Chapter 198

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"W-What do you mean, Jasper? Are you trying to lock us in? Do you think we're some kind of criminal suspects?" Sophla screeched, learful their schemes would be revealed.

"That's a bit of an exauteration, don't you think? I just need everyone's cooperation to clear out the rotten apples in our family," Jasper snapped, exuding even more authority than his own father did. "If you are Innocent, you won't have to worry about anything."

"Yest Newton cited. "We We can't let something this humiliating stand! We need to investigate this matter and give Alice and Jonah. proper closurel

Betty's teeth were chattering in lear, while Sophia could no longer retort.

"Mr. Beckett Just then, Xavier entered the hallway, two bodyguards behind him dragging the kitchen mald between them.

With a strong push forward, the girl was, flung onto the floor before everyone.

"I managed to get the CCTV footage as you instructed, sir, I was implementing a lockdown on the whole venue when I caught her trying to escape through the garden!

Alyssa was shocked again. How did Jasper pick up that something was wrong in such a short amount of time?

"Tsk. Her guilt is clear as day." Landon glared at the girl. "Is further Investigation even needed? Why would she be trying to wriggle out through a doggy door II she was Innocent?"

"It's needed," Jasper sald sternly. "I want to catch the mastermind behind this."

"Mister Mr. Beckett, I had a family emergency. That's why I had to had to find a way to leave. The doors were all locked. I didn't do anything, I swear!" the maid cried.

"I remember you. You were the one who served us our drinks," Landon sald.

Alyssa added, "You told me my brother was sick and led the way there."

"I've checked the CCTV, sir. No one else was with her when she was in the kitchen all the way to the banquet hall. She didn't speak to anyone either. She was the only one who came into contact with those drinks," Xavier reported.

"That That doesn't mean I laced your drinks!" the mald cried, panicked.

"Oh?" Alyssa cocked her head. "When did we say the drinks were laced?"

Everyone's gaze instantly fell onto the mald like arrows on a straw dummy.

"I overheard earlier on the way here..."

"Overhead? Damn, you must have really big ears."

Xavier was nearly frothing at the mouth at how outrageous her excuses were. He pulled out the footage on his phone and handed it to

Jasper.

Xavier stated, "According to our investigation, we have no footage of her directly lacing the drinks with anything."

The maid, and also Betty, sighed in relief.

Xavier continued, "But we did find this."

Alyssa leaned in to look at the phone screen, to which Jasper automatically stepped closer to her for her convenience.

Their foreheads struck one another, the pain quickly fading into heat.

Alyssa looked away after their gazes met for a brief second.

That gesture made Jasper's heart hurt.

The video footage depicted the kitchen mald in the backyard taking out the trash and then looking around cautiously before she tossed

+15 BONUS

She stayed away from all the cameras on the way back but missed out on the hidden camera in the garden. We ve taught her red- handed, sir." Xavier sneered.

"N-No! I was only throwing some medicine vials I had taken. They were just normal painkillers!" the maid cited desperately.

Jasper ignored her. "Did you bring the evidence, Xavier?"

"Here, sir."

Xavier handed Jasper the emply vials in a plastic bag. Jasper's law lightened as he examined the vials. "Send these to the laboratory straight away. If this turns out to be something else other than painkillers, this all is heading behind bars."

The kitchen maid burst into tears, kneeling down to beg for mercy. "Please have mercy, Mr. Beckell! I wasn't the one behind the drugging, I

swear!"

She then turned around, pointing straight at Belly. "It was het! Ms. Betty instructed me to do