

# Can't Win Me Back by Ginger Sue Novel

## Chapter 2381

### Chapter 2381

"Justin's uncle? Lyse, what does this person have to do with you?" Axel couldn't help but inquire out of curiosity.

"I keep having the feeling that Zachary and Justin are closely related. Moreover, he might be hiding and working with Justin to devise some unfathomable scheme.

"I'm guessing that we'd be able to get a major breakthrough through him. Justin's true colors and evil schemes can only be exposed if we find and approach Zachary."

Alyssa stared fixedly at the moon with a gaze even colder than the night.

"Lyse, in reality, you could have lived a very free and happy life. You didn't have to live with so much worry." Axel gazed deeply at her, sorrow filling his heart. "It was all because of Jasper that you always ended up risking your life and bringing these troubles upon yourself."

"I am someone who likes to keep myself busy. A serene life isn't suitable for my thrill-seeking soul."

Alyssa blinked. "Right now, the only obstacle Jasper has in Beckett Group is Justin. He has been using the fact that he once saved his life to guilt-trip Jasper. Not only that, he has been playing subtle tricks. He made himself look weak so that Mr. Javier would side with him.

"If we're unable to bring Justin's true colors to light, Jasper will only end up walking on thin ice and facing endless challenges in Beckett Group.

"Plus, Jasper is someone who places too much value on his relationships with others. He's too kind. He would only end up being at a disadvantage."

Axel found himself welling up with tears as he observed the determination on Alyssa's face beside him.

She was someone who would rather lower herself and sacrifice endlessly so that the people she loved didn't have to experience any misery.

Alyssa brought their conversation back to her main point. "Justin took Zachary out of Solana City Fifth Prison, and placed a man named Grover Bennett as his scapegoat to serve Justin's sentence.

"No one noticed even after such a long time. This tells me that there are people in the police force who are helping them. Everything in prison has also been sorted out.

"So, I'm afraid that we'd face more obstacles if we were to take the legal route to investigate this. If the public were to hear about this, Solana City's judicial system would become a total joke.

"There will be pressure coming from the higher-ups. In the end, not only will this matter be glossed over, but that scapegoat's life will also be in danger. Moreover, it will become almost impossible to get a hold of Justin in the future."

With a calm expression, Axel nodded. "I understand."

"Justin put in so much effort to ensure Zachary's safety. This shows that he is someone of utmost importance to him."

Alyssa frowned deeply. "But the Dutton family had their downfall a long time ago. A murderer who has been imprisoned for a long time would only live a meaningless life even if they were released.

"So, how is Zachary useful to Justin? This is the question I'm trying to find an answer to as soon as possible.

"I'm guessing that Zachary has left the country secretly."

Axel narrowed his eyes and rubbed his chiseled jaw with his fingers. "Who knows? Zachary might have his own organization or authority overseas.

"Justin might want to make use of his uncle's power to secure his position in Solana City and fight with Jasper for his inheritance."

"You're saying he might have authority overseas?" Alyssa leaned forward. Her sharp senses picked up on the keywords from Axel's speculations.

Axel raised a brow. "Otherwise, how is a crippled man like Justin going to fight with Jasper? There must be someone supporting him from behind. It would be really stupid of him to just play pretend, don't you think?"

"If Zachary has already escaped overseas, we have to keep a close watch on Justin's movements too, then. We have to look into the places he's been on his personal travels overseas. Zachary would very likely be there."

"Lyse, leave this to me. I'll look into it. You don't have to worry about it."

Axel paused. In a deep and loving voice, he continued, "I will be occupied from tomorrow onward. I need to make all the necessary arrangements with my work on hand so that I can

resign in peace. When I'm away, please take good care of Amber on my behalf."

Alyssa was moved to tears. She responded softly, "Yes, I will."

After 72 hours of being unconscious, Jasper regained consciousness, albeit with much difficulty.

"Mr. Beckett, you're finally awake!"

"Jasper, it's me, Grandpa. Jasper!"

Through his unfocused gaze, Jasper spotted Newton, Ben, and Xavier by the side of his bed. Looks of joy had come over their faces. Gradually, his vision became clear.

"How... How long have I been out for? Jasper massaged his throbbing temples while Xavier helped him lean back on the headboard of his bed.

## **Chapter 2382**

### Chapter 2382

Newton's heart ached as he looked at Jasper, his favorite grandson. "Jas, you've been out for three days." Three days.

Jasper inhaled sharply. His head started spinning, and he felt weak.

In a concerned tone, Newton asked, "Jasper, are you feeling okay?"

"Grandpa, I'm sorry." Jasper gulped. "It's the time when we're about to bid for such an important project for Beckett Group, but I've set us back."

"Oh, silly. It's not your fault. Why are you apologizing?" Newton stroked Jasper's head, just like he would when Jasper was a kid. "To me, no bidding or project is more important than my youngest grandson.

"Jasper, don't worry about Beckett Group. You don't have to worry about your passing out in front of the board of directors affecting your position in the corporation. You are my appointed heir. This is a fact that will not change no matter what happens."

Even though Jasper looked emotionless, Newton's words of resolution stirred something within him.

\*Just focus on resting up and recuperating. I will take charge of everything else on your behalf," Newton assured.

There was a quiver in Jasper's eyes. "I'm fine now. I can be discharged today."

Xavier protested immediately, "Mr. Beckett, there's no rush. Do not force yourself!"

"The bidding for Project A5 is happening early next month. It is just around the corner. We can't afford to have any other hiccups," Jasper uttered calmly while skillfully and casually pulling out the cannula on the back of his hand.

"Xavier, get me my clothes. I'm going back to Beckett Group."

No one could stop Jasper when he was being stubborn.

In the end, neatly dressed, he headed back to Beckett Group Tower by car. Xavier went along with him.

Jasper closed his eyes and rested the entire way. His well-defined face looked dejected and haggard.

What replayed in his mind over and over was the sinister smile he saw on Justin's face at the final moment before he fell unconscious during the board meeting that day.

That smile revealed a hint of excitement over a long-awaited moment. Justin did not look surprised at all. It was as if everything that happened was as he had expected.

"That's strange. Why are there so many reporters gathered at the entrance to the corporation?" Xavier peered out the window, his brows knitted together.

Jasper instructed, "Go to the underground parking lot."

Xavier then drove the car down to the underground parking lot. Nevertheless, quite a number of reporters were also gathered here. They charged forward and surrounded Jasper's car when they saw it approaching.

"Mr. Beckett! It is said that your current health condition is quite worrying, and that you might not be able to manage the corporation in the future. Could you comment on this?"

## **Chapter 2383**

## Chapter 2383

The look in Jasper's eyes grew dimmer and dimmer.

His car windows were tinted, preventing the reporters who had come after hearing the news about his health from getting a clear view of his frigid expression.

Nevertheless, they pressed their faces against the car window until their features looked distorted.

Jasper curled his lips downward as an inexplicable feeling of frustration simmered within him. He lifted his hand and dug into the knot of his tie, tugging it downward.

"Mr. Beckett! I heard that you were hospitalized for several days after collapsing in front of everyone. Do you actually have health problems?"

"If there are no issues with your health, please step forward and clarify to put the public at ease."

\*Beckett Group's shares were somewhat affected when the stock market opened today. This was surely related to your hospitalization. Could you share some comments with us?"

Jasper's car drove out of the crowd and into the underground parking lot with great difficulty.

"Shit. Damn it!" Xavier slammed his fist in anger onto the car window. "Who dared to expose your hospitalization to the press?"

"Who else could it be?' A fiery gaze flashed across Jasper's bloodshot eyes.

Xavier had a moment of realization. "J-Justin!"

The other board members were not daring enough.

Plus, the health conditions of family members from wealthy families were strictly confidential. This information was not revealed to the public to prevent competitors from getting the wrong idea and trying to sabotage them secretly.

The only one who had the guts to expose this, had the capability to do so, and would benefit from it...

There could be no one other than Justin.

"Mr. Beckett, that older brother of yours who acts sanctimonious and gracious before others has started to show his true colors," Xavier remarked.

Infuriated, Xavier scoffed. "I knew it... I just knew he didn't come back with good intentions. It hasn't even been six months, yet he can no longer keep up with his act.

'Did he think he could cause your position in Beckett Group to waver by revealing such groundless information? He's dreaming!"

"Why did the reporters show up here?" Jasper mumbled to himself as he frowned.

Xavier was enraged. "Of course it's so that they can humiliate you! He created chaos and then hid in the shadows. As the president of the corporation, you'd be forced to step forward to calm the masses. That's freaking disgusting and despicable of him!"

For some reason, Jasper still felt uneasy. He had a nagging feeling that something was amiss.

He left the parking lot and entered Beckett Group Tower.

Jasper had a majestic bearing as he stood tall. His every step was firm and steady. He did not appear tired, let alone unwell.

Xavier and four uniformed bodyguards followed behind him.

Jasper was used to being alone and keeping a low profile. Xavier was usually the only one who accompanied him whenever he went out.

Today, however, he adopted a more showy approach. This was part of Newton's plan.

Jasper was making his return after being unwell for about a week. He couldn't allow himself to return in a disappointing manner.

"Mr. Beckett!"

Those who had met Jasper previously were all lined up. They greeted him respectfully.

Jasper nodded. The deep gaze in his eyes and his intimidating bearing sent chills through all those he walked by. Just as the entire group of people was walking toward the president's elevator, a commotion erupted in the lobby.

Xavier glanced over and furrowed his brow. He instructed one of the bodyguards, "Go and see what's going on there."

The bodyguard had just taken a few steps forward when three men approached him.

"Outsiders aren't allowed past this point," he said sternly.

"Police," a crisp, familiar, and confident voice sounded.

Jasper, who had been expressionless the whole time, slowly turned to look.

His eyes widened. Much to his surprise, it was Alyssa's seventh brother, Cyrus, who appeared before him. "Mr. Cy-Chief Taylor!"

## Chapter 2384

### Chapter 2384

Xavier approached Cyrus hastily, his smile stretching from ear to ear when he saw someone from the Taylor family.

"Are you here to see Mr. Beckett? Come upstairs with us!" he invited in an especially friendly manner.

"No need for that," Cyrus replied, his expression stern. He continued formally, "We are here to see Mr. Beckett. We need him to come back to the station to cooperate with our investigation."

By this time, a crowd of Beckett Group's employees had gathered. They all heard Cyrus clearly. He had used the word "cooperate", not "assist". One word made all the difference.

Xavier's mind raced. He instantly lowered his voice and pleaded, "Chief Taylor, this doesn't look good with so many people watching. Can we continue our conversation upstairs?"

Cyrus knitted his brows tightly.

He was extremely well-versed in the procedures.

But this time, Jasper was the person he was taking away personally-the man who almost became his brother-in-law, the one who had risked his life repeatedly for Alyssa's sake.

He hesitated for the very first time.

"I'll go with you people." Jasper walked toward him, looking completely indifferent. He met Cyrus' eyes with a calm, steady gaze.

Cyrus' lips turned pale. An extremely conflicted look filled his eyes, and he couldn't explain the heavy weight pressing on his chest.

Just as two police officers moved toward Jasper, Javier stormed in with Rory and a group of the corporation's top executives.

"You officers are being too reckless! Don't you know where you are?" Javier erupted in rage upon seeing someone from the Taylor family causing trouble. He bellowed, "You've brought a team to take Jasper away for questioning in public."

"He is the president of Beckett Group! Have you considered how this will affect my son's reputation and our corporation? Are you going to be responsible for our losses?"

"Mr. Odom, get Beckett Group's legal team here immediately! I will not let this go. You are not allowed to take Jasper away like this!"

Rory nodded. "Will do, Mr. Javier."

Cyrus was filled with rage. He silently cursed, wishing he could punch Javier in the face to shut him up.

His original intention was to take Jasper away and minimize any impact. Yet, Javier had interfered and disrupted his work, seemingly trying to amplify the issue.

How unfortunate. If only Newton had another child, the Beckett family's business wouldn't have ended up in this bonehead's hands!

"Apologies, Mr. Javier. I must take this man away today no matter what."

Right at this moment, three plainclothes officers rushed out from the crowd and presented their identifications.

Cyrus gritted his teeth when he saw the leader-an arrogant man named Rio Olson, the chief of the Second Criminal Investigation Division and his rival of many years.

"Who are you?" Javier stared at Rio, looking completely perplexed.

"I'm Rio Olson, a long-time colleague of Chief Taylor's." Rio forced a smile and quickly glanced at Cyrus. "Chief

Taylor's younger sister and Mr. Jasper share a unique relationship. Due to a conflict of interest, he must stay away from cases involving his family.

"From this point forward, I will be the officer in charge of Mr. Jasper's case. Chief Taylor, you and your men may leave."

Rio's condescending and prideful attitude really irked Cyrus' team, but they could do nothing.



Cyrus' heart sank. He hadn't been notified when he set out. Not much time had passed, yet Jasper's case had been handed to someone else?

This was peculiar indeed.

Jasper remained completely undisturbed throughout, watching everyone. His expressionless face made it impossible to identify any emotions within him.

Yet thoughts raced through his mind continuously.

It was as if he had been watched since leaving the hospital for Beckett Group-like they had set up trap after trap to restrain him and force him into a corner.

## **Chapter 2385**

Chapter 2385

Rio approached Jasper and confidently flashed out the arrest warrant, deliberately raising his voice so everyone present could hear.

"Mr. Jasper Beckett, you are suspected of drug abuse. Please come with us!"

The moment he spoke, it was as if the skies had crashed down, catching everyone completely off guard.

Jasper raised his eyebrows, his temples throbbing.

"Drug abuse... You're claiming Jasper took drugs? That's slander!" Javier's face turned pale with shock.

Xavier's head buzzed. He almost passed out upon hearing Rio's accusation.

Rio stated calmly, "We will not arrest anyone without proof."

Cyrus gritted his teeth in anger, clenching his hands into fists. He would never believe that Jasper would do drugs! Yet, he had no way to involve himself in the case. He couldn't prove Jasper's innocence, no matter how much he wanted to.

The Beckett Group employees present had heard Rio's words. Their jaws dropped, and they began chattering among themselves.

Within an hour, news of Jasper's arrest for drug abuse had spread throughout the entire corporation and across Solana City.

"Xavier, stay back and ensure the corporation continues to operate normally," Jasper instructed.

Taking a step forward with poise, his broad back exuding calmness, Jasper said, "I will give you my full cooperation. Let's go."

Alyssa was leading KS Group's senior executives in a meeting in the corporate conference room.

Her hair was down, and her bright red lips complemented her smart black suit as she stood on stage, presenting her proposal eloquently.

Each of the senior executives below listened intently, taking their own notes. Despite her youth, Alyssa was firm and steady, commanding the same presence Winston had during the peak of his career, inspiring great admiration.

At a critical moment during the meeting, Sean's urgent voice came through Alyssa's Bluetooth earphones.

"Ms. Alyssa, I have bad news! Mr. Beckett is suspected of drug abuse and has been arrested by the police for questioning."

A loud thud sounded.

Alyssa held her breath as her laser pointer fell to the ground. The executives exchanged meaningful glances. She bent down elegantly, picking up the pen with trembling hands, then straightened her back stiffly. Though a smile remained on her face, her eyes had turned completely red.

"Let's continue," she said.

An hour later, Alyssa and Sean returned to the president's office.

"How did this happen?" Unable to contain her emotions, she grabbed a coffee mug and hurled it against the wall in fury.

Sean could see Alyssa was truly enraged.

"Mr. Cyrus was concerned about interfering with your work, so he called me to explain the situation. Given the urgency, I informed you immediately," Sean explained.

With a grim expression, he continued in a low voice, "Mr. Cyrus has been removed from the case and cannot intervene. According to my sources, Mr. Jasper is already at the police station. They will be testing his urine or his hair for drugs."

Alyssa pressed her hand to her forehead, gritting her teeth. "The medication Jasper has been taking contains banned components. Even if he didn't do drugs, the test results could be used to accuse him of being a drug addict."

She looked at Sean intensely. "Do you understand what this means?"

Sean started to speak but hesitated.

"It means the position of Beckett Group's president-which Jasper has fought so hard to obtain-will likely be handed to someone else."

## Chapter 2386

Chapter 2386

"How could that be?" Sean's eyes widened in shock. "Mr. Justin relies on a wheelchair wherever he goes, and has to be on medications all year round. He needs constant care.

"How could someone like him take up the position of president? Also, Mr. Jasper has Mr. Newton's support and has reconciled with Javier.

"How could Mr. Justin take down Mr. Jasper and take over his position? Does he even have anyone supporting him?"

"How is he going to manage with his condition? He will end up falling even after he takes that position. Mr. Newton is not going to just sit back and watch!"

"Still, there are only two heirs to Beckett Group-Justin and Jasper." Alyssa closed her eyes tight and fell into deep thought. She bit her lip. "If Jasper collapses, the entire corporation will be negatively affected.

"No matter how much Grandpa Newton loves him, he would have to take their family into consideration too. Plus, don't forget that Mr. Javier is no longer biased toward Jasper since Justin returned. He now sits on the fence.

"When push comes to shove, Grandpa Newton would very likely give up on Jasper and allow Justin to take his position instead."

Upon hearing that, the color drained from Sean's face.

Alyssa let out a heavy sigh. 'Of course, that is the worst possible outcome. After all, to Grandpa Newton, the health and safety of his grandson is more important than status

and authority. If the fight between Justin and Jasper continues, I can't imagine what horrible things Justin might do.

\*Grandpa Newton has been keeping that bloody secret all to himself. I'm sure it has been agonizing for him to bear with all that stress for so many years."

"Ms. Alyssa, we have to come up with a way to help Mr. Jasper through this difficult situation!" Sean said, lowering himself and looking at Alyssa with a troubled expression. Her eyes were filled with worry.

He continued, "Mr. Jasper has strived for years to build Beckett Group to be where it is today. We cannot let it fall into the hands of that scheming man!"

"I, more than you or anyone else, wish that Jasper will win this fight. If the legal route doesn't work, we'll take the illicit approach. I must protect Jasper and Beckett Group no matter what it takes.

After ruminating further, Alyssa opened her eyes again. Her eyes had turned completely red.

"Ever since Jul left, Justin planted Sheryl by Jasper's side. Justin was the one who provided Sheryl with the illicit drugs that Jasper had been taking.

'He has been keeping watch in secret. When the time was right, he contacted the reporters and reported Jasper to the police. He made his series of schemes so natural that it caught everyone off guard."

Sean swore out of anger, "Damn it... That fucking crook!"

\*Sean, we have to send a reliable, top-notch attorney from our end."

Alyssa was a sensitive and cautious person. She made sure that she made no mistakes whenever she took action.

"Right now, I can't trust anyone from the Beckett Group, other than Grandpa Newton. However, he is an elderly and doesn't have enough capacity to help us. Mr. Gorham aside, we wouldn't even know if Justin has bribed anyone around Grandpa Newton."

\*Ms. Alyssa, do you trust my brother, Steven? If you do, how about entrusting Mr. Jasper's case to him?

Sean looked at Alyssa with an earnest and fiery gaze. "All of Solana City once saw my oldest brother, Simon, as the best attorney in the city. But, they were unaware that Steven was actually the most talented one in the

political and legal fields in Solana City.

"Him working as a judge all year round just meant that he hadn't had a chance to represent clients in court. In actual fact, he's extremely skilled. It's just that everyone overlooked his abilities."

"I trust all you Lynch brothers. Let's go ahead with your suggestion." Alyssa took a deep breath. "There is an even tougher battle up ahead. Jasper's arrest stirred up all sorts of comments from the public. Don't worry about the financial cost. The most important thing is to rein in all negative sentiments."

With a serious look on his face, Sean nodded. "I understand! I will get in touch with the Public Relations Department and the media to sort this out now."

A glaring beam of white light shone on Jasper. He had been sitting in the interrogation room at the police station for three whole hours. Yet, there wasn't a single hint of tiredness on his face. His suit remained neat, and he was still sitting with his back upright.

He was a perfect example of someone who wouldn't crack under pressure.

After some time, the door to the interrogation room opened.

Rio and another police officer strutted in. Rio slammed a test report down in front of Jasper. With an icy look on his face and an intimidating gaze, he announced, "The results are out. You have tested positive."

A flicker flashed across Jasper's eyes. He curled his lips downward. "I didn't do drugs."

"It's written in black and white. How could it be false? Mr. Beckett, did you think that the forensics department at the force is just for show?" Rio scoffed. He pulled out a small plastic bag and waved it in front of Jasper. "You should be very familiar with this, Mr. Beckett. We found this in a drawer in your office."

Jasper's eyes dimmed as he stared at that bag of blue pills. The veins on the back of his hands began to pop as he clenched his hands into fists on his knees.

This was his last bag of pills.

He didn't carry it with him because he realized he had developed a strong dependence on them. He wanted to hold himself back and stay away from them as much as possible.

In the past, he would only have headaches without the medication. Now, if he stopped taking them, he would feel like he had ants crawling all over his body, nibbling and chewing away at his bones.

## Chapter 2387

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Despite possessing tremendous willpower, the sensation felt like living hell to Jasper.

"Do you know what this is?" Rio questioned.

Jasper asked in a low voice, "What is it?"

"It is known as Crystal Ice," Rio explained. "It's a new type of drug, currently the most addictive and lethal on the market."

Jasper's pupils constricted, and his breathing became uneven. "What is it again?"

"Mr. Beckett, now that we have concrete evidence, there's no need to continue this charade in front of me, is there? \*Rio stated, standing before Jasper and studying him with a frigid gaze. "Come clean with us. Don't waste our time or yours. You're the president of a corporation; I know your time is precious.

"This is your first offence, so you won't receive a severe sentence. You should take responsibility for your actions. Don't dwell on it."

Jasper lowered his eyes, a frown deepening on his face. Zealous balls of rage burned in his eyes.

Sheryl had given him those pills. In other words, Justin had instructed her to do so.

Therefore, Justin had never intended to cure him from the very start. Instead, he was ensnaring him in drug use. Justin had made him engage with the devil, then lured him down into hell little by little.

Jasper felt overwhelmed. At that moment, his temples began throbbing unexpectedly, and his gaze blurred.

Just then, the door to the interrogation room opened once again.

Jasper blinked hard. He then saw a handsome man in a suit walk in. In a deep and confident voice, the man announced, "I am Mr. Beckett's attorney, Steven Lynch. From now on, my client has the right to selectively answer or refuse any unreasonable questions."

'Steven-' Rio stared at Steven in shock.

They worked in the criminal justice system. This was Steven Lynch, the former reputable judge. How could he not know who he was?

\*Judge Lynch?' Jasper asked, his lips quivering. Cold sweat beaded on his forehead.

A friendly smile spread across Steven's face. "I haven't been a judge for a long while. I am now simply your attorney, Mr. Beckett."

Rio forced a slight smile. "I should have expected as much from the wealthiest family in Solana City. Of course you'd be able to hire the Mr. Lynch, the ex-judge who was unafraid of those with power."

"Now that I'm in a different position, my perspective has changed. As an attorney, I believe everyone has the right to defend themselves."

Steven calmly sat down next to Jasper. Their eyes met, and he leaned into Jasper's ear, whispering, 'Ms. Alyssa asked me to help you.'

Jasper stared intently at him. His heart pounded uncontrollably, as if trying to break free from the chains binding

it.

Thereafter, Steven picked up the test report and said coldly, "Even though the test results came back positive, this doesn't prove that Mr. Beckett did drugs. Some illicit medications from overseas can also produce the same positive test results if taken in excess. Based on this alone, don't you think your conclusion is too far-fetched, Chief Olson?"

The officer next to Rio was extremely displeased. He argued, "But we found Crystal Ice in his office. Although the

quantity was small, it makes him a suspect for drug possession!"

"I've seen these tactics used to frame others too many times." Steven placed the document down. With a sharp glint in his eyes, he continued, "Two months ago, our law firm accepted a case where someone reported their corporation's leader for taking bribes.

"The police found a box of cash in that leader's car. Ultimately, after investigation, it was discovered to be a setup. Someone had broken into the trunk of his car and planted the money.

\*Over a thousand employees work at Beckett Group. Even with security, how can they guarantee no one snuck in to plant this bag of pills and frame my client?"

Rio flew off the handle. Through clenched teeth, he sneered. "Mr. Lynch, you're quite eloquent. You're even capable of defending a criminal."

'Also, you accused my client of doing drugs. Does your evidence present the complete picture?'

Rio frowned.

Steven leaned forward. In a steady voice, he questioned, "Do you have evidence of Mr. Beckett purchasing drugs or instructing his subordinate to purchase them on his behalf? Do you?"

## Chapter 2388

### Chapter 2388

Jasper sat upright next to Steven, looking unperturbed. Yet deep within, he held immense admiration for the man beside him.

Born into nobility, Jasper was naturally aloof, and Steven's humility and poise were qualities Jasper rarely encountered, even among the elite circles. Only a select few had ever earned his respect.

If he managed to navigate this ordeal and return safely to the Beckett Group, he already resolved to approach Steven personally. He would offer Steven the position of the company's legal advisor, with remuneration entirely at Steven's discretion—a gesture of Jasper's utmost sincerity.

As the interrogation progressed, Rio's confidence began to falter. His expression grew stiffer with each passing moment until he finally let out a frustrated sigh. He was cornered.

Steven, exuding the authority of a judge, spoke firmly. "It's one thing to summon my client for questioning or harbor suspicions about him. But every case must adhere to one fundamental principle—procedural justice."

His sharp gaze swept across the room. "Do you have any evidence to prove that my client used or purchased drugs? Have you uncovered new witnesses or testimony? If the answer to all of these is 'no,' then you are only permitted to detain him for 24 hours, nothing more."

An officer beside Rio bristled, his voice rising in anger. "He's a scion of a wealthy family! Of course, he has the means to obtain these things illegally. The people around him would do anything for him—they're probably conspiring to cover for him!"



Rio glared at the officer. He growled, "Shut up!"

Steven's lips curled into a faint smile. "From what I gather, you have no concrete evidence. That being the case, there's nothing more to discuss."

His tone was calm yet unyielding. "Feel free to investigate anyone associated with Mr. Beckett. That's your prerogative. Whether you find anything or not is none of our concern. But do not bother me with baseless accusations.

"If you insist on detaining my client for the full 24 hours, I'll remain by his side until the very end. In the meantime, I'd appreciate a cup of coffee. Black, no sugar. Thank you."

Rio stormed back to his office, his temper barely contained. Moments later, a subordinate came, bearing grim

news.

Surveillance footage from Jasper's office in Beckett Group, where the Crystal Ice was found, had been completely erased, leaving no record of activity. Data recovery efforts had proved fruitless as well.

This development turned the situation into an enigma. Had Jasper planted the drugs himself, or was he the victim of a calculated setup?

Unbeknownst to them, Alyssa had orchestrated the erasure. Acting swiftly, she contacted Xavier, instructing him to delete all footage from Jasper's office. Her goal was to eliminate any evidence-whether it implicated Jasper or exonerated him.

Without tangible leads, the police would have no grounds to accuse Jasper of drug possession. Alyssa's maneuver was calculated to protect Jasper from further charges.

As Rio wrestled with his frustration, an officer hurried into his office.

\*Chief Olson, someone is here to see you."

"Can't you see that I'm busy? Unless it's urgent, handle it yourselves!" Rio snapped.

"He claims to be a witness. He says he can prove that Jasper used drugs."

Rio's eyes lit up, and he bolted from his desk.

A middle-aged man stood nervously in the corridor, clutching a brown envelope.

With a gleeful look, Rio approached the man and asked, "Are you the witness they told me about?"

"Yes..." The man's voice was strained, his anxiety palpable. "I'm Sebastian Bender, the primary physician who treated Mr. Beckett during his recent hospitalization."

Sebastian held out the envelope. "These are Mr. Beckett's diagnosis report and blood test results."

Rio took the envelope from Sebastian, moving quickly to extract the documents. His eyes scanned the reports with intense focus.

## Chapter 2389

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"Mr. Beckett's blood sample contained methamphetamine..."

Rio's eyes widened in shock. He knew this substance all too well-it was a component found in crystal meth.

Sebastian hesitated, then lowered his voice. "Also, if I'm not mistaken, Mr. Beckett was hospitalized due to severe withdrawal symptoms. He didn't take his drugs on time, and his body couldn't handle it. Would this count as evidence?"

\*Dr. Bender, thank you for the crucial information you've provided. We greatly appreciate your assistance in this case!" Rio shook Sebastian's hand vigorously, a triumphant smile spreading across his face.

Meanwhile, just around the corner, Cyrus stood with his back against the wall. He had heard every single word of their exchange. His chest burned with rage as he clenched his teeth. Pulling out his phone, he quickly texted Alyssa.

\*Lyse, the situation has changed. I can't join the investigation, but you must save Jasper this time.

An hour later, Rio strode back into the interrogation room, brimming with confidence. He slammed Jasper's blood test results onto the table in front of him and Steven.

"This is fresh evidence from your primary physician. Your blood sample contained a substance exclusively found in drug abusers!"

A surprised look flashed across Steven's face. He picked up the report and examined it closely.

Jasper, on the other hand, remained composed. He lowered his gaze, his sharp jawline taut with tension. Deep down, he had anticipated this. This was Justin's doing, another carefully laid trap to ensure he wouldn't leave unscathed.

Rio's voice grew more assertive. "Whether you took drugs yesterday or a year ago, it doesn't matter. The traces remain in your body for up to two years. There's no way to metabolize them that quickly! Now, with this proof, you can't talk your way out of it. You'll be detained for 15 days."

Rio leaned back, his satisfaction evident. "The detention center isn't exactly luxurious. The meals are terrible, and the beds will leave your back aching. A pampered man like you should start preparing for the discomfort."

For most first-time offenders, 15 days of detention was a minor consequence—a deterrent to prevent future offenses.

But the consequences were catastrophic for someone like Jasper, a man of influence and authority. His reputation would be in shambles. From that point on, he'd be branded a "drug abuser", a stain that would follow him and the Beckett Group in every public appearance.

Consequently, he would be prohibited from making any public appearances to safeguard the company's image. Steven's heart sank. The evidence was damning. He racked his brain, desperate for a way to counter it.

After a long silence, Jasper finally spoke, his voice calm but resolute. "I have never abused drugs. For the past three months, I've been taking prescribed medication to manage my condition. My older brother, Justin, arranged for his private physician to oversee my treatment."

Rio queried, "Private physician? Who?"

"Sheryl Gillis."

Jasper raised his gaze, his sharp eyes unwavering. Despite the mounting pressure, his composure remained intact. "Dr. Gillis has been prescribing my medication since she took over my treatment. She assured me that these medications were meant to stabilize my condition. They are not narcotics."

Rio froze, his confidence faltering.

This wasn't the straightforward conviction he had hoped for. Instead of closing the case and reporting back to Gabe, he now faced a new complication—a private physician named Sheryl Gillis.

