The Marvelous Elijah's Return Chapter 144-147

It hurt

The sight of Jessica made Elijah frown slightly, but when their eyes locked, he immediately turned his focus back on Sen. Butcher who was now shaking hands with Bryan, "Happy birthday, Mr. Butcher. It's always my pleasure getting an invitation to your birthday celebrations each year." Bryan said with a faint grin as he let go of the old man's hand.

Returning a small smile, Mr. Butcher then darted his eyes on Elijah, mumbling, "Not a lady tonight... you have upgraded your plus one to someone way more intriguing." "Happy birthday Congressman Butcher. It's my honor to be here to celebrate your big sixty..." Elijah humbly replied, but the look in his eyes was still piercing even though he tried not to show it

His gaze softened slightly when he saw the calm smile Mr. Butcher had sent him which was enough to put Elijah's heart at ease and to make him grin at the old man. "Isabella, come here, please." Mr. Butcher instructed, looking back at a young beauty, pointing to the young woman standing next to Jessica. When Isabella moved beside her father, he smiled proudly at her and then said, "This is the apple of my eye..." Looking back at Jessica, he signaled her to come to the front and then added, "And her best friend... I am sure you guys have met... Well, you were married to her friend... Melina. So, I am right, right?" "We have," Elijah said, only focusing on the old man. With a wild smile, Jessica extended her hand as she whispered seductively, "Hello, Mr. Darius... I must say, I am in love with your suit." . Sizing her with his eyes, Elijah's face remained numbed with emotion as he said coldly, "My wife has good taste in clothes."

For a moment, Jessica looked taken aback by his words. However, she quickly recovered from it, but her remark left a weird atmosphere among them.

"I would have been shocked and a bit enraged to see you at my party, and Bryan bringing you here would have been an insult to me if I wasn't aware of the sudden headway you are making in the business world... How did you do it?" Sen. Butcher asked, looking at Elijah with his shrewd eyes. 1

"How did I do what?" Elijah asked in an unamused tone, knowing the insult within Mr. Butcher's words.

The old man could see in Elijah's eyes, boldness instead of fear, and he wasn't sure if it was arrogance or pure confidence that fueled those qualities.

"Let's face it, you were like a doormat to the Hayes family more than their son-in-law, and all of sudden, you are making millions of dollars investment in huge companies that should have gone bankrupt and breathing life into them, while claiming the highest share among all the shareholders and earning twice as much. You were supposed to be a deadbeat lowlife, so how you managed to pull such a feat is beyond my knowledge," Sen. Butcher spoke slowly and calmly.

As he finished talking, his hard gaze fell on Elijah, but he didn't flinch under his scrutiny, and he knew that this man was not easily intimidated.

"How's that thing that is going on between the Supreme Court and you coming on?" Elijah asked, feeling glad that he had Rookie investigate the congressman today just so he could have a smooth conversation with him.

But after the Senator's cocky remark, tonight seemed to have taken a different turn, and it was only fair that he got revenge for the earlier insult's he threw at him. A nervous look settled on the Senator's features as he opened his mouth to speak, but Dylan appeared, beaming at Mr. Butcher.

"Can I steal you for a second, birthday boy!" Dylan exclaimed excitedly, but his smile quickly faded because of the tension between Senator Butcher and Elijah.

"Sure..." He finally replied, turning toward Dylan and giving him a cold glance.

After Mr. Butcher had left with Mr. Dylan, Isabella scowled at Elijah, crossing her arms and uttering in a low, disgusted tone, "Who do you think you are questioning my father over such matters?!"

"Your father had no business addressing me with such disrespect." Elijah calmly responded.
In fear, Bryan grabbed Elijah's arm and pulled him back to a safe distance before mumbling," What are you doing? These are the guys we need on our side."
"The four that sit at the table with Butcher, are they his equal, or his yes-men?" Elijah casually asked, his eyes steady on Check's own.
Silence took over as Bryan realized what Elijah was trying to say, and he knew that he was right about it as he listened to Elijah continued, "People don't respect those they can easily intimidate, and if I want to establish dominance that matches the five energy, I can not stick my tail between my ass if they bark at me."
Speechless, Bryan was just there, not knowing if this was the right approach, and then he mumbled, "What the heck I have been kissing up to these old geese for years and accomplished nothing, maybe it's time for some changes."
"Drinks, sir?" A waiter suddenly appeared out of nowhere asking. But Elijah shook his head as he eyed Jessica and Isabella glaring at him, and he knew not to drink or eat anything tonight for his safety. 2 "I will take two," Bryan said, still a bit frustrated.
After taking the first two glasses, he took a third, and Elijah looked at him slightly worried," Don't drink the entire tray I will be back need to use the restroom." Once he had patted Bryan on the back, Elijah

walked off with Dice, and Jessica's eyes followed him for a second before she mumbled to her friend,

foro cho mumbled to her friend "Excuse me sa"

The quietness in the bathroom was smoothing as Elijah stood before the mirror, a while later, and the sound of the water running from the faucet was the only thing heard in the room, and he closed his eyes as he thought back on Peach. "Is she asleep?" Elijah mumbled, drowning in the peace that being away from the noise of the crowd had brought him.

Suddenly, the sound of the door opening made him open his eyes, turning off the faucet and then hastily drying his hand on a paper towel only to freeze for a while when he suddenly heard the door lock.

"Excuse me," Elijah raised his gaze to stare at the janitor, only to recognize the face underneath the face cap, mumbling. "Jessica."

Taking a sip of his wine, Mr. Butcher couldn't get Elijah and his words out of his head, and in frustration, he mumbled, "How did he get wind of something so classified and sealed in the system and on the internet about me?!!!

Suddenly, his gaze rested on a face that he didn't remember putting on his guest list because he didn't want to be a part of their family scandals. "Josh Hayes... I don't recall listing your name for an invite." Mr. Butcher said with a frown when he was a foot away from him.

"Your daughter added me as a last-minute guest, Sir," Josh said with this look of urgency in his expression. "Sir... I just received a text from Jessica that Elijah Darius had locked her in the bathroom and is... umm... forcing himself on her, sexually, preventing her from leaving. She needs your help." "What?" Mr. Butcher mumbled in disbelief. "I tried to help her but he got someone watching the door, and I can't fight that guy." "I don't want such a scandal to ruin my party, so go and tell Tony, my head of security over there to carry five guards with you and him to help Jessica. Take Elijah to a room afterward, and I will deal with him myself." Although this was not the kind of reaction he was expecting from Mr. Butcher, he knew not to go against such a powerful man's warning, so he nodded before walking in a direction, toward Tony's.

"Give me the key, Jessica," Elijah said, not wanting to lash out and turn this into a messy situation that may become a scene, and rumors that would affect his wife would become trending again. With a cocky smile, she pulled down the jumpsuit zip, shoving the key in her bra before putting the clothes hand down, exposing her cleavage, and then whispered, "Come get it?"

"What is this about? Yo	ou and are have	never had an issu	ie like that so w	hy the hell ar	e you doing
something this insane?"	Elijah said, keep	ing his distance a	s he struggled a	gainst his an	ger.

S

"Remember The Neon Green Bar incident... that night... you were with your so-called wife... Haha. Remember the embarrassment you and she caused me, huh?!" Jessica let out, pulling down the other hand, snarling when Elijah looked the other way from her breasts. "What? You don't like what you see... Or are you tempted by them... Huh? How faithful can you strive to be in the sight of a hot, naked woman that is not Peach, Mr. Darius?"

"We didn't embarrass you. You did it to yourself by doing dumb shit like this. Now, take off the key and give it to me."

"If you want the key so badly, be a good boy and come get it."

The anger rising in Elijah only seemed to grow as he glanced over at Jessica, seeing her

looking at him with a seductive grin on her face as she tried getting her foot out of the jumpsuit, and he sighed, knowing it was his only choice and decided to shout for Dice help, only to halt when he heard footsteps rushing to the bathroom. "This way! He is holding her hostage in this bathroom!" Ethan recognized Josh's voice echoing closed by. 5 Then his mouth parted open and his bottom lip hung loose when Jessica suddenly screamed in tears, "Elijah... Stop it! You are hurting me... Please... I am begging you to stop! I don't want you to hurt me! Please!!... Don't touch me there... No... Not there! It hurt!" "What the fuck," Elijah calmly whispered in disbelief, literally standing Eight feet, away from her.

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Damage his phone

Even though Dice was confused as to why there was a bunch of men coming toward him and a lady shouting in the bathroom when it should only be Elijali and the janitor, he stood his ground, ready to defend. "What is going on?" Dice firmly asked, glaring at Tony, the five men, and Josh rushing toward him with a deadly aura surrounding them. "Step aside!" Tony shouted, puffing his chest as he stopped in front of Dicc. "What do you guys want?" "Move!!"

Suddenly they heard Jessica screaming from within, her voice shaky, "Elijah, I am begging you... You are hurting me!"

Aster overhearing the conversation outside, Elijah (rowned slightly as he reached into his coat pocket with a sigh, and took out his phone, holding it against the left side of his chest, directing it casually at Jessica, who was too busy playing her role to see that he was recording her.

Eyeing the two guys on his right, Tony winked at them as a signal, making both men rush for Dice, causing him to step back from the door and stand his ground a few distances away.

The two rushed for him with the intent to put him in a choke hold, but Dice blocked their arms by grabbing onto their sleeves before twisting, and punching one hard in his jaw. The other quickly jumped forward to kick him in the ribs but Dice caught his foot and twisted, causing the man to stumble backward into his partner who was trying desperately to get out of the way.

"Please, Elijah, stop!" Jessica's voice echoed out and Josh rushed for the door, hitting it as he twisted the door knob aggressively, shouting, "Get your hands off her, you bastard."

Seeing how chaotic everything has become with his five men attacking Dice, trying to restrain him, and Josh beating the door historically, Tony took out his phone and called Mr. Butcher.

It took a moment for Mr. Butcher to answer, but when he did, he sounded angry, "Have you gotten Elijah yet?"

"No, boss. The situation is way more severe, boss, and lias escalated. You might want to get authorities involved and the ambulance... She sounds like he's hurting her badly. She might need to seek irealent."

"Break the door down. I am calling Bamford." Mr. Butcher hung up, and Tony sighed, seeing that his five men were still struggling to detain Dice, even though they had him in their grips now, and yet they weren't able to subdue lim. "I need more manpower..." Tony growled under his breath, focusing back on his phone screen After taking off her jumpsuit, Jessica absentininctly lossed it aside, avoiding looking at Elijah because a slight sense of embarrassment was cating at her conscience, and then she reached into her bag, screaming, "Slop ripping my clothes, Elijalı." When she finally pulled out a shredded dress, wearing it, Elijallait lis flash icon, and the light

hit Jessica's face, making her blink from its brightness before her vision cleared, and then she finally saw his black phone back that had three cameras on it directed at lier. "What the hell are you doing?" Jessica whispered, realizing that she didn't think far ahead in her plan. "Put it away."

His eyes looked so bored as Elijah noticed the nervous look on her face, her eyes darting everywhere except directly into his.

"No, please continue the show," Elijah

said in a monotone voice. "Your acting is just priceless... Knowing who your father is, how much do you think a news platform will be willing to pay to get their hands on this video?

Huh?"

Fear crept over Jessica's features, seeing in Elijah's eyes no soul as he talked to lier, and she knew she had to save herself from his wrath by giving him a better enemy to release his anger

1.01.

"As you said, you and I have never had an issue... The truth is..." Jessica hesitated, looking around al the door.

When she looked back at Elijahi, he seemed not to give a damn what she was about to say, and his eyes were so dull that she didn't know if he would actually buy whatever lie she was about to tell him.

"Can you stop recording first?" Jessica looked down at her feet, fidgeting nervously.

When Elijah didn't respond immediately, Jessica continued, looking back at liim, "Josh threatened me to
do this He said that if I didn't cooperate he would hurt me lle pressure me into doing this. He said
that you ruined his marriage, so I should help him destroy yours."

- "Him," Elijalı mumbled in an unamused tone.

Suddenly, a loud "boom" noise echoed from the door, making the two look at the door as it shook under the force of Tony and the others banging into it with an iron. "Please, Elijalı, delete the video," Jessica begged, striving to sound weak and scared while also trying not to show her hate for him on her face.

Ignoring her, Elijah's focus remained on the door, keeping his distance from it as it rattled forcefully, and desperate, Jessica tried to make a quick run for him, seeing that his phone was still loosely in his grip. But as she rushed for Elijah, the door slew open smacking her liard in the face, breaking her nose and jaw, and sending her back with force against the concrete wall, causing her to groan in pain as blood poured from the back of hier head.

Shocked, Elijah stood still, glad that his phone was still recording and had captured the incident. Then when his gaze rested on Tony and the five men at the open doorway, he quickly saved the video, while ignoring Tony's voice, "Don't try anything funny." "I need you guys here. Things are about to go south. We are upstairs on the second floor, east wing." Elijah texted Larry before quickly shoving his phone into the depths of his trouser pocket.

"You fucking bastard!" Josh screamed, pushing through Tony and his men and rushing into the bathroom for Elijah.

When he got close he struck with a punch, slamming his knuckles into Elijah's jaw so hard that his head shot back from the impact.

The taste of blood on his tongue made Elijah's rage hit sky level, and he retaliated, grabbing Josh by the neck before he could strike again, pulling him towards the faucet, and slamming his back into it hard, knocking the wind out of Josh's lungs.

Before he could recover from that hit, Elijah's sist was already up in his face, hitting him straight across the jaw twice...

Finally snapping out of their trance from the shock, Tony and his men rushed for Elijalı, panging up on him, their fists swinging hard for his body, and although Elijah tried to block some of the hil, Tony's blow managed to rip the skin of his checkbone, and blood began to flow from the cut, running down his chin and dripping on the marble floor beneath them.

Before they could restrain Elijah, Josh tried to make a comeback, but Elijah's elbow slammed into liis stomachi, causing him to lose his balance, banging his back again into the faucet, a Croan escaping his lips as he slid down to the ground. Finally, they locked Elijah's hands behind his back, and Tony stood in front of him, his eyes dead as he mumbled, "So you want to play rough, then let's dance."

Tiphitening his fisi, Tony's knuckles swung for Elijah's face, meeting his right eye with a vigorous punch, followed by a left hook that broke his lip, and anotlicr punch followed by a right cross

Pulling against his men's restraints, Elijah groaned as they tightened their grip on him, pulling liim back

"Ooohoho, this dog wants to bite! You want to bite me, Puchi. Woot! Bark, bitch, and maybe! will go easy on you!" Tony said sarcastically, smiling devilishly at Elijah before he punched him once more, harder than before in the gut, causing Elijah to spit out more blood as it fell to the ground.

Overhearing the voices in the bathroom, Dice fought against the five men holding him down when he recognized Elijah groaned, but his effort was in vain as each time one of the men pushed him against the wall, his arms locked behind him, causing him to yelp in agony from the sharp pain that traveled throughout his torso

"Where do you want to go, huh?!... want to save your shitty boss?! Trust me, what Tony is doing to him, is nothing compared to the hell Jessica's father will drag his ass in for what he has done to her." One of the men said, squashing Dice's face hard against the wall.

"Tony," A weak whisper made his fist stop midair, and then he turned to look back, his eyes widening to see Jessica a couple of distance away from them, on the wall.
"Oh shit! Oh shit!" Tony cried beneath his breath, knowing that they were the reason she was in thal state.
"G-et me h-is ph-one"
"What did you say, Miss Jessica." "The phone, Tony Elijah's phone Damage il" "You want me to damage Elijah's phone?"
"Yes."
Shrugging his shoulder slightly, Tony looked back at Elijah and then snorted as he said, "You heard the lady."
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Scandal
Struggling against his anger, Elijah drew a deep breath, knowing he had to stall for a moment, and said, "So these two are the ones paying you to do."
"Hahaha! Nah Take a wild guess." Tony mocked, and at that moment, his ringtone interrupted. Slowly, he took out his phone and answered in a pompous tone, "Yes, Sir. We have him, and are detaining him."
Then he pressed the speaker button, letting everyone listen to Mr. Butcher said, "Since that's the case, there's no need to call Bamford then. Detained him in the basement with his man and called Dr. Letlial to take a look at Jessica."

"Umm... She might need to go to the hospital, Sir." Tony nervously mentioned, looking back at Jessica's bloody nostrils. "Tony... Get someone to take her to a damn hospital or something. Today is my birthday, and I wouldn't let such a scandal get tied to my reputation with all that is already happening... I will explain things to her father later, and we can get that piece of shit handled for his insolence. Got it?!"

"Yes, Boss."

The moment he ended the call, the sudden sound of boots hitting the floor at a fast pace echoed into the bathroom, and Tony and his men eyed the open doorway nervously as the sound got closer. Subconsciously, Tony looked at Elijah, noticing the smirk tugged in the corner of his lips and the dead look in his eyes. "Boss!" Rick shouted, noticing Dice being held down by five men, forcefully against the wall. "Help, boss... He's in there!" Dice shouted as three of the men let go of him to face Rick and Larry with the twenty men rushing behind him. Now that there were only two men lie had to deal with, Dice forced his wrist backward, snapping his arm free from the two's hold—downs, and kicked a dude hard in the balls, before he threw his elbow into another guy's face, breaking it instantly. Then he spun around and swung at the first dude, kicking him in the groin so hard again that he doubled over in pain.

As Rick, Larry, and six men were about to step into the bathroom, Tony shouted to three of his men, "Stop them!"

When the three rushed for Ricky and Larry, both men backed away from the doorway, drawing them outside a bit before Larry took the one on the left, grabbing him by his hair, and slamming his face into the door frame.

On the other hand, Rick was able to take the one on the riglit and swing his knee upwards, striking liis temple with the heel of his boot and then turning his foot to drive it downwards into the side of his head.

The third guy felt confused about who to attack first, seeing thiat the other two were down, and before he could decide, Rick and Larry both grabbed hiin by the shirt, pulling him close before meeting his eyes with their fists, hilting him repeatedly in the face with each round.

"Fuck!" Tony cried, reaching into his pocket for his phone. But suddenly, Elijah pulled with all his might, breaking the two men's grip on him, rushing into Tony, and knocking him to the floor.

Without holding back, Elijah's knuckles turned white from how tight his fist was as he swung it into the side of Tony's head and then smashed his knuckles into his throat, making him choke on his blood as he gasped for air. The other two guys tried to hold him back, but Elijah pulled against their hold on his arms, freeing one of his hands and slamming his fist into Tony's throat again, causing him to gag on his blood–filled saliva.

When Elijah broke his other hand free, he grabbed Tony's face and slammed his head into the tile floor.

The other guy got frustrated and suddenly kicked Elijah in his side, hitting his rib before his buddy did the same a bit harder, causing Elijah to drop over Tony's body, luis trembling singers grasping to the tiles. When Larry and Ricky stepped into the bathroom, fear immediately crossed their faces as Ricky cried out, "Boss!"

"Fuck them up," Elijah whispered through gritted teeth.

Without holding back, Larry and Ricky rushed for both men, their fists flying as the two men fought hard, trying to keep themselves from getting hit by their heavy blows, but only to get whacked harder in the face by Rick and Larry, causing them to fall backward. A look of horror glowed in Jessica's eyes when Elijah raised his gaze, meeting hers with a death stare.

Suddenly, using all his strength, Tony's hands reached for Elijah's neck, squeezing his flesh as lightly as possible.

Eyes bulging, Elijah gasped for breath, but he forced himself to endure the suffocating feeling, grabbed Tony's wrists, and pulled on them until they withdrew from his neck, and then yanked his hands towards the ground, crashing his knee into Tony's palm.

"Fuckkk!!" Tony screeched as Elijah slammed his knee into his other wrist. "Get off me you,

fuc-"

The punch that Elijah struck in his face cut the words from Tony's lips as he went unconscious.

Realizing just how messed up Jessica's plan had gotten, Josh tried to sneak out of the bathroom, but before he could take his third step, Elijah grabbed his ankle, yanking him back, and causing him to fall slat on the floor, banging his nose into the marble.

When Josh looked behind to see that it was Elijah, he kicked back with his right foot, hitting his shoe heel into Elijah's forehead, and cutting him on the eyebrow.

But that didn't stop Elijah from tightening his grip on Josh's foot as he stood up, and then dragged him toward him, mumbling, "You piece of shit!" The next moment, Josh spent in agony as Elijah lifted his knee, smashing his foot into the back of Josh's ankle, snapping the bone, while he yell in pain. "All are wanted was a quiet night at this damn celebration, but you Hayes... Nah, you guys are

so full of your own shit that your egos can't let me rest for a night!" Elijah yelled, twisting liis foot on Josh's broken ankle.

The death scream from Josh sent shivers down Jessica's spine, but she kept her slaky gaze glued onto Elijah. When Josh suddenly fainted from the pain, that's when Elijah allowed himself to feel the anguish his body had gone through, and he dropped to the ground, resting his back on the wall, his breathing ragged.

His eyes closed as lears began streaming down his cheeks from his pain, and he rested his head against the cold marble of the wall as he waited for his heartbeat to calin dowti.

"Elijah!" Bryan called out, a bit tipsy from all the wine he had drunk as die strolled in the corridor. "Are you up here?"

Suddenly, he halted in his steps, seeing Tony's men lying on the ground and Dice with the others in the hallway, their eyes stone cold. "What the hell is going on?" Bryan slowly whispered, taking a step back Ignoring his horrified expression, Dice rushed into the bathroom, stopping by Elijah and looking down at him as he asked, "Are you okay, boss?" "Yes," Elijah whispered, opening his eyes, and then he extended his hand to Dice. "Help me

His blazer was stained with blood, and even though Dice was worried from the sight of it, lie pulled Elijah up, listening to him groan in pain. Leaping, Elijah walked over to the mirror, and he could barely recognize his face because of the blood staining his skin.

"Dude!!" Bryan's voice echoed from the doorway, causing Elijah lo look away from his reflection and stare at him. "What happened?"

Silently, Elijah dragged his gaze on Jessica, and then he leaped his way to the door, telling Check, "Let's go." The hall was full of the voices of the elites chit—chatting and laughing as classical music played in the background.

The Senator was surrounded by his rich friends, having casual discussion, yet his lieart was troubled, knowing what was happening upstairs.

Suddenly, the sound of the door busting open brought instant silence lo the room as Elijah bashed in, storining ilieliall with liis men and Bryan by his side.

"Is this how you treat your guests?!... Sending your inen lo beat the life out of me without investigating what happened?" Elijali said in a deadpan lone, meeting the senator's shocked cyes.

The guests were horrified at ihe sight of Elijah's face, and wluispers soon started to break out amongst the crowd.

What he feared the most had suddenly come to pass as more people gathered around in the hall to watchi Elijah and liim, and the senator signed deeply, asking, "Whicre are fessica, Tony, and my other securities?"

Immediately, his daughter scowled, walked over to his side, and glared at Elijah before asking, "What happened to Jessica?"

Another sigh escaped the Senator's lips as he darted his gaze to the right, staring at a silverfox, wearing a three—piece black suit that was glaring at them with concern in his eyes.

"He forced himself on her," Mr.Butcher replied, his lips curling up slightly as he glanced from Elijah to the silverfox and then back again. "That thing did what to my daughter?!" Mr. Astor spat out angrily, glaring daggers at Elijah.

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Allegations

The anger Elijah selt suddenly burst out of his throat in a bitter laugh as he ignored ihe pain it caused him, lis rage fuelling his courage, and then his face went cold as he said, "I did no such thing, and maybe if our Senator would have used liis brain and not his heart—"

Frowning, Isabella raised her hand, swinging it for his face, but Elijah caught it in midair and tossed her hand away froin him carelessly. "How dare you!" Sen. Butcher shouted, moving for Elijah, but Dice, Larry, and Rick stood in his way, Dice mumbling with a death stare, "Fuck off."

Raw shock flooded Mrs. Butcher's Tace, and she turned her attention towards her husband wlio seemed to be lost in his thoughts as he stared frozen at all the men surrounding Elijah.

Scowling, Elijah met the senator's gaze, saying, "All I wanted was to congratulate you on turning sixty and have a nice night, but you had to join in with those two in ollending me—"

"You see yourself as the victim here?!" Isabella lashed out in disbeliel, pissed at the sight of Elijah.

"Wow!!!

"I am, and this nonsense is not going to slide by me!"

The boldness of Elijah had the guests in shock, confused that he would even dare to act this audaciously when such an accusation was being carried out against him.

"Has he lost his mind because he knows the penalty of his crime?" A lady whispered in disgust, rolling her eyes upon hearing his confession.

"Honestly, there is something off about this man... The way his life can not stick to one narrative and constantly shifts is just too mucli... He's a stay—at—home husband, then a cheater, and next, a gold digger... I heard he's ill a gang, then he is suddenly a businessman, hanging out with Bryan Checks, and now he's a rapist?" The other lady mullered with disgust. folding her arms across her chest.

As Mr. Astor was about to give Elijali a picce of his mind, he shut up when he saw Elijali take out his phone, strolling through it for a moment and then resting it against his ear.

"Hello, Mr. Bamford," Elijah said the monient the chief constable accepted his call.

"Mr. Darius, the way you are calling this late, is everything alright?" Mr. Bamford asked, "Not at all. I have been assaulted and nearly killed tonight, and I need you." "Location?!"

"It's 23rd Street, Steel Ava, Blackbird mansion..."

"Wait?... That's the congressman's place. Elijali, what liave you done?"

"I was the one offended, and I can prove it."

There was a brief pause, and the silence dracced on the line for a while, and elijah abruptly sighed, ending the call, and then lie messaged the video to Mr. Bam[ord.

A couple of minutes later, Mr. Bainford called him back and the instant Elijali accepted the call,

he left, "My men and I are on our way." "I will wait on you and your officers then," Elijah said before ending the call. The silence afterward made the party seem more like a funeral service than a celebration of a new age of life.

"You were right... He has gone mad." The other lady whispered back to her friend.

The hall was quiet for a while as everyone watched Elijah like he was some kind of a lunatic and had finally lost his mind. "Where is my daughter?!" Mr. Astor shouled, hesitating to see that Elijah's men were surrounding him. "Tony slammed a door in lier face, and she is in the bathroom, bleeding out on the floor." Elijah casually told the old man. "Oh no..." His wife mullered, covering her mouth as the realization hit her hard.

"You bastard!" Mr. Astor yelled out, his chest swelling up with fury. "What did you do?!"

Frowning, Mrs. Astor slapped her husband's arm crying, "Honey, go and get out daughter first and deal with this lunatic later on."

With an angry nod, the old man looked sideways at his two bodyguards and then walked away with them following him.

Taking his attention of the Senator, Dice looked back at Elijah, frowning at the state he was in, and then he sighed, abandoning his post and walking over to Elijah. Stopping by his side, Dice whispered in his ear, "You need to seek medical attention." "Not until the police get here," Elijah stubbornly murmured. "Boss,"

"Let's not, Dice."

A couple of minutes went by with everyone waiting, and the Senator kept his peace as a sense of dilemina plagued him.

It took fifteen minutes more for the sound of the siren to echo into the hall, and finally, il dawned on everyone that Elijah was being serious.

"Why would he call the police himself if he knows that he's guilty?" Mrs. Butcher whispered to her husband.

Fear swept through Mr. Butcher's face as he wondered the same thing himsell, and then the realization that Josh was the one who reported the incident to him hit him as he remembered the current relationship between Elijah and the Hayes.

Did that scum use me?' Mr. Butcher thought, feeling uneasy inside as reality slowly settled in the air.

Before he could think any more of it, the sound of the hall door opening got everyone's attention, including his.

Calmly, Mr. Bamford walked into the hall with fifteen of bis men, moving to where he saw the Senator, and when he was five feet closer, he halted because of those belween the

congressman and him. "Good evening, Mr. Butcher." The chief constable said, curious as to why everyone seemed so tense. "Happy Birthday to

Pausing as Elijah suddenly turned to face him, Mr. Bamford's brain went blank for a whole minute and then he rushed over to him, causing Elijah's men to step aside, giving way to him. "Who messed you up like this?!" Mr. Bamford blurted out in concern. "The congressman gave the order for his mcn to beat me up," Elijah said in his normal bored tore.

A sense of fear suppressed Mr. Bamford from speaking, knowing the power that the congressman held, and yet, the duty of his badge outweighied his lear and lie looked over at the senator, asking boldly "Such a strong allegation is being placed against you Mr. Butcher. What's your position on this issue, Mr. Butcher?" The feeling of other eyes on him made Mr. Butcher feel uncomfortable as he glanced backat the Chief Constable, and then his ego sparked a bit, making him blurt out, "Elijah forced himself on Jessica Astor. Of course, I had to handle the situation as best as I saw fit!"

"Can we have access to your CCTV footage then, Mr. Butcher?" Mr. Bamford asked calmly. A sense of annoyance awoke in the Senator, but he held it together and simply answered, "of course. Let's head upstairs."

"No, sir. Right now, you are a part of the investigation, and I would need you here with Mr. Darius... If you can just ask someone else to take me there, I will appreciate that."

Those words reduced the Senator's ego, and he frowned slightly but didn't argue any further, saying, "Isabelle, please take the chief constable to the security room." For a moment, Isabella scowled at Elijah before walking off with Mr. Bamford and five officers while the others stayed back in the hall.

For a while, Isabella led the officers quietly upstairs, but when they got to a door, she frowned at Mr. Bamford and said, "That bastard hurt my friend. I want him behind bars before tomorrow."

A faint snort left Mr. Bamford's lips, making her frown as she mumbled, "What's so funny?" "This is the security room, right?" Mr. Bamford questioned, raising an eyebrow. The fact that he just brushed aside her questions made Isabella annoyed, but she too ignored his words, pushing the door open. "Tess, please show these officers the security footage from the upstairs hall on the second floor, east wing," Isabella said, walking into the room and sitting down on a chair beside the desk

Quietly, Mr. Bamford walked close to the screen, displaying the footage which showed the hallway, showing Elijah walking into the bathroom alone, and then a couple of minutes later a janitor walked into the bathroom.

"Where is Jessica?" Isabella asked in consusion.

"Elijah went in there alone." Mr. Bamford mumbled, already knowing that the janitor was Jessica from the video that Elijah sent him. "Can you show the janitor's closet from a couple of

moments before Elijah walked into the bathroon?"

It took a moment, but the footace popped out on the screen, and everyone watched Jessica strip out of her dress, wearing the janitor jumpsul. "She was the janitor... but why would she gotlirough all that to mcet Elijah in a bathroom..." Isabella asked, but no one gave her the answer her soul desired to hear.

"Show the lootage of the hallway after Elijah and Jessica entered the bathroom." Mr. Bamford instructed.

When Tess got it on the screen a while later, they all watched Tony and his men attack Dice, and then Mr. Bamford mumbled, "So, Elijah was not the one that started the fight, he and his men acted in self–defense."

Hearing the chief constable talk about Elijah in a positive light made Isabella worried, and it slowly made sense to lier why he didn't agree to lock Elijah up when she asked him to

"Boss, we need to get you to a hospital." Dice whispered to Elijah again.

"Let's wait a bit longer," Elijah mumbled, hucging his bruised side.

Holding back his tongue, Dice faced his (ront, suppressing his worry as he thought, 'How much longer? You looked messed up.

Ten minutes later, the hall door opened, and Mr Bamford walked into the room with the rest of the officers.

"When he reached Elijah and the Senator, his face went numb as he darted his gaze from Mr. Butcher, looking at Elijah and asked, "Mr. Darius how do you want us to handle the situation?"

"I am pressing charges against everyone involved, including the Senator," Elijah said firmly. His words immediately caused an uproar of whispers from shocked guests, but that didn't stop Mr. Bainford from saying, "Yes, Mr. Darius.'

When the chief constable took out his handcuff, that's when the Senator got really upset, standing up abruptly. "It was Josh Hayes who told me Elijah was forcing himsell on Jessica Astor in the bathroom! That's why... Don't touch me! I am a senator!" Mr. Butcher yelled, trying to make sense of what liad happened as he fought off the chief constable. "Senator or not, there is enough evidence to make this arrest, and you and your men are being charged with assault and battery. You have the right to remain silent or your words can get used against you in a court of law." Mr. Bamford stated calmly, ignoring all the crying from Mrs. Butcher.

After slapping the cuffs on the Senator's wrists, Mr. Bamford looked at his officers and commanded, "Arrest the others."

Some of the guests immediately started recording, others were whispering and pointing their fingers toward them, and yet most people simply stood there silently, watching. "Can we go to the hospital now?" Dice asked, frowning at Elijah as though he had lost his mind. "You are bleeding and look terrible." Before Elijah could reply, Bryan met Elijah's eyes, scowling as he whispered, "This is not a

good decision to arrest a congressman... The four would not take lightly to this. If you think the Hayes are horrible enemies, you don't want to get on these guys' bad side."

Hearing the worry in Bryan's voice, Elijah moved his lips to speak, but his vision suddenly blackout and he dropped back, causing Larry to catch him.