Chapter 144

Chanks 144

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broke out on Xavier's forehead. "I just think If you don't want to separate from Madam, then why don't you just tell her that? Tell

Yow heel" Jasper sneered. "Hmph. I've already made up my mind about how I feel. We are never getting back together!"

Then wh

Die Jasper nared, nearly causing Xavier hit the brakes. He bit his lip, staying quiet for the rest of the drive.

Jasper leaned back in his seat, feeling unbelievably tired.

Ob then did he remember the quartz shards he had picked up before they left.

The shards had pierced his skin, causing drops of blood to ooze and bleed from his palm.

What had gotten into him? He had wanted so badly to bring Alice home tonight, away from Jonah Taylor and his family, away from Belbank.

All he had wanted was for Alice to come home with him.

After seeing Axel off, Alyssa went to console her father alongside Jonah and Silas. Only after that did she finally get some time to herself.

She remained deep in thought for a while. In the end, she sent Mandy, Colene, and Lyla each a text message. "Come to the garden, please. I'll be waiting in the Cloud Pavilion. There's something I have to tell you guys." 1

Five minutes later, the three women had gathered in the garden. Their usually boisterous selves were now silent and calm before Alyssa.

Alyssa was sitting in a gazebo, arms crossed over her chest, and her brows knitted tightly. It looked like she was about to give them a

lecture.

Mandy and Lyla shared a look but said nothing.

Colene, as usual went straight to the point. "Did you want to tell us something, Alyssa? You need to start talking because we have no idea what's happening."

Alyssa lightly shook her head. Colene was as direct as ever.

"Is there anything you want to tell me about after you and Mandy stepped out in my defense earlier tonight?"

"There really isn't much to tell, dear." Colene sat down in front of Alyssa, crossing one leg over the other. "If it weren't for Mandy and Lyla, I would have cut that man down and strung him up to feed Bobo."

"Who's Bobo?"

Mandy answered. "Colene's pet alligator. Winston gave it to her for her birthday last year."

Alyssa was left speechless.

Lyla noticed that Alyssa's face had changed a shade, so she quickly went to stop Colene. "Alright, Colene. Why don't we change the topic

"I'm being 100% honest here! That's what family is for!" Colene cried, getting riled up. "Alyssa, you can't deny that Jasper is the asshole of the ages. Even my Bobo is more humane than him!

"You married him and gave him your all for three whole years. You gave up your life here to suffer there as what? His nanny? Look what he did to repay you! He's a god–awful douchebag! Men like him deserve to be hit by a car!"

"He already made it clear that he never loved me. I've anticipated he would go and marry someone he actually loves, so there's no point

holding on.

"What I want to know is why did you all have to drag this thing out between us? It adds nothing to my life." Alyssa massaged her aching

temples, sighing.

She continued, "The more we drag things on, the more suffering arises. It will only chip away at our sanity, bit by bit. Why can't we just let

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ike hell as veled parkingly and grasing Alyssa's shoulders How do you expect time to wash that away? I know I

Ancome base paled suckeraly Cotens' words Laced and her heart be invisible blades, and pain began to lance through every part of her

We were never speak of Buat Colania? Mandy gasped, pulling Cotene away from Alyssa.

Can we place not that that Cone? Lyla added wordly "Alyssa doesn't want to bring that up."

Alyssa blundy looked up at the three women, holding her tears back. "I never told him. I never told Jasper I was pregnant with his baby."

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Chapter 145