

Chapter 2470

Justin frowned as a hint of surprise flashed across his dark eyes.

He had assumed Newton's unannounced appearance at the board meeting-along with Alyssa's involvement was a coordinated effort with Jasper to overthrow him as president. After mentally running through hundreds of countermeasures, the one possibility he hadn't considered was that everything would proceed smoothly in his favor.

Javier was equally stunned, though this outcome aligned with his desires. Today, Justin wasn't merely his son but a constant shadow looming over him, a silent predator watching his every move and reminding him that his past actions weren't completely buried.

Instead, this secret loomed like a ticking time bomb that could detonate at any moment, obliterating everything he'd built. And the person holding the detonator was Justin-his eldest son whom he had trusted above all others. With a dim gaze, Javier watched Justin rise to his feet amid the applause. Suddenly, Justin's voice seemed distant, almost fuzzy. Javier's attention drifted toward Jasper, who maintained a composed yet grim demeanor. Despite all he had endured, Jasper exuded a quiet resilience-like the sea at night, rocking with the waves yet undisturbed. A bitter lump rose in Javier's throat as his mouth went dry. He tasted acidity at the back of his tongue, painfully aware that Justin had become a monster while Jasper remained righteous and kind.

For over 20 years, he had failed to show his fatherly love to Jasper, condemning him to a miserable life. Yet, whether for his own sake or for Beckett Group's future, he believed he had no other choice.

"To Grandpa, Dad, and all the board members present-thank you for trusting me," Justin announced. "I will lead Beckett Group with distinction and secure Project A5. I will not disappoint any of you."

Upon finishing, Justin lifted his cold gaze toward Alyssa and walked directly toward her while everyone watched.

Alyssa's chest tightened as she felt Justin's cunning eyes upon her. This charming man before her resembled Satan himself-a viper in human form, flicking its tongue in her direction.

Jasper's pupils constricted instantly. As he fixed his eyes on Alyssa's tense expression, the veins on the back of his hands protruded as he clenched his fists against his knees.

"Congratulations on becoming part of Beckett Group, Ms. Alyssa," Justin said with a practiced smile, extending his right hand courteously.

Steadying her breath, Alyssa forced a slight smile while reaching out to shake his hand.

Justin's palm felt ice-cold against hers.

Meanwhile, emotions surged within Jasper's dark, still eyes. Though Alyssa was no longer his, watching her in contact with another man suffocated him. Bit by bit, complex feelings flooded his chest.

Justin continued, his tone shifting to business. "That being said, before the vote, you mentioned KS Group would withdraw completely from competing for Project A5. That wasn't just lip service, was it?"

Alyssa lifted the corners of her lips into an alluring yet threatening smile. "Of course not. We Taylors are people of our words. If you find it difficult to trust me, I'm happy to sign a legally binding Letter of Commitment."

Justin's grin widened. "That won't be necessary. I trust you because you are Alyssa Taylor. With you joining us, I hope you'll help elevate Beckett Group further.

"I look forward to us working closely together to create an even brighter future for Beckett Group and KS Group." Alyssa narrowed her eyes slightly as she slowly withdrew her hand.

Julien let out a pained groan.

As he gradually stirred in the presidential suite at KS World Hotel, the intense soreness in his lower body became impossible to ignore. Trembling, he sat up, supporting himself with his hands.

When he caught sight of himself in the mirror, he noticed his neck, collarbone, and abdomen were covered in unmistakable hickeys. He inhaled sharply, running his fingers through his hair before tugging at it in distress.

His head was pounding. Last night, could it have been-

"You're awake?"

Julien's heart skipped a beat as his eyes darted to the doorway.

Jonah stood there, gazing deeply at him. Half-naked, Jonah's well-sculpted abdominal muscles drew attention. Those defined lines of toned muscle extended downward until hidden by the towel wrapped around his waist. His chest rose and fell with each breath, evoking specific images in Julien's mind.

Julien froze, eyes widening as he stared at Jonah, stupefied. Despite how deeply Jonah had hurt him, Julien couldn't help being drawn to him still. This addiction was deeply rooted-one he would need a lifetime to overcome.

Julien parted his slightly swollen lips. In a croaky voice, he stuttered, "Jonah, 1-last night... You—"

"We did it," Jonah interrupted, advancing slowly toward Julien with tears welling up in his eyes. Looking at Julien with extreme tenderness through moistened eyes, he confirmed, "Julien, everything you're thinking happened. We did it."