

Can't Win 941

Chapter 941

Jasper didn't pursue the matter. All he could think about was how guilty he felt about Alyssa's allergy.

"Don't cook. I'll get Xavier to buy us breakfast or cook something for us himself. His cooking may not be as good as Sean's, but it'll do," Jasper said.

He noticed that Alyssa was barefoot and frowned before lifting her up into his arms.

"Ah! What are you doing?" Alyssa hurriedly clung onto his shoulders.

"Don't you know to take better care of yourself? How could you walk barefoot here? The floor is so cold," Jasper said.

He set Alyssa down on the table and knelt down before her. He then cupped one of Alyssa's feet in his hands.

Jasper's familiar warmth seeped into her skin, heating her up and making her narrow her eyes lightly in pleasure. She didn't want to reveal it too much, though.

"Rosie told me it's important for women to keep their feet warm, or else they get sick when they're old. Jasper gazed lovingly at Alyssa.

"Don't walk barefoot anymore."

"I was worried, so I forgot," Alyssa blurted out, feeling like she was being disciplined.

Jasper was surprised by this admission. He smiled, amused." Worried? Worried about what? That might've left?"

Alyssa blushed upon hearing this. Her feet even curled up in his grasp.

“I would never leave before you wake up. Never,” Jasper said.

How could he?

What he would give to be able to move in with her and sleep beside her every single night until all she could think about was him...

Jasper gently ran his hands up her calves as he stood up. His hands stopped at her waist as he leaned in to kiss her forehead.

But Jasper wasn't so easily satisfied. He never was when it came to

Alyssa.

Her skin seemed to grow warmer and warmer as it reddened under Jasper's touch. Though they had already done it all, Alyssa still found herself eager and shy when they were intimate.

Just before Jasper kissed her on the lips, the doorbell rang.

Jasper wanted to ignore it, but it wouldn't stop.

That damned cockblocker!

Alyssa cleared her throat awkwardly and pushed him away. “What's going on? Why is someone at the door? Only my brothers and I know about this place. They have the access code to the door.”

“It's Xavier,” Jasper grumbled at the thought of his secretary.

“I told him to come find me here once he has information.”

“What information?”

“Information about Sophia and that killer.”

Alyssa’s eyes instantly brightened. She leapt off the table, but before her feet landed on the floor, Jasper lifted her into his arms.

“Don’t let your feet touch the floor. You don’t have shoes on,” he said.

Alyssa’s eyes widened in surprise at how strong Jasper was. When she had been a child, Winston had often held her up like this in his

What wonderful testosterone...

Chapter 942

Despite Alyssa’s objections, Jasper walked to the entrance and opened the door.

“Mr. Beckett?”

Jasper appeared in front of Xavier, carrying Alyssa bridal style in his arms. The two of them also looked unkempt, as if they had just

woken up.

Oh my god... oh my god!

Xavier’s jaw dropped. He saw them in a completely different light. His imagination ran wild, and his face turned red.

Did this mean that his dream couple had finally reunited? Could he finally die in peace now?

“Put me down, Jasper!” Alyssa cried out in his ear. She felt so

awkward that she wanted to dig a hole for herself.

“Can he come in, Ms. Alyssa?” Jasper asked her in a soft, gentle voice while fixing his gaze on her.

Alyssa was completely subdued in front of Xavier. She stared at Jasper angrily, but could only nod.

“Ah, can I come in too, then?”

Both Jasper’s and Alyssa’s eyes widened at the sound of a familiar

voice. To their surprise, Landon appeared from behind Xavier!

He narrowed his sharp eyes as he looked them up and down gleefully. His sly smile made them want to punch him in the face!

“Congratulations!”

“What are you congratulating me for?” Jasper glared at him impatiently.

“Congratulations for finally not having to stand outside, waiting to be struck by lightning,” replied Landon as he smirked at Alyssa.

Alyssa was speechless.

Jasper's charming face was absolutely gloomy now. "You! If you have something to say, say it. Otherwise, bugger off."

"I do, I do! I wouldn't be here if I didn't have anything to say. Sweet couple, I'm allowed to come in, right?" Landon asked with a cheeky expression on his face.

"Come in," Jasper conceded.

Alyssa yelled, "We're no couple!"

Landon didn't care. He dashed in shamelessly.

Jasper put Alyssa down, then knelt down to put her shoes on for her.

After she put her indoor slippers on, she distanced herself from him quickly. Contrary to her intentions, her actions made her look even more guilty.

The four of them entered the living area. Jasper sat as closely as he could, right next to Alyssa. He then reached out naturally to put his arm around her waist.

She shunned him by squirming away mercilessly.

He couldn't help but frown and chuckle awkwardly. When she wasn't paying attention, he picked up her silky hair behind her back and

began twirling it around his fingers.

She was so petty.

She wasn't the same person as the passionate woman last night.

It was only now that Alyssa found out what Jasper had put Xavier up to. He had asked Xavier to tail and investigate Sophia.

Furthermore, Landon had come here because he also had important news that he wanted to report to Jasper urgently.

“Did Sophia get in touch with that bastard, Jeffrey?” Jasper questioned with a dark look in his eyes.

“No, she didn’t. With everyone watching so closely, she wouldn’t have the guts to meet him.

“If she did, wouldn’t she be signing her own death warrant? She would be telling the whole world about the both of them conspiring together,

“Xavier answered.

He was parched, so he took a few gulps of water before continuing, “I found out that she went to Solana Bank to meet with the bank’s

president.”

Alyssa was quick to respond. She immediately asked, “Was she making a transaction for a large sum of money?”

Chapter 943

Xavier gave Alyssa two thumbs-up. “You’re brilliant, Madam!” he praised.

Jasper’s lips curled upward. He was extremely pleased to hear that

salutation.

Alyssa was embarrassed and annoyed at the same time. But she was even more curious about what happened next. She pressed him on, saying, "Go on!"

"Then, I went through hoops to find out that Sophia has a secret

account at Randerland Bank. I'm not sure how much money she has

in there.

"But I was able to find out the sum that she was transferring from that account to Solana Bank. It was exactly 200 million dollars!"

Landon raised his brows. He couldn't help but mock, "200 million. dollars? Wow, that bitch really stole a fortune for herself."

Jasper's gaze turned cold. "That must be the money that Jeffrey demanded from her. It must be the money for him to escape and keep silent," Jasper sniggered.

"But what was more shocking to me was how Sophia could withdraw the ginormous sum of 200 million dollars so easily. Plus, it was withdrawn from Randerland Bank!" exclaimed Xavier.

Alyssa rested her finger on her chin as she scrunched up her brows in deep thought.

"As far as I'm aware, Sophia has some shares at Beckett Group. If she has been saving up her dividends each year, she'll have more than 200 million by now. It's not surprising that she was able to fork out

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Jasper looked straight at her and said, "Sophia has quite a significant amount of money. However, every cent of hers is within Javier's

purview.

“Her account at Beckett Group is completely transparent. In a way, this is one of the ways that Javier keeps her within his control.

“Hence, her savings in Randerland Bank must be her secret stash. Javier is in the dark about this. Moreover, the source of this money is

unclear.

“She made use of Betty’s luxury store to cover it up. I have been keeping evidence of her bribery and money laundering. No matter -how hard they try, it wouldn’t be an easy feat to earn 200 million

dollars through that luxury store.”

Alyssa twisted her body to face him. The shape of her eyebrows showed that she was angry.

“Why haven’t you finished them off if you have evidence?” she queried.

Jasper’s eyes turned dark. He let go of her hair, letting his hand fall naturally behind her lower back.

His touch was very gentle, so Alyssa didn’t even realize it.

However, his two other observers in the room noticed. Their eyes widened, and their jaws dropped in astonishment.

“Firstly, a mere luxury store wouldn’t be enough to take both Sophial and Betty down for good. Secondly, Javier will do everything he can to

cover for them.

“If I were to strike out of the blue, I would be actually making an indirect attack at Beckett Group. If it affects the company’s shares, it could cost Beckett Group a loss beyond measure.”

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Alyssa nodded slowly. She understood where he was coming from.

He wasn’t Javier’s only son. In the eyes of the world, he was an illegitimate son who had come into power. Javier still had another heir

-Justin.

She knew that it wasn’t an easy feat for Jasper to rise to the

president’s position. She also recognized how he had had to walk on thin ice all these years.

If he were to lose his power in Beckett Group, he would end up being trampled on. He needed to fight for the sake of his mother.

Jasper thought of his mother’s tragic death. He felt extreme pain that made his breath labored.

“At that time, I didn’t know that Sophia was the culprit behind my mother’s death. All things considered, I chose not to expose her just

yet.

“Lyse, you must feel like... like I’m a coward and so useless, right? I think so too. I think that I’m such a loser, and an extremely dumb one,

at that.”

Landon and Xavier were stunned to hear that!

After all, they had just seen Jasper after he had learned the truth.

Fortunately, he had been able to calm down, very much thanks to Alyssa’s company. Naturally, he hadn’t had the opportunity to share what had happened with them until now.

Alyssa’s heart ached when she saw how despondent he looked.

Her eyes turned slightly red. She was tempted to reach out and comfort him, but she was held back by her feeling of awkwardness.

So she just said to him in a warm voice, “It’s not your fault. You were still young back then. You weren’t aware of how cunning people can

3/4

years to do so,”

Jasper lifted his eyes in surprise. His gaze met hers, which was sparkling with confidence.

If it weren’t for the company they had, he would have embraced her, kissed her passionately, and given her all his affection...

“Other than that, you made a good point earlier. The evidence that you have on hand at the moment won’t be able to make much of an

impact on Sophia and Betty.

“Javier will do whatever he can to protect them. Even if Sophia were to be imprisoned, she would probably be sentenced for just a few

years.

“If Javier hires a top-notch lawyer like Simon to defend her, I’m guessing that she’ll be freed after a mere three to five years.”

Xavier sprung to his feet in anger. “That’s why we have to m that bitch gets punished for multiple charges and is imprisoned long as possible!” he exclaimed furiously.

“How would that be enough?”

Chapter 944

It was as if Alyssa and Jasper had read each other’s minds. They

both cried out simultaneously, “An eye for an eye. She needs to be sentenced to death!”

“That’s right! The death penalty!” Xavier nodded in agreement. His face was red with anger.

“Heck, I just can’t understand why Mr. Javier fell in love with Sophia! She’s got neither compassion nor beauty. Mr. Beckett Senior is a wise man, yet he has such a foolish son!”

Landon clenched his fists in anger. His eyes were burning with rage.

“What must we do in order for Javier to give up on that bitch. completely?”

“Only if Mr. Javier found out about Sophia’s affair and her bastard.

child.”

Xavier added smoothly, “Reputation is of utmost importance to

someone of a high status, just like Mr. Javier. If he finds out that his partner has been cheating on him, I’m sure that he will no longer be

on her side!

“How much of a sore loser would he be if he were to tolerate such a

thing?”

Alyssa chimed in, “Yeah. She cheated on him, and it wasn’t just once.” She narrowed her charming eyes.

Jasper, Landon, and Xavier were all flabbergasted. Their eyes

widened at the revelation.

“I know of her affair with Ronald. Who else is there?” Jasper asked with his eyes fixed on Alyssa.

“Do you still remember the audio recording that we heard at the police station? The one where Sophia mentions Dr. McAlister?”

Jasper caught a glimpse of a sly look in Alyssa’s eyes. He responded immediately, “He’s the man you planted beside Sophia?”

“You’re smart. I expected no less of you.”

Jasper's face flushed red at her sudden compliment.

"He was one of the students who received financial aid from KS Group. I met him back when I was still in school. He agreed to join our revenge troop as his way of repaying us for the help he received," she explained.

They met... in school?

Jasper was alarmed. He questioned in a low voice, "He's a man? And you knew him before?"

"Are you deaf, Jasper? Would Sophia be having an affair with a woman?" Landon raised his brow. He thought that love really Jasper sound sillier than usual.

Jasper looked upset.

"What happened? You're not jealous, are you?" As a close friend of his, Landon knew Jasper all too well.

He couldn't help but tease him, "Hey, it's fine if you're jealous. He's a doctor and has a steady job. He must have been an excellent student for KS Group to sponsor him.

"I'm guessing that he's quite talented since Sophia was attracted to him. Most cougars like to look for handsome and emotionally dependent young men. Dr. McAlister is most probably younger and more energetic than you."

Jasper exhaled heavily. His eyes glared daggers at Landon's face,

"If Dr. McAlister were to pursue Lyse, she might even consider it. Wouldn't you, Lyse?"

Alyssa smiled shyly as she nodded. "I might."

Jasper's eyes turned red instantly. He was hot under the collar.

Even so, they soon diverted their focus back to the original topic.

“So Madam, was it your plan to have Dr. McAlister seduce Sophia?” Xavier inquired in disbelief.

“That’s not all.” Alyssa waved her slim finger.

“Sophia also has a drug addiction.”

They were floored once again.

“She has been using an illegal drug that’s normally used as a clinical anesthetic. In fact, many powerful people and celebrities also source

similar injections for themselves.

“In the long run, they will often develop a dependency on it. If they are using it in extremely high dosages, they will gradually lose their clarity

of mind.

“They might even lose control over their muscles. They might even become incontinent,” she said with a faint yet dangerous glimmer in her eyes.

She was reminded of everything that Lyla had had to face because of the cruel woman, Sophia. She tightened her fists with tears in her

eyes.

What did she have to do in order to make Sophia feel sorry?

Sophia needed to suffer a million times more than the people she had hurt in the past. Only then could she say that she had paid for her

Chapter 945

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Since Sophia's 200 million dollars were deposited in Randerland Bank, that indicated that the money in that account was dirty money. her corrupt acts.

Her ability to withdraw 200 million dollars as she wished suggested that the sum she had embezzled was astronomical.

It was probably money she reaped from various sources within Beckett Group. Other than that, she must have also used her status

as the chairman's wife to receive bribes.

"Xavier, has Sophia already transferred the money to Jeffrey?" Jasper asked softly, with a glint in his eyes.

"She has."

"Has he withdrawn the money?"

"Not yet. It's such a large sum of money. He would probably need a dump truck to fit all that money. It would be too obvious if he transported the cash. He still needs to make a getaway."

Jasper nodded slightly and said, "Right. Then, you should call the cops right now. Have them freeze Jeffrey's account."

“On it, Mr. Beckett.” Xavier got up to get it done immediately.

Indeed, it would be easier for the police to work on something like freezing someone’s bank account.

“When that bugger is unable to get his money, I suppose he will become desperate and rebel against Sophia.”

Alyssa’s eyes were sharp and bright. She said, “Right now, we should have Jeffrey chased down. Once he’s caught, we’ll have him spill

Landon was sitting with his legs crossed. He chimed in suddenly, “I have news about that man.”

Alyssa and Jasper both exclaimed, “What?”

“If not, why would I come knocking on your door out of the blue? Did you think that I was just dropping by? Even if that were so, I would have brought Lauren with me.”

He placed his left arm over the edge of the couch’s backrest and sat arrogantly like a thug.

“My people found a lead when they were investigating at South Pier. Two fishermen witnessed Jeffrey getting on a cargo ship at midnight. the day before yesterday.

“That cargo ship was set to sail to Tsulu. It looks like he’s planning to smuggle himself out of the country.”

“Tsulu? Is there any possibility that he’s making a detour to a different country along the way?” Alyssa asked as she furrowed her brows slightly. She had a worried expression on her face.

“That’s possible. However, the two countries that they will pass by along the way are small countries in the middle of nowhere. How is he going to spend his 200 million dollars there? Use it to light fire?”

Landon continued, "So I instructed my people to follow him in secret. I even asked them to keep a close watch on the ports of the other countries along the way.

"That said, I also warned them not to alert him. If Jeffrey jumps into the sea or changes his mode of transport to a yacht, a kayak, or anything of the sort, it will be even more challenging for us to capture him.

"Don't worry. Even if the cops are unable to arrest him because he's

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Smuggling contraband was no challenge for Harper Group. After all, that was how they had built their company in the first place.

"Jonah has some connections in Tsulu. I'll reach out to him shortly. Then, both of you can work together to capture Jeffrey."

Alyssa was pumped. She almost wished that she could be the one who caught him with her own hands,

Landon grinned and replied, "It would be fantastic if Jonah could lend me some help!"

Jasper shot him a fierce look. He glared coldly at Landon's cheeky

face.

When did he learn how to pull such an idiotic expression? Who was he trying to flatter?

Having received such good news from Jasper and Landon, Alyssa was beaming from ear to ear.

Of course, she was a good host. Hence, she went to the bar to make them something to drink.

While Alyssa was away, Landon seized the opportunity to scoot over to Jasper's side.

"Are you feeling cold?" Jasper asked

"Hmm? I'm not," Landon answered.

"Keep your distance, then. I don't like the scent of your cologne."

"Tsk, why are you so demanding? Who cares if you like it or not? As long as Lauren likes it, that's all that matters!" While Landon said that, he scrutinized every single detail on Jasper's face.

Then, he spotted a red smudge hidden on the collar of his shirt.

Landon squinted slightly, then lowered his voice and asked, "Jasper, last night, did both of you... do it?"

Jasper's long lashes quivered, and his pupils wavered slightly. "How did you know?"

As much as he was trying to refrain himself, his lips still curled up slightly, signaling his satisfaction, as if he just had a gratifying meal.

"Shit, you pretty much have the word 'predator' written on your face! Do you know how greasy you looked just now? I lost my appetite just looking at you!" Landon couldn't help but tease him.

Chapter 946

Jasper looked Landon in the eye and whispered, "What's wrong with that? Can't my future wife and I enjoy each other's company?"

"We are all adults. There's nothing wrong if you're both consenting. But... did you use protection?"

"Protection?" Jasper was slightly taken aback.

It a man-to-man talk, so Landon wasn't afraid to be direct. He

was

shy

asked, "Did you use a condom? How about when you did it the

previous time?"

From the outside, Jasper may look like he was invincible and

unyielding. However, his only experience at sex was with Alyssa. He was pretty much a blank slate.

The previous time...

Jasper answered honestly, "I didn't. You know how I was the last time. How would I even remember that?"

"How about this time?"

"... I pulled out."

“There’s no use pulling out if your sperm is very active. There is still a high chance that you could get her pregnant.’

Landon put his arm around Jasper’s shoulders and let out a long sigh.

“It’s better if you use a condom next time, Jasper. Your relationship has just begun to progress. You should be careful,” he urged.

“If you truly care for her, don’t knock her up before marriage. She’s Winston’s precious daughter and someone who is loved by many.

You should cherish her.

112

“When all is said and done, if people were to hear that she became pregnant before marriage and, what’s more, with her ex-husband, it really won’t sound great. The most important thing for a woman is her reputation.”

“Landon,” Jasper said. He turned his sincere gaze toward him slowly. His eyes looked deep and soulful.

He continued carefully, “If Lyse were to become pregnant with my child, do you think that I wouldn’t take up the responsibility?”

“She’s the only person I want to be with. Regardless of whether she’s willing to marry me or not, she is mine. She’s my woman.

“If I get her pregnant, I will go to the Taylors to ask for their blessing. I will have a grand wedding. I must fulfill all her wishes and give her everything that I wasn’t able to give her last time.”

“Oh my, you’re really getting ahead of yourself. You don’t even know if Lyse is willing to marry you again.”

Since they were on the topic of pregnancy, Landon rambled on, “After Lauren and I get married in the future, I plan to have five children. How many children do you and Lyse plan on having, Jasper?”

“If you both join hands, you could probably purchase an entire country. Do you plan to have seven to eight kids to be your heirs, just like Winston did?”

Jasper responded, “I have no objections if that’s what Lyse wants.” His eyes lit up with passion. He looked like he was full of hope for the future.

“Do you like children? As for me, I love them. I even dream about having kids.”

In Landon’s head, he visualized him and Lauren taking their children to the amusement park to play. He was so happy that he couldn’t

awp

Jasper closed his eyes. He pictured Alyssa’s shy smile, and his heart fluttered.

“Yes, I do. I’d like to have kids too.”

But he only wanted to have children with Alyssa.

While both of them were chattering away excitedly, they didn’t notice

Alyssa on the other side of the wall. She was carrying a tray with trembling hands.

She had heard every single word of their conversation.

She liked children too...

Why wouldn't she? She had even dreamt of bearing children for Jasper.

Sadly, if he were to bet his future on her, his dream of ha

would never come true.

Her eyes were swollen and red. She took a deep breath as she slumped slowly to the floor with her back against the wall.

In fact, it made no difference for her whether he had used protection

or not.

Ever since she'd had that miscarriage, she had become barren. She could never have her own children in the future.

Soon enough, Jonah heard the news about Alyssa taking Jasper home to spend the night.

Chapter 947

Jonah was truly worried for Alyssa on behalf of Winston. Initially, he had wanted to rush over to confront Jasper. He wanted to beat Jasper up for having hurt Alyssa so badly in the past.

To his surprise, Axel held him back from doing so..

"Forget it, Jonah. What's the use of rushing over there now? They've already spent the night together. They're no longer children. Whatever is going to happen, will happen. Will you even be able to stop them?"

“What do you mean?” Jonah looked at Axel in shock. “Are you in favor of them being together?”

“At the very least, I’m not supportive of Lyse and Jameson being a couple,” Axel answered bluntly.

Jonah shook his head and replied in a dejected voice, “Even so, you are just letting Lyse choose the lesser evil. Neither Jasper nor Jameson are a good match for her.”

“But Jasper’s feelings for her are sincere. It’s true that he has done a lot of bad things in the past, but he has repented. He has also compensated her with his life time and time again. He has been trying to make it up to her for all the hurt that he has caused her.

“On the other hand, I haven’t come in contact with Jameson much.

But I can still tell that his feelings for Lyse aren’t that simple. He must have some other ulterior motive.

“Besides, Winston used to be indifferent toward him, but his attitude toward him completely changed recently. Can you be sure that he isn’t plotting anything against Winston in the dark?”

Although Axel seldom intervened in family matters, he wasn’t going to

714

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happiness.

Jonah creased his brows tightly, lost in deep thought.

Axel usually acted like an unreliable person. But he did have some wisdom to share during key moments like this.

“I did have my suspicions, similar to what you mentioned. I’d looked into it before.

“On the night when Dad and his wives got back to the country, he

arrived at the hospital with Jameson. But Dad was the only one who went upstairs. Jameson didn’t, and it was seemingly to avoid

arousing suspicion.

Not only that, that was the day when Dad told me that he wanted to have a marriage alliance with Schmidt Group by matchmaking Lyse and Jameson. Silas and I objected strongly to the idea

THIm not sure what came over Dad, but he had his mind.

ththis.”

“No! I don’t agree with this marriage!”

ime.

Avexel wrinkled his brows into a frown. In his anger, he squeezed his hand so hard that he broke the glass in his hand.

JoJonah blinked and flinched back, afraid of being hit by the bits of glass.

WW/stston dares to have Lyse marry that Schmidt, not only will I take Jajaesson's life, I will also make sure that he dies childless!"

Nomarahtiano100ment, the door to the study opened.

Joitaran and Axel jumped. Julien barged in brazenly while carrying a

travay.

Welrereavaving acconversation here, Mr. Lovelace. Shouldn't you have

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Rather than being enraged, he looked more like he was helpless.

"Do I look like I've got any hands free?"

Julien glared at them through narrowed eyes. He stormed over and placed the tray on the tea table.

He argued back coldly, "I even had to push the door open with my bottom. If you think that I don't have any manners, shall I go back out. and knock on the door, Jonah?"

Axel whipped a cigarette out and put it in the corner of his mouth. He observed Julien with a playful gaze.

How could he best describe that feeling?

Based on the way that Julien was squabbling with Jonah, why did it feel like a woman flirting with her lover?

Also, his butt was quite perky, even compared to most women, let alone men.

“Do you need anything?” Jonah lowered his eyes again and asked in a nonchalant voice.

“Aunt Mandy made this chicken soup. She asked me to bring it to both of you so that you can nourish your bodies,” Julien explained while acting submissive. He was doing so intentionally to irritate

Jonah.

“I don’t like to drink soup. Please bring me some canned beer instead.. I want chilled ones,” Axel demanded as he rested his long legs on the

side of the coffee table.

Then, he jiggled the cigarette between his lips and instructed, “Do you have a light? Light it up for me.”

“You... you’re going overboard!” Julien was so enraged that his fair

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would so tough tasty

Chapter 948

Axel pocketed his cigarette. He got up in one swift move and scooped up a bowl in his hand.

He took a sip of the soup and smacked his lips together loudly. "Pfft,

it's too bland."

Julien glared at him. He was this close to flipping the coffee table.

Winston was such a powerful man. His children were all outstanding in their own ways. But had there been some genetic mutation with Axel? Why was he the devil incarnate?

Axel yawned and left the study, leaving Jonah and Julien alone in the

room.

The atmosphere quietened down instantly. A slight tension lingered in

the air.

Jonah didn't lift his head to look at Julien. He paid absolutely no attention to the pretty man who was with him.

Julien, who was usually a Don Juan, soon became flustered in the

face of such callousness.

He could read many people, but he was unable to tell what Jonah was thinking. Was Jonah playing hard to get? Or was he no longer

interested in him after that night?

In recent years, Jonah's eyesight had deteriorated due to over-exerting himself. He would put on contact lenses whenever he went

out.

But when he was at home, he wore a pair of silver-framed glasses

whenever he had to review documents or read.

14

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Right then, Jonah was sitting upright. He retrieved his glasses from their case. His long lashes drooped downward as he put his glasses on slowly.

He had been born with sharp facial features in the first place. This pair of glasses was befitting of his gentlemanly elegance.

They made him look like a noble man from a wealthy family in the olden days who had just come home from studying abroad.

Julien's breath was shallow. His heart was beating fast and hard. He gulped, feeling that his throat had gone dry.

He couldn't help but walk toward Jonah.

Jonah was concentrating on his work when he suddenly felt his chair being turned around. His eyes met Julien's.

Julien's hands were pressing on the edge of the table. He bent his tall body down toward Jonah, closing in on him with his chest.

Jonah turned his handsome face upward. "What are you trying to do, Mr. Lovelace?" he asked while looking at Julien with a deep gaze.

"Jonah, has anyone ever mentioned to you that the way you look with glasses is so damn mesmerizing?"

The corner of his eyes became slightly red, and he became brazen. He lifted his left leg, landed his bent knee on Jonah's thigh, and gave it a gentle rub.

Jonah's brows pulled together slightly as he took a deep breath.

As much as he tried to hold himself back, he found his gaze traveling slowly downward. His eyes became fixed on the sight that was

revealed under Julien's blue silk shirt.

Julien had a fair chest and an alluring, protruding collarbone that drew him in like a magnet.

2743

+25 BONUS

That night, when their lips had interlocked, he had ripped Julien's top to pieces. He had pulled him in from the waist and kissed his lips. wildly, exploring from his neck to his collarbone...

He had been completely wasted, but he could recall that he had been very captivated by Julien's collarbone.

It was because the same spot had been a secret enjoyment that only he and his lover knew about.

They had done it countless times.

“Why are you ignoring me, Jonah?”

Julien wrapped his arms around Jonah’s neck. The expression on his feminine and pretty face was coupled with an affectionate look in his

eyes.

He truly looked more charming and attractive than a woman.

“You wrapped your arms around me and couldn’t stop kissing me when you’d had too much to drink. Now that you are sober, are you just going to turn your back on me? Are all the men in the Taylor family so heartless?”

“Get off of me,” Jonah said, enunciating each word firmly through his moist lips.

At this moment, he was feeling restless. The memory of that night made him even more agitated. He had also lost the patience that he

had for Julien.

Julien was more used to Jonah being warm. When Jonah became so frigid all of a sudden, a bout of anger rose within him. It made him tighten his arms around Jonah.

“You hypocrite, Jonah. You domineered over me that night. How can

you treat me like this now?”

24

+25 BONUS

“I’m going to count to three.”

“One, two, three. And then?” Julien counted for him instead. His eyes turned red from anger.

Jonah took in one deep breath as he closed his eyes. All of a sudden, he gave Julien one hard push.

“Fuck!”

Fortunately, Julien had quick reflexes. He retreated from Jonah in

time, but still ended up losing his balance from the force.

Chapter 949

With a loud crash, Julien’s back slammed heavily into the bookshelf. Books rained down on him.

One of them even hit him right on the head, making his ears ring from

the pain.

“Oof ... Jonah! What are you doing?”

“I warned you, but you didn’t listen.”

When Jonah noticed that Julien was hurt, he felt a slight tug on his

heart. Yet he reverted to his cold expression immediately.

“It’s one thing that Alyssa asked you for a favor, Julien. But that doesn’t mean that you can do as you please with me.

“Everything that happened that night ended there. If you behave yourself, we can still be relatives. If you insist on being this way, I don’t even know what I will do to you next time.”

Jonah was aware that he had never been a good-tempered person.

Out of all the Taylor siblings, he was potentially the most hostile one.

If this had been ten years ago and a man had been trying to get so close to him, he wouldn’t have hesitated to break the latter’s limbs in

a few swift moves.

Julien clenched his fists tightly. He asked in a trembling voice, “Jonah.

So you’re going to just deny everything that you did to me that night?

“We embraced and kissed. And then? What else did we do?” Jonah

responded as he swiveled his leather chair toward Julien slowly.

He removed his glasses and voiced out coldly but with restraint,

Lveryummy cheen. Autuny, you unul de men wur

everything that happened that night. If you hadn't taken the initiative, nothing would've happened."

"But you could have rejected me like you did just now. But you didn't, Jonah!" Julien glowered at him angrily, but he still looked stunning.

"Because of that, I know that you fancy me. You have feelings for me. too! Otherwise, based on your personality, you wouldn't have reciprocated even if I were to strip naked and throw myself at you!"

"I have done my research, Julien. You've got a very interesting track record with your relationships over at Mosgravia. I heard that the gay community in Mosgravia is within the palm of your hand. You have slept with countless men."

"Jonah..." Julien was appalled. He felt as if he had been stripped bare

in front of him.

"I have a question for you-did you have feelings for all those men you slept with?"

Julien felt as if his heart were being wrung.

Feelings?

When had he ever truly fancied anyone?

He was just a lonely individual who wanted some company. All his one-night stands were his way of getting through the long nights.

"I'm sure that you already have the answer in your heart.

Coincidentally, how I feel about you is exactly the same as the answer in your heart.”

Jonah’s gaze was frigid. He continued, “We are all grown-ups. Don’t be such a bad sport, Mr. Lovelace.”

A wave of unstoppable pain surged from the bottom of his heart. He

the door.

Following that, they heard Mandy’s voice, asking, “Jonah, Julien, are you both in there? Can I come in?”

Jonah steadied his breath, then walked to the door and opened it.

“Hi, Mandy,” he greeted. In an instant, his facial expression was replaced with one of warmth as he smiled.

“Are you both having a chat? I just heard some noises, like things falling in the study. Is everything okay?” Mandy peered into the study and observed carefully.

“All’s fine, Mandy. Are you looking for me or Julien?” Jonah inquired without a change in his expression.

“I’m mainly here for you.”

Mandy paused, then said in a low voice, “Winston and I will be attending a horse racing event in Solana City next week. The event is related to a big collaboration project, so it’s very important.”

Then, she quickly added, “It isn’t a must for me to attend. I’ve also asked Winston to take Lyla and Colene along. However, Beckett Group will be attending, and I’m sure that Sophia will be there too.

“Lyla definitely won’t be willing to go. As for Colene, she would be interested in the horse race itself, but I’m afraid that the media will

start making up stories if all of us end up going.”

“I get you, Mandy. You don’t have to elaborate further. You’re the one. who accompanied Dad to some of these major events all these years.

“It’s because of your reliable and amiable personality. That’s why Dad can be at ease knowing that he has you by his side.” Jonah shared in an understanding manner.

3:4

“Winston also mentioned that other than Beckett Group, people from Harper Group and Schmidt Group will be there too,” Mandy said.

Jonah’s face turned glum. He answered, “Got it. I’ll ask Lyse to steer

clear.”

Mandy let out a troubled sigh. “I had that thought too, and I’ve told Winston the same. But he insists on Lyse attending. Not going isn’t. an option. He said that he has something important to say then.”

“Something important?” Jonah raised his brows.

“I’ve tried probing, but he wouldn’t tell me.”

Chapter 950

Mandy couldn't stop worrying. She said, "Jonah, you must come with us. No matter what happens, we have to do everything we can to protect Lyse. We can't let her be harassed by anyone!"

"Of course. Thank you for letting me know, Mandy."

After Jonah left the study, Mandy entered the room.

"What happened earlier, Julien? Did you and Jonah have an argument?"

Julien bent down to pick up the books that had fallen onto the floor, one by one. He had his back against Mandy.

"No, we didn't. It was nothing," he said in a dejected voice.

"Don't lie to me. I could hear all the commotion from outside. I just wasn't able to hear what you were both talking about."

Mandy looked at him angrily and criticized him. "Jonah is such a well-tempered person. I have never seen him get mad throughout all these years.

"You have just been here for a few days, yet you've irritated him like that? I'm certain that you're the one at fault!"

Julien became flustered by her words. "How is it my fault? Jonah's the one who has done me wrong!" he cried out.

"Julien! Stop talking nonsense! You were out roaming free for a few years, with no one to keep a rein on you. You're becoming more and more insane!"

"You're the one who has to live with the Taylors in the long run. Of course, you have to build a good relationship with them. But I can leave at any time. So I don't have to suck up to them!" Julien argued.

He realized the severity of his words right after he said them. Yet, it was too late for him to take his words back.

Mandy's expression became dark. She felt a wave of anguish wash over her.

All of a sudden, the air around them became silent.

Julien pressed his lips together in embarrassment.

He was about to speak up to ease up the tension when Mandy said softly, "I'm sorry, Julien. I know that I've embarrassed you and the Lovelace family. I will forever be the black sheep in that family."

"That's not it, Aunt Mandy. That's not what I meant. I ..."

"I know that I'm not worthy of being your aunt, let alone keeping you in check. I'm overjoyed that you were able to come back this time. In the future, take good care of yourself."

With that, Mandy left with her head hung low and a heavy heart.

"Aunt Mandy!"

The feeling of guilt in Julien's heart increased. He was about to go after her when something on the bookshelf caught his eye.

To his surprise, the bookshelf that had been emptied because of the books that had fallen had a hidden compartment.

If the books had been in their usual place on the shelf, no one would have spotted it.

Julien was taken aback. He reached in and gave it a tap. It sounded hollow!

He pursed his lips as a strong sense of curiosity came over him.

...

Jasper noticed that Alyssa hadn't come out of the room since Landon and Xavier left.

When it was time to eat, she was unwilling to come out to talk to him, no matter how much he knocked on her door.

She only said that she wasn't feeling well and that she didn't have any appetite.

Jasper was perplexed. He couldn't figure out what had happened to her. She had been acting normal in the morning, so why was she suddenly acting like this?

He stood at the door while he tried to recall if he had made any mistakes.

He hadn't. He hadn't done anything at all.

Right when he was at his wit's end, the doorbell rang.

At the same time, Alyssa opened the door to the room.

She walked out of the room wearing a peach nightgown. She bumped hard into him by accident. Her head hurt from bumping right into his strong muscles.

Alyssa massaged her forehead gently. "Ouch ... Why are you standing at the door like a goalkeeper? It's such a relaxing afternoon. Don't you want to take a nap?" she asked stiffly.

Jasper caught her with both hands. His palms were sweaty, and he looked into her deep eyes.

He explained, "I was worried about you, so I've just been waiting at the door."

Then, he lifted his hand to touch her forehead. He commented, "You're not having a fever. That's good. Are you feeling unwell in any other way?"

"I'm fine," she replied.