

## Rewriting Life Chapter 151 – 160

### Chapter 151

The beam from the flashlight landed squarely on Wendy, using the servant to juggle back in front

Wendy lay crumpled at the bottom of the staircase, having tumbled down moments earlier. Her head had struck the stanchion, leaving her dazed and disoriented. Her disheveled hair partially covered her face, making her look like a ghost

“**Mix**... Mox Hall” What are you doing here?” the servant asked tentatively.

Wendy groaned as she struggled to stand, chipping her hips with one hand and rubbing her heel with the other. “I.. I was trying to find the bathroom **she** numbed

The servant squinted at her, incredulous. “Did you just fall down the stairs The Bathroom” she asked over her. Are you sure you’re okay, Miss Hall”

A sudden sharp screech, interrupted them. On the upstairs railing perched Zeus, ruffled its feathers **as** its piercing gaze locked on Wendy.

Wendy turned toward the eagle on the second floor. “I see, I thought the bathroom was upstairs, she explained quickly. “Why is there an eagle

here

“That’s Mr

Wright’s friend the servant replied.

Cameron had switched rooms with Owen earlier that night. Zeus, sensing something unusual, had left the room and perched outside, just in time to catch Wendy speaking upstairs,

Wendy got a large bump on her forehead, her frustration simmering. “Tonight’s plans had been completely derailed. With the commotion attracting the attention of the servant, there was no chance she’ll make it upstairs again. ‘Till I get back to my room. “she muttered.

The servant watched her retreat with a skeptical frown but said nothing

Eliana walked quietly out of a nearby room. Standing behind Zeus, her expression icy as she watched

Wendy limping back to her room. Thana’s suspicion had been spot on. **Wendy** had indeed planned to sneak upstairs tonight.

However, a string of coincidences thwarted Wendy— Eliana stopped Owen from drinking water, and Cameron switched rooms with Chern. Had any of those factors been different, Wealy's plans might have snevreded

Around 3am.

The bathroom door creaked open, **and** Casseron emerged, shressed in a robe. His slightly tousled hair dripped with water at the tips, his posture vpright and commanding. The loose neckline of his robe revealed a glimpse of his collabours and the sharply defined contours of las mascles. Walking into the dina room, his shadow stretched across the floor under the bathiresun light.

Eliana had been sitting on the chair earlier, but the hard seat had started to hart her burt. She decided to lie down on the bed instead, playing with her phone. Soon, she dored off, sprawled out on the bed.

Cameron glanced at her odd sleeping position. He covered her with the blanket before walking over to the window. The rain was pouring outside, and his expression darkened as he gazed at the stora

“Coo—coo—coo—”  
I was Zeus. Eliams had brought it into the room and seas perched on a metal stand on the desk

Cameron raised his **hand** gently, and Zeus flew over to settle on his shoulder. Together, they silently watched the rain outside the window.

Eliana woke up just before noon. Cameron had already left the room by then. She had stayed up late the night before, **and** since no one disturbed her, she slept until her body felt fully rested.

Not many people knew what had happened the previous night, but one thing was certain, Eliana had ended up sleeping in Owen's room, which quickly became the topic **of** gossip.

**Owen** was a bit confused. I swapped rooms with Cameron last night, so how did Eliana end up in minet Where did Cameron sleep then be wondered

A **servant** reported. “Mr. Wright stayed downstairs reading and didn't sleep at all”

Owen's suspicion grew, and he sensed there were hidden motives at play last night. So on after, he got another piece of information from the servant **that** Wendy had fallen down the stairs while going to the bathroom last night

Owen pieced things together and realized that someone had definitely been up to no good the night before.

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Despite not saying it aloud, his opinion of the Hall siblings immediately plummeted. The next morning, when the rain lessened, he instructed the servants to arrange a ride for them to leave the nose.

For Wendy, her failure was entirely Eliana's fault. If it weren't for Eliana, she believed she would have succeeded. This only deepened the resentment, and Wendy became more determined to defeat Eliana in the upcoming competition after the semester started.

Two days later, the storm subsided, and the **sea was** calm once more. The yacht sent by Hannah finally arrived to take Wendy and Shane back.

The very next day, a massive collapse occurred on Hannah's private island. The **floor** of one of the buildings caved in, and half the structure collapsed, almost as if there had been an earthquake. The incident even made the news.

The day after that, Eliana and the others boarded the **Sunrise, leaving** the island and heading back to Dratora City. Hearing their return, Lucy and Sebastian also rushed back from Bobhara to join their precious daughter and son.

The neo-month summer holiday **was** almost over, with only a few days remaining

**Lucy** had bought plenty of nice things for Eliana during her trip to Bobhana. Among the most expensive was a set of bangle and bracelet. She eagerly handed over the gift box to Eliana.

Opening the exquisite wooden gift box, the jewelry inside shimmered with elegance

"Wow! It's beautiful, shining like **crystal**," Eliana exclaimed.

Lucy beamed with pride. "I'm so glad you like it, darling." Then she turned to Sebastian "See, I knew she would love it

Sebastian smiled indulgently "Alright, **as long as** you two like it"

Lucy insisted that Eliana try them on. The bangle fit her slender wrist perfectly, almost **as if** it were custom-made for her. The bracelet was even **easier** to wear, slipping on and off effortlessly

"Thank you. Mom."

Owen, who had been sitting nearby, suddenly spoke, his voice slightly disappointed. "Mom, Didn't you get anything for me?"

Lucy was so happy mome  
moments ago.

but

“Sure. Mrs. Davis,”

momentarily dellated hearing Owen’s words. She turned to the servant. “Bring me that b  
ooklet from my bag”

Owen thought his mother had something special for him. The servant soon retumed wit  
h the booklet, which Lucy handed to him,

Excited, Owen opened it, only to find a nearly written list of about ten young ladies nam  
es, addresses, phone numbers, hobbies, and photos. All of them were local girls studyin  
g abroad. Seeing this, Owen’s face fell instantly.

“These were all carefully selected for you while I was in Bobhana,” Lucy explained prou  
dly. They are highly accomplished young ladies—  
doctoral students with excellent character and backgrounds. I’ve done my research, and  
everything is written down for **you.**”

Lucy **wasn’t** focused on their family background, what mattered most was their  
character and personality. The booklet contained all well–  
matched ladies with **Owen’s age** and states.

“I went out of my way to it even had to swallow my pride and reach out to my close frien  
ds, asking them to help me gather this list. So you better make the **most** of it! With so m  
any great options, surely one of them will like you”

Owen was left disappointed after all his excitement,  
tossing the bookler onto the sofa. I don’t like any of them

“You don’t like any of them! Owen, don’t push me too far Lucy scolded.

Sebastian chirmed in, “Alright, alright, we **don’t** have to force him. Soon enough, the yo  
ungest daughter of the Palmers will be **back**. Let’s arrange a meeting between the two f  
amilies then.”

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The daughter from the Palmers Owen wondered. On his sharp, refused face, a fleeting,  
almost imperceptible moment of hesitation flashed

Lucy raised an eyebrow. "What? Matilda's comi

akt Cour of the military already!"

ir's been transferred to a desk jodi at the military hase here in Dratona Cary Got injured during

Sebastian corrected her "Not nut, **hist reassignari** her last mission"

Matikla Paloper.... That name sounds familiar, Lacy's mind wandered to a poised and confident woman shril once seen hosting milic Matilda Palmer. Could it be bett

"Mom, who's Matilda

"She's **the** slaughter of one of your dad's old army bullies," Liscy explained. "She joined the army said served for many years. She haunt been lach to Drators City for a long time."

i's **guess** was correct

really was Matilda Palmer she had known.

Mersioning, Matildes name made Sebastian's eyes soften with respect. "Eliana, she's like your big sister. She's **and was like** family to us growing up?

Sebastian had his rebellious streak in his youth, mo, Instead of following a pres military connections grew, and many of his former comtades now held.

The Palmers were a military family, and Matika had her original plan had been for her to take a safe desk job, but live long years, and now she was back.

some age as pour lanther

he enlisted in the army for two years. Over time, his. Blous. They gathered animally foremmiser,

i military academy for college. As she was the only daughter in the family, the rad, she voted for an assignment on the border. That assignment stretched into

Elana smiles shyly. "So, Marilla and Owen grew up together? Chile and sweethearts, maybe

At that,

1, Owen's expression darkened, and he **stood** slowly from the couch. "The upstairs," he said calmly, leaving the room.

Eliana watched him go, her curiosity piqued, something was definitely going

Looking at the bracelet and the bangle on her wrist, Eliana fiddled with them. "Mom, I think I'm not wearing this bracelet. It's too fragile. I'll stick with the bangle instead."

The bracelet was **so** expensive that it would just be kept safely tucked away, mainly as an investment for the future. No one would wear something that precious on a daily basis

— only for special occasions. However, the bangle was elegant, it was practical for every day wear, with no worries about it getting damaged.

Lucy nodded. "Of course, darling. It's yours to decide. Just keep what makes you happy?"

"Sure

Eliana had heard of Matilda before. Back in her previous life, after Eliana graduated, she worked as a stand-in and sometimes caught glimpses of Marilla on the news.

Matilda was the go-to anchor for the military channel, always speaking confidently and with authority:

With her short hair and sharp features, she had the kind of presence that stood out. In Eliana's mind, Matilda was the epitome of a strong, no-nonsense woman, radiating a sense of natural integrity. It was clear that to reach such a position, Matilda's skills and experience had to be impressive.

But Eliana never really paid attention to Matilda in her past life. It wasn't until today, when her parents mentioned the Palmers, that she connected the dots. She didn't know much about Matilda, but something told her Matilda was the type of woman who had a strong character.

After all, as the prime of her youth, Matilda chose to give up a comfortable life to head to the border and stay there for five or six years, and only those who had experienced it truly understood what that meant.

A few days later, Eliana went to Sunset Cafe.

Lately, Stella had been working part-time at the cafe, getting along well with Lily and her husband

Eliana arrived around 1 pm. Stella had just woken up from a nap and was yawning behind the counter,

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Hello! What can I get for you? The men's right up there. "

Stella's gaze shifted from the sorrento Elians, and fire presionady calm expression named in one full of energy. "Buana" "You're back!"

Elama smiled and pulled a gift box from her bag to Mella. "I bought you something" It was a set of traditional accessories Miana had picked up during her trip. The jewelry, with its rilanc design, was full of memories.

was your trip? Tell me

Stella eagerly cut from behind the counter. "I thought you weren't coming back and the end of the month! How was y everything" she graded

Lily, hearing the commotion, peeked out from behind the curtain and sided warmly. "Eliana. You're back"

"Hi, Lily Elina replied, handing her a gift too.

It wasn't peak hours yet, **so** the cafe was quiet.

Elana and stella headed upstairs to chat. Since the café had recently been renovated and reopened, the business had been impacted a life by the university's summer break, I ei non by machi

Sunset Cafe had a great reputation online, with loyal customers timing and new ones coming in after reading the glowing reviews. Plus, regulars often brought along new faces. All in all, the café found in solid couple of months over the mer, with good sales.

Stella guiled Ellana over, eager to hear more about her trip, dearly envies. Wow, I wish I could be a carefree as you. And the eagle? Hera, right? Wow, Fillove in see that"

Elana grimmed. If there's **any** chance, I'll take you ilare,"

TH

“Yes, please!” Stella’s excitement was palpable as she thought of Wendy “that you ran into Wendy? No way?”

After Eliana recounted what had happened on the island, Stella finally realized “Wait, the island that collapsed in the no way! She was always bragging about going on vacation there, and she’s the one who ended up collapsing the whole island. Let’s stop

news was Wendy’s mom’s Ida,

laughing!”

They chatted for a while, catching up on everything that had happened recently. **As** more customers started coming in, Stella excused herself to go help downstairs.

Eliana sat by the window on the second floor, sipping her coffee as she casually scrolled through her phone.

**As** she browsed, a message popped upon her screen. The nickname didn’t immediately ring a bell, but it was Willow Clark.

When she saw the profile picture, it clicked

Willow had sent a few key pieces of information about Eliana—detailed enough to rival a resume and you to dig up more on this woman.] Eliana immediately understood. Willow was out for revenge and had hired a hacker to dig into her life

However, if Willow had been a little sinister and not set up that test, the hacker might have already been working on the **task**, before Eliana even had a cleaner to see the past. But alas, Willow’s overconfidence worked against her.

What exactly are you looking for? Eliana typed back,

After skimming Willow’s message, Eliana saw it was pretty comprehensive, it **was** a deep dive into her life—everything from her previous life. While thorough, it was outdated, Eliana was a far cry from who she had been before.

The thought made Eliana uneasy. In her **past** life, there was no way she could’ve outsmarted someone like Willow. And back then, she’d foolishly thought Willow could be a good friend—only to be stabbed in the back

Willow’s reply came quickly. I need to know her deepest secrets. The more hidden, the better. She’s dating Landon Mitchell from Instate University, but I don’t buy her innocent act. I want you to dig up that juiciest dirt on her, the more scandalous, the better!



the third year at

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Digging up my **own** dirt? Eliana pondered as the reflection of her faint smirk appeared on the phone screen.

A great opportunity has practically fallen into my **lap**. If I don't seize it, won't it be a waste of Willow's efforts as she thought of this, Eliana quickly typed back to **the** message. [Got it.]

Willow replied almost immediately. [Hurry up.]

Elian [Half a month.

Willow hesitated, feeling that half a month might be a bit long, but then she remembered that by then, it would be the start of the new semester **at** Isonstead University, with the competition coming **up**. The timing was actually quite nice.

[Fine. I'll wait for your good news] Willow agreed eventually

—

Eliana's understanding of Willow was limited **to** what she knew after Willow returned to the Garcia family. As for Willow's past, Eliana knew very

Meanwhile, Willow had clearly put a lot of effort into learning about Ellana's past,

Ellana remembered that after Willow **had** been switched **at** birth in the hospital, her adoptive parents were small-time vendors **who** sold plant seeds at the market—not wealthy but not destitute either. They **had** never treated Willow poorly. She had attended public schools in the nearby

She thought that if

if she wanted to investigate Willow, the best route would be to start with her schools.

Eliana suddenly recalled that in her previous life, when Willow had become famous, there were rumors circulating online. Anonymous users had posted that Willow had once bullied a classmate at school so badly that the victim became deaf due to nerve damage. At that time, Willow had been a notorious school bully

The incident had caused quite a stir online, but eventually, it had been shut down. The whistleblower had disappeared, and the blogger who **had s**

**pread** the story issued an apology, which stayed pinned to the top of their social media account for a month.

Eliana suspected that Willow's wealth and connections with legal teams had something to do with that

Thinking further, Eliana realized that the person who had exposed Willow's past must still be in school. If they had been willing to share such a scandal when Willow was at the height of her fame, they must know more, and if Eliana could find them, uncovering Willow's past would be effortless.

**With** a clear direction **in** mind, Eliana set to work immediately. She left the cafe and headed to a nearby internet cafe.

Sitting at a computer, she began researching schools in the surrounding districts in Avragow. Using a process of elimination, she narrowed down a few potential candidates and then called the admissions offices one by one, asking questions.

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Meanwhile, Wendy had returned to Drators City, and Willow **had** also made her way back to her rented apartment in Cedar Manor from Aveagow

The two had arranged to meet at the shopping mall **inside** a commercial center. Like sisters, they went shopping together.

At a boutique offering affordable luxury fashion, they discussed Eliana and the upcoming competition while picking out clothes

Wendy was wearing a beret to cover the bump on her forehead from the fall throughout their meet-up.

Wendy, have you heard about the news! There was an island collapsing in the North Sea," Willow spoke up.

The mention of the island immediately made Wendy's bump on her forehead throb again.

The island that had collapsed was Wendy's mother's, but she certainly didn't want to share this embarrassing fact with Willow. I don't know. There are so

are so many islands in the North Sea. How could I know which one collapsed" Wendy played dumb. **Willow** turned to her. "Did you really see Eliana on that island? Maybe it was her island that collapsed, huh?" With that, a mocking chuckle followed. Wendy rolled her eyes

eyes and quickly changed the subject. “So, have you found your teammates for the competition yet?”

“I’ve got them,” Willow replied. I paid an esports club to put together a team, and I also have picked a few small players from the national server. Wendy, I’m not good enough, so I didn’t want to drag you down. Her words were sweet, but her true intention was to win on her own,

without

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having to carry Wendy along

Wendy blinked in surprise. “What? You should’ve told me earlier.

Wendy didn’t expect **Willow** to have already arranged her teammates, but in truth, she had never intended to team up with Willow anyway. Given **Willow’s** poor skills, teaming up with her **would** only result in defeat.

The two girls weren’t exactly on good terms, but their shared dislike for Elana bound them together.

“Since you’ve found your teammates, that’s fine. I’ve got mine lined up too. Oh, by the way, did you hear about something?” Wendy asked.

Willow’s curiosity piqued. “What?”

“**Apparently**, Eliana is Thomas **Davis’s** sister, Wendy revealed. “That’s why she’s so close to **those** people like Landon Mitchell”

Willow stared at her, stunned.

Wendy smirked. “But don’t be too shocked. I’ve got solid evidence to prove that Eliana is Thomas’s half-sister, a love child”

“What? No way, are you sure?”

“How could I be wrong!” Wendy countered. “I was on that island when the storm hit, and I heard Thomas call Eliana his sister. He even said he brought her to the Davis family. If she’s not **his** sister, then who is **she**?”

Willow frowned. “That can’t be true. Have I made a mistake in my investigation?” she mumbled.

Wendy reassured **her**. “You definitely got it wrong. Don’t doubt ”

Wendy pressed on. “Think about it. Eliana bought Blanche and the limited–edition custom tennis racket last semester. If her parents were **really** just ordinary people, how could she afford such things?”

Upon reflection, Wendy’s point made sense. Before, Willow had suspected something similar, but she always thought it was Landon who **was** giving Eliana all those gifts.

But now that she thought about it, Eliana and Landon **had** been together for so long. The school had been buzzing, saying that Landon’s relationships usually lasted no more than a month. If Eliana didn’t have some kind of background, he would have dumped her long ago. There was no way they would be together after all this time

Although Willow couldn’t verify what Wendy **was** saying, she didn’t need to. The lucker would soon provide all the answers.

Once that happens, I will not only uncover Eliana’s real parents’ identities but also expose some shocking secrets about her. It will completely ruin her reputation at school! The **so**–called campus queen—what a joke, Willow thought,

“Wendy, just wait for the competition after school starts. That’s when Eliana’s reputation will be shattered”

## **Howl**

Just wait and see. It’s going to be a huge surpiser Willow replied.

Wendy wasn’t sure exactly **what** Willow was planning, but seeing her so **sure** of herself, she guessed that Willow had probably set a big trap for Eliana to fall into

Wendy knew as long **as** she got to see Elians make a fool of herself, she would be more than satisfied.

She casually tossed a dress to a nearby sales assistant and continued, “Alright. But don’t expect me to let you win the competition. The championship is mine.”

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What Wendy was about to say was what Willow had in mind. However, Willow’s ambition was not so blatant

Wendy's ability to speak so openly in front of Willow stemmed from the fact that, deep down, she didn't see Willow as a serious rival. After all, while Willow's family was wealthy in Arragow, they didn't even **rank** among the top in **Dratora** City, let alone **rival** Wendy's family.

Willow didn't have a mother with influence in the entertainment industry, so despite the outward appearance of equality in their "friendship" Wendy had never indeed **taken** Willow seriously,

Willow thought. They've underestimated in Willow a spark of irritation, but it didn't matter. After all, Wendy had always been just a pawn for her. As long as she was the one who came out on top in the end, nothing else mattered.

Suppressing the cold edge in her eyes, **she** smiled faintly. "Alright then. But just so you know, I'm not aiming for the championship, Wendy. Consider this an early congratulations."

Eliana narrowed her search at the internet café and pinpointed the middle school Willow had attended—Crestwood Middle School. After spending three **years** there, it was the ideal place to track down any instances of bullying from her former classmates.

Eliana hacked into Crestwood Middle School's **network** and started combing through the records of Willow's former classmates. After some time, she zeroed in on Lara, a top student in her second year who had dropped out **mid**-term due to illness.

As Eliana delved further into her investigation, a familiar voice called behind her. "Eliana" she spun around **in** surprise to find Jarrod standing there.

She smiled faintly. Jarrod, what are you doing here?"

"This **place** is mine," Jarrod said nonchalantly.

Eliana blinked, then laughed lightly. "Oh, really? Then I suppose you'll let me use the internet for free!"

Jarrod was generous, "Of course,"

"I was just joking." Jarrod said with a playful one.

As the owner, Jarrod had access to all the computers in the café but typically refrained from interfering with customers unless something went awry. Eliana had been browsing generally at first, but **when** she started entering **codes** to hack into the school network, Jarrod noticed.

When he saw that it **was** Eliana using the system, Jarrod couldn't help but approach. "What are you looking into?" he asked.

"Just browsing." Eliana replied nonchalantly

Jarrod raised an eyebrow. "You do realize you're being burned in the black market, don't you?"

Eliana nodded calmly. "Yes, I know."

Having already decrypted Willow's encrypted IP address, Eliana had expected this moment. Her work had compromised the black market, and those behind it were undoubtedly scrambling **to** protect their clients information. They would need to **make** an example out of her,

Eliana thought, "If I was bold enough to take action, I surely had a way to escape if things went south. The first time she accessed the black market, she **had** done so **from a** computer on a remote island during a storm, which had naturally interfered with the signal.

The weather was the perfect cover, and Eliana had left no trace. It was unlikely they would track her down. Even if they did, she wasn't scared.

Jarrod couldn't help but chuckle at **Eliana's** calm demeanor. "You really don't grasp the severity of the situation, do you?"

"They won't find me," she said calmly, locking eyes with him. "And besides, no one knows I'm Six except you. If I get exposed, it'll be because you're the one who told. Her calm eyes revealed no emotion.

Jarrod's gaze locked with hers, and **a** smile tugged at his lips. "The black market's practically revering you **as** a legend now."

Fland was

the first to challenge the system boldly—and hadn't been caught yet. If she managed to slip through this search, she'd become a true legend in the **black** market.

There were countless well-known hackers in the rankings, but most stayed hidden in the crowd. They were famous, yet still **had** their limitations. Six was on the list, but she had done things the top hackers wouldn't dare attempt,

Jarrood was stunned when he saw the bounty notice on the black market. He **hadn't** realized Ellana **had** been **making** waves behind the scenes. But then, he thought, I would never sell her out!

"What are you looking into Maybe I can help," Jarrood asked.

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Elana pointed to the name written in her notebook "Lara"

"Who's that?" Jarrood asked, **raising** an eyebrow.

"A regular student from Crestwood Middle School in Avragow. I'm trying to find out where she is now Eliana explained.

There was a

a photo

of Lara on **the** screen.

Jarrood studied the picture of the girl with bangs, frowning. She looks familiar. After a moment, his eyes widened in recognition. "Wait, isn't she the caregiver at the nursing home next door?"

"A caregiver?" Eliana thought. I had been struggling to find her, but I can't believe Jarrood knows her. **It's like** everything **just** effortlessly

"Can you take me to her?" Eliana asked, her tone firm.

fell into place

Jarrood glanced at her and **nodded**. "Sure. She works as the charity caregiver at Cedar Haven Nursing Home down the **street**."

Eliana followed Jarrood as they left the Internet café and took **a** cab to the **nursing** home. On the way, she learned that Jarrood recognized Lira because his grandmother lived there. He visited her every weekend, so he had become familiar with Lara, a caregiver in her twenties

"By the way, I heard she has trouble with her hearing. She's been **saving** up for a hearing aid, Jarrood added.

Eliana thought. That matches what the informant said in the past life. The one who **Willow** had bullied—had ear problems, probably nerve damage. I initially targeted Lara because she took a leave of absence from her final year of high school. Such a decision could only come after a significant change in **her** life.”

Eliana hadn't expected to find this much of a match. She thought, “Could this be the same girl who was bullied”

Twenty minutes later, they arrived at Cedar Haven Nursing Home, Since Jarrod was a regular visitor, the security **guards** recognized him and let them through without questions. The nursing home was well-known in the area and was public, but its cost-effectiveness made it a popular choice. The fact that it was also close to Jarrod's apartment was another **reason** he had chosen it for his grandmother's care.

Since they were there, Jarrod decided to stop by the ward to check on his grandmother, Meanwhile, Elana headed to the director's office and requested to meet Lara.

The director, impressed by Eliana's demeanor, assumed that Lara had caused some trouble and immediately contacted her.

Lara **was** about Eliana's age, with short hair and a slender, delicate frame. At first glance, she looked **like** a teenager—maybe only fifteen or sixteen.

Eliana thought, taking in Lara's gentle, innocent aura. She seems harmless. **No** wonder she was bullied at **school**.

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Lara stood before Eliana: Lara's posture was stiff, **and** her demeanor was uncertain.

The director introduced Lara to Eliana, saying, “This **is** the person you wanted to meet.”

Lara was the youngest caregiver at the nursing home. She had once been an excellent student but never attended university. After learning more about her story, the director felt sympathetic and ensured she **received** extra support from the Excility.

“Are you Lara?” Eliana asked.

Lara froze for a moment, confusion flashing across her face. “Sorry, what did you say?”

“Lara has trouble hearing **out** of one ear. Speak a bit louder,” the director clarified.



Eliana hesitated momentarily before raising her voice slightly to speak to **Lara** “Are you Lara!”

Lara blinked, finally understanding. “Yes, I’m Lara. What can I do for **you?**”

**Eliana** spoke, “I’m looking for information about someone named Willow”

“Willow? Who’s that? Lara asked, her eyes widening with confusion,

Eliana **quickly** corrected herself “Sorry, I meant Willow Foster Before she was reunited with her biological family, Willow had been raised by her **adoptive** father and had gone by the name Foster.

The mention of Willow sparked recognition on Lara’s face. “Ah, you mean Willow Foster . I **know** her.

Eliana then asked Lara about Willow’s time at Crestwood Middle School

Lara **had** been one of the targets of bullying, with Willow at the center of a small gang of troublemakers. her academic performance was outstanding—she had even been elected class monitor

Lara was full of

but she was

and reserved, but

One day, during a self-study **session**. Willow repeatedly broke the rules. While doing her duty, Lara wrote her name on the discipline log.

Afterward, Willow was scolded by the teacher, and from that moment on, Lara became the target of Willow’s relentless bullying. The worst incident **was** when Willow slapped her across **the** face, causing permanent hearing loss in one ear—an injury that required expensive treatment.

Initially, Lara brushed off the problem as just a minor case of tinnitus. But to her **surprise**, it worsened over time. She didn’t want to tell her mother. but eventually, her mother found out. Lara’s mother considered attending the school to **speak** with the teachers, but it happened to be winter break by then.

They were an ordinary family with little influence, and the incident had happened so long ago. Lara knew that even if she confronted Willow, she would never admit to it, and there was no concrete evidence to support her claims.

In the end, to lighten her family's burden, Lara made the difficult decision to quit school in her senior year, leaving without a word. She even moved to Drators City, determined to leave Willow—and the memories of Avragow—behind

What Lara didn't expect was that this would be the turning point of her life, leading her down a tragic path, while Willow's would skyrocket. In the second semester of her senior year, Willow was reunited with her biological family, leaving her old life behind. In an instant, she was redefined **as** the privileged daughter **of** the Garcia family in Avragow.

Fliana asked, "Do you know where Willow is now?"

Lara shook her head. I have no idea. She's probably in Avragow

Eliana shook her head. "No, she's in Dratora City now, studying at Isonstead University"

Lara was stunned. She thought. How could Willow possibly have gotten into Exonstead University with her grades?

Eliana replied, "Because she's now the daughter of the Garcia family. She doesn't go by Foster anymore—her surname is Garcia now."

Lara's eyes widened in shock. "The daughter of the **Garcia** family?"

"That's right." Eliana nodded.

From the timeline of her past life, Lara knew **Willow** had been the bully who had tormented her relentlessly. But now, Eliana was forcing the present to collide with that painful history, revealing just how much Willow had changed—and how far she had come. After learning that Willow was thriving, Lara felt a surge of anger.

A

Eliana had initially intended for Lara to step forward and expose Willow's past bullying during high school to reveal her true nature. But when the

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saw how badly **Lara** was struggling now, she hesitated. She thought, 'Was it fair to reopen such painful wounds'

But to Eliana's surprise, Lara spoke with unwavering resolve. "I'm willing to confront her"

"You are willing?" Eliana asked, astonished.

"Yes" Lara nodded. "I've never been able to swallow this. I know the **chances** of getting justice are slim, but I **can't** just stand by and watch someone

make her become a celebrity?

Eliana knew full well that even if **Lara came** forward, it wouldn't stop Willow from rising to fame. But Lara's courage would forever mark Willow's **past, a stain** that would follow her no matter how successful she became. She thought, Even if Willow becomes a star, everyone will know she once bullied a classmate to the point of causing permanent hearing loss:

That label would stick with Willow for the rest of her life.

The more successful she became, the more people would learn of her dark past. Willow didn't yet have the power to control public opinion, and now was the best time to expose the lie

If Lara waited a few years, it would be too late—by then, Willow would have an army of followers, and any attempt to expose her would be buried under a sea of internet trolls or silenced by legal threats from Willow's lawyers.

"I'm willing to do my part to stand up against bullying" Lara said, her voice firm.

"Good" Eliana replied. "Thank you"

"No," Lara shook her head. "I should be the one thanking you?"

After finalizing their plan, Eliana and Jarrod left the nursing home.

Over the next two weeks, Lara focused on gathering the evidence she needed. With Eliana's help, she collected everything—digital records, class photos, and student ID cards

By the time school resumed, Lara had everything she needed to fully confront the ghosts of her past and expose the

The new season's university uniforms arrived from **Instead** University the day before school started.

Eliana took Lunchie for a walk in the park. Since returning to Drators City, she'll been taking Lunchie out regularly, even though he had grown incredibly stocky—**his** size now rivaled that of a full-grown large dog. He looked pretty imposing as he walked confidently by her side.

When they arrived at the park, they didn't immediately run into Roman. Instead, they encountered **Cutie Pie**, who came bounding over **as** soon as it caught their scent.

Eliana settled on a bench, **drinking** some water, **as** Cutie Pie came bounding toward her. As soon as she saw the dog, she knew that Roman wasn't far behind.

Sure enough he appeared around the corner—Roman, holding a leash and strolling toward her at a steady pace.

During the summer, Roman had been filming Moonlit River, and if the timeline was correct, it was about time for the shoot to wrap up, coinciding with the start of school.

**He** was dressed in a simple black tracksuit, his pace unhurried,

"I was wondering why Cutie Pie suddenly ran over. Guess it's you two," Eliana said with a smile.

Leaning back on the bench, Eliana glanced at Roman, her gaze steady. After all this time, she noticed that his hair had grown longer, probably for the period drama he had been filming. His skin had also tanned slightly from the sun.

"Finished filming!" she asked, her tone casual.

"Yeah, we wrapped up four days **ago**," Roman replied.

"That's great." Eliana smiled softly, her voice light. "Congratulations **on** your debut, Roman."

Looking at Roman, she felt a brief, almost surreal moment—he was no longer the distant actor she could only see on the screen but a living, breathing man standing right before her.

Eliana thought, feeling a sense of inevitability. Congratulations on taking the first step toward your destined future. The dazzling career path begins now. Early congratulations on becoming a triple-threat Oscar winner. A bright future ahead,

2/3

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套

Although Roman had officially debuted, the film still needed months of post-**production and** approval before it could be released. So, he'd be continuing his studies at Instead University for the time being.

"What about your he asked. "Where did you go for vacation this summer?"

"I spent some time in Silverbrook, then visited a **coastal** island," Eliana replied.

"That sounds great, he said.

"it was," she agreed, smiling.

As they walked through the park, their conversation turned to the Chess Association. From Bryson, Roman learned that the association was planning a lecture at Isonstead University **to** promote chess, and they might even be visiting the campus soon.

As a member of the Chess Association and a student **at** Isonstead University. Eliana might be asked to assist with the event.

"Sounds good. Just let me know, I'll be available anytime," Eliana **said**.

Just then, her phone rang. It was Lucy asking Eliana to come home early. She had returned from the theater ahead of schedule and wanted Eliana to try on the custom clothes she had ordered for her.

"My mom's calling me. I need to head **back**. I'll see you at school later, Eliana said as she stood up.

"Alright." Eliana replied.

Eliana walked away, leading Lanclue out of the park. Meanwhile, Roman stayed behind, continuing to train Cutie Pie. Recently, he had been working on training Cutie Pie to refuse food from strangers, **a** precaution against potential poisoning

He remembered what Eliana **had** said and made sure to keep it in mind, determined to protect Cinic Pie.

Eliana returned home to find Lucy waiting for her in the living room. The servants were wheeling in several clothing racks, each carefully organized by color. Lunchie was being led away to have his paws wiped clean

"You're back, Eliana. Come see what I've picked out for your Lucy called out with a smile, standing up to show Eliana the clothes

“These pieces here are from a local designer, Enchante. Lucy continued, her tone full of excitement. “They’ve been all the rage lately. Even a lot of the younger girls at the theater have been wearing them”

Enchanté had recently skyrocketed in popularity, especially after their latest collection was **featured** at Fashion Week in Bobhana. The brand’s designs **quickly** became a sensation online, with influencers and celebrities alike embracing their fresh, contemporary takes on **classic** styles

Lucy, who had always had a soft spot for unique and innovative fashion, was eager to support the rising label. So, she went ahead and ordered nearly twenty pieces for Ellana.

Even if Eliana **changed** outfits three times a day, she could go nearly a week without repeating a single one Lucy thought Having a daughter had always been my dream. If Eliana had grown up in the Davis **family**, Lucy would have dressed her like a living doll, picking out beautiful clothes for her every day. She wondered. Twenty outfits! Hardly enough.’

“Go ahead and try them on, Eliana. I can’t wait to **see** you in them,” Lucy urged, her eyes sparkling

“Alright,” Eliana replied.

Eliana tried on the clothes one by one, **and** Lucy’s choice was impeccable. Each piece seemed to fit Eliana perfectly, highlighting her natural grace and beauty. Lucy beamed with pride.

These designs from Enchante really are exquisite, Lucy said. “**Eliana**, you’ll wear this one tomorrow for the first day of school—it looks fantastic on your

“Alright” Eliana turned in front of the mirror, nodding approvingly. It’s perfect. Thank you, Lucy”

Lucy beamed, her voice soft and affectionate. “I’d give you the world if I could. Eliana. You’re my treasure, no need **to** thank me. By the way, Sebastian invested in Enchante as well. So, any pieces you like from now on, they send you a new collection every season.”

Enchante had earned its reputation through innovative designs, and **its** value had skyrocketed, placing it far beyond its humble beginnings.”

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The next day, the next day of school, Owen drove Eliana to campus. However, she had taken plans the night before to meet Botella at the school

Stella arrived on her bike, and just as Eliana stepped out of the car, Owen **walked** her in

Hey Hanal

“Here” Elana waved **as** she saw

saw Stella.

Stella wheeled her bike up to t

them, smiling. “**Coost** morning?”

“Moming, Stella”

Stella’s gaze shifted to **Owen**, clearly curious. “So, who’s this?”

“This is my brother.”

“Ah, so **this** is Quen you mentioned before”

Owen susled politely, “Yes, I’m Owen, Eliana, since your friend’s here, **you** two should head inside. I’ll be on my way”

“Alright, Eliana replied,

**Owen** glanced at Stella with a sale. “You’re welcome to visit anytime,” he said wannly,

“Suur, il love in

Owen’s charm was off the charts. Stella couldn’t help but feel fastered, struggling to meet his eyes, She quickly padded “Saur, I

When she looked up again, Owen had already gotten ins the car and driven off.

Stella **exhaled** in relief. “Wow, Eliana, I had no idea Cowen was that good-looking. Hes-be’s so cool?”

Eliana laughed out loud. “If Owen **bears** you say that his ego will probably go through the root

“Let’s go, we’re going to be late.”

They reached the bike racks, where Stella locked up her bike, and then they approached the school entrance. They beard someone calling alter them as they passed through the gates.

“Ellamal Stella”

They turned around to see it was Ebie, a senior from the tennis

is chuls

“Hey, Elsie. Long time no see! Elana called out,

Elsie joured over with a bright smile. “It’s been ages! I saw you two and had to cabels u p. It’s so crowded today with everyone coming back. Don’t forget to report to your clubs, by the way! We’ve got new uniforms for the new semester

“Got it Elsie. Thanks!”

After exchanging greetings, Elsie waved and beaded toward her building to register. Eli ana and Stella went to their classroom first, then stopped by the tennis club to pick up th eir new uniforms. When they returned to the classroom, they ran into Willow and Wendy at the dont

They were dressed in elegant, luxury–  
**branded** dresses, chatting with Sharryl and Charlene.

Charlene sported Willow’s hairpin and gestured toward it “Wow, Willow, that hairpin is lo vely.”

Willow took the hairpin off her head and held it out. “Is this the one you mean?”

“Yeah! Where did you get it?”

Willow smiled casually, “**You** like it? Here, take it.”

Charlene looked shocked “Really? Willow, you’re too kind?”

Willow smiled casually. “It’s no big deal. If **you** like it, it’s yours

Elana and Stella walked past them, carrying their new tennis club uniforms.

Sharryl glanced at them, eyeing B Eliana’s of “Isn’t that Enchante she’s wearing?”

Charlene nodded, “Yeah, it’s from Enchante’s Rainbow Collection. It’s insanely popular right now. You can’t even buy it anymore—sold out everywhere”

**2/3**

3/3



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Wendy scoffed. "Is it that impressive!"

"Enchanté even asked my mom to be their ambassador, but she turned them down. What's so special about a brand just for influencers? My mom doesn't even think it's worth her time!"

Shacryl quickly agreed. "Exactly. They just went to **Fashion** Week and now they're getting all this hype. Honestly, people who jump on the bandwagon are kind of dumb"

Willow chuckled softly, "Let's go, we should get inside before the class advisor arrives"

"Mm." They walked into the classroom together.

**Eliana** and Stella made their way to the **back** row, as usual.

**SEND GIT**

Chapter **157**

Before long the classroom started to fill up. The class advisor arrived on time, gave brief instructions, and then dismissed everyone—some headed back to the dorms while others went off to grab lunch.

Even though they claimed Enchante was just an overhyped brand, they couldn't deny its influence on the younger crowd. The acting department was entirely trendsetters. A glance around the room revealed several students wearing Enchante pieces.

"I heard Enchante's running a **loyalty** program now. If you collect 30 thousand points, you get a limited-edition seasonal gift."

"Doesn't that mean you have to spend over thirty thousand dollars in one go? I thought Enchante's clothes were pretty affordable. You'd have to buy out the entire store to **rack** up that many points?"

"Who told you that The stuff they sell in-store is just their regular line. The high-end pieces are only available on the website. Didn't you guys see Enchante's showcase at Fashion Week! It went viral internationally! Their Vandres store is right across from Chanel, and the Rainbow Series is completely sold out. Even the resellers can't get in anymore."

"Hey, isn't someone in our class wearing the Rainbow Series jacket?"

Everyone turned to look toward the back of the room. Eliana and Stella were walking out the door. Eliana immediately became the center of attention, with several classmates envying her for wearing the sold-out pieces

Willow, curious, pulled out her phone and quickly checked Enchante's website. The Rainbow Series was prominently displayed on the homepage. But as she examined it more closely, something seemed off

"Look doesn't the logo on that jacket look different from the one on Eliana's?"

Sheryl and Charlene leaned in to **take** a closer look. After a moment of consideration, they noticed the discrepancy.

Charlene's eyes widened in realization. "The logo on the Rainbow jackets in Estain, but the one on Eliana's jacket looks like it's in a cursive script"

They searched the website but couldn't find a jacket that matched Eliana's

Sheryl couldn't resist a mocking grin. "Could Eliana be wearing a knockoff?"

Could it be? The thought seemed more likely than Sheryl wanted to admit.

Charlene grinned. "Sharryl, you're thinking what I'm thinking. I bet Eliana's wearing a fake. The official website does mention that **jacker**. With both the high end and regular lines available online, there's no way she'd have an **exclusive** piece

Sharryl nodded. "And with Enchante's popularity right now there are so many factories churning out knockoffs. Most resellers are getting stock from these places. It's all counterfeit items"

their

The more they spoke, the more convincing their theory became

Wendy quickly interjected, her voice feigning concern "Don't jump to conclusions. I can't believe Eliana would wear a **knockoff**. Do you think she'd do that just to fit in? It has to be a misunderstanding"

Wendy scoffed. "If that's the case, all we'd need to do is **ask** a reseller. They'll know if it's real or not."

Sharryl smirked. "You honestly think it's that simple? So many people wear counterfeit items these days, acting like no one will notice. But once the truth comes out, it's going to be so embarrassing for them."

Charlene added with a knowing look, “Tactually know a reseller. We can snap a picture of Eliana’s jacket and have them verify it. The truth will

Sharry! nodded, and her grin widened. “That sounds like a plan”

Willow lowered her gaze, a dark shadow crossing her eyes. She thought, Looks like someone’s about to get embarrassed. And the semester has only just begun. Let the drama begin

Chana and Stella headed to the club.

semesters goals. The club **had** a tournament this semester, and

The others, including Cameron, had already arrived, reviewing the upcoming semester. Instead University was set to host a sports event.

Sitting at the computer. Elsie was printing out some materials when she noticed Eliana and Stella entering. She handed them the papers with a smile “Here, take a look”

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Eliana took the materials and saw **that** they were the newly scheduled club training times. There was also a flyer for the Crossdoom University tournament, which had just been released.

Elsie explained, “This afternoon, they’ll be putting up the tournament banner at the court. **Anyone** who wants to sign up can go to the website listed below the flyer. If you’re interested, just register there”

Stella **shook** her head. “Not really my thing. I’m not into gaming”

Eliana had already made up her mind to register, so she immediately sat down at the lounge computer to sign up.

The team needed five members, and as Eliana filled in the remaining four spots, Stella curiously asked. “Eliana, have you found your teammates? It says here that the game needs five players”

Elsie nodded, adding, “Yeah, Eliana. Did you get your team together!”

Eliana glanced over at the group sitting nearby—Cameron and the others—and said. “Come over and fill this out. Pick your accounts, I don’t have your numbers memorized.”

The others walked over and filled in their details, including their account names and phone numbers

Stella and Elsie exchanged surprised **looks**. “Wait, you’re all teaming up together?” Stella exclaimed. That’s unexpected!”

Eliana smiled slightly. “We’ve been working together for a while now. We’ve got great **chemistry**?”

Elvir grinned. “So, what’s your team name?”

Eliana paused, pondering for a moment. Let me think. Alright, I’ve got it We’ll go with Tigers“.”

The room fell silent for a beat.

“That’s a good name—it’s got that perfect blend of cheesy and badass.” Elana laughed.

As the group continued to joke and laugh in the lounge, the light bruno atmosphere filled the room

As they joked around, Sheryl and Charlene passed by outside. They peered through the window and spotted Eliana sitting inside. Quickly **as a** flash, Charlene pulled out her phone and snapped a picture. Then, without missing a beat the two of them hurried off.

Charlene quickly sent the photo to the reseller. After a moment, the reseller responded, “It’s hard to tell from the photo whether it’s counterfeit or **not**, because Enchante has a **cursive** logo as well”

Charlene was taken aback. “How could that be! I searched the entire website and didn’t see any jackets with a **cursive** logo.

The reseller sighed. “You must not know about Enchante’s new loyalty program. huh!”

Charlene’s curiosity piqued. The one with 30 thousand points for a reward?”

“Exactly,” the **reseller** replied. “But that’s just entry-level. The highest tier requires 300 thousand dollars to unlock the top-level benefits. That’s when you can get a custom **logo**. The one on her jacket is likely a private, custom design. Enchante hasn’t even released this version yet. No factory could replicate it, even if they tried. Honestly, the logo looks pretty **great**; whoever designed it has impeccable **taste**.”

Charlene thought. 300 thousand dollars for a custom cursive logo? It seemed the reseller was spot on

was spot on

The jacket Eliana wore was from the Limited edition Rainbow Series, but the cursive logo was **a personal** custom order made by **Lucy**. She had placed a large order for multiple pieces, far exceeding the highest tier of the loyalty program. Furthermore, with Sebastian's investment in Enchanté, gifting custom-made clothes to the daughter of a prominent figure was simply a matter of course.

SEND GIFT

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What the hell! When Charlie learned the truth, **she** was completely stunned. She thought, damn

enough to buy a house."

Sheryl noticed Charlene's shocked expression and **asked**, "What's going on? Did the reseller get back **to** you? What did they say?"

Charlene handed her phone over. "You take a look"

Sharryl grabbed the phone **and** quickly skimmed through the **conversation**, followed by Willow and Wensly. All three were equally taken aback

"So the jacket Eliana is wearing is genuine?" Wendy asked, her voice full of surprise. A **brand** her mother had never **looked** down on was YBOR suddenly top-tier. Enchanté was clearly moving into the luxury market.

Willow couldn't wrap her mind around it. "This doesn't make **sense**. In my past life, I never even brand of Enchanté being anything special, let alone a high-end brand. How did it rise to such prominence so quickly?"

Just then, a new message from the reseller popped up. "By the way, did you see the plate on their website! Enchanté just launched their flagship store internationally. Looks like they're going global"

The translation of Day in this case was twenty-four, meaning the brand's concept was simple; wear their clothes 24 hours **a day**,

Enchanté wasn't just about high-end fashion—it also offered children's wear and loungewear, expanding beyond just adult clothing.

Willow felt like the ground **had** been ripped from under her. Day—a name that, in her past life, was a prestigious brand recognized as the pride of the nation. Day was a name that could rival the world's most famous luxury brands. Now, Enchanted was in the same league.

But the real shock came when another message popped up.

“This girl has great style. Could you share her contact details with me? I’d **love to** have her model for my new collection”

Lorraine asked for some designs for my

Charlene quickly deleted the conversation, her frustration bubbling. “So, does this mean

she’s the real deal?”

“Well, it’s not that surprising that Elina is wearing the authentic version, Wendy replied, trying **to** mask her down on thousand dollars isn’t a huge amount. Besides, she is part of the Davis family”

**Sherry** frowned, confused. What do you mean Elina is part of the Davis family?!

“Wait, you **guys** didn’t know? Elina is Thomas’s sister from the same father, but different mothers. Wendy herself held a touch of disdain. Sheryl thought, Same father, different mothers? That means Elina’s technically an illegitimate child.”

Sheryl’s eyes widened in realization. “Wait. Elina’s also an illegitimate child, just like you?”

Wendy shot her a cold **look**. “What do you mean by that?”

“Sorry, I didn’t mean anything by it?” Sheryl stammered, backing off.

“She can’t even compare to me. Wendy smiled, her voice growing sharper. “Hannah’s wealthy and well-known. She kept me and Shane because she couldn’t bring herself **to abort** us, even though she **was** tricked. But now, we’ve been acknowledged by the Hall family, and we have the same inheritance rights.”

“Elina, though—she’s clearly never been acknowledged, so she doesn’t have any

rights.”

“Elina, though—she’s clearly never been acknowledged, so she doesn’t have any

Her words stung, but everyone in the room **knew** that illegitimate expected to remain low-key, never flaunting their status,

It was nothing like Wendy, who almost seemed to take pride in it

inheritance rights.

Her children were often the least respected it

in high society. In these circles, they were

Charlene mattered in disbelief. 'Eliana's **an illegitimate** child: "Wow, and she's still acting so

so arrogant"

Sharyl remarked, her tone laced with bitterness. "Eliana's pretty lucky, though she stole Willow's life for eighteen years and now she's in another wealthy family. It doesn't matter that she's **an illegitimate** child—she's rich"

Willow clenched her **fists** at the mention of Eliana's name. She thought with a bitter edge. Her luck is unbelievable. I was wrong investigation results. Where and I go wrong? Looks like TIL need to get that hacker to dig into it again.

She said about my

Wendy shook her head. "Well, since it's not counterfeit, it doesn't matter. It's just a jacket. Let's go to the club

"Alright

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Chapter 158

In the afternoon, the forum at Lonstead University was buzzing with excitement over the upcoming tournament.

Wendy and Willow had already signed up. Both of them had recruited highly ranked players for their teams, one of whom was even a popular streamer on the platform. The website **was** live, updating in real-time with registered **teams** and their members.

Willow ragerly awaited her team's name to appear on the list, curious to see how much attention her Lucky Strike team would get on the forum.

She was confident she'd be the focus of the **discussions**, but what she didn't expect was that the spotlight wasn't on her or even Wendy. It was on **a team** called Tigers.

Willow clicked on the ridiculous team name Tigers, curious about the team members. She froze when she saw the captain was none other than Eliana, a first-year performance student, with the rest of the team consisting of senior students. The roster listed Wright, Davis, Hall and Mitchell

It was apparent—Cameron and his friends!

Willow thought, '**Eliana's** team is with Cameron and the others? No wonder Tigers was the hot topic **on** the forum, Cameron and his friends were all glazes in the computer science world.

They had never participated in competitions before—except for Landon, who occasionally took the club's teams to competitions. The other three preferred to stay out of the spotlight.

Now, Eliana had somehow convinced them to join the tournament. That was unheard of

It was no wonder everyone **was** talking about it. Even people who didn't play Crossdoo m started to pay attention, and the buzz around the tournament reached new heights.

Willow thought, "**What** was even more surprising was that Eliana was the captain, It wasn't that Eliana couldn't be the captain. Its just—why was she the captain of this team?

Everyone here was more capable than her. What made her think she had the right to

Lead them!

Willow was furious and completely confused. She couldn't make sense of it, and the anger was boiling inside her. She immediately messaged the hacker on WhatsApp. She thought, I can't take this anymore. I need to bring Eliana down. Now

"Have you found anything?"

Eliana opened the message and read it slowly, then replied with a calm, deliberate **paer**. 'I found it

Willow thought. Found in A wave of relief and anticipation washed over her. She quickly typed. "Then post everything on the forum right now. I want her ruined. She shouldn't be able to **stay** at Honstead University again—better yet, make her drop out"



Eliana knew Willow despised her, but she was surprised by how desperate Willow had become. She thought, "This isn't quite the right moment yet, but I can already feel things heating up."

"Are you sure you want **to** go ahead with this now! I'd **suggest** holding off for a while. Why not release everything once the competition starts? The impact would be much greater then, and the attention would be off the charts." Eliana asked, her voice calm but pointed.

SIND GET

## Chapter 159

Willow was eager, but she hesitated momentarily after reading the message on WhatsApp. She thought, "Maybe the hacker has a point. I need to hold off and wait for the competition to deliver the final blow to Eliana."

"Alright, you're right," Willow finally typed. "What dirt have you dug up!"

Six replied, "It's the **kind** of explosive news you **wanted**. I'll ruin her reputation at school. It's a scandal she was infamous for in the past?"

Willow's **excitement was** palpable as she typed, "Really? I can't wait to see it!"

Eliana **was** crowned campus beauty at Isonstead University last semester, **gaining** significant fame. If this scandal came to light, her title as the campus queen would likely be in serious jeopardy.

Willow thought, "The more I think about it, the happier I feel."

arena in Avragow,

The university tournament had been heating up for weeks, with the event scheduled to take place at the sports arena in

The five-day registration period was nearly

early over, and the buzz surrounding it was palpable. Many students from Isonstead University **had** signed up, and rumor had it that tickets for the event had already sold out.

One of the biggest draws for participants was the **grand** prize: the chance to record a game music video, which attracted many

many students from the acting department to sign up. The competition was **fierce**. There were even whispers that the event would be streamed live on Polar Bear TV.

After school, Eliana and her team would practice at the nearby internet cafe. Over time, the cafe became their regular hangout, and they reserved a dedicated gaming room on the second floor.

Their teamwork grew stronger, and they perfected their strategies and team composition.

When the registration deadline passed, and the official website closed the sign-up portal, Willow **and** Wendy invested in traffic boosts to promote **their** teams. Their efforts paid off, as their squads included top-ranked players from the server.

The tournament's preliminary round was scheduled for early next month, coinciding with the server rankings reset.

That evening, Eliana kept an eye on the leaderboard, and with a final post, she claimed the top spot again. As soon as her profile refreshed, her view count shot up. After two years, her ID, "Shadow Reaper," was back on top.

That night, many gaming studios were waiting for the leaderboard to refresh. When it did, they immediately noticed a familiar ID, "ShadowReaper."

"Well, this ID looks familiar," one of them said.

"Really? Where have you seen it?"

"Let me think... Ah! I remember now! The captain of the super popular Tigers team in the university tournament—wasn't it Sk

it ShadowReaper?"

"I need to check this out!"

They quickly logged onto the official website and confirmed their guess. The captain of "Tigers" was indeed "Shadow leaper. To their surprise, the player behind the ID was a woman.

The most shocking part was that the player was also the campus queen at Isonstead University! Incredible!

Female players were a rarity on the **national** leaderboard, with only about one in five reaching the top.

As they dug deeper into Eliana's game profile, it was clear—two years ago, she had ranked high in several categories on the leaderboards. She was a versatile player, excelling in every role. After two years of silence, she was back at the top.

“Why hasn’t she played in the last two years one of them wondered.

“Could it be because of the Scholastic Assessment Test?” another person suggested. “She probably didn’t have time for games”

“Considering her age, someone else said, “she must be a freshman this year. It makes sense that she’d skip games in her last two **years** of high school to focus on studying for the exams.

Two years off from gaming, and it had earned her the best academic results this year. Even now, Eliana had the best **professional** grades in her class **last** semester.

1/2

her return to the national rankings.

No wonder Eliana’s the team captain—the lus the

JA female captain, that’s pretty cool.

[I don’t think it matters if she’s on the leaderboard. What’s important is that Cameron and the others respect her]

[She’s amazing, and I won’t say

y it more than once]

Everyone in class knew Eliana had claimed the top spot on the leaderboard again, once more, she was the center of attention. At first, Willow and the others had doubted in, thinking she must have paid for her rank. But they were slacker when they logged into the game and saw her name at the top for themselves

Willow and Wendy’s team had been discussed because of their top-tier player from another server. They had enjoyed the spotlight for a while, now they realized Eliana didn’t need to ride anyone’s cottomails—she was already on the leaderboard by her merit. That was the key difference between her and them

Eliana wasn’t just playing on any server—she was on the largest and most competitive one, a clear testament to her exceptional **skills**.

Willow and Wendy’s anger grew when they saw the ID “Shadow teaper” It reminded them of the time they’d clashed with Eliana in **game** and had to beg her for mercy. That recording **was** still in Eliana’s hands.

“Tr going to crush her in the university tournament, Wendy mattered, gritting her teeth.

Then she turned to Willow with a sharp gaze.

“How did you not know about this? Deln’t you know I Elama played games?”

Willow fell silent. She thought, I should have known When she returned to the Garcia family, Eliana had already stopped playing games during the summer before senior year.

By the time she started at Instead University, Eliana was entirely focused on her major, working the hours to perfect her craft

The eventual champion of the out would be Wendy In Willow’s eyes, Wendy was Wendy had won and recorded the music video, sharing the spotlight with Eliana

was her greatest

“Forget it Wendy her determination clear. “This time. I’m winning the championship”

the competition. In her past life,

Willow’s thoughts turned cold. She pondered, I can’t just sit by and let Wendy take all the glory She wouldn’t let Wendy have all the attention— she would play her cards right, keeping one eye on Eliana and one eye on Wendy

Willow thought, “Wendy wanted the crown? Well, I wanted it just as badly” She smirked. The championship would be hers.

connections to discover which studio Wendy had lured. She’d

A dark gleam flashed in Willow’s eyes. Two days ago, she had already **used** her connections secretly bribed the studio owner.

According to her instructions, the owner ensured the two actors Wendy had lured purposely underperformed

Although everything had been arranged, Willow knew they couldn’t make it too obvious

Her plan was simple—let Wendy:

advance, make her believe she was on

the verge

of the verge of victory. Then, in the

final

I match, it would all fall apart.

As for Eliana, Willow had already arranged for the hacker to **leak** damaging information.

When everything was set into motion, one rival would be defeated, and the other would be taken down. With both of Willow's biggest competitors out of the way, the championship would be hers.

Confident that everything was perfectly in place, Willow watched as Wendy stood confidently before her, almost unable to contain her laughter.

The preliminary rounds **were fast** approaching. There were seven universities in Drator a City, so Instead University had to select **ten** teams to advance before heading to the sports arena to compete against the other teams in the semifinals and **finals**, aiming to claim the championship

## Chapter 160

On the day of the preliminary round, Eliana's team made an impressive start with a 15-game winning streak, securing the first qualifying spot for Isonstead University.

While many had initially come to **watch** the four-member team led by Cameron, they were soon left stunned after witnessing **Eliana's** exceptional gameplay.

So, this was the power of top-tier players. Her awareness and execution were flawless,

Willow's and Wendy's teams performed well and progressed smoothly to the next round. Wendy's team was the second to **qualify**, while Willow's

team was third..

The preliminary rounds lasted a week, and on the first day, these three teams had already secured the first three spots, leaving the remaining seven places to be fiercely contested by others

Willow had initially planned to **burden** Eliana with negative rumors during the preliminaries. But after seeing **Eliana's** momentum's strength, she changed her mind. She thought, 'Let Eliana rise higher first. The fall will be even more spectacular when it comes. So, she chose to hold back-for

After the preliminaries ended, the Chess Association hosted a lecture at Isonstead University. The event organizer contacted Eliana, asking her to **assist** with distributing flyers around campus. Since Roman was part of the student council overseeing the event, he and Eliana worked closely together, their paths crossing frequently on campus,

Willow, who had been fixated on Kpman, would deliberately stroll past the student council president's office at lunch, hoping for an accidental encounter with him. But recently, she noticed something **that** sent a wave of fury through her, Eliana was going into Roman's office every single day at noon. Willow thought, 'Has she stopped hiding and **started** flirting with him openly?'

No. She couldn't just let this go. She had to know what Eliana and Roman discussed behind closed doors

ce to sign up for a replacement.

Determined, Willow deliberately ruined her newly issued uniform and headed to the student council office to u

That afternoon, Eliana and Roman were finalizing the details for the upcoming chess seminar in the student council president's office—sorting out seating in the auditorium, determining the number of water bottles and chairs needed, drafting promotional posts for the forum, and coordinating a few small giveaways 1

“Rang—The door suddenly opened.

Willow and Charlene stepped inside. “**Roman**, we're here to pick up our new uniforms, Willow said feigning nonchalance

Roman and Eliana both turned to the sound of the door. As their eyes locked with Willows, she felt the weight of Eliana's stare—**sharp**, almost accusatory, as if she could see **right** through her.

Roman **raised** an eyebrow and flipped through the papers on his **desk**, his gaze momentarily flicking to Willow. “Your size is on the third shelf of the second cabinet on your left,” he said calmly,

Willow moved toward the cabinet, feigning a search for her uniform. She shared a quick, silent **glance** with Charlene, who nodded understanding. As Willow reached for the uniform, Charlene, playing the part of the clumsy fool, dropped a small ping-pong ball that bounced and rolled beneath

the table.

“Oh no, my ping-pong ball, Charlene exclaimed, quickly retrieving **it**

Eliana instinctively stepped back, allowing Charlene to lean down and grab the ping pong ball. But as Charlene stood up, she accidentally bumped into Eliana. Roman quickly reached out to steady Eliana, pulling her back slightly. At that moment, Charlene glanced at the screen on Roman's computer.

Charlene thought, 'So this is what they've been working on all this time. The screen displayed promotional designs.

"Sorry to bother you, Ronan," Willow said, her voice sweet but laced with impatience,

After grabbing the uniform, Willow and Charlene left the office. The moment they stepped out, Willow couldn't wait to ask. "What did you see just now?" she asked eagerly.

low, they were designing promotional materials in the office, Charlene said, her voice lowering **as a**

10 chess

ng **as she** added. "It looked like something related

"Chess?" **Willow** suddenly realized. She thought. 'So it's related to the Chess Association, after all The Chess Association's **visit** was supposed to be managed by the student council. She thought. 'Eliana must be **using** her membership to get close to Roman on purpose. How shameless.

1/2

Chapter 100

The Chess Association's promotional lecture **was** finally confirmed, and the class adviser came in to announce it in the afternoon. "The Chess Association will be holding a seminar in the auditorium the day after tomorrow. Anyone interested in chess should attend—it's sure to be insightful."

"And there will be small gifts for attendees, the adviser added.

Chess **wasn't** popular among the younger crowd. Honestly, Willow had never cared much for it either. She wouldn't have bothered with the dull game if it hadn't been for trying to impress Bryson. But now, Willow saw **an** opportunity with the Chess Association coming to campus. If she could help Roman attract a larger crowd for the seminar, maybe he'd finally take notice of her.

When the adviser left and the class was about to wrap up, Willow stood up, her voice dear and confident. "Chess is a fascinating strategic game, and **I've** always enjoyed it. I'd love for all of you to join me at the seminar. If you do, I'll treat everyone to **a** seafood dinner this weekend".

**"Wow!** That's awesome

Willow, you're so generous!

Charlene said, “You all probably don’t know this, but the president of the Chess Association who’s hosting the seminar knows Willow. They’ve even **taken** a photo together?”

“Really?” someone asked, intrigued.

Willow put on a modest smile. “Oh, it’s nothing really. We just met once and took a quick p photo together”

Charlene shook her head with a knowing smile. “**Come** on, Willow, you’re being too humble. It’s clear the president values your

Sining in the back row, Stella heard the exaggerated praise and felt so awkward she could’ve crawled under the desk

“Eliana, you’re a member of the Chess Association. Why aren’t you out there bragging about in? big deal? It’s so ridiculous”

Eliana just shrugged, “It’s fine. Flonely, her doing **this** is kind of helpful”

? What a Willow even doing, pretending like she’s a

The younger generation wasn’t into chess culture, so Roman and Fluna had been brainstorming ways to attract more attendees to the seminar. They didn’t want the auditorium to be empty and awkward.

Originally, Eliana and Roman had planned to cover the cost of small gifts **to** attract attendees, but now that Willow seemed so eager to take on the task, Eliana was more than happy to let her handle it.

**Eliana** thought. “Willow’s just trying to get Roman’s attention, but I have my own **task** to focus on finish what I need to do and move on.”

“We should go, Stell,” she said, “We still have club training”

“Alright, Xiaotong agreed, following her out

it the door.

The chess seminar was successfully held in the grand auditorium two **days** later. The president of the Chess Association took the stage, and the seats were nearly all filled—at least half of the **audience** were students from the acting department, all invited by Willow.

Rumors of Willow’s close friendship with the president spread quickly. People were practically calling her a chess prodigy.



But no one expected that, after the two-hour seminar, the **president** of the Chess Association didn't even mention Willow's name. Instead, he casually referred to Eliana, the only Chess Association member at Isonstead University.

"As we wrap up today's session, if you're interested in chess, feel free to reach out to Eliana, our only member here at Instead University.

**2/2**

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