

## Can't Win Me Back Chapter 1261 - 1280

### Chapter 1261

There was no sign of Alyssa!

"Damn it! This is not good! How could a person just disappear like that?" Silas wrapped his hands around his head. He felt like his heart was about to leap out of his chest.

Jonah and Liam noticed that Alyssa's bedding and closet had been turned upside down. They came to their senses immediately and ran toward the balcony.

They inhaled the cold air sharply.

There was a rope of more than ten long skirts knotted together. It was tied to the railing, dangling all the way to the ground floor.

"Jonah, Alyssa has gone mad! This is the fifth floor!" Liam exclaimed with a tremble in his voice. He had gone as white as a sheet from the fright.

"Alyssa, that mad woman! She's causing trouble for everyone with her rebellion!"

Jonah was swamped by terror. His heart was pounding, and the vein in his temple was popping.

"If any part of it were to have broken, she would have fallen to her death!"

"Stop talking, Jonah! My heart can't take it!" Silas had his hand on his heart. He felt faint.

Neil was also frightened out of his wits. His mind was in a muddle. " Oh, Ms. Alyssa... Please be alright! If not, I wouldn't be able to make up for my mistake even if I died!"

"Does Dad know about this?" Jonah inquired anxiously.

"Mr. Taylor is still troubled by Ms. Tatiana's matters. I didn't have the guts to add to his stress..."

"Keep this from him for the time being. Dad isn't in the best of health. We can't add more stress onto him."

Jonah clutched at his panic-stricken heart. "Don't alert the family. We'll gather our own manpower for the search! "It's storming outside. Ms. Alyssa doesn't have her phone or any money on her. How is she going to survive out there?"

Neil stomped his feet, feeling troubled. "It's all my fault! I shouldn't have moved from my station outside!"

"That's why she shouldn't have gone too far. We should be able to catch up with her if we go after her now!"

Jonah peered out the window. "Is Jasper still outside?"

"Mr. Beckett has left! It has been quite a while since he left!" Neil answered honestly.

Silas couldn't help but cuss, "Fuck it! Of all times for the bastard to leave! Lyse has definitely gone to look for him. Does this mean that they both didn't meet each other?"

Liam shuddered.

He was infinitely regretful at this moment.

He regretted being so demanding of Alyssa. The events were unfolding in a way that was exactly what he was worried about!

"If Lyse had gone after Jasper, she must have moved in the direction of Solana City. We'll be able to find her if we go along that route!"

Jonah ran to the door while instructing Silas in a deep voice, "Give Axel a call. Get him to come back to search for Lyse together!"

Silas nodded aggressively, "Oh, yes! Axel is very well-connected. He will have some ideas!"

In the night, blinding, bluish-purple lightning flashed through the skies. It was raining buckets.

Alyssa was drenched from head to toe. The biting wind was blowing against her frail body, making her teeth chatter and her body shiver.

Her phone had been confiscated, and she had no money at all. The sandals on her feet were lost somewhere in the course of her escape.

Her feet were covered in mud. They even bled from too much friction with the pebbles on the ground. She had never been in such a dire state before.

As much as she was going solo and facing these difficult hurdles, it was not going to deter her from escaping captivity.

She was not going to stop running toward the one she loved. All she wanted was to be with the man she loved. Why did it remain so challenging, even up to this day? Alyssa knew that her family would soon discover that she had run away. According to her brothers' capabilities, they would carry out a blanket search along the way.

They would leave no rocks unturned and would search until they found her.

Thus, she wasn't walking along any main roads or busy places. She could only make a detour through some secluded paths to go to Solana City instead.

On the journey, darkness prevailed, and not a single soul was in sight. There wasn't even an open shop along the way!

Alyssa had been walking under the cold rain for an extended period. It made her light-headed. Her body felt cold and hot at the same time, and she felt weak.

All of a sudden, her blurry eyes focussed. She spotted a couple of lights lit up some distance away!

She was overjoyed. She mustered up her energy and ran in the rain toward the light source.

When she got nearer, she realized that the light was coming from a motor repair plant that was still open.

Alyssa was almost freezing to death. She didn't have much time to think. She simply pushed the door open and entered.

Through the doors, four men were playing a merry game of poker.

## Chapter 1262

When they realized someone had entered, the four men turned their attention toward the entrance.

Their eyes twinkled, and their souls almost left their bodies when they saw Alyssa.

Was tonight their lucky night?

Despite the thunderstorm outside, a stunning woman had just walked right up to their door. Didn't this mean that they were about to get lucky?

"What brings you here, my lady?" asked one of the men as he sized her up crudely.

The way Alyssa looked at that moment was so enticing to them that they simply wanted to eat her up!

"Sorry to bother all of you." Alyssa panted as her body shivered from the cold. "Could I borrow one of your cell phones, please? I will compensate you tremendously."

One of them chuckled. "Compensate us tremendously? How do you plan to compensate us, miss?"

The four men licked their lips. They approached Alyssa with lewd smiles on their faces.

They said with a snigger, "How about if you let us feel you, kiss you, and get it on? You can also smack us all you want!"

Alyssa's gaze was as cold as ice, and a ball of anger rose within her instantly. Alyssa had already suffocated enough that day, and feeling half-dead from all the walking, who would have expected that she would bump into four jerks like that!

One of the men couldn't refrain himself anymore. He reached out with his perverted hands toward her full bosoms.

To his surprise, Alyssa reacted speedily. She grabbed his arm and twisted it to the back!

Immediately after, she kicked him behind his knee, forcing him to fall to his knees in front of her. The man yelled in pain, "Ah! It hurts! It fucking hurts!"

"Didn't you want to get smacked? I'm up for it!"

A crack sounded, and Alyssa had broken the man's arm. Her glistening pupils narrowed as she shouted back, "I will make sure that you're all done for!"

This time, Newton ended up in the hospital because of a stroke due to his chronic illness. It was fortunate that Ben had found him in time. That was why he didn't end up in a critical situation.

Due to the matter with Alyssa, Newton had been losing sleep, and he hadn't had much appetite these few days. He looked haggard and downcast.

The incident happened so suddenly. Plus, Javier wasn't in Solana City. So, the ones who stayed by Newton's side were only Jasper and Ben.

Jasper held a bowl in his hand. He scooped up some of the chicken soup and blew on it. Then, he held out the spoon to Newton's mouth.

Newton had no appetite at all. He noticed Jasper's bruised face and dejectedness and already had a rough guess of what had gone down.

Although his heart ached for Jasper, he maintained a frigid tone. "How the hell did you end up like this? You went to see Alyssa?"

Jasper felt a lump in his throat. "Yeah."

"Her brothers beat you up?"

Jasper pursed his thin lips. He couldn't bring himself to answer.

Newton understood Jasper. At a glance, he could already tell what was on his mind. His eye twitched.

"Don't tell me that you were hit by your ex-father-in-law?"

Jasper stayed silent. His silence was a confirmation to Newton.

"That serves you right! I would have broken both your legs if I were Winston! You should be grateful that he had shown you mercy, allowing you to return in one piece!" Newton exclaimed. He was not on Jasper's side this time.

"Grandpa..." Jasper looked up slowly. Through his thin lips, he mumbled bitterly, "Please tell me what I should do... What do I do to have Lyse back by my side?"

Newton shook his head helplessly. "You aren't the only one who had wronged Alyssa, my dear. Even I don't know how to face her in the future.

"She is such a good kid. If she hadn't married into our family, she could have had a liberating and carefree life. We are the ones who ruined her life."

A deafening silence fell upon the hospital ward.

"If there's no other way, then just stop thinking of one. You'll just have to make it up to her slowly with your sincerity."

Newton rested his wrinkly hand on Jasper's shoulder. In a heavy tone, he continued, "From now on, Jasper, stop thinking about how you can get her back. What you need to think of is how you will watch over her."

Jasper lowered his head in sorrow. He tried hard to hold his tears back.

"I don't want to let go, Grandpa. But I know that I am really not good enough for her."

Right as he said that, his cell phone began vibrating in his chest pocket.

## Chapter 1263

Jasper stared at the unfamiliar phone number on the screen. He was stunned for a moment. Not many people knew his personal number.

Under ordinary circumstances, if unknown individuals had dialed his number by mistake, he would never have answered their calls.

However, for some strange reason, his heart was racing this time. He couldn't restrain himself.

Jasper selected the option to answer the call and raised his phone to his ear. "Who's this?"

On the other end of the call, the winds and rain made it sound extremely noisy.

"May I know who's calling?"

Typically, Jasper would have hung up a long time ago. But this was an exceptional time when he actually went along with it. He waited for a response from the other end.

"Jasper, it's me..."

He heard Alyssa's weak, soft voice choppily from the other end. The gusts of strong winds disrupted the sound of her voice. Yet, he felt like a sharp sword had just stabbed right through his chest!

"Lyse?"

Jasper's eyes beamed with surprise. He stood up instantly. Every breath he took trembled with excitement. He couldn't believe that he could still hear from her. "Jasper, I want to see you. I'm really tired..." Alyssa's voice drifted away gradually until it was barely audible.

Jasper's eyes turned red in a flash. Waves of inexplicable pain tossed in his heart. "Where are you, Lyse? I'll go to you now!"

"I... I don't know where I am..."

Alyssa couldn't hold it in anymore. She began to weep softly. "I've been walking for such a long time. I can't walk anymore. My head is spinning... I just want to sleep..."

"Lyse! Don't sleep! Listen to me-don't fall asleep!"

Jasper's frantic heart tightened. "Don't hang up. I'll get your coordinates immediately! I'll go to you now!"

Newton overheard the conversation by the side. His expression was tense, and he became extremely worried, too.

"Grandpa, I'm sorry. I..."

"No need to explain, Jasper." Newton waved his hand, urging, "Go on! Nothing is more important than finding Alyssa right now!"

Jasper gripped his cell phone tight and dashed out of the hospital ward.

"You must find Alyssa! You have to protect her!" Newton shouted from behind him.

Jasper stopped briefly and responded with a firm nod.

Jasper drove the car in person. Along with Xavier, he sped through the rain toward Belbanks.

At the same time, he had gathered some people promptly. More than ten black cars followed Jasper's lead. They struggled to keep up with Jasper even though they drove 180 miles per hour.

To them, it seemed like Jasper was flying a plane rather than driving a car!

Rainy days meant that the roads were slippery and visibility was low. Jasper was basically putting his life on the line by driving at this speed!

Xavier clung onto the car's grab handle with his life. Fear had drained all the blood from his face. He felt like his heart was in his mouth!

"Mr. Beckett! Please... please calm down! I know that it's urgent to locate Madam. Even so, you need to watch out for your safety too!"

"Lyse's circumstances aren't great. She could be in danger at any moment!"

Jasper's eyes were bloodshot. His shoulders, although covered by his suit, were shaking uncontrollably from the terror that he was feeling.

"Every second I'm late means that Lyse is in an even more dangerous position! How could I possibly calm down?"

Xavier didn't dare to say anything else. He simply shut his eyes tight and said a prayer.

"Are you still getting the signal on Alyssa's location?" Jasper's voice was hoarse. It was as if his throat had been scalded. His forehead was dripping with sweat.

"Yes, I am! We're still about two miles away!"

Suddenly, the location indicator vanished from Xavier's tablet screen. Xavier was alarmed, and he shrieked, "Shit! Mr. Beckett! We lost the signal on Madam's location!"

Jasper's heart sank.

He could only pray now, hoping it was because her cell phone battery had gone flat and not because she had encountered any sort of frightening situation!

"Lyse, hang in there. I will find you soon!"

Soon enough, his sports car arrived at where her GPS signal last pinged.

## Chapter 1264

Jasper's men arrived right after him. Each with a flashlight in hand, they spread out and began their search for Alyssa.

Jasper sprinted through the heavy rain, indifferent to the fact that his pants and shoes were covered in dirt. His blood-red eyes were brimming with concern.

"Slow down, Mr. Beckett! Watch your step!" Xavier stumbled along behind Jasper with much difficulty. He was befuddled.

What the hell happened? Why was Alyssa at this terrible place on her own?

Alyssa took care of the four perverts. She beat them up till they were on their knees, begging for their lives.

But it was also because of this that she had expended all her energy. She barely managed to keep herself together even as she forced herself to stay conscious.

She had swiped one of the men's cell phones and got back in the rain. She continued walking forward blindly.

At the same time, she was also afraid that the men would not be satisfied that they had lost and come after her. So, she didn't dare to stop for even a second. She didn't have any energy left to fight off any form of danger.

As she kept walking, her mind had gone completely numb. Her legs were shivering, but she kept walking on autopilot. It felt as if her legs were no longer her own.

In the end, she couldn't take a single step forward any longer. She collapsed under a run-down pavilion halfway down the mountain. After she felt more stabilized, she rang Jasper up.

All she was afraid of was that Jasper wouldn't be able to find her.

Some time had passed. Alyssa was curled up with her arms around her knees. She buried her head in her arms and drifted off to sleep. She continued clutching tightly at the cell phone in her hand.

In her blurriness, she dreamt about three years ago.

She was back at the time of the accident. Fresh blood continued to flow from her. She clung to the doctor's arm and begged him.

"Please save him... Please save my child..."

"Lyse!"

Suddenly, Alyssa heard Jasper's voice calling out to her. But she didn't have any strength left to respond.

A moment later, her cold, shivering body found itself enveloped in a burning hot embrace. A tall and broad figure held her close.

Alyssa mumbled softly, "Jasper, is that you?" Her beautiful eyes sparkled in a way that tugged at one's heartstrings.

Jasper hugged her close. He pulled her even closer into his chest, which was pained. His voice was so tense and hoarse that he almost couldn't speak. "It's me, Lyse. I'm here."

Earlier, he had seen her nestled into a bundle of pettiness from afar. He choked on his tears, so much so that it was difficult to breathe.

His heart hurt so much that it was like it was bleeding after it had been torn into pieces.

At this moment, warm tears flowed down his cheeks, leaving damp marks on Alyssa's shoulders.

He was crying buckets.

Alyssa's mind was in a muddle. She cried out indistinctly, "Jasper... Our child... Our child is gone! You have to save him!"

In an instant, Jasper felt like he had taken a blow deep down to his soul. Her every word was like a knife slicing his heart up.

He placed his trembling hand on her forehead. The burning temperature he felt on his hand struck him with terror!

"Lyse! You're running a temperature! I'll get you to a hospital now!" Jasper exclaimed as he removed his coat. He wrapped it tightly around her and picked her up in his arms.

Alyssa's fever made her cheeks rosy. She continued rambling, "The child... Our child..."

"It's alright, Lyse. It's not a problem if we never have children."

Tears continued to fill in Jasper's eyes. He lowered his head and kissed her on her warm forehead.

"Down in my heart, you are like my child. I will care for you, love and protect you. You are the only one I need."

Xavier gaped when he saw Jasper walking out of the rain in the dark with Alyssa in his arms. Xavier felt so moved that he burst into tears.

Once they got into the car, Jasper flung his soaking set coat aside. He had brought a blanket from the hospital. He bundled Alyssa up snugly with it instead.

He wrapped his arms around her waist and hugged her as firmly as he could. His eyes were swollen red.

"Get the car going, Xavier. Go to the hospital now."

"Got it, Mr. Beckett!"

"No..."

## Chapter 1265

Alyssa raised her gaze slightly as she grasped his sweaty hands weakly. "If I go to the hospital... My brother will find me soon"

and bring me back with them. Jasper, I don't want to go back. I want to be with you."

Jasper choked achingly, "But, you have a high fever. It will damage your body." "It's okay. I just need to take some medication."

Following her utterance, Alyssa closed her eyes once again and slipped into unconsciousness.

The villa was serene during the wee hours of the morning. Lauren was sleeping soundly on her bed.

Next door to her was Landon. He didn't go to the study. Instead, he brought his documents to his bedroom. This way, he could look after his wife without delaying his business.

He had entered the core of the Harper Group and was extremely busy. Preston had handed a few projects to him. Landon had long stopped being a rich and free boy. He was now a very busy man.

In the past, he didn't understand when Jasper said he was exhausted. Sitting around thinking and moving his fingers seemed manageable to him.

Now, Landon pinched his eyebrows and sighed.

It was a slap to his face.

Suddenly, a knock resounded at the door, followed by Angelina's voice. "Mr. Harper, can you come out for a moment, please?"

Landon put his document down, walked over, and opened the door. Angelina was anxiously looking at him. "Mr. Harper, Mr. Beckett is here!"

"Who? Jasper? At this god-forsaken hour?" Landon widened his eyes in disbelief. "He is not alone. Ms. Alyssa is with him too!"

Landon felt something was off. He hurriedly sprinted downstairs.

In the living room, Jasper was hugging Alyssa, who was unconscious, tightly on the couch. His face was drained of color as he stared at the sleeping face of the person in his arms from time to time.

"Jasper! What's going on?"

Landon ran over to him in shock. His heart tightened when he noticed Alyssa weakly lying in Jasper's arms, completely unconscious.

"What happened to Lyse?"

"I'm sorry for bothering you at this hour, Landon."

Jasper's lips trembled as he struggled to speak. "But I didn't know where else to bring her. I didn't know a place where we won't be found. So I had no choice but to come to you. I'm sorry."

"What are you talking about? We're good friends! Rain or shine, you are welcome here anytime. I would gladly lend a helping hand to the both of you."

Landon assumed something big had happened. He was worried, but he didn't think it was a good idea to pry.

"Alyssa has a high fever. Do you have any medication for it?" Jasper said hoarsely.

"I will get some now!" Angelina went to get the medication.

"Alyssa doesn't look well. Eating medication will not work!"

Landon quickly instructed, "Angelina, get my doctor here to take a look at Ms. Alyssa."

Angelina went to arrange for the doctor's visit.

"Cold... So cold..." Alyssa mumbled, feeling chills all over her body.

Jasper gasped as he tried to fight back his tears. He wished he could give all his warmth to her.

"Jasper, I have to say this. Alyssa hadn't had a good day since she got together with you."

Landon stood before them, shaking his head achingly. "The Taylor brothers must be looking for Alyssa. They care for her dearly and would flip the entire Solana City upside down before they would stop.

"What happened to you before is not over yet. Now, you had taken Lyse away. It's one extra strike for you."

"Yes, it's one more strike for me. I am already the biggest sinner, so adding one more crime wouldn't make a difference." Jasper pursed his lips sadly.

Landon gnashed his teeth angrily. "Shit, I think you should just consider eloping at this point."

Chapter 1266

Elope...

Jasper stared at Alyssa's pale and haggard countenance. His heart ached even more. "I want to spend the rest of my life with Lyse. But Landon, I can't be so selfish. Lyse's family is different from me. I can abandon everything for her. Do you think I can sit with the idea of her abandoning her family for me? Will she be happy without her family's blessing and presence?"

Jasper shook his head in agony. He repeated hoarsely, "I've taken away too much from her. I've almost ruined her in the process. Landon, I don't want to hurt her again. She can't lose anything else. That can't happen."

"These are all your assumptions. Have you asked what Lyse wants?"

Landon could read the room. He frowned. "It's raining cats and dogs tonight. Lyse must have suffered a lot to be with you.

"Family is important, but Lyse cares more for you and wants to be with you. If you were to give her your version of happily-ever-after and force yourself to let go, something more dangerous might have happened tonight. Even worse, it could have been a tragedy. Don't regret it when that happens, Jasper."

Each word was like an arrow to Jasper's heart.

Jasper recalled how Alyssa mentioned their baby and asked him to save it.

It might have been the fever talking, but the undeniable truth was that this was the painful scar she struggled to suppress and bury beneath her bright smile.

Jasper wondered how Alyssa managed to do it.

How did she manage to face his detestable face with a smile? How did she continue to treat him so well?

Jasper couldn't take it anymore. His tears streamed down like rain in front of his close friend. He slapped himself hard.

"Jasper! What are you doing?"

Landon's eyes widened, and he hurriedly grabbed his arm. "You have to get yourself together like a man! If abusing yourself works, I will take a kitchen and stab your heart right now!"

The doctor came quickly to treat Alyssa.

Jasper sat at the bedside and stared deeply at Alyssa's pale face. He placed her slightly warm hand between his hot lips and

kissed it gently.

"Her fever is at 105 degrees Fahrenheit. It's pretty serious..."

The doctor jabbed Alyssa to reduce her fever and placed her under an IV drip. "If we delay this any longer, it might affect her heart. Then, things will become trickier to manage.

"But, Mr. Beckett, I would encourage you to take Ms. Alyssa to the hospital first thing in the morning. My resources are limited here, so I can't provide Ms. Alyssa better care. I can only help to reduce her fever temporarily. If her fever persists by tomorrow night, she will need to go to the hospital."

Jasper placed his trembling hand on Alyssa's sweaty forehead.

It was still hot. He hoped she would get better first thing in the morning.

"Oh, Mr. Beckett, has Ms. Alyssa injured her hand before? Has she fractured it before?" the doctor asked out of the blue.

Jasper was stunned. "Fracture? What do you mean?"

"Look at her left pinky. From my experience, her finger was probably fractured before. If not, she tore her ligament. Even if it recovers, it wouldn't be the same."

Jasper's eyes widened. Her heart was beating wildly.

"Huh? How could that happen?" Landon was shocked.

"It seems like an old injury. It probably did not receive the appropriate treatment when the injury happened for it to turn out this way."

Landon was even more baffled. "Lyse grew up with a silver spoon in her mouth. It would set the Taylors off to ask an ambulance if it was a minor cut, let alone a fracture. They would never disregard a fracture. There isn't much use for a pinky, but wouldn't this make Alyssa disabled?"

Disabled?

Jasper's breath tightened as he grabbed Alyssa's hand tightly.

He remembered asking Alyssa about her pinky. However, she would always divert the topic. She wouldn't answer him.

What on earth happened for her to mince her words and avoid the topic?

After the doctor left, Angelina brought a clean set of sleepwear. Then, she left the room with Landon.

Jasper singlehanded helped Alyssa change into her sleepwear. He brought a bucket of water and used a wet cloth to wipe the dirt off her feet on one knee.

Her fair and delicate feet were astonishingly beautiful, and he couldn't take his hands off them.

## Chapter 1267

Alyssa's feet were now adorned with wounds, streaks of blood, and dried-up residue. His heart was on the verge of shattering as he witnessed it.

"Lyse, I want to make you happy, but look at what I've brought you."

Closing his eyes, Jasper drew in a deep, audible breath, struggling to hide the tightness in his hoarse throat.

Suddenly, his phone vibrated. It was a call from Ben.

Jasper rubbed his eyes as he stood up and went to the window to answer it. "Mr. Gorham, how is Grandpa doing?"

"Mr. Newton is doing well. He misses Ms. Alyssa a lot, so he sleeps very late. Mr. Jasper, have you found Ms. Alyssa? Mr.

Newton asked about her before he went to bed." Ben sounded worried.

"I've found her. Tell Grandpa not to worry anymore when he wakes up. I will be by her side."

However, he didn't know how long he still had with her.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jasper..."

Ben felt guilty. He uttered with difficulty, "It's my fault. If I had told you earlier about Ms. Alyssa's miscarriage, things wouldn't have turned out this way." "This has nothing to do with you. I single handedly caused the tragedy today."

Jasper fell silent. He suddenly remembered something.

He recalled that three Christmases ago, he had embarked on a business trip to Mosgravia to oversee a project.

When the car accident happened, it was daytime for him because of the time difference. There was no way he would have missed the phone call.

"Mr. Gorham, I remembered you said Alyssa called previously, but I didn't answer." Jasper became tense.

"Yes, you were the first person Ms. Alyssa called."

Ben sighed. "That incident is in the past. Plus, you are fine now. You shouldn't blame yourself. Your position in the company wasn't stable at that point, so you were often away for work. You were so busy every day that you didn't have time to eat. I'm sure you didn't mean to miss the call."

Suddenly, Jasper felt like he was struck by lightning. His shoulder shuddered. He suddenly remembered!

He was working at the Beckett Group's branch in Mosgravia. Liana heard the news and wanted to drag him to some party.

He was rushing for a meeting, so he rejected Liana. She threw a tantrum and threw his phone into the fish tank. Jasper assumed that Alyssa must have made a distress call then.

Instantly, Jasper's gaze darkened.

"Mr. Jasper? Mr. Jasper? Why did you stop talking? Are you okay?" Ben asked worriedly.

At this moment, Jasper rested his hand on the window sill. His towering body gradually bent over inch by inch, his mind on the verge of collapse.

Alyssa's high fever broke the next day. Jasper's worried heart had finally calmed down.

She opened her eyes, and the first thing she saw was the love of her life before her. She was so excited that she nuzzled into his arms. The two lovebirds hugged each other with everything they had.

"Jasper, I'm not dreaming, am I?"

Alyssa looked at Jasper tearfully. Her hand reached to pinch his face until it started to redden. Most people would pinch themselves to determine if it was a dream, but Alyssa pinched others. It was weird.

However, Jasper didn't feel any pain. He thought that he was the luckiest man alive. His hand caressed her hair affectionately.

"It's not a dream, Lyse. It's me. You can touch me again if you don't believe me."

"This is amazing!"

Alyssa charged into his arms once again. A surge of pain and uneasiness kicked in. She, who had always been strong, wailed loudly.

She pinched him hard and cried really loud. Alyssa's body must have recovered well.

After a warm nuzzle, Jasper placed his lips close to her ear. He murmured in self-reproach, "I'm sorry, Alyssa. I'm sorry. Once you're better, you can punish me all you want."

"Why? Why should I hit you?" Alyssa blinked. "Have you gotten yourself a mistress? Do you have someone else now?"

Chapter 1268

Ads by Pubfuture

Jaspers face turned pale. "Lyse.." "I'm joking, Look at you." Alyssa pinched his face again. Jasper appeared so gaunt. Her heart ached. "You're so skinny now. Are you trying to upset me?" Jasper's face still bore the remnants of mottled tears from the night before. He tightly interlaced his fingers with hers, a Jot speaking a single word. He remembered the pain and suffering™ she went through. He promised himself that he would break a bone and use the rest of his life to repay her.

Upon waking up, Lauren was informed that Jasper and Alyssa were there. An excited smile domed her beautiful and elegant face.

She wanted to see Alyssa, but Landon hugged her from behind to stop her.

"Don't you miss me?" he — 1 Landon turned Lauren's body around to face him and looked at her, aggrievedly. "I have been so busy last night that [hadn't gotten a shut-eye.

Don't you miss me?" "I do, but I can see you every day." Lauren was confused.

Landon pouted his lips. He was speechless. Landon thought his 'honeymoon phase was over. He was

tongues intertwined. Lauren instantly == melted in his arms with that kiss After along time, they separated.

Lauren was teary-eyed, and their lips were slightly swollen.

"Listen to me. Wait while before you say hito Jasper and Alyssa, okay?" Landon caressed Lauren's lips with his finger, He was satisfied with her passionate reaction.

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skills, so Landon had to make the "555 arrangements for her.

Angelina quickly prepared the ingredients and appliances. Lauren rolled her sleeves up and went to work in the kitchen with an apron on.

Landon was mesmerized by her.

"Darling, let me have a slice." Landon sat on the countertop, leaned over to.

Lauren, and opened his mouth wide.

all over like this butter!" — As they bantered lovingly, the doorbell rang "Huh?

Are we expecting company, Landon?" Lauren was

in Landon's arms, blinking in surprise.

Landon frowned.

He rarely had company. Plus, only a handful of people knew about the Home here, while. i Then, both of them were started by the thud from the entrance.

"Lauren, wait here and don't come out lake alook!" Landon made his way to the living room, When he saw who it was, his eyes widened, and he gasped.

Angelina, skilled in combat, found = self effortlessly pinned down b

Axel squinted his eyes and scanned the place. His sharp vision caught Landon's surprised expression, and he smirked. "Maybe I should get one oo.

Then, we can be neighbors."

Chapter 1269

Elope...

Jasper stared at Alyssa's pale and haggard countenance. His heart ached even more.

"I want to spend the rest of my life with Lyse. But Landon, I can't be so selfish. Lyse's family is different from me. I can abandon everything for her. Do you think I can sit with the idea of her abandoning her family for me? Will she be happy without her family's blessing and presence?" Jasper shook his head in agony. He repeated hoarsely, "I've taken away too much from her. I've almost ruined her in the process. Landon, I don't want to hurt her again. She can't lose anything else. That can't happen."

"These are all your assumptions. Have you asked what Lyse wants?" Landon could read the room. He frowned. "It's raining cats and dogs tonight. Lyse must have suffered a lot to be with you."

"Family is important, but Lyse cares more for you and wants to be with you. If you were to give her your version of happily-ever-after and force yourself to let go, something more dangerous might have happened tonight. Even worse, it could have been a tragedy. Don't regret it when that happens, Jasper."

Each word was like an arrow to Jasper's heart.

Jasper recalled how Alyssa mentioned their baby and asked him to save it. It might have been the fever talking, but the undeniable truth was that this was the painful scar she struggled to suppress and bury beneath her bright smile.

Jasper wondered how Alyssa managed to do it.

How did she manage to face his detestable face with a smile? How did she continue to treat him so well?

Jasper couldn't take it anymore. His tears streamed down like rain in front of his close friend. He slapped himself hard.

"Jasper! What are you doing?"

Landon's eyes widened, and he hurriedly grabbed his arm. "You have to get yourself together like a man! If abusing yourself works, I will take a kitchen and stab your heart right now!"

The doctor came quickly to treat Alyssa.

Jasper sat at the bedside and stared deeply at Alyssa's pale face. He placed her slightly warm hand

between his hot lips and kissed it gently.

"Her fever is at 105 degrees Fahrenheit. It's pretty serious..."

The doctor jabbed Alyssa to reduce her fever and placed her under an IV drip. "If we delay this any

longer, it might affect her heart. Then, things will become trickier to manage.

"But, Mr. Beckett, I would encourage you to take Ms. Alyssa to the hospital first thing in the morning.

My resources are limited here, so I can't provide Ms. Alyssa better care. I can only help to reduce her

fever temporarily. If her fever persists by tomorrow night, she will need to go to the hospital."

Jasper placed his trembling hand on Alyssa's sweaty forehead.

It was still hot. He hoped she would get better first thing in the morning.

"Oh, Mr. Beckett, has Ms. Alyssa injured her hand before? Has she fractured it before?" the doctor

asked out of the blue. Jasper was stunned. "Fracture? What do you mean?"

"Look at her left pinky. From my experience, her finger was probably fractured before. If not, she tore

her ligament. Even if it recovers, it wouldn't be the same."

Jasper's eyes widened. Her heart was beating wildly.

"Huh? How could that happen?" Landon was shocked.

"It seems like an old injury. It probably did not receive the appropriate treatment when the injury

happened for it to turn out this way."

Landon was even more baffled. "Lyse grew up with a silver spoon in her mouth. It would set the Taylors

off to ask an ambulance if it was a minor cut, let alone a fracture. They would never disregard a

fracture. There isn't much use for a pinky, but wouldn't this make Alyssa disabled?"  
Disabled?

Jasper's breath tightened as he grabbed Alyssa's hand tightly.

He remembered asking Alyssa about her pinky. However, she would always divert the topic. She

wouldn't answer him.

What on earth happened for her to mince her words and avoid the topic?

After the doctor left, Angelina brought a clean set of sleepwear. Then, she left the room with Landon.

Jasper singlehanded helped Alyssa change into her sleepwear. He brought a bucket of water and used

a wet cloth to wipe the dirt off her feet on one knee.

Her fair and delicate feet were astonishingly beautiful, and he couldn't take his hands off them.

## Chapter 1270

Alyssa's feet were now adorned with wounds, streaks of blood, and dried-up residue. His heart was on the verge of shattering as he witnessed it.

"Lyse, I want to make you happy, but look at what I've brought you."

Closing his eyes, Jasper drew in a deep, audible breath, struggling to hide the tightness in his hoarse throat.

Suddenly, his phone vibrated. It was a call from Ben.

Jasper rubbed his eyes as he stood up and went to the window to answer it. "Mr. Gorham, how is Grandpa doing?"

"Mr. Newton is doing well. He misses Ms. Alyssa a lot, so he sleeps very late. Mr. Jasper, have you found Ms. Alyssa? Mr. Newton asked about her before he went to bed." Ben sounded worried.

"I've found her. Tell Grandpa not to worry anymore when he wakes up. I will be by her side."

However, he didn't know how long he still had with her.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jasper..."

Ben felt guilty. He uttered with difficulty, "It's my fault. If I had told you earlier about Ms. Alyssa's

miscarriage, things wouldn't have turned out this way."

"This has nothing to do with you. I single handedly caused the tragedy today."

Jasper fell silent. He suddenly remembered something.

He recalled that three Christmases ago, he had embarked on a business trip to Mosgravia to oversee a

project.

cancel

When the car accident happened, it was daytime for him because of the time difference. There was no

way he would have missed the phone call.

"Mr. Gorham, I remembered you said Alyssa called previously, but I didn't answer." Jasper became

tense.

"Yes, you were the first person Ms. Alyssa called."

Ben sighed. "That incident is in the past. Plus, you are fine now. You shouldn't blame yourself. Your

position in the company wasn't stable at that point, so you were often away for work. You were so busy

every day that you didn't have time to eat. I'm sure you didn't mean to miss the call."

Suddenly, Jasper felt like he was struck by lightning. His shoulder shuddered.

He suddenly remembered!

He was working at the Beckett Group's branch in Mosgravia. Liana heard the news and wanted to drag

him to some party.

He was rushing for a meeting, so he rejected Liana. She threw a tantrum and threw his phone into the

fish tank. Jasper assumed that Alyssa must have made a distress call then.

Instantly, Jasper's gaze darkened.

"Mr. Jasper? Mr. Jasper? Why did you stop talking? Are you okay?" Ben asked worriedly.

At this moment, Jasper rested his hand on the window sill. His towering body gradually bent over inch

by inch, his mind on the verge of collapse.

Alyssa's high fever broke the next day. Jasper's worried heart had finally calmed down.

She opened her eyes, and the first thing she saw was the love of her life before her. She was so

excited that she nuzzled into his arms. The two lovebirds hugged each other with everything they had.

"Jasper, I'm not dreaming, am I?"

Alyssa looked at Jasper tearfully. Her hand reached to pinch his face until it started to redden. Most

people would pinch themselves to determine if it was a dream, but Alyssa pinched others. It was weird.

However, Jasper didn't feel any pain. He thought that he was the luckiest man alive. His hand caressed

her hair affectionately. "It's not a dream, Lyse. It's me. You can touch me again if you don't believe me."

"This is amazing!"

Alyssa charged into his arms once again. A surge of pain and uneasiness kicked in. She, who had

always been strong, wailed loudly.

She pinched him hard and cried really loud. Alyssa's body must have recovered well.

After a warm nuzzle, Jasper placed his lips close to her ear. He murmured in self-reproach, "I'm sorry,

Alyssa. I'm sorry. Once you're better, you can punish me all you want."

"Why? Why should I hit you?" Alyssa blinked. "Have you gotten yourself a mistress? Do you have someone else now?"

## Chapter 1271

Landon was equally excited at the news, but he had Angelina bring Lauren back to the room as he

wanted to protect Lauren.

Jasper sat on the couch with an arm around Alyssa, listening intently to Axel's story about his exchange with Amber.

Axel told them everything from Amber hiding a weapon and her failed attempt at seducing him.

However, he left out the details about the sudden kiss Amber planted on his lips. The kiss had sent a jolt across his body. As she went deeper into the kiss, she wept, much to his

confusion. He wondered why an assassin would weep in front of her victim.

"What the hell? That was pretty crazy!" Landon was intrigued by the incident and gasped, "Did that

happen in modern society? It sounds like something from a story!"

Axel shot him a disdainful look and muttered under his breath, "Idiot."

Landon picked that up, but he chose to overlook it, knowing that he could never win a fight against

Axel. Moreover, he couldn't afford to upset Alyssa's brother and Jasper's brother-in-law.

"So, did you take advantage of her seduction?" Alyssa's mood lightened. Resting in Jasper's arms, she

teased Axel, "You probably haven't had sex in a while. Wasn't that a wonderful opportunity for you? It must be priceless."

"Do you take me as a clueless virgin? I won't succumb to any woman who throws herself at me," Then,

Axel took a jab at Landon, "unlike Landon Harper."

"I—Fuck!" Landon's cheeks reddened in anger, and he silently cursed at Axel.

"But she looks like me. Didn't you once say that you'd marry a woman who resembles me? I remember

Silas calling you a pervert at that time."

Jasper was green in envy but tried not to show it. His cheeks flushed as well, looking like two red

tomatoes with Landon by his side.

"I have never bought counterfeit. Why would I want a carbon copy of you? I'm not sick in my mind,

alright?" Axel finally lost it.

"Alright, now. I was just teasing you." Alyssa put on a straight face. Despite joking about Axel and

Amber, she felt the fear in hindsight. "So, you mentioned that you used her as bait while you hid in a

corner. Tell me. Did you find out who she's working for?"

Axel snickered and placed his phone on the coffee table. Landon, Jasper, and Alyssa inched closer to

take a good look at the photo on the screen.

The air in the room froze when they recognized the familiar face in the photo, who left the hotel with

Amber. He was Carl Moses, Jameson's secretary.

"So, it was still Jameson's doing after all," Alyssa hissed as she quivered in anger and disgust. "After

Jonah and Miley, he had moved on to put you in harm's way! What a cold-blooded psycho!"

However, Jameson had messed with the wrong man. He might be ruthless, but Axel was worse.

Jasper huddled closer to Alyssa and rubbed his palm against her shoulder to comfort her. He wasn't

surprised by the revelation, for he had had a feeling.

Landon analyzed, "The same woman lured Jasper to the hotel and into Zoe's trap. It all makes sense

now. It was Jameson who set everything up, taking advantage of this woman and my dumb sister Zoe

to drive a wedge between you and Lyse. The evil, meticulously crafted plan matches his modus operandi."

Gritting his teeth, Landon added, "He caused a misunderstanding between you and Lyse, making you

look like a fuckboy. Because of him, Mr. Taylor was upset with you. Jameson Schmidt nearly won the

game. Damn it! That was vile of him."

Alyssa was gripped by a heartache. She stared at the floor with remorse.

Jasper kissed her on the cheek and declared, "Jameson Schmidt will never get what he wants. Lyse knows I'll never lie to her. She will trust me."  
"You fool." She wiggled in embarrassment and pouted. "What if I choose not to trust you and refuse to give you a second chance?"  
Jasper smiled and stared affectionately into her eyes. "I'll wait for you until you do, even if it takes a lifetime.

## Chapter 1272

Axel let go of his complicated feelings about Alyssa and Jasper's relationship when he saw them very much in love.

All he and his brothers wanted was to see Alyssa happy, and he realized that only she had the right to define her happiness.

After going through ups and downs, she still chose to be with Jasper. Axel believed it'd be unfair and cruel to deprive her of a happy relationship.

"Jameson Schmidt has been manipulating Zoe, but she didn't rat him out even when we pressured her

at the Jesseltons' event." Looking troubled, Jasper opined, "I believe this has nothing to do with her

loyalty to Jameson. She is truly in the dark about the mastermind's identity."

Alyssa nodded in agreement. Landon, fuming, rolled his fists and apologized,

"Jasper, Lyse, I'm sorry. I

take responsibility for her mistakes. My mom and I have spoiled her rotten."

"Landon, don't. This has nothing to do with you," Jasper consoled him.

"How could she allow herself to be manipulated by that bastard?" Landon punched the coffee table.

The teacup jumped on the table and cracked.

He growled, "She seems to enjoy working for Jameson Schmidt. Fine, then, I'll grant her wish and send her to Jameson."

Alyssa pressed her lips. She couldn't think of a good way to comfort Landon, who had the misfortune of having a shameless sister like Zoe.

"Look, I'm not trying to be mean, but Jameson Schmidt has standards." Crossing his arms, Axel leaned into the couch. "Even if you send Zoe to Jameson, he wouldn't even use her—not even as a maid."

Landon, Jasper, and Alyssa appeared dumbfounded. Did Axel just make an obscene joke?

"I believe that Jameson had trained and honed Amber to be his tool, especially to seduce his victims."

Alyssa studied Amber's face, which bore a strong resemblance to hers. Her eyes dimmed.

Alyssa said, "I assume this woman has served Jameson for some time. He could have forced her to get plastic surgery. You can tell they share an unusual relationship. Perhaps, she's privy to many of his secrets."

Landon stared agape at her. "What the fuck? Did he seriously create a woman who looks like Lyse after he failed to win her heart? Is that how he satisfies his desire? That will make the Amber girl Lyse's substitute..."

Jasper felt an anger rising in him when he came to the same realization. He was sickened by the thought of Jameson keeping Alyssa's substitute by his side. Perhaps Jameson had even released his

## Chapter 1272

carnal desires on Amber warren fantasizing about. Alyssa. Utterly disgusted, he reflexively hugged Alyssa tighter.

Alyssa pretended to barf and commented, "That's disgusting. Anyway, he doesn't deserve even a substitute."

Axel added, "I followed them all the way to Domere Mountain and saw them entering a very private club. The entrance was password-protected, and it was strictly members-only. I didn't follow them into the club because I didn't want to alert them."

"A club at the Domere Mountain?"

As Jasper wasn't a regular patron of clubs, and Alyssa wasn't a local of Solana City, they had no clue

about the said club. Therefore, they turned to Landon expectantly.

"Could it be... The Millennium?" Landon asked hesitantly.

"Bingo! Guess the playboy knows best!" Axel snapped his fingers teasingly.

## Chapter 1273

Landon put on a bitter face. That certainly did not sound like a compliment. He regretted his playboy ways in the past. Even after he had turned over a new leaf, it was difficult to shake off that reputation.

"I checked the Third Eye. Jameson Schmidt is indeed the owner of The Millennium." Axel furrowed his brows. "He frequents the club and is very closely connected with officials in Solana City. The Millennium is, at best, a prostitution hub for the wealthy and powerful disguised as a club. I guess

Jameson is the pimp."

"The Third Eye? Are you serious? Why did you use the system of the Secret Intelligence Service?"

Alyssa widened her eyes in disbelief. "That's an overkill. Axel, you shouldn't risk your career just to investigate Jameson."

"It's worth it if it's for you." Axel squinted and held her hand. "Don't worry. It's fine to use the system

once in a while. Besides, I would love to move on from Jameson Schmidt. I'll settle him as soon as

possible for you and Jasper."

Jasper was touched by Axel's sentiments. He choked on his emotions. Tearing up, Alyssa curled up

her fingers in Axel's palm. "Axel, thank you so much."

"I know you're desperate to clear Jasper's name in our family. You wanted Dad to know it was all a

misunderstanding. Otherwise, it'll be really tough for you to marry Jasper." Axel snorted at Jasper.

Frowning, she playfully chided him, "Axel!"

"Don't worry. Jasper is super loyal to Alyssa. He won't marry anyone except for her. Haha!" Landon

grinned and patted Jasper on his shoulder.

The air froze in awkwardness. Alyssa stared at her feet and mumbled, "You must be fun at parties, Landon Harper. Just keep your mouth shut the next time."

Landon hurriedly shut up.

"Since this Amber seems important to Jameson, let's spare her for now. It's best if we could quietly

keep an eye on her," Jasper suggested sternly.

"It's not enough to keep an eye on her." Alyssa had a better idea. "We need to get her on our side.

Look into her background, get to know her, and win her over."

Jasper voiced his doubts. "Lyse, I'm afraid that's impossible. Jameson couldn't have built his influence

in Kontina in 15 years without gathering some loyal subordinates.

"That woman willingly serves him for years, even when she knows Jameson is merely using her as

your substitute. It'll be hard for an outsider to break that bond between them."

"Why is it impossible?" Alyssa looked at Axel, amused. "Axel can easily win Ms. Altman over.

"She was supposed to kill Axel on that night. Just look at all the weapons and poison she carried. She

looked like she was ready to die with him, but in the end, she betrayed Jameson and spared Axel's life.

"I suspect she's fallen for Axel. If that's the case, getting Axel to charm her is the key to our success."

Jasper and Landon swallowed hard in fear. They were shocked by Alyssa's guts and willingness to put her brother's life at stake.

They anticipated Axel's outburst, but on the contrary, Axel lifted a brow and smirked, looking interested.

"Sure. I'll try my hand on her."

Once again, Jasper and Landon were taken aback by Axel's daring decision. Perhaps it was the professionalism of a secret agent.

"Lyse, don't you think it's too risky?"

## Chapter 1274

Jasper was reasonably worried. "She's failed her last mission. She might try again. After all, she's still working for Jameson. We don't know what tricks she'll pull next time."

Axel snorted with a maniacal smile. "Hmph, no one could kill me."

Excruciating screams reverberated from the damp basement of The Millennium.

Even Jameson's men winced as they stood guard at the door.

Inside, a gory scene unfolded. Amber was chained by the wrists and hanging from the ceiling. Her frail

figure was covered only by a thin lace nightdress, the white fabric soaked in blood.

Once Jameson was tired from the whipping, he turned around and rested on the couch. He tossed the

whip to Carl and downed a glass of red wine.

Carl held the whip with trembling hands. "M-Mr. Schmidt, I..."

"Why? Can't bring yourself to whip her?" Jameson snickered maliciously. Behind his blood-stained

glasses hid his eyes with a chilling gleam. "Do you want to end up like her?"

Carl had no choice but to bite the bullet and approach Amber with the whip. "Ms. Altman, please bear with me. I can't go against his orders."

Amber panted weakly and struggled to look up. "Don't hold back. Beat me to death. My life is worthless anyway."

Jameson jumped in rage upon hearing her remark. Approaching them in huge strides, he shoved Carl away and grabbed Amber by the neck, hissing, "Looks like you've fallen for Axel Whitaker."

Glowing at her, he rolled and unclenched his fists multiple times. "Are you passively rebelling against me? Hm? You would give anything to live, but now, you're asking for death?"

"Amber Altman, I gave you this life, and only I will decide if you live or die. You don't."

Eyes half opened, she breathed shallowly as her face turned a purple hue. In the past, she would have explained herself to Jameson. Since her first encounter with him at 15, she had never loved anyone else except for him, even when all he wanted was to kill her.

However, any explanation now was futile. While she might manage to justify the night with Axel and the box of gastric medication, there was no way she could conceal the truth about the romantic kiss she

shared with Axel. Jameson had even burned the box of gastric medicine later.

Carl was scared stiff. "M-Mr. Schmidt, calm down! You're going to suffocate her to death!"

"Doesn't she deserve to die after what she's done to me?" Jameson bellowed.

"But she's helped you to subdue your opponents with her looks. I bet she was doing the same this time!" Carl argued.

Having worked with Amber for years, he formed a camaraderie with her and tried to defend her.

"Besides, we all know that Axel Whitaker is the most difficult among all the Taylors. Ms. Altman had to leave a good impression on him to get closer to him. After that, we'll have a chance to get rid of him."

Carl's words came as a timely reminder for Jameson. His eyes dimmed, and he loosened his grip on Amber's neck.

Carl urged, "Ms. Altman, please don't be stubborn. Apologize to Mr. Schmidt now!"

"I'm sorry..." Suddenly, her bloodied lips curled into a smirk. She looked broken and pitiful. "But Jimmy, what have I done wrong? I did everything you asked me to. I know you've never cared about me, but how have I wronged you? Tell me!"

## Chapter 1275

The caller chuckled. "Oh, what will you do, Mr. Schmidt? Your fiancée seems intent on putting you in trouble."

"It's all worth it, even if she hates me." Jameson adjusted his glasses with an unreadable expression in his eyes.

"When are you going to get rid of Inigo Montiyé? You'll be done for if he falls into Alyssa and Jasper's hands."

"I bought a new private jet. It'll be delivered next week," Jameson replied with a chilling smile. "I'll send him and his sworn brothers on a trip to the afterlife with that jet."

After a brief catchup with Alyssa, Axel excused himself early, as he had to meet with Jonah and the rest.

Meanwhile, Alyssa looked a little messy after a day of traveling. Although she had changed into fresh pajamas, her hair was soiled. As a clean freak, she couldn't accept it.

"Ugh! It's smelly!" She sniffed her hair in disgust. "I can't. I feel like I've just gotten out of the mud. I need a shower."

"No, you're not smelly at all." Jasper pulled her into a hug and buried his face into her soft curls. "It smells great."

"I don't care! I need a shower!" She snuggled against his warm embrace.

"Lyse, your fever has just gone down. Your body is at its weakest. Taking a shower will only worsen your condition." He caressed her head and coaxed her gently, "If you feel icky, how about I wipe down your body?"

"I don't want it! That's different from a shower!" Hugging him by the waist, she looked up and begged,

"Please let me shower. I'll do a hot shower. It'll be fine."

He stared deeply into her eyes, melting at her stare. "Gosh, I can't win. Fine. I'll get the bath ready and turn up the heat for you."

He was about to rise when she grabbed his hand. Staring at him, she purred, "Jasper..."

His heart raced. He asked in a trembling voice, "Let's head in together?"

"Yeah."

Jasper scooped her up by the waist. Lifting her in his arms, he headed toward the bathroom.

Alyssa was naked in the hot bath, while Jasper remained fully clothed as he carefully cleaned her body

like a servant. She scooped a handful of bubbles and blew it in his direction.

"You cheeky thing." Bubbles sticking to his brows and hair, he speechlessly pinched her on the chin.

She wondered, "What happened? Why are you so well-behaved today?" Her body surfaced from the

water. She inched toward him until their lips nearly touched. Even her breathing was fatally seductive to

him.

She teased, "Aren't you always eager for intimacy when we meet? Since when are you celibate?"

Pain coursed through his body. In the past, he'd kill to spend every night with her. But at that moment, he loathed himself for being a useless loser who was too good for her. He did not have the right to touch her.

Suddenly, he addressed her in a slow and raspy voice, "Lyse, may I ask you a question? Why didn't you tell me about the child?"

## Chapter 1276

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he loathed himself for being a useless loser who was too good for her. He did not have the right to touch her.

Suddenly, he addressed her in a slow and raspy voice, "Lyse, may I ask you a question? Why didn't you tell me about the child?"

## Chapter 1277

Why didn't she tell him? Why? Jasper repeatedly tortured himself with the same questions ever since he learned the truth.

Had he known she was pregnant with his child and subsequently suffered a miscarriage, he might have acted differently.

"Jasper, please stop blaming yourself. You're not the only one at fault for failing to protect our baby. As the mother, I am at fault, too." She blinked and flashed a carefree smile at him, which only added to his heartache.

She continued, "Even if you made it back on time on that day, there was nothing much you could do about the car accident. I'm thankful that Grandpa was safe, or else I'd feel guilty about it for the rest of my life."

Tears brimmed in his eyes. Staring at her through tears, he felt his throat going dry. He croaked, "You had many opportunities to tell me about it afterward, but why did you keep it to yourself?"

Lowering her gaze, she retreated into the bathwater, appearing somewhat pitiable. "You were busy with work all the time. The frequent business travels made you exhausted and irritable. I didn't want to add to your burden and troubles."

"My troubles?"

"You did not love me back then." She curled up into a ball and tried her best to breathe and hide her emotions from him. "Impregnating a woman you don't love must be a huge trouble for you.

"As much as I hoped for your love, knowing that you're a pure and kind soul, I didn't want you to love me out of guilt. That's why I refused to add to your troubles."

He couldn't accept praise for being a kind soul when all he had done was inflict pain on her.

Scalding tears rolled off his cheek and washed away the bubbles. He questioned, "Lyse, what do you see in me? You really shouldn't have fallen for me." He mumbled repeatedly to himself like a child who had done wrong.

"You silly thing. You're the only one I love. I fell for you ever since meeting you when I was 11. You are the light of my life." Claspng his rough fingers in her wet hands, she wrapped a finger around his. "If you want to make it up to me, please do not let me go again."

Following a splash, she dragged him into the bathtub. Water and bubbles splashed around as they embraced each other. Blushing, she engaged in a passionate kiss with him. They sank deeper into the depths of pleasure.

Night had fallen when they concluded their lovemaking in the bathroom. Alyssa felt cleaner and warmer at the same time.

As usual, Landon's physician arrived to administer a routine injection for Alyssa. After the IV drip and a cold towel on her forehead, she felt much relieved.

"Look at you!" After adjusting the IV drip, Jasper bent over to kiss her on the cheek. "Didn't I tell you not to take a bath? You're sick again. Next time, you'll have to listen to me."

"Pfft... Don't you know the reason behind my fever?" She was aroused by the memory of their lovemaking in the bathroom, causing her to blush and her fever to deepen. Right when Jasper was in a bind, Xavier called him. "Xavier, what's up?" "Mr. Beckett, the Schmidts have bailed David out!"

## Chapter 1278

"What happened?" The look in Jasper's eyes hardened. He silently met Alyssa's eyes. "Just now, Victor and Josh Schmidt bailed him out from the police station. Not only that, they brought along a group of reporters with them. "Josh shamelessly cleared David's name in front of the media, claiming that someone had framed David. He said it was all a misunderstanding." Xavier's voice broke due to his rage. "Fuck! How did that happen?" Alyssa jumped up from the bed. Jasper went pale and hurriedly pinned her back onto the bed. "Lyse, be careful! You don't want the needle to come off." "How is that possible? That fucking pervert couldn't have been released from the police station." Alyssa grabbed the phone and yelled at Xavier in panic, "Jasper and I have made the arrangements. Winston knew about this as well. Knowing how much he cares for Taty, there's no way he would allow the Schmidts to do so. Why didn't he stop them?" "M-Madam, please calm down," Xavier croaked, his throat dry from the panic. "I'm still looking into the situation. Please wait for my updates." After the call, Alyssa couldn't help but contact Cyrus. Before she could dial Cyrus' number, in a sudden moment of telepathy, a call came in. Staring at the screen of Jasper's phone, Alyssa felt her heart thumping wildly. She pressed her lips.

"Lyse, who's that?" Jasper hurriedly questioned upon seeing how upset she became.

"It's... Jonah."

Jasper pressed his lips nervously. Soon, he coaxed her gently, "Lyse, answer his call. You shouldn't keep him worried."

Still reeling from the aversion against her brothers' controlling streak, she answered the call with a hostile attitude, "Don't waste your time trying to get me home. Keep it short if it's about something else."

Jonah's expression froze, engulfed by pain. Alyssa had always treated him with love, even in calls.

She'd call his name sweetly.

Now, their relationship had deteriorated into a tense and distant state. The more he wanted to protect her, the more he pushed her away.

He began, sounding as gentle as usual, "Lyse, Axel told us about your situation. If you're safe and happy with him, I won't stop you."

"Jonah." Alyssa held her breath. She was surprised by the change in his attitude. "Lyse, you were right for being angry at me. I was overprotective because I felt guilty for not taking good care of you. Because of that, I took away your right to love."

Chuckling in pain, he added, "I repeatedly asked myself in the past two days—what is it that I'm after? I

realize that all I want is for you to be happy. Happiness can't be forced or measured. If pampering you means giving you what you want, I'll give you freedom by letting go."

She choked up in shock. "Jonah..."

Jasper's eyes brimmed with tears upon hearing Jonah's sincere confession.

Jonah promised, "I'll try my best to persuade Liam. As for Dad." After a pause, he said, "One day, he'll get over it when he sees that you're living well. Jasper, you know what to do next, right?"

"I know. Don't worry," Jasper rasped and pulled Alyssa into a hug. "She's my one and only. I'll treat her well no matter what it takes."

## Chapter 1279

Jasper's brief response was enough to prove the depth of his love for Alyssa. By then, Jonah and Alyssa had reconciled. After all, Jonah was as important as Jasper to Alyssa. It

pained her to be angry at Jonah. All she desired was to fight against the Taylor family's control.

"But Jonah, why has David Schmidt been released on bail? Why hasn't Winston taken any action?"

She was worried.

"That's the reason I called." Taking a deep breath, Jonah gritted his teeth and revealed, "Lyla discussed with Dad and decided to withdraw the lawsuit in consideration of Tatiana and the family's reputation."

"They're dropping the lawsuit?" Alyssa and Jasper were astonished to hear that.

"Yes. Otherwise, David wouldn't have been released." Jonah sounded frustrated.

"On top of that, the

Schmidts had paid off the media to vindicate their son and portray him as the victim.

"Even if we wanted to take action, we can't do anything now that we've legally withdrawn the lawsuit."

"Is Winston senile? How could he sacrifice Taty's dignity for the family's reputation? We don't need that

reputation." Alyssa seethed with anger. "Lyla is soft. This must be Winston's idea. She must have been compelled to follow him."

"Lyse, you're mistaken." Jonah sighed. "Lyla and Taty suggested it. Dad was vehemently against it. He

wanted to teach the Schmidts a lesson. But Lyla insisted on dropping the lawsuit, leading to the worst

argument with Dad. He had no choice but to grant her wish and swallow the humiliation."

Alyssa, battling a fever, almost blacked out upon hearing this. At that moment, she fumed at Lyla's incompetence.

"Taty is an unmarried young lady of the Taylor family. She might come from an esteemed family, but the scandal will scar her reputation. Being at the center of gossip is surely distressing.

"Moreover, netizens are becoming increasingly malicious, especially toward women. Taty will bear the brunt of the news, not that scoundrel." Jasper soothingly caressed Alyssa's back and analyzed the

situation calmly. "Lyse, don't let Lyla and Taty upset you. They made the decision based on these considerations."

"Netizens are nothing more than a swarm of flies! As for the arrogant high-society members—why should we care about their opinions of Taty? They're just a bunch of selfish individuals.

"Lyla and Taty belong to the Taylor family. Even the country's president holds the KS Group in high

regard. No one will dare to look down on my sister!" Anger flared in her eyes.

Jonah fell silent. Knowing Alyssa, comforting her when she was angry was futile.

Jasper patiently addressed Alyssa, "Lyse, you're not wrong, but you forgot about something. Not

everyone is as fearless as you are. Not all of them are as resilient as you."

Stunned, she looked down dejectedly and clenched her fists. "Yes, you're right, but I won't let this slide.

David Schmidt and his family will pay for what they did."

"If we can't hold them accountable through the law, we'll take matters into our own hands," suggested

Jasper.

He squinted with a chilling grin on his lips. "It makes things easier."

Alyssa closed her eyes and took a breath to calm herself. "Jonah, go to my room.

You'll find a file on

my laptop with evidence of Daisy's husband's corruption. Hand it over to Silas, and he'll know what to

do."

Jasper and Jonah were shocked by her capability. In the two days she was grounded, she managed to fight against the Schmidts, quarrel with her family, pine for her lover, and even find the time to investigate Daisy Schmidt's husband. She added, "I looked into Daisy Schmidt as well. She's equally corrupt."

## Chapter 1280

Jasper rested his chin on Alyssa's head and rubbed against it. "Sure. If it's your wish to get rid of Daisy Schmidt, I'll see to it."

"Taty... Why?" Sean was astonished to learn that Tatiana had dropped the lawsuit.

Kneeling beside the

bed on one knee, he gripped her sweaty hands and offered, "I can be your legal representation. I'll

battle the Schmidts on your behalf. We will win this court case for sure, so why are you backing down?

We must continue the fight against the Schmidts until the very end."

"I'm sorry, Sean..." Hugging her knees and curling up in bed, she looked at him through tears. "I

understand your sentiments, but I'm sorry..."

The more she apologized, the more painful and suffocating it became for him.

Tatiana was not at fault.

The blame lay with the Schmidts and that scoundrel David.

"Sean, can we put an end to this case? Please stop fighting for me." Tearing up, she shook her head.

"I'm a Taylor. The Schmidts can't do anything to me. But what will you do if you make them your enemy?"

"What if they pose a threat to your family? If this scandal goes viral, your family might see me

differently even if David did not assault me."

"Taty..." Sean's mind went blank as his heart broke.

He finally understood that Tatiana wasn't fearful of the attention and the public opinion. She was more worried about how she'd be perceived by his family, and she wanted to leave a good impression.

"Sean, I have wanted to marry you since I was young. I still feel the same. I'd like to take your last name." Gently caressing the face of her lover, she said, "I know your family has reservations about me.

They won't approve if they learn about the scandal. That would only put you in a difficult position."

A difficult position. Little did Tatiana know that Alyssa had said something to the effect last night. The two Taylor sisters were equally empathetic and thoughtful. Because of that, they were willing to endure humiliation and suppress their needs for the people they loved.

Thankfully, Alyssa had found her happy ending with Jasper, but what about Tatiana?

Swallowing hard, Sean pulled his lover into a tight hug. "If you're willing, we can register our marriage at any time."

Tightening his grip, he looked as if he wanted to be one with her. He promised, "You're the only woman I'd like to marry."

Tatiana shut her teary eyes. She had no idea what the future held, but his vow made her suffering worse while.

At that moment, they were interrupted by Colene's urgent voice, "Sean, are you in there? Can you come out for a bit?"

After a pause, he opened the door, eyes red from tears. "Colene, why are you looking for me?"

Colene stole a glance at the room and pulled Sean away. She even closed the door behind them.

Sensing her seriousness, he asked, "Colene, what happened?"

"Go to the first floor and see for yourself," Colene said with concern, lowering her voice. "Your mom and your brother are here."