

## Chapter 96

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Alyssa looked a little surprised. But she quickly lowered her head. Even though she did her best to suppress her emotions, Jasper could still see a hint of embarrassment in her eyes.

It made his heart pound wildly. His cheeks flared in embarrassment as well.

At that moment, Jasper's phone started vibrating in his pocket. He fished it out to look at the caller ID. Then, he left the study immediately.

Jasper leaned against the wall in the corridor as he stared at the word "Lia" on his phone screen. Finally, he picked up the call silently.

"Jasper, are you still mad at me?" Liana's cries drifted from the other end of the line before Jasper could say anything.

"No," he replied emotionlessly.

But Liana clearly felt that Jasper was still angry at her.

"C—Can you come over to my place right now? I miss you so much, Jasper! I can't even sleep because of how much I miss you..."

Liana confessed to Jasper in a soft and sweet tone.

"Not tonight. I need to keep Grandpa company."

"You're at Grandpa's place right now? I'll head over there, then. Didn't you tell me that I need to pop over to Grandpa's villa and show that I care about him? That way, he'll accept me as a part of the family."

Liana continued, "It just so happened that I baked a fresh batch of chestnut tarts earlier.

Remember when we used to eat them sneakily before dinner? I'll bring some for Grandpa as well. I want him to taste my cooking, after all."

Her tone was very gentle and kind.

"Lia, I can't meet you tonight."

In the end, Jasper's heart softened when he heard Liana mentioning the past. Even his voice became gentler as well.

"Alice is at Grandpa's villa right now," he explained. "It'd be bad if you were to bump into her here. You know how much Grandpa likes her—"

"Are you with Alice right now?" Liana's voice trembled at that moment.

"Yes. Grandpa has been looking for her over the past few days. I brought her to his villa for his

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"Is that really the truth? Or is it because you want to see her, Jasper?" Liana accused angrily,

"Don't overthink things, Lia." Jasper sounded very cold.

"What the hell is that shameless woman up to this time? You two have already divorced. So, why is she pestering you?"

Liana continued furiously, "Alice must have been the one driving a wedge between me and Grandpa! She wants to use Grandpa as leverage to oppress me! How could she be this shameless?"

Right now, Liana hated Alyssa's guts a lot.

Jasper could only massage his throbbing temple while sighing.

Meanwhile, Alyssa remembered the way Jasper had stared at her earlier. Her heart skipped a beat as a result.

Damn it! Why did she blush just now? How pathetic of her!

Jasper's eyes were naturally alluring. He could be glaring at Alyssa for all she knew, and she'd think he was trying to flirt with her.

"Alice," Newton suddenly called out to her.

"Yes, Grandpa?" Alyssa snapped out of her thoughts before smiling at him.

"I can see that you really like the bracelet I gave you. You keep wearing it, after all."

All Alyssa could feel was panic. Her mind went blank at that moment. Even her throat felt parched all of a sudden.

"G—Grandpa—"

"Keep wearing it. That bracelet will be with you for the rest of your life."

Newton smiled at Alyssa lovingly. "I had Ben clean out my late wife's jewelry. He found a couple more gems in her stash, so I'd like you to have them. Think of them as a safety net."

He continued, "I'm already very old, you know. I used to think you'd live happily ever after with Jasper, but it seems he's pretty unreliable. That grandson of mine is as foolish as his father.

"I hope that you'll be able to live peacefully for the rest of your life. But if something were to happen to you in the future, you could sell those gems for a nice sum of money. You could live

lavishly Um, Alice? Are you alright?"

Suddenly, Newton looked surprised. He was a domineering old man. Yet, at that moment, he felt helpless.

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Alyssa stood in front of him as though she had committed a crime. Her thin shoulders trembled slightly, and her reddened eyes were now brimming with tears. In the end, those tears started

sliding down her cheeks.

"Grandpa, I'm sorry..."

Alyssa remembered when she concealed her identity and stayed by Newton's side just to pursue Jasper. She then recalled how kind Newton had been to her all these years. After that, she

remembered she couldn't even protect the bracelet he had given her.

Guilt took over her senses at that moment, causing her to burst into tears.

"Oh dear, why are you crying? Please don't cry, Alice!" Newton quickly pulled out his handkerchief and started dabbing the tears away nervously.

Jasper heard Alyssa's cries from outside the study as well. He quickly turned around to peek into the study.

He was surprised when he saw her crying like a baby. His heart ached for her at that moment. It caused him to almost drop his phone.