

Taming A Billionaire

#Chapter 571 - Five Hundred And Seventy-one: The New Rules - Read Taming A Billionaire Chapter 571 - Five Hundred And Seventy-one: The New Rules

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The third point of view:

"Isabella!!!" The door was kicked open and someone screamed from behind, almost waking the dead from the grave.

Isabella didn't have time to react as Anabelle tackled her, the both of them falling to the ground. It all happened in slow motion, all Isabella knew was that for her to turn around, Anabelle flew on her, and now, she was on the floor.

What was Isabella doing here anyway?

Well, she had left her parent's sleeping quarters to go observe her nightly ritual, leaving her siblings who were still gushing over their unborn siblings - rubbing their hands all over Reina's slightly flat stomach, placing their head on her stomach, and trying to make up the babies heartbeat, which was kind of stupid.

The kids claimed they would be the ones to name the triplets once they're born. Allen would name first, followed by Ailee, and last but not the least, Neon named his choice as well. Hence, all of them were excited to begin their research.

She - Isabella - doesn't even get to name any of the kids. Well, it doesn't matter anyway, from now to the moment Reina delivers, she has to go prepare her affection. It was three babies, they would require a lot of time and devotion.

"What are you doing, Anabelle!" She tried to push the girl away but that annoying octopus held on to her tight and began to shower her face with kisses.

"Muah! Muah! Muah!" Anabelle could not contain her happiness. She could almost fly!
"I'm so happy!"

"I am not your fucking boyfriend! Stop kissing me!" Isabella growled, wondering where she got this amount of strength - no matter how she pushed Anabelle, she was too strong.

Suddenly, Anabelle stopped and then announced, "My mother is pregnant!" expecting to see a look of astonishment and joy across her cousin's face. However, all she met was Isabella's face, void of emotion.

"Of course, I know, so can you please get off me?" Isabella tried to sit up but Anabelle pushed her back down.

Isabella shut her eyes and tried to rein in her anger. Anabelle is her cousin and a friend notwithstanding she's annoying, Isabella chanted inwardly so she doesn't harm her.

"How did you know?" She said it! Isabella was an alien!

"Our parents called us at the same time only to break the news of her pregnancy. Who wouldn't put two and two together and figure out that was the same case with your parents?" Isabella explained.

"Wait a minute, aunty Reina is pregnant?!" Annabelle screamed. Isabella's ear almost bled.

Of course, Anabelle had not been able to figure it out, Isabella shook her head in sympathy - not that she had high hopes, anyway.

"Wow!" Anabelle's joy knew no bounds, "This good news! We are?expecting our siblings at the same time?!"

"Actually, it's more than one sibling, Reina is having triplets," Isabella disclosed, rambling on, "Speaking of which, I have to add your future sibling to my list - so tiring, too many people to love. Now get off me!" She tried to push her away but of course, Anabelle stood her ground.

"Oh my gosh!" She was so thrilled, "Your mother is expecting triplets! Isabella, you're going to become a super big sister! God, I'm so envious! You deserve my respect! Muah! Muah! Muah!" Anabelle continued to pepper her with kisses amid Isabella's exclamation of disgust and struggles until...

"What's going on here?" someone asked from behind and both ladies on the floor instantly stiffened. It then dawned on Anabelle that she hadn't closed the door before deciding to kill Isabella with affection.

Her eyes went wild like a thief caught in the process of theft while her heart thundered in her chest when she recognized that voice, it was none other than Julie, her boyfriend.

At once, Anabelle let go of Isabella, the both of them sat up and stared at their boyfriends standing in their room, staring back at them with suspicion and accusation in their gazes.

"We seem to have barged in at the wrong time," Pedro said, still not believing what he just saw. All he knew when he came in was Anabelle on top of his girlfriend, kissing her - from his position.

"It's nothing," Isabella was quick to defend herself.

"I can explain," Anabelle said.

"Yes, the scene is obviously self-explanatory," Julie sassed.

"It's not what you're thinking," Isabella grumbled, irritated. This was all Anabelle's fault, she dragged her into this unnecessary misunderstanding.

"Really? What am I thinking?" Pedro raised a dark brow at her.

"Eww, that's disgusting," Isabella wrinkled her face, getting up to her feet, "You can't possibly think I like Anabelle?"

"Well, you can't color me shocked since a man married a doll in the news. Your affection for Anabelle is on par with your affection for me, I shouldn't be surprised if you're having an affair with your cousin," Pedro said.

Isabella glared at him, unable to speak anymore. Why were men so difficult and narrow-minded!

"Hey!" Anabelle stood to her full length. Unlike Isabella, she was ready to explain everything to the end, "What you saw is a misunderstanding. I was simply expressing my love, I mean, affection for Isabella," She replaced the word 'love' realizing the situation was a bit tricky.

"Moreover," she added, puffing out her chest, "Compared to you guys, girls are more expressive with their feelings. Hence, you shouldn't be that shocked to see us hugging and showering each other with fondness,"

"Really?" Pedro scoffed, "So I should expect you hugging my girlfriend like this..." He demonstrated by trying to hug Julie who pushed him away.

"Hey! What are you doing?" Julie wrapped his hand across his chest protectively, "It's not enough that I have to endure you sleeping naked, now you want to assault me as well?" he scowled at Pedro.

"What?!" Anabelle shouted.

"You sleep naked with him," Isabella pointed to Julie accusingly, "What if he does something to you in your sleep?"

Julie almost spat blood, he faced Isabella, "What do you think of me? I'm the one in more danger of your boyfriend!"

"Exactly," Anabelle supported her boyfriend, "He's not the one who goes to bed naked," she claimed.

Pedro defended himself, "Men are more likely and comfortable to show off their nakedness than women,"

"Also," Isabella supported her boyfriend, "My Pedro is innocent. I'm actually more afraid of your experienced boyfriend, Julie, corrupting him,"

Anabelle and Julie were dumbfounded. Innocent? What innocent? Compared to them, weren't they the ones always doing it?

"Fine, it seems we have to lay down some boundaries here," Julie suggested.

"I'm in full support," Pedro raised his hand and turned to Anabelle saying, "I'm actually scared that someone will use their innocence to seduce my dear girlfriend,"

Anabelle glared at him, "Fine by me, I need to protect my boyfriend before he gets traumatized by someone's nakedness,"

"Fine by me," Isabella approved, "Pedro is an extinct species, he needs to be protected from the ravenous wolf," she said, staring straight into Julie's eyes.

It was game on.

The next minute, everyone had gathered around the table with a paper and pen on it.

"First rule: Limit physical contact between the both of you," Pedro stated firmly. It was decided that the four of them would come up with a single rule.

He went on, "That means hugging between the both of you must never last more than five seconds, no sleeping on the same bed and all kisses should be restricted to a peck. And never look Isabella in the eyes," she warned Anabelle knowing how charming her eyes were, "That's all,"

"My rule," Anabelle decided to go next, "You must under no circumstances sleep naked with Julie in the same room with you. No showing off body parts either,"

"Showing off body parts," Pedro didn't get the last part of her rule.

Isabella snorted laughter, "She means do not compare sizes of your d*cks in the restroom - stuffs you guys do in secrets,"

"God, are you even a woman?" Julie wanted to hide his face in shame. How could a girl be so crude?

"I'm not a woman? Do you want to check my tits?"

"Isabella!" Anabelle went red in the face.

Pedro put his arms possessively around Isabella's waist. One of these days, he had to teach her how to speak.

"Fine, I'm next," Julie couldn't wait to begin, "Girl's night between the both of you should not be held behind closed doors and never undress in front of my girlfriend," Isabella was goddamn hot, what if Annabelle falls for her without realizing it. It would be a huge scandal!

Naive cousin falls for her innocent cousin, Julie shuddered thinking about it.

"Is that all?" Isabella asked him knowing she was next on the line.

"Yes,"

"My turn then," Isabella began, "Never share a bed with my boyfriend if you're drunk. What if you do something to him and blame it on your drunkenness?"

Julie opened his mouth to defend himself but Isabella made a silencing motion and he had no choice but to close his mouth.

"Finally, no bromance with my boyfriend. If I get as much as a hint of a crush from you, I'll end you. Pedro is mine, understood?"

Julie gulped, what does it sound like Isabella was deadly serious?

Bless this shameless author with your golden ticket ????

Chapter 572 - Five Hundred And Seventy-Two: Impress The Queen

The third point of view:

"I love this!"

"I hate this!" was Isabella's negative confession unlike the enthusiastic Anabelle waltzing around with her partner, Julie.

Today's lesson on Lincolnshire centered on dancing - Isabella's worst nightmare. With the couples facing each other, it incorporates moves from other dances such as swing, modern jive, and salsa. Basically, the dancers progress around the dance floor with a waltz step, but with no constraints on what moves they can use.

And so far Isabella could no longer count the number of steps she stepped on Pedro's toes than the number of times she did a spin.

It was just too much for her. Isabella was a master planner but the twirls and turns spin her brain, she couldn't come to a good analysis. So in one word, she was a bad dancer.

"Ouch," Pedro tried not to yelp but a high heel - Jacqueline had made it mandatory - suddenly stepping on his toes was not exactly a concealable pain.

"Maybe, we should stop this," Isabella said, and out of the corner of her eyes, Isabella watched the perfect Anabelle as Julie did a quarter-left turn while still holding on to her.

Julie then firmly leads her with his right hand on her back, so that Anabelle travels across and turns around, and faces the opposite direction she was facing. At the same time, Julie does another quarter-left turn as necessary in order to follow Anabelle and face her. They were both skilled and moved with fluid motion and perfection.

"It's hopeless anyway. This is the one thing I cannot do," Isabella shook her head and turned to withdraw from the dance.

However, Pedro drew her back, pulling her closer, and leaned in to whisper, "We don't need to dance to be perfect..." his lips tickle her ear, her pulse raced, "We could just have fun,"

Pedro braced his hand on her hips, leading and giving her no choice but to sway to the music. They were not perfect but they sure were perfect at that moment.

Anabelle was delighted, for the second time in her life she discovered something Isabella was not good at. She couldn't help but wonder why she had been jealous in the first place. She and Isabella were two different people with different personalities and passions. This made her realize Isabella was not a goddess of perfection as she once thought.

Julie had been right, she had to find her niche and now she found it, she was happy. Anabelle looked up at adoration, she was lucky to have him.

However, amid the good dancers - Anabelle and Pedro - another couple stood out greatly.

"Perfect!"? Jacqueline complimented the couple Ailee and Neon as they waltzed to the beat and counts. The kids were extraordinary! How had she not seen this?

But then, a certain figure had a huge scowl on his face even as he waltzed and that was no other person than Allen. Because there was no other person to partner with, he and his cousin Akim had to dance together. Although both were good, Ailee and Neon were better and Allen blamed it on Akim being a he - he would dance much better with a female partner!

Ailee, Allen, and Neon had tactically elicited information from their cousin Akim regarding Lord Albert. But then, none of the information helped their plan of stealing his phone.

They couldn't visit his place unless they got permission from their parents - which was mission impossible. Their parents would draw the truth out of their mouth - and for a great reason.

They had planned to use Akim but then, their cousin had no desire to visit the man and they couldn't press him else he suspects their plan.

They were close to giving up until they heard the news from Akim, the queen was strengthening the relationship between the lords and her guests over dinner. Which meant Lord Albert would be in attendance and they could steal the phone right under his nose.

But then, there was a slight problem, children were not in attendance. However, Ailee and Neon had a plan.

"Magnificent!" Jacqueline continued to gush out even after the dance ended, "The both of you are great dancers!"

Ailee winked at Neon and the boy blushed, scratching the back of his head shyly. He never thought he would be so good at it - his mother Jennifer had put him through dancing class when she was still together with Niklaus. Jennifer gave him rigorous training when young - hoping to impress Niklaus - unfortunately, Neon excelled in nothing but dancing - it sure came in handy now.

"Whatever," Allen rolled his eyes, filled with jealousy.

"Thank you," Ailee did a bow, then took advantage of her praises, "So, Miss Jacqueline, I was hoping we could dance at the dinner tonight,"

"Alright, wait - what?!" Jacqueline realized what she just said, "What are you talking about?"

"We want to render a special presentation to the queen," Neon added.

Jacqueline tipped her head unsure, "I don't think Kids are permitted at the dinner...?"

Ailee didn't wait for a second for doubt to grow inside of her, "You just said we were perfect, which means you were impressed with our dancing. How then, the queen when we barely began lessons a few days ago? She would be more than impressed, don't you think so? "

There were conflicting feelings across Jacqueline's face as she thought about the suggestion. It was good but....

Allen might be jealous but he was not a fool to disrupt their plans because of emotion. So he added, "Come to think about it, if we can impress the queen, who knows?" he shrugged, "She might reward you,"

Jacqueline's expression shone. Dear God, the offer was tempting. If she could get a promotion, that would be so great.

"Fine, I'll see what I can do about that. However, if we are going to do that, that means we'll have to go over the routines,"

"Sure," They were delighted. The kids didn't mind rehearsing over and over again if it meant their plans went through.

"Now, if you give me a minute," Jacqueline said and left.

"Yes!" Ailee and Neon did a high five only to turn around and bump into Isabella who had a stern look.

"Now, spill,"

Bless this shameless author with your golden ticket ????

Chapter 573 - Five Hundred And Seventy-Three: The Dance

The third point of view:

The mood was lively and joyous as the guests schmoozed with one another. Contrary to what the queen thought, the dinner went better than expected.

Humans are social animals and therefore naturally seek the companionship of others as part of their well-being. Moreover, everyone in the room was of great social standing and wanted to establish one business connection or the other.

Hence the great hall became a hub of activities and chatters as everyone interacted with their partners.

"Congratulations to the pregnant ladies, we should drink a toast to them," Judy chuckled, picking a glass of wine from one of the passing waiters.

"That would be us the men drinking - no wine for our lovely pregnant ladies," Niklaus said, picking his own wine.

Every one of them had gathered tonight to honor the queen's invitation. Moreover, there was no harm in socializing - unless one of them bears bad intentions. They understood the queen's reason for this event, to develop interpersonal relationships between the people of Lincolnshire and outsiders.

"That is so unfair," Camille made a mean moue, realizing for the first time how restrictive pregnancy was.

"Sorry, honey," Eden drew her closer to his side, rubbing her shoulder affectionately. There was adoration in his eyes as he stared down at his wife, "A few months more and you'll be free to drink all you want,"

"This is why I hate pregnancy," Reina commented. Everyone knew how much she enjoyed wine.

"There's no need to hate it, it's a gift," Emily said, making Reina realize how wrong she'd been with her words.

"I don't mean I hate my -" she tried to explain.

"You don't need to explain," Emily smiled in understanding, then made a gesture to one of the waiters who arrived with a tray of sparkling wine.

She then directed him to serve the ladies who stared at her with puzzling expressions. Didn't she just hear they were banned from wine?

"What are you doing?" Judy whispered into her ears knowing she wasn't the type to intentionally cause trouble.

"I knew this would happen so I had it prepared beforehand," Emily turned to them, "Sparkling wine does not have to be alcoholic. With alcohol-free champagne, even teetotalers can enjoy the refreshing, fizzy taste of this sublime beverage,"

At once, Reina's lips tugged to the side, "Have I ever told you that I love you?" she teased Emily.

"No, you didn't. But don't worry, he..." she turned to Judy, "Tells me every day,"

The both of them chuckled and they enjoyed their wine in peace. No sooner than that, other people engaged them in conversation and they had to break up.

"The queen has arrived!" the majordomo announced and instantly all conversations ended as everyone revered her presence.

There were two long tables in the hall arranged vertically and joined together such that they continued where one ended. The floors were wood and polished so much it reflected light above from the massive brass chandeliers. The walls held paintings and the queen went over to the head chair with Judy and Emily appearing by her side, seconds later.

"I want to thank you all for honoring my invitation and sacrificing your time to fulfill the aim of this dinner. But then, we can't wait any longer. So let the feast begin," she announced and reverberating applause filled the room.

Soon everyone settled down and numerous servants began to fill the table with hot and tantalizing dishes. Everyone maintained a low and polite conversation as they ate their meal until the light on the area set aside for dancing suddenly dimmed.

"Huh?"

Everyone's attention was suddenly drawn to the stage as the single spotlight revealed a little boy and a girl geared in white throughout and still as a statue.

Then, they moved a limb robotically.

The audience gasped in astonishment.

Niklaus was stunned.

"Oh God," Reina groaned as soon as she recognized Allen and Ailee. What in the world were they up to?

The light dimmed once again and the spotlight came back on only to reveal the kids had doubled - and the prince was among them.

"What is Akim doing?" Emily asked no one in particular.

"I have no idea," Judy muttered, and hoping to God that whatever the kids were up to better be good.

"What is this?" The queen asked when Jacqueline came over to her.

"The kid wanted to surprise you with a dance," she informed her.

"Hmm," was all the queen said, which Jacqueline took as a good sign. Now, it was up to the kids to make her proud. Hopefully, they don't flop this.

Hands braced on her hips, Neon and Ailee began their dance as practiced and planned. He steps forward on his right foot whilst Ailee steps back on her left. They step to the side on the other foot and conclude the figure by closing the first foot beside the second. Each step takes up a full beat of the music. The crowd erupted in wows and applause.

Cecil who was seated beside Reina leaned in, saying. "They're not bad,"

"Yeah, they're not bad," Reina muttered, yet the seed of doubt in her heart grew the more. She knew her kids and her sixth sense was telling her they were up to no good. Reina prayed her feelings were wrong else she would skin them alive - if they survived the queen's wrath.

In no time, they began to dance fairly quicker as the song became an upbeat tune, playing faster. One of the guests was unable to withhold her excitement anymore and joined them on the dance floor. That bold move motivated the others and soon, there were many dancers on the dance floor.

Seeing this, Allen gestured to Ailee and she understood the signal. It was time. This was what they prepared for. So while Allen, Akim, and Neon kept the others entertained, Ailee danced over to Lord Albert and took him by the hand saying, "Dance with me,"

Left for him alone, Lord Albert would have rejected her without batting an eyelid, but seeing the queen's nod of approval and the joyous ambiance in the hall, he had no choice but to give in. What could happen anyway?

Bless this shameless author with your golden ticket ????

Chapter 574 - Five Hundred And Seventy-four: Treason Against The Crown

The third point of view:

They could not flop this plan, not after they had deceived Isabella into coming here. They knew Isabella was smart and had evaded her question smartly.

"Dance with me," Ailee took his hand, already drawing Lord Albert to the dance floor. They knew he could not turn down the offer not while the spirit was high and the queen was watching.

Moreover, adults would see it as giving in to the kid's impulses, hence there was no way the man would reject the offer - the twins had seen the plan through.

Aside from the fact that he was down with age, Lord Albert was no dancer and Ailee knew that which was why she took the lead. She controlled the dance and occupied him while tactically giving her brother, Allen, the signal by winking her eyes twice.

That was the next part of the plan, stealing the phone. Although they had been dancing, Neon had been assigned to keep an eye on Lord Albert's movements. And according to his surveillance, the phone was safely tucked in the pocket of his pants - as expected.

Now, the job was left for Allen. If anyone could surreptitiously take stuff from anyone without them noticing, Allen was perfect. His dexterity was second to none.

So while Ailee and Lord Albert were busy waltzing, Allen and Neon swayed over to them and while no one was looking, he swiftly pickpocketed the phone.

"Gotcha," a victorious smile made its way across his face.

Unfortunately, one of the joyful dancers bumped into Allen and the phone slipped from his hand and fell to the ground.

"Crap!" Ailee cursed out, her eyes widening at the sight of the fallen phone.

"Crap?" Lord Albert was stunned at her language. Do kids her age curse like that? Was it the latest trend? Children nowadays.

He then discovered that her attention was divided and was curious to see what she was staring at. But the instant he attempted to turn around, Ailee brought his attention back around.

"Sir, you should focus on the dance," Ailee smiled politely, leading him along.

"Oh no," Allen muttered as soon as the phone fell.

"I'll get it," Neon offered and tried to pick it but one of the dancers unintentionally kicked it and the phone slid far from him.

"Oh shit, that is not good," Allen knew immediately.

And just like that, Allen and Neon worked on getting the phone back. However, it seemed that fate was playing with them, because each time they were close to grabbing the phone, it would be kicked away from their reach by the happy, ignorant dancers.

Ailee wasn't left out either. She had to work hard at making sure Lord Albert didn't notice the phone or her brothers chasing after it.

"What is going on with them?" Emily asked, everyone at the table had noticed their weird dancing.

"I don't know," Reina replied, her heart pounding in her chest. It was confirmed, her kids were up to something.

"They seem to be chasing something," Cecil squinted her eyes, trying to make out the cellphone.

"It's a phone," Judy announced.

"What are they doing with the phone?" Emerald was curious as well.

"We have to stop that dance," Niklaus said.

"What is going on?" The queen had a furrow on her face, finally noticing the slight commotion on the dance floor.

"I'll take care of it," Judy stood at once, gesturing to the orchestra to stop the music.

On the dance floor, Akim couldn't tell what was going on any longer. Allen and the others were not following the dance routine they had practiced anymore and they seemed to be chasing after a phone - that had slid to his feet.

"Akim! Pick the phone!" Allen ordered him.

However, just as the confused Akim was about to do as he was told, a lady drove the phone away with her heels and this time the phone landed at the feet of Lord Albert and Ailee.

"Holy God," Allen and Neon held their breath. They were toasted.

At first, Lord Albert gave a mere glimpse at the phone at his feet and took his gaze away. However, it clicked in his head and his eyes widened at the sight of his phone.

He, first of all, felt his pocket and when he came up with nothing, was able to put two and two together. His sight fell accusingly on Neon, "You ingrate!" He roared and bent to pick the phone.

However, Ailee was faster. Just before he could grab the phone, Ailee struck the phone away with her feet as if it were a football, "Hands up, Allen!"

And he did as obeyed.

Allen jumped up, catching the phone in mid-air.

"Gotcha!" he was delighted, examining the phone which thankfully had no crack - God was on their side.

The music ended.

An awkward silence descended in the hall as everyone's questioning looked rested on the kids. They had all witnessed what happened.

"What the hell is this?!" The queen thundered, banging her hand on the table.

No one dared to make a sound, not to talk of breathing carelessly. The tension was suffocating.

The queen turned her sharp gaze to Jacqueline who was already shivering by the side. She was done for. She was dead. She knew it. She shouldn't have entertained the kids' request. Now they've brought trouble as usual.

"Can you explain this?!" the queen lost her temper! The bouquet was ruined, all because of the kids! This was why she had not permitted them in here in the first place.

"Y-your highness..." Jacqueline stammered, "I sincerely don't know...." she gulped, "They just told me they wanted to entertain you,"

"What?" the queen was dumbfounded, "You acted on a child's whim and let them destroy my -!"

"It was not intentional, your highness!" Ailee spoke up, interrupting the queen.

Reina wanted to die at that moment, her kids had killed her. All she told them was to stay still and they failed.

"What?!" The queen was shocked at her boldness.

Allen stepped out, bravely pointing at Lord Albert, "We believe that he is planning treason against the crown,"

Everyone gasped in shock.

Including Lord Albert.

Bless this shameless author with your golden ticket ????

Chapter 575 - Five Hundred And Seventy-five: Search His Cellphone

The third point of view:

If there had been awkward silence previously, now was a shocking one. Except for the sound of their breathing, the great hall was so quiet that a pin dropped would reverberate greatly across the room.

"What did you just say?" The queen was the first to recover from the impact, already at the edge of her seat. She wanted the truth.

"Lord Albert is planning a treason!" Ailee supported her brother. They were in this together.

There was a great uproar in the hall as everyone - the other lords and guests - began to deliberate the accusation. It was simply unbelievable.

"Oh my God," Reina pinched the space between her brows. She was regretting it, taking the kids to Lincolnshire was a huge mistake. Reina had always felt this would happen, she just never wanted to acknowledge the feelings.

"We have to stop the kids now," Niklaus' jaw was clenched. He knew how worried Reina was right now and it wasn't good for the babies. He had specially warned the kids not to upset their mother and yet, they did it.

"No, leave them," Emerald stopped him with a hand on his shoulder.

"What?" Niklaus eyed him.

"They've already begun, it's not worth stopping them now. Moreover, who knows, they might be speaking the truth,"

And thanks to that comment from Emerald, the others who had wanted to stop them as well, took a step back. They just silently hoped the kids were right and that this wasn't one of their many pranks. Else, they were doomed.

"Do you fully grasp the gravity of your allegation? You accuse one of my lords of treason and that is a capital offense punishable by death?"

"Yes, we know that and are confident that we are right," stated Allen, eliciting another uproar from the crowd.

"Your highness!" Lord Albert spoke up, "You don't possibly believe a bunch of kids who just stole my cellphone -".

"His cellphone is the evidence!" Neon announced.

Another gasp from the crowd.

"This is getting bad," Reina turned to her husband, "I'm not comfortable with this anymore. We should stop the kids before they add more fuel to the burning flame,"

Niklaus nodded and at once, stood up, saying, "Forgive my kids, your highness, the queen. They must have lost their mind. If you can please -"

"Let them speak," The queen was adamant, "They claim they have evidence, I would love to see it,"

Niklaus couldn't say anything more and stood helplessly. God save his children.

Neon took that as a cue to continue, "The first day we arrived, I bumped into lord Albert in the hallway. His phone dropped and I helped him pick it, that was when I saw the message. Although I couldn't see the person he chatted with, they definitely discussed treason,"

There were murmurs within the crowd, everyone pointing out their view on the matter.

"Your highness! Don't tell me you believe a mere kid's words over your loyal servant?" Lord Albert argued.

"Did you or did you not bump into the kid on the said day?" The queen questioned him sternly. The matter of treason was not to be treated trivial - they learned a hard lesson from the invaders.

"We indeed bumped into each other, but I'm innocent of what he accuses him of," He turned to Neon, "You can't trust a kid who isn't even sure of the recipient of the said message. Also, how long had he stared at the screen enough to know I was planning treason against you? Our contact barely lasted a second. His evidence is unreliable," Lord Albert claimed.

"We should search his phone then," Ailee stated, raising the phone in the air so everyone could see it.

"They met three days ago which means the chat wouldn't be too far off. Even though we don't know who he chatted with, the case of treason is broad and we would surely find more than one contact in cahoots with him which is enough evidence to implicate him,"

Another roar of murmuring arose.

Reina began a silent prayer. Her kids better be right because this wasn't a normal case - they were accusing a lord. If all of this turns up negatively, even though they are kids, she was sure they will be punished severely.

"Fine, someone should search the phone," The queen ordered.

"I'll do it," Judy volunteered with his hand raised, standing up from his chair.

Lord Albert frowned at the turn of events but said nothing.

"Fine, do it," The queen permitted.

Judy went over and took the phone from Ailee before asking Lord Albert to unlock his password. And while he began his search, the debate continued.

"Also," Neon added, "I was in the garden the other day playing with my mouse when I saw Lord Albert come in with another man I couldn't recognize because I was hiding in the bush. They said the queen needed to go and they had control of the guards. He also mentioned he would promote him if it all goes well," he recalled as much as he could.

The crowd gasped in shock once more.

By now, the queen had her hands clenched by the side. She was so angry, but above all, she was disappointed - she had trusted him.

With red eyes, she turned to Albert saying, "What do you have to say about this, lord Albert? Did you or did you not have such a conversation and with who?"

At once, everyone turned to Lord Albert, waiting for his response. This was a dire situation and his answer determined his survival.

"Yeah, I did," the man said and the crowd gasped. The queen felt as if a sword just went through her chest. How could he?

"But then," Lord Albert said, "The reasons are totally different from the lies the young boy spewed. I only spoke with the captain of the tenth division to sort out the security of the palace considering the influx of guests with the royal wedding at the corner - security shouldn't be lax. I asked him how many guards were assigned to the royal family and the rest of the details are confidential and accessible to me as your defense minister. In the end, I promised to promote him if he does his job perfectly,"

"It's a lie!" Neon said.

"I think this child already misunderstood me from the beginning and has a conceited view of me,"

"But I'm telling the truth!" Neon whined.

"Would you believe me, your royal lord who stood by you for years and fought alongside you during the invaders or a kid still in diapers, your royal highness?! "

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Chapter 576 - Five Hindred And Seventy-six: A Lighter Sentence

"Would you believe me, your loyal lord who stood by you for years and fought alongside during the invaders or a kid still in diapers, your royal highness?!"

That question carried a lot of weight and everyone turned in the direction of the queen to know what her decision would be. Most of them believed Lord Albert, however, something must have happened for the kid to come up with such an allegation. Hence, it was suspicious.

To their surprise, the queen didn't reply, rather turned to her son, Prince Kai, asking, "What is the result? What did you find?"

At once, everyone returned their gaze on Judy recalling he was with the evidence.

Judy looked down on the phone and then at the audience before he shook his head sadly, "There's nothing here,"

"What?!" The kids shouted from shock.

There was a great uproar from the crowd. Even the queen was struck dumb. Above all, the kids were the most confused.

"How is that possible!"

"No way!"

"It can't be possible!"

"Are you sure you checked well?" Reina stood up this time. If this was wrong, then her children were in deep trouble.

"Gone over twenty contacts and their chats to the time even before the kids arrived here, there's nothing close to treason or even a hint of it," Judy disclosed.

No one dared to doubt him, not even Reina. Judy was the prince and the victim of this treason, there was no reason he would lie about such a huge matter unless he was courting death.

"How is that possible?" Ailee turned to Neon at once, "Wasn't it supposed to be in his phone?"

"You said you saw it," Allen began to doubt him, "Are you sure you even knew what you saw?"

Neon bit on his lips, feeling overwhelmed and confused. He was sure of what he saw but with the number of stares boring into him, he was beginning to doubt even his own reality.

"I don't know," He shook his head, unsure.

"God," Allen groaned, palming his face, "We trusted you blindly and you led us into deep shit?"

"Neon doesn't lie, something must be wrong," Ailee felt it strongly. She wondered, what would her sister, Isabella do in this situation? She would probably think of all the possible loopholes they missed.

What had they missed? What had they missed in a haste to solve this matter?

Neon was sure he had seen the chat about treason and she trusted Neon was speaking the truth. The only person she didn't trust was Lord Albert and...

At once, Ailee turned to Lord Albert as something clicked in her head, "You knew Neon had seen the chat and the fact this situation might arise, hence you tampered with the chat!"

The uproar in the crowd increased, but this time their opinion was against the kids. Since the evidence was ruled out, they all believed the kids were at fault. However, so-called kids still didn't realize their mistake? How outrageous!

"Your highness!" Lord Albert called the queen's attention at once, "Not only have the kids accused me wrongly, they still go ahead to slander my name? What have I done to deserve this, my queen?"

"But your highness - " Ailee still pressed.

"That's enough!" The queen silenced her even before Reina could make a move to stop her.

Queen Roselle stood up, her eyes traveling across the room and meeting everyone's gaze. They all held their breath, knowing she was about to pass judgment. Even the kids didn't dare make a move - as reckless as they were, they knew this was a critical moment.

"This dinner is over. I want the parents of the kids in my office right now!" The queen said and strode away without looking back.

Niklaus and Reina stared at each other, and they sighed. They knew this would happen if the evidence was invalid.

"I'll speak to her," Judy offered to go first knowing he would be able to calm her down. With the state of anger his mother was in, he was sure she would make a reckless judgment.

But Niklaus shook his head, "No, that would depict cowardice and inability to live up to expectation and that would anger the queen more. Moreover, it's our fault as parents for failing to train our kids well," He tapped his shoulder, "It's our burden as their parents,"

"Fine, if you say so. However, I'll be there to help,"

"Thank you," Reina was touched by his kind gestures.

"You should have known your place and stayed there," Lord Albert said to the kids - to Neon in particular - when no one was looking.

Allen frowned, realization dawned on him, "Neon was right?"

Lord Albert chuckled and then squatted down in front of the kids who were giving him a defiant look. To others, he looked like he was giving the kids a word of advice, but the kids knew otherwise.

He tried to pat Neon's cheeks but Ailee stood in front of him defensively, glaring at him.

"You kids are smart enough to know you shouldn't involve yourself in this matter," He spoke with a kind smile - what a huge pretender.

"You are not going to get away with this!" Allen promised him.

However, the man wasn't bothered by their ordinary words, "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction,"

"What?" they were all confused.

"Things wouldn't have come to this if the queen hadn't triggered an action and now, this is the expected reaction. You can tell her the truth all you want but thanks to you two, there would be no waiting anymore,"

"No waiting?" Allen had a bad premonition about that statement.

Albert threw closer, saying, "If I were you, I'll leave right away with your parents because there will be a bloodbath in Lincolnshire soon," and with that, Lord Albert structured away with his hands behind his back.

As if on cue, their parents appeared and their gaze fell at once - they were embarrassed. Not only had they disgraced and disappointed their parents, but they also put them in trouble as well.

"Mom, we didn't mean...." Ailee was just about to explain when she quieted her by raising her hand.

"Wait for us, we'll be back," Niklaus said this time and they knew they would surely get it from him this time. They were toasted.

"We are in big trouble, aren't we?" Neon could sense it.

Allen shook his head with a look of disdain in Neon's way and left.

"Don't mind him," Ailee said to Neon when she saw his heart sink, "He's just frustrated that the plan failed -"

"And the fact the both of you will be punished because of me,"

"Yeah, sort," She nodded, yet added, "But it's not because of you. We knew the risk of carrying out this operation and yet we went ahead as a team. So, it's not your fault, Neon,"

He smiled.

Meanwhile.....

Niklaus and Reina made their way into the queen's office. She had not changed out of her clothes and looked more stern than she had been earlier - maybe it wouldn't have been a bad idea if Judy had come in before them.

"Can you explain to me what the hell happened tonight?!" The queen roared, finally letting out the anger she had been holding in.

Niklaus and Reina didn't say anything, rather they hung their heads low in shame, refusing to meet their gaze.

"They insulted me in front of my guests and lords!. Do you know how shameful that was?!"

"I'm sorry about your highness, but I can assure you they never meant to disgrace you,"

The queen scoffed, "They never meant to disgrace me?"

"Our kids can be naughty at times but I can assure you they didn't intentionally sabotage the bouquet," Reina said.

"What are you trying to say? That their accusation was right? You heard my son, there was no evidence of treason!"

"Doesn't it seem strange? That a kid suddenly accuses a lord of treason?" Niklaus pointed out, "It seems suspicious to me,"

"So you are claiming what your kid did was right?"

"Mother?" Judy interfered this time, "Lord Albert does seem suspicious,"

The queen faced her son, "Lord Albert is the reason why this throne you would occupy soon is possible, and yet you accuse him of treason? If he desired the throne as you all accuse him, why didn't he snatch it from the very start?"

"Because he now has a reason to," Reina blurted out.

"What?"

"Human beings react only when they are pushed to the extreme. I heard about his daughter Fiona and I have come to this realization that this might be an act of vengeance," Reina explained.

"So in one word, you think I'm dumb enough not to realize when my subjects are plotting against me?" the queen was offended by her words.

"Of course not, my queen," Reina was quick to say.

"Mother, she's just pointing out the chances -"

"And protecting her children who accused a lord of treason, a crime punishable by death. Do you know the gravity of what your children almost did? Had Lord Albert been persecuted carelessly, I would have destabilized my rule?!"

"Mother-" Judy attempted to plead for their sake, but she cut him off.

"Your children committed a big offense, accusing a lord of treason wrongly - that's punishable by death here,"

Reina almost collapsed at the news.

"However, I've taken into account your kindness and help towards my son Kai when I was unable and the fact we are about to be in-laws. Hence, I've come up with a much lighter sentence for the kids,"

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Chapter 577 - Five Hundred And Seventy-seven: An Attack To Launch Tonight

The third point of view:

"What is the meaning of this Lord Albert?" the queen queried him.

After she met with the kid's parents, he was the next to be summoned into her office. The queen might be old but she wasn't senile. Moreover, she had years of experience at her disposal.

Yes, she was madder at the kids for disrupting the dinner, she still reasoned. Although no evidence was found, it was suspicious. A kid who accused an aged man like Lord Albert of treason was suspicious, something must have happened.

"What is this talk of treason?" she went on, "If you have something to say to me right now, tell me?"

"Your majesty, as I said earlier, I have no idea of whatever allegation made against me. The child simply has a distorted view of me," Lord Albert still stood by his words, his head bowed.

The queen didn't say anything, rather she stood from her seat and walked around her desk to him. There was a trace of pain in her gaze as she asked,

"Is this because of Fiona? Because of the banishment? Is that the reason?" she asked, hoping he came clean with her.

Lord Albert had been a strong pillar and companion - it was quite a pity they didn't turn out to be in-laws. The queen knew if he confessed the truth, she was willing to forgive him which was why she gave him this chance - a chance to be sincere.

However, Lord Albert at once fell on his knees, "How could I dare to think that your highness?!" He cried out.

"Just tell me the truth?!" The queen bellowed, that was all she wanted. She trusted him and she needed to know that trust was reciprocated.

"Yes, I was resentful!" Lord Albert confessed.

The queen gasped. So she was right.

"I blamed you for what happened to my daughter,"

"So you planned to rebel?" she gulped, fearful at the confirmation of the truth.

But Lord Albert shook his head, "Yes, I had the thought, but you changed it,"

"I did?" the queen was surprised.

"You promised to bring my daughter back home and give her the title of princess. My anger was doused out by that simple gesture," He claimed.

The queen let out a breath she didn't know she had been holding in. He didn't betray her, he was still her royal servant - the one who had sworn to protect the crown.

"I decided to trust you once again, Your majesty! So I decided to put my all into your protection - just as I have always done - it's quite a pity that the young child misunderstood me and tried to sow the seed of discord between us," his voice showed he was hurt by the queen's doubt towards him.

He went on, "Your majesty, If I had thoughts for the crown, I would have taken it right after we crushed the invaders - the both of us knew that was a fragile time. However, I still did the right thing by installing the rightful monarchy. So why would I change that now? I'm just an old man who wants to live peacefully and wishes the best for his daughter,"

Guilt gnawed at queen Roselle's heart, she had doubted her most trusted lord because of a child's reckless claim - a child who knew nothing about the weight of the crown. She almost let a false claim cripple her political government - she knew how much control Lord Albert had over the others.

The punishment she meted out on the kids was deserving. Don't blame her, even if she didn't want to punish them, the lords would demand one. Treason was a very sensitive matter in Lincolnshire.

"Fine, I believe you," The queen said and he looked at up her in gratitude.

"Thank you, your highness," He was still expressing his gratitude when the queen added.

"However," She said, "We are still going to investigate this matter to appease everyone and fulfill all righteousness..." the queen said without noticing the way Lord Albert's expression shifted.

"Since you are innocent, you don't have to do anything but to comply with the investigation and I'll make sure they don't go about it in a way that disrupts your daily life nor would word around to the public about it," the queen promised him.

"I-Of course," Lord Albert recovered himself and bowed once more, "You're so magnanimous, my queen,"

"You can leave now," the queen dismissed him and he stood up.

"Thank you, your majesty," He smiled at her, turning in the direction of the door.

The instant Lord Albert was out, the smile on his face vanished at once.

Why did he do this, she asks?

Because he wanted his child to survive. There was not a parent who wouldn't want their child to survive and he was doing just that. His days were numbered and he had to make sure his daughter was in a better place - even if it means going against the queen.

Lord Albert was roused out of his thoughts when he bumped into someone hard. He looked forward, it was a girl with unnatural platinum blonde hair and piercing amber eyes glaring up at him.

His brows couldn't help but furrow, why was she staring at him that way as if he had offended her? He doesn't even know who she is.

Almost immediately, the girl slowly lowered her eyes - the glare must not have been for him. Someone else must have offended her and she transferred her aggression to him, he thought.

But then, even after bumping into him, she was about to walk away without an apology. What impudence! Lord Albert couldn't stand the insult.

"Stop there?" he commanded with authority.

She stopped and turned, but that took almost a minute, and muttered, "What?" in a nonchalant manner.

His anger rose to the surface, "You bumped into an elder and yet leave without even an apology? Children of nowadays, what's this world turning into?!" He lamented.

"An apology," The girl scoffed and then stared him straight in the eyes as she tilted her head in a bored manner, "Get in line for an apology because I wasn't born with one," she said and strut away while he watched in shocked silence.

"You!" Lord Albert pointed at the retreating figure and was close to an outburst.

However, he controlled himself. That arrogant brat must be a daughter to one of the guests which was no wonder she had the impetus to speak to him in the manner.

But now wasn't a moment to get riled up, not when he had an attack to launch tonight.

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Chapter 578 - Five Hundred And Seventy-eight: He's Making A Move Tonight

The third point of view:

The tension in the room was so great that the triple trouble had an illusion of gasping for breath. After the "trouble" they caused at the bouquet, they had been confined to their parent's room, never to leave until they returned. And now, their parents were back, they craved for an escape because Niklaus was frightening right now.

Niklaus hadn't made a move since he returned, rather he treated them with silence. And that silence was the most uncomfortable feeling in the world because they couldn't tell what he was thinking.

Their mother had left for fresh air but the kids understood that signal - she was leaving the discipline for their father. They had to deal with the more stringent parent.

Allen was the first to break the silence, he couldn't stand it anymore, "We didn't mean to disrupt the bouquet -"

"But you did already," Niklaus tone was harsh.

"We were sure of?-"

"An evidence that wasn't there in the first place," Niklaus cut off Ailee's statement as well.

"The evidence was there, I saw it," Neon said.

Niklaus turned his dark gaze on him, Neon wished the ground could swallow him.

"And you didn't share that important discovery with me?"

"We could have -" Ailee spoke up

"But you didn't - you all didn't tell me a thing," Niklaus pointed out sternly.

"Well, we could have but we didn't, why? Because you two wouldn't have believed us!" Allen raised his voice.

Compared to Isabella who inherited Niklaus' vindictiveness, Allen inherited Niklaus' anger, "Mom and you would have waved it aside as one of our pranks. You wouldn't even believe us!"

"Yes, we wouldn't believe you because you are all notorious for that! But then, we would have stopped your stupid assess from making such reckless accusation!"

"It's not a reckless accusation, father. It's the truth, Lord Albert is the one lying, or don't you believe us, father," Ailee asked, her expression pained.

"Of course, I believe you, your mother does as well. But the queen doesn't, alongside the lords and guests that watched you make a fool of yourself. But don't worry, you'd be leaving tomorrow,"

"What?!" The kids chorused, stricken with shock.

"What do you mean by that father?" Ailee asked fearfully, "You're sending us away,"

"Of course, he is," Allen snorted and that made Niklaus snap.

"You didn't possibly think you would create such a ruckus and go scot-free?!" Niklaus laughed sarcastically, "Perhaps, in your brilliant plan, you forgot to consider the what - if? perhaps, you didn't even have a plan B because you were sure it would work - your genius work," He intentionally taunted his arrogant son. Allen was too confident and proud, forgetting that pride comes before a fall.

"Fine, you win," Allen admitted it, "We should have come to you. So now what?"

"Oh now what?" Niklaus chuckled coldly, "What's next is that once you leave this place tomorrow, a separate panel has been set up to investigate your accusation of treason and if it truly turns out to be false, you will not step on Lincolnshire soil for the next twenty years," there was mockery in his tone. That was the queen's verdict.

It seems he's been lenient on Allen, the boy needs to recognize his sovereign authority as his father. Perhaps their separation for seven years must have caused this slight crack in their father-son relationship.

"You to be kidding," Ailee reacted to the news, "But we were just warning them! They can't do this to us!" She stomped her feet.

"It's my fault for having not taught you cultural differences," Niklaus admitted his shortcoming, "However, I was definitely sure your mother informed you that this wasn't your city. All we asked you guys to do was to stay still and yet you all failed that one request,"

"This is all my fault," Neon mumbled, his head hanging low on his chest.

"Oh," Allen scoffed, " Now you realize that?"

Neon's mood dampened.

"What if we can prove the queen wrong? Would she retract her statement?" Ailee asked, heart pounding. She knew they were right in their accusation, they just underestimated Lord Albert's tactics.

"Ailee," Niklaus let out a warning growl, "You would not be doing anything!"

"But this is treason! We could be in danger!" The young girl pressed.

However, Niklaus replied, "You've done enough of informing them already. It's all left for the queen now,"

"But Dad -!"

"This is not our city!" Niklaus snapped at her, losing his temper unintentionally. His gaze softened when he discovered he'd startled her, however, Niklaus was firm in his decision, "The queen would do her best to keep her kingdom safe and you three would do your own best by going to bed, and prepare for tomorrow's departure. You're dismissed,"

They obviously had a lot to say but Niklaus dismissed them already.

"Goodnight father," Ailee was the first to say that, followed by her brother and then, Neon, who lingered at first but left eventually, as he had nothing to say. If anything he was ashamed, he was the one who put everyone in this predicament.

"How do you solve this now?" Allen was upon Neon as soon as they made it to the hallway.

"Allen, stop it, this is not his fault," Ailee defended him.

"No, it's my fault," Neon admitted it, not that they listened.

"Then who's fault is that and why are you always defending him?" Allen shoved Neon on the chest.

Ailee shoved him back, "Stop it! What the hell is wrong with you? Why are you always picking on our brother?!"

"Well, he's yours, not mine," Allen said with bitterness, "I don't have a dumb sibling,"

At once, Ailee gasped, "That is it, Isabella! She's going to help us clear out names!"

"What?!" Neon and Allen suffered a mental whiplash. One moment they were fighting and the next, talks about being rescued by their sister, Isabella.

"We are dumb! We shouldn't have lied to her!" Ailee said, already making a start for her room.

"What? Wait up!" they called after her.

Ailee barged into Isabella's room

"Sister, we need your help -"

"Shhh," Isabella made a silencing motion, an earbud in her ear, "He's going to make a move tonight,"

"Huh?"

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Chapter 579 - Five Hundred And Seventy-nine: The Betrayal

Isabella's point of view:

"The plans has been moved, the queen is suspicious. It's a good thing I did something about the cellphone else our plans would have been seriously jeopardized. However, we can't wait any longer, we have to make a move. While they rest and make plans for tomorrow, the throne of Lincolnshire would change hands tonight. Get your men ready, it's time to move, "

I let out a sigh, a cold expression crossing my gaze. These foolish people!

Sincerely, I cared less about the kingdom of Lincolnshire but my loved ones were here including aunt Emily and I couldn't let anything happen to them. If even as much as a strand on their hairs gets hurt, I'd burn Lincolnshire to the ground. No one would take my loved ones away from me again.

How had I known about the treason? Well, my siblings were zealous fools. I had suspected it with their inquisitiveness - and carelessness. The way they had queried Akim on every detail about Lord Albert and their eagerness to perform in the bouquet had told me everything I needed to know.

I had been watching them carefully. Compared to what people think, I watch over my loved ones - almost like a stalker. Sometimes being so smart means you bore out easily, hence other lives fascinated me. So I watch them carefully and subtly while pretending not to care. If they knew I cared, they would demand more of my affection, which I wasn't ready to give. Being misunderstood was much better than being loved by everyone, that way, no one has high expectations of me and I'm free to be who I am.

I knew what my siblings planned, it was brilliant yet reckless and flimsy. It wasn't surprising, they were kids after all. They know nothing about the depth of darkness in the human soul - how twisted and dangerous the human heart was.

So I used them, didn't warn them and let them fail miserably - that would teach them a lesson not to dangle carelessly in such dangerous waters. But then, that action finally made Albert move - as I wanted.

I had a suspicion they would probably attack on Judy's traditional wedding and I couldn't let it. It was too risky that day, the mood would be joyous and the guards relaxed, none of them would expect such betrayal, especially not from their own.

So I forced Albert's hands tonight and now there was a hint of suspicion in the air. Although the queen was easily bought over by past acquaintances and bonds, her son, Judy wasn't and that was what I wanted.

Judy would surely investigate and Lord Albert knew that as well, which was what pushed their plans forward - tonight was perfect.

But then, to win against the enemies, one must know their tactics and this wasn't the first time in history spies have been sent out to enemy camps to steal information, I let myself become that spy. It was cool knowing you're in the shadows saving the world.

I waited in the shadows and when Lord Albert appeared, stealthily planted my device on him without discovery. I recalled the way my anger rose to the surface knowing that this was the man who was about to suffer this kingdom - and my family. War ravishes.

For a moment, I had a dark thought of ending him. Staring at the guard at the corner, I thought if I could only steal his sword, I could end this man and stop the war before it even began.

But then, I knew I couldn't do it as Pedro's face came into my mind lecturing as usual, "Violence isn't the answer. There is always a way other than that,"

I then tried to imagine the look on the faces of my father and mother and siblings when they heard I killed a lord. They wouldn't believe me even if I told them the reason - not without evidence. Even if they did, the stupid queen wouldn't let me be, she might even kill me before the investigation begins.

Then a dark thought emerged once again, why even bother to kill Albert. I should let that pathetic queen see the ruins her subject she trusted the most brings upon her kingdom.

And just like every other selfish human out there, I wanted to live too. Life was complicated yet interesting and I wanted more of that challenge - it thrills me.

So I went back to my spying, trying to hear what next they were upto. Since Lord Albert had made up his mind to commence with the rebel, he would surely be on call after call before he reached his place, giving out instructions and their plans.

Hopefully, the man doesn't mind sweating and changes out of his clothes else my spying is over. I had placed the mini device on his coat and thanks to the cover of the night, it would take a very close look to discern it.

But then I was distracted when my door was kicked open and my sister Ailee strode in. Speak about trouble.

"Sister, I need your help -"

"Shhh," I pressed my lips against my lips to gesture to shut up. I think I stumbled upon an interesting conversation.

Ailee looked up at me in confusion and I could see the curiosity in her eyes. Maybe our behaviors weren't that far off, we're sisters afterall. So I let her in on a little secret, enough to keep her mind working.

"He's going to make a move tonight,"

"Huh?" she blinked, "What? Who?"

I sighed, recalling that Allen was the much faster one on comprehending situations like this. And just as I thought, he appears in my room and Neon with him.

Wonderful, those there were about to bother me to death. Good thing Anabelle wasn't here - I had tactically sent her away to Julie - else I would really die from their unending questions.

"Who is making the move tonight?" Ailee repeated the question. Looking at her now, she does have a lot of Reina's fierce spirit.

"The betrayal you failed to catch," was all I said, focused on the conversation in my earbud. Lord Albert wanted the queen and Kai alive, Emily was not to live.

They wish, I snorted.

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Chapter 580 - Five Hundred And Eighty: He Would Pay For This

The third point of view:

Allen was the first to recognize what was going on. His eyes widened, "You knew about the treason? How did you know? We never told you,"

All he got was a mocking smirk.

Ailee said, eyes wide in bewilderment, "And you have evidence as well," she could tell from the way Isabella was engrossed with the cellphone.

How had she gotten the evidence? She wondered. But all that matters was clearing their names. With the evidence, their punishment would be revoked and they will be allowed to roam Lincolnshire soil again - and this time, with honor. "The kids who saved Lincolnshire," Ailee, was thrilled with the prospect of such a title.

"We should tell the queen about this," she couldn't wait.

But then, Isabella boomed at her, "You will not be doing such a thing!"

"Why?" Everyone was shocked. Why wouldn't they submit the evidence when they have one?

Isabella left the desk and walked over to them with a purposeful stride. She squatted down beside Ailee and squeezed her shoulder tight, saying sternly, "This is the point now where I want you to withdraw,"

"But -"

She turned a sharp gaze to Allen cutting him off, "This is war and in war, there are casualties and I don't want you to be one,"

"What about you?" Neon asked carefully, "Are you going into the war as well? Moms says even if you're tall, you're still a kid,"

Isabella gave him her best smile, Neon was the first baby she ever liked - babies were irritating with their fussing and soft skin.

"I'm not going to the war, I'm only going to help them win," Isabella said.

She then brought them closer, such that the three of them stood in front of her, her hands now squeezing Ailee's shoulder and Allen's shoulder with Neon sandwiched between them.

Isabella whispered, "You remember that time we were attacked at home?"

They all nodded, having an inkling where she was heading to.

"You're going to do the same now, find your toys or any weapon strong enough to protect yourself and lay in wait. Tell Anabelle and the others, but do not make them panic,"

There was a fire in their eyes as they decided to stay safe, finally realizing they were nothing but kids in need of protection.

"You can go now. I have to see Judy, there's no much time left," Isabella urged them and they were about to leave when she shouted,

"Allen!"

He turned.

"Be nice and share your toys, I know you brought them here,"

The boy's cheeks turned scarlet red, other than that, he smiled at her saying, "Be safe, sis,"

"I'll always be," Isabella said, a sensation of joy filling her heart. Her brother cared about her? Maybe it wasn't that bad to have more siblings.

So Isabella went to find Prince Judy or Kai. Whatever, she didn't really care what he answered. She knew his quarters and how difficult it would be to enter his place, especially with the tension tonight. Moreover, there was no way to know if the guards stationed there worked for Albert or not.

"Stop there," The guards commanded her as soon as she approached his door.

"Who are you and what do you want?"

"I'm niece to Lady Emily and I wish to speak to her," her aunt and Judy shared a room. She was being cautious by not mentioning Judy trying to know if they were loyal or not.

"It's late, you should come back tomorrow," the other guard waved her away like a kid, and Isabella wasn't bothered by it. Sincerely, it was better they underestimated her, that way she would have the upper hand when it was time to strike.

"I'm sorry but it's important," Isabella pressed.

"As I said, go home! Miss Emily is resting," the other guard insisted.

Isabella smiled, knowing it was time to draw them out. If they were genuine, they would let her in, but if they weren't? They would try to subdue her.

Isabella knew they wouldn't hurt her. She was a guest and hurting one of the guests means they were bringing another war on themselves. Most of the guests here were aristocrats and important personalities.

So Isabella spoke like a spoiled brat, "Fine, since you don't want me to speak with aunty, I'll call her then. Let's see if she's asleep as you claim," she pulled out her phone as if to make a call.

Isabella made out the subtle changes in their aura even before they moved. They were Albert's men - he had his people scattered.

The other tried to grab her from behind but Isabella pretended to pick something from the ground and the man tripped over her, falling straight to the ground. His partner's eyes grew wide as he tried to comprehend if this was intentionally or not. However, he still lunged at Isabella.

"Sorry, but I'm too lazy lately," Isabella said and brought out a device strapped to her waistband, electrocuting the man till his legs could no longer carry him. He crumpled to the ground.

The other man recovered and pounced on her, unfortunately, Isabella had the wits and agility. She easily dodged his moves and stunned him in the end. He collapsed in a heap on the floor.

Isabella opened the door to Judy's quarters and saw two guards knocked out coldly - they must be the original guards. But she ignored them and went into the bedroom and there he found Judy on the floor, gagged and his hands bound behind him.

He made a noise when he saw her but Isabella's gaze trained on the figure on the bed. She gasped when she realized it was aunt Emily and there was a trail of blood on her forehead.

Is she dead? The thought made her sick to the stomach. No, it couldn't be.

Isabella forced herself to press her finger across her nose and relief flooded her body. She was still alive.

Thank God.

But why?

Either Albert realized killing Emily was starting wars with the Spencers or he wanted to kill her himself. Either way, he was going to pay mightily for this.

Bless this shameless author with your golden ????