

## Chapter 173

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Liana noticed that Jasper had been fixating on Alice ever since Alice showed up. Fueled by insecurity and rage, she started plotting her

moves.

"Alice!" Landon flashed a broad smile and waved at her. She nodded softly and returned the smile while Betty turned green with envy at his enthusiasm.

Just as Alyssa was about to brush shoulders with Jasper, he suddenly reached out to hold her arm.

"Where are you going?"

"I can't stay by your side, Mr. Beckett." She slowly removed her arm from his grasp with a faint smile. Anger flooded his veins. He wanted to say something, only to be interrupted by Sophia, who approached them arm in arm with Liana.

"Alice, I'm so glad you came. I thought you were going to skip the event."

They instantly became the center of attention as the guests speculated the relationship between the stunning beauty and the Beckett Group.

"Mrs. Beckett, I have no reason to be absent. Grandpa has been looking forward to celebrating his birthday with Jasper and me," Alyssa countered with a calm smile.

The look in Jasper's eyes deepened. Meanwhile, the guests cast funny looks at Liana and gossiped.

"Did you remember their explosive marriage announcement? Mr. Beckett hasn't issued a statement about it, but everyone in Solana City knows that Ms. Gardner is basically his fiancée."

"Why does this young lady sound like Mrs. Beckett while Ms. Gardner sounds like some mistress?"

"Isn't that right? You can tell that she comes from wealth from her classy air. Who exactly is she?"

"She's a finer lady than Ms. Gardner. She'd make a good pair with Mr. Beckett!"

Liana's face fell upon hearing the murmurs. She felt that Alice was cornering her. What Alice did was effectively a declaration of her special relationship with Jasper and Newton Beckett.

"What about me? I'm Jasper's fiancée!" Liana scowled in silence.

"Alice, we all know that you are close to Newton." Sophia concealed her calculative moves with a warm smile. "Why didn't Mr. Taylor of KS Group come with you? Javier sent his secretary to deliver the invitation in person."

The guests were shocked to hear Jonah's name. As they assumed that the Beckett Group and the Taylor Group were archenemies, no one would expect Jonah to attend Newton Beckett's birthday event.

A cloud of gloom passed Jasper's eyes when he realized that Sophia was putting Alice on the spot. He was about to speak up on Alice's behalf when she replied, unconcerned, "You're being funny. Why would he attend with me?"

"Because he's your boyfriend." With a smirk, Sophia went straight to the point, "Let me introduce you to everyone. Ms. White here is Jasper's ex-wife and the current girlfriend of Jonah Taylor, the president of KS Group."