

Chapter 7 Hidden Grievances!

Vanessa entered and left Austin Jones's cabin in a fraction of a twinkle as if she didn't have another second to spare a glance at her husband! Well, he was about to become an ex-husband!

Seeing Vanessa's leaving back without a care in the world, his eyes followed her loud footsteps, which reverberated her confidence, while she swayed her hips and his gaze darkened while his fists clenched involuntarily.

With scrunched brows, he grabbed the divorce agreement she had placed. Eyeing her clear signature in the black ink, he gritted his teeth and focused on the empty column next to her signature, which was for him to sign.

A simple signature could terminate their three years of marriage in the span of a single day.

Austin inhaled a chunk of air, and he felt complex emotions swirling in him, but he didn't understand what they were.

Shaking his head in disapproval since he was thinking too much about an unworthy Vanessa, Austin again concentrated on the agreement which was just a single page.

The main point written in bold italic had attracted his attention almost immediately.

As he read the contents clearly, amusement danced across his face as he understood that Vanessa didn't want any of the properties or assets from him. It stated very clearly that Vanessa won't take a single penny from him!

Austin could not help but chuckle at the foolishness of Vanessa and put down the divorce agreement on the desk with a thud and grumbled under his breath, his gaze turned so sharp, "not a penny?"

The corners of his eyes crinkled at the woman's antics, and he frowned, "what did Vanessa think of herself, huh?"

"If she was bold enough to not want anything from me, then let her be!" Austin cursed in disbelief, he couldn't believe his eyes as he kept on

reading the same point, again and again, making his veins pop in anger.

A dangerous gleam appeared in his onyx pools, and Austin suddenly become excited about the little game Vanessa was trying to play.

However, Austin was the type of man who would do anything to keep the ball in his court, and he really wanted to see if Vanessa would divorce him just like that!

He remembered how Vanessa always said that she loved him, although he had given cold shoulder to her. But now, she seemed to be a different person with no hard feelings making him wonder.

Just reminiscing the audacity Vanessa had shown earlier made his blood boil, and he tore off the divorce agreement in his hand while his eyes darkened.

He huffed while raking his fingers in his silky hair and strode to the sprawling wall and leaned on the glass window with a cigarette in his hand, while his face appeared aloof and unapproachable.

His custom made black suit was left hanging on the nearby sofa, his tie was let loose, and the first two buttons of his white shirt were left undone while a gloomy aura lingered around him.

When Theo came in, he noticed the coldness emanating from Austin, and he was visibly shivered, and words hadn't left his mouth.

Theo gulped, and he encouraged himself to speak since he knew the next meeting was an important one.

He inhaled a chunk of air and forced himself while sweat was dripping from his forehead upon eyeing the iciness stemming from Austin, "Mr. Jones, the meeting was about to begin and your presence was needed."

Listening to his words, Austin slowly turned around while puffing out the smoke from his cigarette in an elegant way.

His black pools turned pitch black as if they could freeze anyone to the point of no return. A single glance from him gave Theo chills run down his spine.

"Alright," Austin mumbled and began dressing himself with a scowl on his face while he rubbed off the cigarette and threw it in the dust bin nearby.

He put on the suit button while his lips were pressed into a thin line and

strode outside, leaving Theo behind to catch up to him.

Theo realized and mumbled under his breath, "Mr. Jones seems to be aggrieved." He licked his lips and exclaimed, "It would be better not to piss off Mr. Jones today!"

As Theo pondered about the upcoming meeting, he felt a little sorry for the ones who were participating in it since he was sure they would piss in their pants if they did anything wrong today!

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Vanessa gracefully walked away from Austin's office, and it took less than ten minutes for her to wrap up the things with Austin Jones.

She was initially worried about her feelings for him and thought it would be a hard battle for her to divorce him, but the moment her eyes met his onyx pools, she felt nothing.

Her heart which would usually beat so fast as if it would jump out of her chest whenever she saw him had become quiet all of a sudden. In fact, it was too quiet, that she could think of everything clearly!

With that, relief washed over her insides as she understood it wasn't as difficult as she imagined it would be, and her feelings weren't the same!

Of course, it was all because of the way he had behaved with her!

What else could she do except end everything with him as the hidden tides of disappointment were surging out of her chest to the point that she had nothing for the man she once loved, her husband!

Vanessa quickly strode out of the Jones Enterprises, and she felt an unknown emotion gushing from her heart. She was sure it was bitterness, but it had tinges of anger, love, hate, disappointment, and even more!

All of them were making her feel suffocated, but she was not overwhelmed like she would usually.

As the cold wind brushed past her making her wavy hair messy, she brushed them and tucked them behind her ear with her long fingers.

Her trembling eyelashes were raised a little, and her amber pools met the grumbling gloomy sky as bolts of lightning and thunders made their way from the grey sky.

She shook her head with a heavy sigh, as Fiona's word rang in her ears.

Vanessa knew Fiona was correct, the only way she could move on was to divorce Austin as quickly as possible! It was the only way to let her troublesome past don't rule her future any further and destroy her!

When the slight raindrops were falling on her skin, she jogged towards the car where Fiona was waiting for her with her hands covering her hair and knocked on the door.

Seeing Vanessa back without any scratch on her body, Fiona was relieved and quickly opened the door while signaling Vanessa to remain quiet as she was talking on her phone.

Vanessa raised her brows in confusion at Fiona but didn't say anything else and remained silent with her head resting on the headrest.

The moment Vanessa settled onto the seat comfortably, she saw Fiona's phone in front of her, and Fiona's eyes were signaling her to take it.

Seeing that, Vanessa frowned, "who is it?"

Fiona cheekily smiled and winked at Vanessa, "Mr. Grant."

Hearing her words, Vanessa paused as if a button was pressed in her mind to freeze in her tracks.

Vanessa squinted and gulped as her throat went dry all of a sudden, and grabbed Fiona's mobile, "Dad."

Almost immediately, she heard Mr. Grant say in his warm tone, "It's been three years since you left! Won't you come home now?"

Listening to his words, tears swelled in her eyes as if a dam was left open!

She didn't even shed a tear when Austin forced her to kneel and apologize the other day.

She didn't cry when Austin brutally crushed her heart.

She didn't let out a wail when she handed him the divorce agreement.

But now, she couldn't control herself when Daphne Grant had asked her to come home as if nothing had changed between them in the past three years.

When she decided to marry Austin Jones three years ago, her family and friends had opposed her strongly. But she was reckless, and didn't

think things through and did it frivolously.

She actually thought Austin wanted to marry her because he had feelings for her, but later she understood how wrong she was in a hard way.

She realized Austin not only had any feelings for her but had another woman rooted deeply in his heart. He only agreed to have her as his wife to hide his feelings for the woman in his heart and dragged her into the middle of their complicated relationship!

Austin had eyes only for Isabella, but Isabela had become his sister-in-law, and their relationship had become a forbidden one!

He could only protect Isabella by having a namesake wife on his side so that people wouldn't suspect them, and unfortunately, she had become such a wife. Just a wife on the paper! A cover up for them.

She felt ridiculous when she thought of the things she had done for him. She even left her family just to marry him but it was all in vain.

Vanessa remembered what Daphne said, "if you want to marry him, you wouldn't be my daughter anymore."

As the past events flashed in her mind, she burst into tears and closed her mouth shut, afraid her father on the other side of the phone might hear her sob.

However, she couldn't control her inner turmoil as she choked on her saliva and her shoulders trembled miserably as all her setbacks and grievances attacked her already clouded mind.

Seeing her like that, Fiona's heart crumbled, and agony filled her insides. She slowly called her name as words trailed off her mind, "Vanessa..."

Fiona had never seen Vanessa cry like this over the years for as long as she could remember! Now, seeing her cry so wretchedly, made her heart ache for her best friend.

The proud and arrogant daughter of the Grant family had become like this just because of Austin Jones!

She condemned Austin Jones in her heart so hard that if curses could kill, Austin would be buried under six feet by then!

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Chapter 8 He isn't worthy of my sadness!

After Vanessa calmed down a little bit, she wiped her tears with the back of her hands and took a deep breath with her eyes shut, and muttered, while the grip on her mobile had tightened as if her life had depended on it, "I'll come home soon, Dad."

With a small pause, she added while her voice had become raspy due to her crying, but she tried her best to not let her father know, "Once I wrapped everything up here with no loopholes, I would come back to Los Angeles."

Though Vanessa had successfully managed to muffle her sobs, she couldn't fool her father, who knew inside and out. Just by hearing her tone, he understood that his assumptions had come true.

He didn't know what troubles his daughter had faced, but he was sure she was wronged!

As the realization sunk in his mind, his throat felt dry all of a sudden, and his eyes watered, but he quickly got a grip on himself and said in his dotting tone, "Alright. Take your time but be quick. Your mother and I would prepare for your arrival!"

Listening to his words, a light smile broke out on Vanessa's face, and she muttered softly, "Thanks, Dad."

With that, she heard the other end of the line end and she glanced at her phone with a longing in her eyes.

It's been three damn years since she had last spoken to her father!

But even now, he was still showering her with his fatherly love. How can she remain calm?

A groan escaped her lips as she put her face on her knees to not let Fiona see her misery anymore. She was never a fan to share her sorrows.

Vanessa was the type who didn't want others to feel burdened by her. She would always be there for everyone, but she would never allow them to take part in her despairs.

She only wanted to share happiness with her beloved ones but not pain!

But now, even after she had become an adult, she made her parents worried sick for her. The only person responsible for all of her sufferings was Austin Jones!

Vanessa even felt she was not a dutiful daughter and a sharp pain seeped through her insides as she thought back to those days when she abandoned her family.

Eyeing Vanessa drowning in her distress, Fiona felt troubled, but she didn't stop her and waited patiently since venting her emotions was a good thing for Vanessa.

Fiona was sure, Vanessa would feel slightly better when she was done crying.

With that thought, Fiona slowly took the phone and rested her head on the tinted window, while the corners of her eyes were focused on Vanessa's silhouette.

Soon, Vanessa calmed herself and wiped her tears with a tissue, and patted her cheeks. With a deep sigh, she licked her dry lips and turned to Fiona.

"It's time to turn the tables!" Vanessa said, although her voice was hoarse and cracked in the middle.

"I'm all in!" Fiona blurted instantly as excitement ran through her veins to see the demise of the Jones family.

Vanessa hummed as her amber pools turned sharp while her gaze narrowed as she plotted in her mind and asked Fiona, "I need to borrow your cousin's social media account. Is that possible?"

Fiona's cousin, Edmund Watson, runs a famous entertainment company, Shine Entertainment Corp. To promote the artists of their company, they owned multiple social media accounts, which had a huge following.

When Fiona heard Vanessa, she froze for a second but realized what Vanessa was intended to do, and she winked in appreciation as a proud smirk danced across her face when she eyed Vanessa's calm frame.

"Of course, you can. I'll manage to get it somehow!" Fiona stated, and Vanessa gave a firm nod, although her eyes shone in anticipation.

Fiona without wasting another second scrolled through her mobile contacts and dialed Edmund.

In the meanwhile, Vanessa averted her gaze from Fiona to Jones Enterprises and rolled down the car window.

A sarcastic smirk settled on her pale face as she was deep in thoughts.

Was she foolish to believe she could make Austin fall for her back then?

Three years had passed, but nothing had changed between Austin and her. He was always cold to her as if she was a stranger to him, although she was his wife!

Fortunately, she understood her reality that Austin would never fall for her because someone else occupied his heart, and she had no place to fit in!

That's all right! She was now convinced and accepted her defeat, and she wouldn't waste another minute on him!

But the sufferings and setbacks she had faced all these years wouldn't be in vain because she would avenge for herself!

Isn't it too easy for the Jones family members if she let them go without teaching them a lesson?

A determination flashed through her amber pools, and her insides turned cold while her hands were clenched involuntarily!

After Fiona was done with the phone call, she turned to Vanessa and observed she was in a daze, facing the Jones Enterprises.

Fiona shook her head and roared the accelerator to take Vanessa away from the Jones!

The night sky appeared gloomy with the moon hidden behind the grey clouds, and the atmosphere gradually turned dark with no traces of light, and it reverberated perfectly on Vanessa's face.

The gloominess from Vanessa was emanating intensely, and Fiona knew she was still bothered.

With that, she wanted to cheer up Vanessa and asked with her raised brows, "how about we go out to have some fun tonight?"

Hearing Fiona's enthusiastic tone, Vanessa averted her gaze and peeped at her. She shook her head in denial and uttered, "Nope! I need to take some rest and continue the planning."

After Vanessa finished her words, the car was stopped with a jerk and

she wondered whether Fiona was upset but eyeing the red light ahead, she understood it was just a coincidence and sighed.

Fiona glanced at the nonchalant look on Vanessa's face and stated, "you weren't as sad as I expected you to be! That's good!"

"You're right. What was there to be sad for?" Vanessa queried and continued, "Did you remember what I did when Duke died back in high school?"

Fiona hummed, pleased with where the conversation was going as she had a premonition of what Vanessa was trying to say, and she added, "you were sad for a few days."

"Correct. Duke was my favorite back then, and I was sad for just a few days. But who was Austin Jones to me? Nothing! He wasn't worthy of my sadness!"

She had already wasted three years on him, and she would not spend another second when she was finally jumping out of the hellhole she had created for herself in the name of love!

As words escaped Vanessa's mouth, Fiona gasped and was equally impressed because Vanessa compared Austin with a dog! No, even a dog would be more loyal than Austin!

When Fiona analyzed her words, they made complete sense. Austin wasn't even worthy to shed a single tear!

Seeing Vanessa with such clarity about the situation made Fiona relaxed since she understood Vanessa was firm in her stance, and there was no need for her to worry unnecessarily for her best friend!

Soon, Fiona took Vanessa to her residence, and Vanessa strode to the guest room and stared at herself in front of the mirror. Her eyes were slightly puffed, and her wavy hair was tangled and messy, but the resolution in her eyes hadn't vanished yet!

After finishing her usual routine, Vanessa jumped onto the bed when it had just crossed nine o'clock.

But in the other room, Fiona was nowhere near asleep since she was fuming from the inside by seeing the nasty comments the foolish netizens were throwing at Vanessa!

However Fiona fought hard with those sleazy commenters, and time fled in a flash. She wanted to fight further, but it was already past three

o'clock in the morning, and gradually her eyelids became heavy and she slowly drifted to sleep with her mobile in her hands!

When the bright sun-kissed her cheeks, Fiona rubbed her eyes and came out of the room with drooping eyes, only to see Vanessa all dolled up in onyx black leather pants with a beige round neck top tucked into it and paired with a striped grey blazer.

She was slipping into her white sneakers, while her wavy hair was straightened and flowy, her shoulders were squared, and her head held high.

When she was about to grab her channel handbag and leave the house, she found Fiona staring at her in awe!

Vanessa was an ethereal beauty with delicate features. Her pouty cherry lips, deep watery amber eyes, long eyelashes, lustrous hair, her perfect proportionate figure, everything about her was so charming.

She was a kind of beauty who would remain in the hearts of people with just a glance.

To top it off, Vanessa took special care in her dressing style that day which appeared modest yet sexy, which made her even more alluring.

Her whole persona was screaming sexiness, yet appeared so tender to the eyes, which was very impressive and pleasing!

Fiona gave a thumbs up and winked with a cheeky grin eyeing Vanessa's outfit. "Amazing!" She mouthed making Vanessa chuckle lightly and mumbled quickly, "I'm going to the court."

With that said, Vanessa quickly take a look at the contents of her handbag, held her phone in hand, and eyed Fiona one last time while Fiona was already jogging towards her and gave a big tight hug in encouragement.

"Alright. End all of your relationships with the Jones family and start a new life without turning back!"

Hearing Fiona's words, Vanessa nodded while her eyes crinkled, "Okay."

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