Never Say 494

"I..." Caught off guard, Bainbridge hesitated. He assumed his previous words sufficed as an apology.

Edwin, who had stayed quiet, decided not to intervene. He knew better than to tangle with the formidable Hannah.

"I'm trying to apologize," Bainbridge finally said.

"Alright. Anything else? If not, I'll be on my way," Hannah retorted.

Frustrated with her lackluster response, Bainbridge snapped, "Our family has accepted you. What more do you want? We owe you nothing!"

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"And I owe nothing to your family," Hannah shot back, staring him icily.

"The true history is known only to my mother and those involved. What proof do you have for the rumors you've heard? I've refrained from contacting my attorney, sparing all of you some embarrassment. If something like this happens again, don't think your status as a member of the White family will protect you."

As Mary pulled up in her car, Hannah climbed in. Edwin and Bainbridge could only stand there, watching the vehicle pull away.

"What a lack of manners!" Bainbridge couldn't restrain himself from criticizing.

Edwin's brows furrowed. For reasons he couldn't explain, Bainbridge's words stirred up a sense of indignation on Hannah's behalf.

"If it were Johanna falsely accused of giving a counterfeit gift, would you have just let the culprit off with an apology? Furthermore, at a gathering with so many people, you didn't even defend Hannah, but assumed her gift was fake like everyone else. If I were her, I wouldn't treat you kindly either."

Bainbridge squinted at Edwin.

"Have you lost your mind? Why are you suddenly taking her side?"

"I'm not taking her side," Edwin said, deflecting any attempts to bait him.

"I simply align myself with what's right."

Bainbridge scoffed disdainfully, "Ah, so you're defending her because she has control of your finances now?"

"If I wanted money, I wouldn't need her to get it," Edwin countered with a sneer.

"She's got more courage than you do. If you can't even admit your own wrongs, what grounds do you have to judge me?"

"You!"

"Listen..." Bainbridge started, but Edwin interrupted him by heading into Quin Bar.

"I'm done talking to you."

Upon Edwin's reentry into the birthday party, Johanna immediately approached him.

"Is Hannah really upset with me?"

"I couldn't say," Edwin replied nonchalantly, continuing his walk inside.