

The Scorned Heiress: No More Mercy

Chapter 16

Evan sneers. "A frame-up? You're still making excuses? I didn't expect you to be this kind of person."

"Evan, don't blame her. She probably just misunderstood the relationship between us... She didn't do it on purpose," Jade says softly, shrinking pitifully into the man's embrace.

The commotion has drawn quite a crowd, and the onlookers all gaze at Jade with sympathetic eyes.

"Jade, are you really using this trick again? Don't you have any new material?" Tara scoffs.

"Tara, I don't know what you're talking about," Jade murmurs, lowering her head.

Tara presses her lips into a thin line. She steps right up, grabs Jade like a scruffy kitten, and shoves her straight back into the pool.

Caught completely off guard, Jade thrashes wildly in the water, looking utterly pathetic.

Tara's eyes glint with icy menace, her voice freezing over. "I won't take the blame for something I didn't do unless I actually do it. So fine, I pushed her just now. I admit it!"

The crowd erupts into an uproar. Evan stares at Tara in sheer disbelief. "You..."

Tara laughs coldly. "If I'm going to be framed anyway, I might as well make it real."

She looks down imperiously at Jade struggling in the water. "How's the water down there, sister? If you still want to play, I don't mind shoving you in a few more times."

Jade chokes down mouthfuls of water. Her makeup is completely ruined, and her carefully styled hair plasters wetly to her face. She looks exactly like a drowned rat. She never imagined Tara would pull a stunt like this. Seeing that no one is making a move to pull her out, she is forced to climb out herself under the questioning stares of the crowd.

Tara remains completely calm and collected, while Jade is a flustered, panicked mess. It dawns on the crowd that Jade had completely orchestrated the whole thing. The way they look at Jade quickly fills with disdain. How can this fake daughter be so full of wicked schemes? They can't fathom what the Dennis family is thinking.

By now, the rest of the Dennis family has heard the news and rushed over. Seeing Jade completely drenched and humiliated, Mrs. Dennis angrily begins cursing at Tara. Tara stands there unbothered, as if the insults are directed at someone else.

Just then, Danny walks over flanked by several bodyguards. Ignoring everyone else, he asks Tara, “How is it? Do you need some help?”

Tara shakes her head slightly. “No need. It’s just some petty, underhanded tricks.”

Turning back to Jade, she adds, “Right, I have a great gift for you.”

She pulls out her phone and hits play, broadcasting the video of Jade’s self-directed fall for the entire crowd to see. Once the video finishes, Tara and Danny turn and walk away.

Jade shakes uncontrollably, her lips quivering as she fails to formulate a single word. The trap she so carefully set up has been publicly dismantled.

Evan looks at Jade with a complicated expression. “Jade, how could you...”

All the color drains from Jade’s face, and tears stream down her cheeks instantly. “Evan, please listen to me...”

A look of profound disappointment fills Evan’s eyes. “Jade, don’t ever do this again.”

The whispers among the guests grow louder.

“Oh my god, she actually jumped in herself to frame someone else.”

“She’s so unbelievably manipulative.”

“And the Dennis family kicked their own biological daughter out for a fake like her...”

The Dennis family’s faces turn a ghastly shade of pale. With no other option, Mrs. Dennis grabs Jade, and they retreat in complete disgrace.