## **Chapter 81**

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After returning from the charity auction, Alyssa locked herself in her room. She refused to come out. She was in an unusually low mood.

In the evening, Jonah and Silas visited their sister. Although Alyssa came downstairs, she seemed listless. She was lacking her usual vigor.

"Lyse, I heard about what happened at the auction from Mrs. Taylor," Jonah said as he gently held his sister's bandaged hand. He stroked it tenderly. "How's your injury? Did Sean take care of dressing the wound for you? Does it still hurt? Is there any infection?"

"I have basic first aid. I can take care of it myself. Sean's already worried about many things. I don't want to bother him with something this small," Alyssa replied sullenly. She quickly pulled her hand back.

"Sean is becoming less reliable! If I hadn't bumped into Mrs. Taylor at home and learned about what happened to you at the auction, we would've been kept in the dark!" Silas said, his eyes filled with rage.

"Tomorrow, I'll deliver a subpoena to the Becketts. Jonah can contact the KS legal team and formally sue those old hags for damaging your reputation! I'll burn down their home! We'll show them the might of the Taylors!"

"Let it go. It's not worth it." Alyssa leaned against Jonah's wide chest. She said softly, "We have a legal team, but don't the Becketts have one too? If things escalate, it will reach Dad's ears. It's not worth it."

In the end, she was afraid of her father knowing about her and Jasper's affairs. While he couldn't do anything to her, he might get hypertension from anger. Despite his tough appearance, he was aging. And she didn't want him to worry about such a mess.

However, that didn't mean she would let Liana off the hook. Alyssa looked at her injured hand.

She was reminded of the emerald bracelet she had been trying to repair for two days. Tears filled her eyes.

"Liam is trying to return from the military because he heard you got injured. Meanwhile, Axel is already on his way back. He'll be home very soon," Jonah said. He hugged his sister and gently smoothed her dark hair.

"It's just a scratch on my hand! How can I let them worry about me? One has a high position, and the other carries great responsibilities. They can't be bogged down by something this small," Alyssa exclaimed.

Then, she took out her phone to send a voice message to Taylor Family's Secret Society.

+15 BONUS

I'll ignore anyone who dares to come back for a year!"

"Lyse, I already got permission," Liam replied.

"I don't care! Anyone who comes back is no brother of mine. Do with that information what you. will!"

Axel, on the other hand, remained silent.

"Looks like you won't be able to stop Axel. He's probably somewhere in the sky," Silas said, pointing upward.

Alyssa slapped her forehead, feeling helpless.

Although Axel was born an introvert, he had always loved to surprise her since they were kids. If he were here, he would definitely dote on her, leaving her other brothers out.

"I'll ignore him. I'm done being his sister!"

Alyssa chewed her lips and toyed with the cuff of Jonah's sleeve. "Jonah, take me back to

Belbanks later. I want to visit Stellus."

Lauren had offended all the female Becketts and Kirkmans for coming forward as a witness for Alice. Before the incident, she already felt like she was walking on thin ice at home. But now, it was as if she were stepping on hot coals. The situation was unbearable.

"You brat! Did that village girl pay you? Is she using you as her spy?" Having had too much to drink, Betty stormed into Lauren's room.

you were She pointed at her face and cursed, "You really are an ungrateful animal! I used to think. naïve. But you were only biding your time. You were waiting for a chance to come out and cause trouble!"

"I–I'm not an animal! I didn't lie. And nobody paid me," Lauren stammered, her face turning pale. She hugged her favorite teddy bear tightly. "Y–you bullied Alice... I don't want Alice to be bullied!"

The teddy bear was a limited edition toy that Alyssa had specially bought from Randerland for Lauren. She had gotten up early and waited in the rain for six hours just to get it. Lauren would hold onto it every night as she slept.

"That's enough! How dare you raise your voice at me? I'll teach you a lesson!" Betty grabbed her sister's soft hair and pulled hard. She wanted to rip off Lauren's scalp.

"Ah! It hurts! it hurts!"

"Who let you straighten your hair? Didn't I tell you not to do it? Have you forgotten what I said? +15 BONUS

tugged her little sister's head back and forth.

It wasn't entirely about Alice. Her real resentment stemmed from the day at Solana Belware

Auction House. On that fateful day, the man Betty had longed for, Landon, talked to Lauren without any prompting. Not only that, he smiled and touched her short hair.

Betty had witnessed the whole scene and was so jealous that she wanted to shave all of Lauren's

hair off. S

"I know what you're planning! Are you really helping that village girl? Or are you pretending to be an innocent angel to seduce Landon?!"

Today's Bonus