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Lauren was sleeping in Landon's arms, her hand gripping his shirt collar as her eyelashes fluttered lightly. She looked like some angel

from heaven.

Landon glanced at her briefly but quickly looked away. He had years of experience with this, so he could easily shift his focus elsewhere.

When he looked back at Betty, his tone had grown sharp and angry. "You'll be missing out if you leave now, Ms. Betty."

"I wanted to go to the washroom. Betty stuttered, heart pounding in her chest.

"You can go alter."

Landon walked past Betty, heading for Jasper and Alice.

Betty's jealousy spiked when she noticed the red love bites on Landon's neck. Something exploded in her brain and started buzzing nonstop.

If Landon hadn't drank the drugged wine, then-

Betty's heart plummeted at the realization that Lauren had likely drunk it.

Did they do anything? Did they sleep together?

"Fuck! Damn you, Lauren Beckett!" Betty screamed internally.

"Lauren!" Alyssa and Jasper cried at the same time.

"What has happened to her? What has happened to my granddaughter?" Newton asked. He hadn't seen her once throughout the evening. so the sight of her now made him feel both confused and enraged.

Javier and Sophia looked unbearably worried as well.

"Don't worry, sir. Lauren is fine. I have experience with this kind of thing." Landon assured them.

"Experience?" Jasper's features twisted angrily. "If your 'experience' was 'spent' on Lauren, I'll be the first to peel the skin off your back!"

"Tsk." Landon scowled. "Have some faith in me, won't you?"

Alyssa noticed the red marks on his neck but said nothing.

Javier cried, "What on Earth happened to our daughter, Landon? Tell us!"

Landon took a deep breath before explaining. "Lauren was drugged. I found her in the garden out back. The effects had already overcome her, so I had her drink some water and eat something to slow it down. Her condition is more stable now. All she needs is some rest."

The Beckett family's faces colored up differently upon hearing that.

Newton was trembling, ready to fall any second. "What? Lauren was "

Javier went to help hold him up. "Deep breaths, Dad. Come and help me, Ben!"

"Grandpa!" Alyssa went up to Newton too, worried for his health.

Winston pursed his lips upon seeing his daughter care so much for Newton. He was feeling quite envious right now.

"I'm sure the full picture is apparent now." Alyssa said, her stern gaze lingering on Betty and Liana. "The only other people sitting with my brother at the time were Mr. Beckett and Mr. Landon. My brother was drugged, followed by Ms. Lauren, who had never once appeared during the event. 1

"I'm sure the drink she consumed was meant to be served to my brother's table. Unfortunately, it seems Ms. Lauren drank it before that could occur."

Jasper and Landon both gazed at Alyssa, their eyes filled with admiration. She had such a keen, analytical mind!

+15 BONUS

Her words had implicated enougn. Everyone turned to Landon in an instant.

The man sneered coldly. He hated when people pulled disgusting tricks like this. How could someone think to do this on Newton's birthday?

Whoever it was was fucking shameless!

"Apprehend that kitchen maid," Jasper spoke up angrily. "Bring her over to us. Ms. Alyssa and I will question her. No one is leaving tonight until the truth is out!"

Alyssa's heart skipped a beat. She gazed at him incredulously, feeling a welcome sense of surprise.

Their gazes met, and in that instant, a familiar emotion rose in their hearts.

+15 BONUS

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