the gun away from the attacker! You can't possibly suspect him as the shooter, can you? If it hadn't been for Mr. Beckett, Ms. Alyssa would have-"

"Enough, Xavier. Stop it." Jasper cut him off and calmly faced Cyrus. "Fine. I'll go."

"Mr. Beckett, please don't misunderstand us. I'm not treating you as a suspect. The police have a standard operating procedure for cases like these. I trust you'll cooperate with our investigation," Cyrus

conveyed hesitantly.

It was rare for Cyrus to address Jasper nicely. He lowered his voice and added, "Even Lyse has to cooperate with the investigation, but she's not in the right state of mind for it right now.

"Besides, she needs medical attention. I'll take her statement tomorrow."

Jasper was heartbroken when he thought of Alyssa. "Mr. Cyrus, may I visit Alyssa before that? I'm worried.

Cyrus would have rejected such requests under normal circumstances. However, given that Jasper had

saved Alyssa from the shooting. Cyrus didn't have the heart to turn down the former's humble request.

The atmosphere in the hospital weighed heavily on everyone. Sean had been sent to the operating theater

for surgery on his stab wound.

He suffered the worst injury to his left shoulder. If anything went wrong during surgery, there was a risk of

permanent damage to his left arm.

Alyssa had wanted to perform the surgery on Sean, but Jonah and Axel had held her back. She was too

weak right now and could collapse before the surgery was over.

"Don't worry, Lyse. I've gathered the best experts in Solana City,

I'll do everything in my power to ensure

the doctors save Sean's left arm," Jonah comforted Alyssa, holding her in his arms.

"It's all my fault. Sean wouldn't have been injured if it hadn't been for me," Alyssa said tearfully, consumed

by guilt.

"Don't blame yourself, Lyse. No one could have foreseen this," Axel consoled her, his eyes welling up with

tears.

He always felt tortured when he saw Alyssa upset.

They heard urgent footsteps, followed by a man's voice. "Lyse!"

Liam, who hadn't met with his siblings for a while, rushed over with Silas from the end of the corridor.

Except for Cyrus, all the Taylor sons were by Alyssa's side. As her brothers, they felt compelled to keep

their sister company at such a critical moment.

"Liam!" Axel's eyes lit up with joy when he saw Liam.

Everyone in the family knew that Liam and Axel had been closest to each other since childhood. One

couldn't help but wonder if it was because they had both taken their mother's last name.

Silas pouted, jealous at how Axel had shown such enthusiasm toward Liam.

Liam nodded softly at Axel before marching up to Alyssa in his military boots. He called out to her, "Lyse?

Lyse, I'm here."

She looked up and squinted at him with her swollen eyes. Her l*ps trembled as she spoke, "Liam, you're

here. I got into trouble."

Swallowing hard, Liam felt sorry for Alyssa and clasped her cold hand.

"Don't worry about it, Lyse. There's nothing to fear. I'm not scared of trouble. I'm only worried that you'll

keep your troubles from me. No matter what happens, I've got your back."

Chapter 915

"Liam, I can never make amends for what I've done, Alyssa mumbled as she closed her eyes in pain and cried in Jonah's arms.

The Taylor brothers had seen Alyssa cry before. In fact, she was a crybaby. In public, she presented herself as a capable and invincible career woman.

was...

Only her brothers knew that she was just an ordinary young lady who was emotionally vulnerable and needed attention.

However, Alyssa seemed to be badly affected this time. They guessed that it would take her longer to recover from the shock.

Silas and Liam had been briefed on the situation while they were on their way to the hospital. They had learned that Sean was badly injured but alive, with a chance of recovery. However, the young lady named Nina had lost vital signs upon reaching the ICU. Alyssa had nearly knelt. on the floor there, begging the surgeons to save Nina's life.

Everyone prayed hard that the brave and pitiful woman would survive the ordeal.

"Jonah, I heard Sean's suffered a serious injury. Have we informed his family?" Silas asked with concern,

The light in Jonah's eyes dimmed. "Before Sean underwent the surgery, he repeatedly reminded me to keep his injury a secret from his parents.

"His parents are old, and his mother suffers from poor health. He's worried that she might relapse due to the shock."

Silas mused, "But it'll take Sean a few months to recover, wouldn't it? We can keep the secret for a few days, but we can't do that for months!"

"Let's inform the Lynch family after Sean's condition has stabilized post—surgery. It won't come as a huge shock to them that way," Axel suggested with a serious face.

At that moment, Cyrus jogged up to them. "Guys! You're all here?"

Finally, all the Taylor brothers were present. Despite being successful and talented in their respective fields, they were helpless in front of the inconsolable Alyssa.

How could they possibly comfort Alyssa? She had witnessed the fragile Nina take a bullet for her and collapse in front of her eyes. Anyone with a conscience would be overwhelmed by guilt.

"Cyrus, I thought you had to take the witness statements at the police station. Why did you.." Liam's voice trailed off when he noticed Jasper quietly standing not far away from them, granting the family some private space to speak.

Standing behind Jasper was Xavier, who feared for Jasper's safety upon seeing Alyssa's brothers

gathering.

Even if Jasper and Alyssa got back together and remarried, life at the Beckett family would never be the

same for Alyssa anymore.

The Taylor brothers cast complicated looks at Jasper. Alyssa rubbed her reddened eyes and took heavy

steps toward Jasper.

Jasper watched her approach him. His heart pounded wildly. He spoke in a hoarse voice, "Are you okay?

Have they tended to your injury?"

Ignoring his question, she looked into his worried eyes and informed him, "Nina is still in the emergency

room,"

"I know. Everything will be fine. I'll wait with you." Jasper comforted her, clenching his fists to fight off the

urge to hug her.

Chapter 916

"Why were you there tonight?" Alyssa whispered, tears glistening in her eyes.

"It was all because of Nina. She bumped into me at Seaview Manor this afternoon and informed me about the meeting tonight," Jasper confessed.

"I went to the park because I was worried."

His

concern was justified. Alyssa recalled the huge secret Nina had revealed before losing consciousness. Tensing up, she trembled harder. She hesitated to disclose the information to Jasper.

lina's broken phone.

Instead, she touched the front pocket of her shirt, where she had stored Nina's

Frowning slightly, Jasper removed his jacket and draped it over her, wrapping it tightly around her.

She stared blankly ahead without resistance. At that moment, her sole focus was on Sean and Nina's well-

being, leaving her with no energy to spare for anything else.

She inquired, "Have the police arrested that man?"

"They've issued a warrant for him. The police and my security team have set up roadblocks across the city, including the roads to the airport, the train station, and the highway. He won't be able to escape,"

Jasper explained, breathing heavily in rage.

*Illegal use of a firearm, common assault, attempted murder... If he's proven guilty, he'll have to pay for his

crimes for the rest of his life."

Images of Nina being shot flashed across Alyssa's mind. The anger was evident in her eyes. Taking a

deep breath, she closed her eyes and covered her ears.

Jasper instantly recognized her behavior as PTSD symptoms. Feeling sorry, he gently enclosed her in a

warm embrace.

"Don't be afraid ..." He gently patted her trembling back as he clenched his jaw.

He was just an ordinary man. Even when he was in front of her, he felt the pain and the urge to cry.

The Taylor brothers looked at Jasper and Alyssa with mixed feelings. Frowning hard, Liam was about to

stop them when Jonah and Axel held him back.

Sighing. Axel advised, "Liam, I know you dislike Jasper. I don't like him either. But I have to give credit

where it's due. Had it not been for his help tonight, we would have lost Lyse."

Wide-eyed, Liam couldn't believe what Axel had said.

Axel put his hands in his pockets and puckered. "They were married for three years. There's no such thing as Jasper taking advantage of Alyssa. They would have already been intimate in their three years together

Silas, Cyrus, and Llam were rendered speechless by Axel's logic. Meanwhile, Jonah was surprised that

Axel was siding with Jasper.

He recalled Axel's strong opposition to the secret marriage between Alyssa and Jasper. In fact, Axel had nearly flown a plane to Beckett Group Tower and dropped a bomb on

Even though Axel could be hot–tempered at times, he could be principled and level headed when discerning right from wrong.

At that moment, the doors of the ICU swung open. Alyssa looked up and rushed to the surgeon, Jasper closely followed behind her, never once looking away from her

"Doctor! How is Nina?" Alyssa struggled to keep her tired, bloodshot eyes open. Her eyes sparkled with

wis

hope.

The surgeon's gown was stained with Nina's blood.

Chapter 917

Everyone gathered around the surgeon and stared at him nervously.

The surgeon exhaled deeply, shaking his head somberly as he disclosed, "The bullet caused significant

damage to her organ, leading to a hemorrhage.

"Frankly, there was little hope from the moment she arrived at the hospital. I regret to inform you, Ms.

Alyssa, that we couldn't save her. We tried our best."

As a doctor herself, Alyssa understood the weight and emotions behind the phrase "we tried our best".

The Taylor family members lowered their heads defeatedly. Liam removed his military beret as a sign of

respect to the late Nina,

Even though they had known that Nina's chances of survival were slim when they had stepped into the

hospital, it still hurt to hear the confirmation. Alyssa was the only person in disbelief.

"No! That can't be real. Nina is strong. How could she have died?" Alyssa tugged at the surgeon's arm and

repeatedly yelled as she spiralled into hysteria.

"Lyse, calm down!" Jasper hugged her from behind, desperately wanting to share her pain.

He comforted her, saying, "I believe Nina didn't suffer. We can't revive the dead, but we can seek justice

for her."

Nina wasn't Alyssa's kin or friend, yet she had willingly sacrificed her young life to protect Alyssa. The

weight of guilt and anguish bore down on Alyssa, who believed that she had indirectly murdered Nina.

"It's all my fault. I was wrong. I put her in danger.... Tears streamed down her face.

She jabbed her chest with her fingers, wishing that they were blades that could cut through her chest.

Seeing her anguish, Jasper felt his heart shatter. He choked up, feeling bitter.

Upon regaining consciousness, Alyssa found herself lying on a hospital bed, tethered to an IV drip. Only

Silas and Axel were with her. The others were busy taking care of matters in the hospital.

"Axel," Alyssa called out softly.

Seated at her bedside, Axel clasped her hand. I'm here, Lyse."

"Before Nina passed on, she told me there was important evidence in her phone, but I couldn't switch it

Patting his chest, Axel reassured her, "Not a problem. Leave it to me."

Although he aimed for a confident smile, his attempt failed due to the somber mood. "Even if the phone"

in pieces, I can retrieve the data as long as the SIM card is intact."

Relieved, Alyssa closed her eyes again.

Silas, ever vigilant, picked up on a crucial term. "Lyse, what's the evidence? Did the attackers come for it?

Is that why Nina died?"

"Yes, but I need concrete evidence before I can tell you the details," she responded, her nails digging into her palm as a painful reminder of the fury and resentment she harbored.

She wanted revenge.

Chapter 918

Alyssa vowed to take revenge for Sean, Nina, and every single one of Sophia's victims.

Jasper lingered by the window at the end of the corridor. It was past midnight, but sleep eluded him. He

stared out of the window, his eyes red.

He had called Landon and asked him to meet up right away. After Landon had coaxed Lauren to sleep, he

had instructed Angelina to watch over Lauren before rushing to meet with Jasper.

With a cigarette between his l*ps, Landon suddenly remembered that he was at the hospital. He put the

cigarette out impatiently.

"Jasper, don't worry. I've reached out to the gangs, and they will do anything I ask them to. The attacker will lay low because the authorities are after him, but he doesn't have an escape route anymore. My ment

will secretly look for him in Solana City three times a day. His fate is sealed."

"Thanks, bro." Jasper placed a hand on Landon's shoulder. "Have you told Lauren about Nina?"

A troubled expression crossed Landon's face as he rubbed his forehead and sighed.

"Damn it! I would never do that. How could I break such news to her? I had only met Nina once, but I could tell she was a kind soul, not to mention she was close to Lauren. I'm afraid Lauren will crumble if

she learns about Nina's death."

"Right. We can't let her know," Jasper replied. His chest tightened.

"Lyse is nearing a breakdown. If a strong woman like Lyse is struggling to cope with this, I can't imagine.

how others would take the news."

Landon stared at Jasper in shock. He had learned about the tragic event on his way to the hospital.

Even if Jasper had wanted to keep it a secret, Landon could have found out about it, given the Harper family's influence and capability.

Landon inquired, "What's your next move, then?"

"I'll take care of Nina's funeral arrangements. Xavier looked into her background. She was from the countryside, and her parents died early, leaving only a grandmother as her family."

"God. Why does misfortune always befall the less fortunate?" Landon empathized with Nina's plight.

"Xavier will make arrangements for Nina's grandma. If she's willing to come to Solana City, I'll place her in

Just like Alyssa, he had witnessed Nina's death, and he shared Alyssa's sentiments.

"It would be a relief if Nina's grandmother agreed to relocate. It might alleviate some of Alyssa's guilt," Landon remarked.

Landon was no longer hostile. Perhaps it was because he had been living with Lauren. He had softened and become more understanding.

He added, "Jasper, keep an eye on Lyse. Don't let her wallow in her emotions. She needs company at this time. Stop her from blaming herself, or she'll lose her mind."

"I know. I understand," Jasper muttered, shooting Landon a wry smile.

"I noticed you've changed since you started dating Lauren."

"How?"

"You're more humane."

Lan

"What the hell? Don't you have anything good to say? What does that mean? Was I an animal before this?" Landon immediately protested as he raised an eyebrow,

"You were a devil before this, Jasper teased with a smirk.

"Get lost!"

Chapter 919

Sophia and Betty received news of the shooting incident and Nina's death. After learning that Alyssa and Sean were hospitalized and the police were searching for Jeffrey, they became frightened and anxious.

"Mom, w-what do we do? Ah- Betty was cut off when Sophia glared at her and slapped her across her

sweaty face.

Betty stumbled, colliding with the coffee table. She winced in pain. For someone who never lifted a finger in her daily life, Sophia sure was fierce when punishing her own daughter.

Betty's face swelled instantly. Clutching her cheek, she sobbed vehemently, casting resentful glares at

Sophia through her messy locks.

"You good-for-nothing! Did I ever tell you to meddle in this affair? I asked you and Jeff to get rid of that

maid, but I never wanted Alyssa dead!" Sophia hissed.

Despite burning in rage, Sophia had to keep her voice low

She continued harshly reprimanding, "Don't you know Alyssa is Winston Taylor's beloved daughter? She's

also Newton's favorite and the woman of Jasper's dreams.

"Why would you make a move on her at such a time? Don't drag me into the mess!"

"I did this for you! All because you are my mom! Do you understand?" Betty wailed, rising from the ground.

"You said it was a rare opportunity and that Alyssa wouldn't bring along security when meeting with Nina.

"Jeff used to be an assassin. Killing Alyssa would have been a piece of cake for him. If we had

succeeded, you wouldn't have had to worry about that bitch anymore!"

"But did you successfully kill Alyssa? No! And Jeff is now a wanted man!" Sophia growled.

Her anger escalated, and she felt an overwhelming urge to tear into her foolish daughter. Trembling with

fury, she wrapped herself in a flannel blanket.

She decided to get an injection from Tristan the next day. It was too hard for her to regulate her emotions

and sleep without the help of drugs.

"I lost Ronald, and now I've lost Jeff as well. It's all your fault that I lost two of my right—hand men!"

"How was Ronald's case my fault? You wanted him to attack Lyla because you were pissed off at that

bitch. That had nothing to do with me!" Betty retorted.

Betty always admitted her wrongs but refused to accept unjust blame.

Sophia had to count her lucky stars that Ronald hadn't disclosed the truth about being Betty's father.

However, she wondered if Jeffrey, who was now wanted nationwide and was being hunted down by

Jasper's men would buckle under the pressure and rather out.

Just then, her phone rang, startling both women.

Sophia picked up the phone with shaking hands. Noticing that the call was from an unknown caller, she

hesitated before answering it. "Hello?"

She was greeted with silence. She cautiously inquired, "Jeff, is that you?"

"Yes, Madam. It's me," Jeffrey replied in a hushed tone that was further distorted by a poor signal.

"Where are you now?"

"I'm safe for now. Madam, I need some money for my escape. Please get it ready within three days."

Sophia turned her back to Betty and whispered, "How much do you need?"

"I need 200 million dollars, plus a boat. I plan to take the boat and illegally cross into Tsullu."

*200 million dollars?" Sophia sharply inhaled.

Her eyes sparked with anger as she hissed, "Where the hell can I get 200 million dollars for you? It's your

fault for acting without my permission. How dare you come to me and ask for so much money?"

"Madam, you know how much of your trouble I have taken care of over the years," Jeffrey threatened her

flatly.

*With my assistance, you secure your position as the wife of Beckett Group's president. I believe I

deserve some credit for that, I think I'll need 200 million dollars before my retirement. It's not much. Just

what I deserve."

"You-

Chapter 920

Jeffrey added, "Think about it. You're married to Javier Beckett, you must be filthy rich. 200 million dollars.

to you is nothing to you.

"According to my information, you've accumulated at least 500 million dollars in your offshore account in

Randerland, a stash from years of corruption in Beckett Group's projects."

Sophia was reminded of the wealth she had painstakingly amassed over the years through abuse of

power and bribery.

Her secret fortune could lead to a world of trouble if Jasper and Alyssa were to discover it. She might even have to serve a sentence unless Javier helped her. However, she didn't trust Javier anymore,

"Madam, you're not even 50 years old yet. You're sitting on a fortune. Don't you want to see your two

daughters get married someday? Have you ever dreamed of meeting your grandchildren?

"You're a pampered woman. I doubt you would last a day in a harsh environment in prison."

Jeffrey was clearly threatening her. Sophia gritted her teeth and came to a difficult decision

"Fine. I'll transfer 200 million dollars to you in three days. In return, you should never show up in Solana

City again!"

"Three days is too long. The police are on my tall. Jasper and Landon's men are discreetly hunting me

down. I won't make it to see another three days,

"I need to see the money by tomorrow evening. Madam, we're partners. Let's not end up in a lose lose

situation."

Rosie walked past Sophia's bedroom with Jasper's new tailored suit in her hand. She heard the sounds of

things crashing behind the closed door.

Frowning, she silently cursed, "What's that crazy bitch up to again? Even if she marries the richest man in

the world, she would still act the same!"

At that moment, Rosie's phone started ringing with a call from Jasper. Hiding in a corner, she answered,

Hello? Mr. Beckett, will you be home today?"

"Mrs. Rosie, are Sophia and Betty at Seaview Manor?" Jasper asked patiently.

"Yes, they are. I overheard them fighting as I passed their room. I'm sure they've wrecked everything in

Then, she added with concern, "Did something happen? You have been gone for days."

After some thinking, Jasper decided not to tell Mrs. Rosie about Nina's death for now, fearing that Mrs.

Rosie would fall into shock. He requested, "Mrs. Rosie, I need your assistance. Stay in the manor for a

few days, closely monitor Sophia's movements, and let me know if she leaves. Don't take any other action.

"Got it, Mr. Beckett."

"Remember, only observe. She's evil and might harm you if provoked," he cautioned in a hushed tone.

A shiver ran down Mrs. Rosie's spine. She inquired, "Mr. Beckett, what's going on? By the way, Nina has

been missing for a few days, but she didn't inform the butler about taking time off. I couldn't reach her on

the phone either. Did something happen to her?"

"I'll tell you," Jasper reminded her.

you about Nina at another time. Please do we had wou to

Just as he was about to hang up, Sophia emerged from the room. Dressed in black, which was unlike her

usual gaudy fashion, she sneaked out of the manor in the dead of the night. She resembled someone

attending a funeral.

Mrs. Rosie jogged along, careful not to be spotted, and watched Sophia from a window. Sophia got into a

car and left the grounds of the manor.

She quickly reported, 'Mr. Beckett, that bitch left home just now! She's dressed in black from head to toe

like a widow. She looks like she's up to no good"

After receiving Mrs. Rosie's intel, Jasper immediately ordered Xavier to track down Sophia.