

Shadows 181

Chapter 181 The Alley Showdown Vania watched , furious , as her goons were actually bewitched by Tilda . She yelled at them , snapping them back to their senses . But before any of those creeps could react , there was a sharp crack - like an egg was breaking . Nobody even saw what happened . Suddenly , the creep standing closest to Tilda dropped to his knees . He was clutching his crotch in agony . His face twisted in pain , but he couldn't even make a sound . Whoa ! Is that the sound of his eggs breaking ? Every guy in the alley suddenly tensed up .

Seeing how much pain he was in , everyone wondered if his future as a man was over . Tilda taunted calmly , " Not coming over ? Fine , I'll come to you . " She took the lead and strode toward those men , completely unfazed . " Hey , you tramp ! How dare you touch my buddy ! " One of the guys shouted , snapping out of it . They grabbed their weapons , ready to give Tilda a brutal beating . But Tilda moved first . With one swift kick , a few of them went flying . Some hit the wall ; others slammed into the ground . They dropped their weapons everywhere . They rolled around , groaning in pain .

Tilda didn't go soft on them . She stomped down , again and again , right on their crotch . It was so painful , they couldn't even scream - they just passed out . Then Tilda turned to Rebecca and Vania , who were frozen in shock . " Sorry , I'm a little petty . You wanted to rip off my clothes , record a video , and show me some love ? " Her voice dripped with sarcasm . " If they wanted to show me some love so badly , I let them have a taste of it for the rest of their lives . " She paused , flashing a cold , dangerous smile . " As for you two .

I thought you'd at least give me a workout after dinner . Turns out , you're all just trash . Not even worth my time . " Vania asked in a trembling voice , " W - what do you want ? " Holy cow , this isn't some action movie ! Did a pervert like her exist in real life ? Tilda was just like those unstoppable heroes you see in movies . She knocked people and sent them flying with a single kick . Sure , these guys were just lowlifes , but they were thugs with plenty of street - fighting experience . Some even had weapons .

Yet Tilda , who looked weak and delicate , took them all out in seconds , like it was nothing . " I told you , I never forget when someone messes with me . Whatever you do to me , I'll do the same right back to you , " Tilda said , her tone cold as ice . " Since you wanted to strip me and film it , I'll return the favor . " As she spoke , Tilda walked straight toward Vania . Her voice was gentle , but to Rebecca and Vania , it sounded like a funeral bell , sending chills down their spines . The pressure was suffocating . Rebecca was so scared she couldn't move .

Her mind went blank , just like at the amusement park when Tilda grabbed her hair and filmed her - she hadn't been able to fight back at all . Suddenly , someone shoved Rebecca hard from behind . " Go to hell ! " Vania snapped , pushing Rebecca straight toward Tilda . At the same time , she threw a metal rod at Tilda , then turned and ran . She hadn't expected to run into such a tough nut to crack tonight . What a disaster ! The best plan is to run for my life ! Tilda caught the metal rod with ease , then kicked Rebecca aside .

" It's not nice to throw things around , you know ." In a flash , Vania was already running with everything she had . Tilda was way faster - she grabbed Vania by the hair . " Let me go ! Let go of me ! " Vania screamed in pain . Crack ! Tilda slammed the rod down on Vania's right leg . The bone snapped instantly . AAAARGHHHH ! " Vania's eyes turned bloodshot as she let out a bloodcurdling scream . The pain shot through Vania's entire body , so intense she felt like she might die from it .

In a flash , Tilda grabbed her by the hair and forced her to the ground . Tilda tossed aside the metal rod . She pulled out the dagger she'd picked up from one of the creeps earlier . With a few quick moves , she stripped Vania down to nothing . Honestly , for someone like Vania - a spoiled rich kid who loved partying and always wore barely anything- it didn't take much effort . Tilda pulled out her phone , pointed at Vania , and started recording . " You ... what are you doing ? Please , don't ... don't ! " Vania finally realized what was happening .

She tried to cover her face with her hands . But Tilda stomped down hard on Vania's hand . Crack ! Another bone broke . Vania was in such pain that she started foaming at the mouth . When the video was , Tilda uploaded it straight to the internet . " Congratulations . You're about to be famous . Don't thank me ; it was nothing , " Tilda said coldly . With Vania taken care of , Tilda turned her attention to Rebecca . That girl was clutching her injury and desperately crawling away .

Chapter 182 Table Turns Rebecca no longer cares about the video or her dignity . Demoness ! Tilda is a demoness in human disguise . An evil walks the earth . How else could anyone explain her terrifying skills , her actions , and her total lack of mercy ? Rebecca was eaten up with regret . If she'd known how dangerous Tilda was , she would never have tried to help Kyla and make Tilda her enemy . Now , she was the one paying the price . While Tilda was busy dealing with Vania , Rebecca tried to escape .

She knew if she fell into Tilda's hands again , she would suffer tragic consequences . But , to her surprise , Tilda didn't chase after her . Tilda saw her as a dying rat , struggling for one last breath . Rebecca stumbled to her feet and hurried away . She was almost out of sight when Tilda suddenly called after her , " Oh no , time's almost up . That video is probably uploading to the internet right now . I can't wait to see your dad's and Daphne's faces when they see it . I bet their reactions will be priceless ." Those words trapped Rebecca like some invisible thread . Her heart sank .

It didn't matter if she ran . That damning video was still in Tilda's hands . As long as Tilda held onto it , Rebecca would never have a peaceful life . If she were kicked out of her house , losing her privileged lifestyle would be the least of her worries . If Jude decided to take things further , she could end up as shark food . Rebecca scrambled back to Tilda , falling to her knees and crying . " Tilda , I - I know I was wrong ! I swear , I'll never do it again . Please , please , just let me go this once . I'll never mess with you again , I promise ! " Tilda's stare was as icy as ice .

" Never again ? I don't believe that . Rebecca , I've actually been pretty kind to you . I could have posted that video of you all over the internet , but I didn't . And what did you do in return ? You didn't even say hi when we ran into each other in another city . Instead , you had people follow me , try to film me , and then try to hurt me . What ? You wouldn't do it again ? ' Never again ' is not enough . You'd do it again if you had the chance ! " Tilda glared at Rebecca with contempt . " And by the way , that's not how you beg for forgiveness . You'd better beg me properly .

" With that , Tilda kicked Rebecca's knees . Pain shot through Rebecca's legs , Before she knew it , she dropped onto both knees and collapsed before Tilda . She shook with fear , tears , and snot streaking her face - reduced to a total mess . All her pride and dignity as the heiress had completely vanished . Right now , she was nothing more than a pitiful wreck . " Please , Tilda , " Rebecca sobbed , " please don't post that video . If you do , my life is over .

I'll do anything ; just don't let your friends share it online ." Rebecca realized she was caught in Tilda's web , leaving her with no way out . Desperate , she gripped Tilda's leg , begging and pleading . Tilda glanced at her shoes and said coldly , " You got my shoes dirty when I was dealing with your friend . Clean them . With your tongue . " Rebecca stared , frozen . She couldn't believe what she just heard . Tilda's eyes turned icy . " What ? Don't want to ? Fine , I'll just post the video now " " No ! I'll do it ! I'll do it !

" Rebecca cut her off , choosing her good life over any shred of dignity . Without hesitating , she actually started licking Tilda's shoes . Tilda couldn't help but laugh , mocking her . She pulled out her phone and recorded the whole ridiculous scene . Tilda even added playfully , " Wow , Rebecca , you really have no dignity left , do you ? " In the face of Tilda's humiliation , Rebecca had no fight left in her . All she wanted now was to escape from Tilda , the demoness who had turned her life upside down . " Tilda , I did what you asked . I cleaned your shoes .

Please , I'm begging you , just let me go , " Rebecca pleaded , her voice shaking . Tilda gave a little smile . " Alright . I won't post the video of you crawling and barking like a dog . " " Really ? " For a moment ,

hope lit up in Rebecca's eyes . That meant she could still survive this . She wouldn't be kicked out by her family . So what if she'd licked Tilda's shoes ? Compared to losing everything , it was nothing .

But as Rebecca tried to catch her breath , Tilda pulled out her phone , tapped a few times , and - with hardly any effort - sent the new video of Rebecca licking her shoes straight to her parents . For Tilda , the top hacker on the dark web , sending that video using a fake number and getting their contact info was easy . Tilda slid her phone back in her pocket and walked away . She hummed a little tune , ignoring Rebecca . She was in ignorant bliss , believing she was finally free of this nightmare . Tilda didn't feel the slightest bit guilty .

In fact , she felt a sharp thrill of revenge . Rebecca , you're only getting what you deserve . You're tasting your own medicine . Tilda could remember , all too clearly , every horrible thing Rebecca had done to her in the past . One memory stood out : Rebecca had once tricked her at a party , saying her parents wanted her to dance on stage . Tilda had believed her and gone up on stage . It turned out to be a prank ; someone dumped a whole bucket of fake blood on her . The whole room had burst out laughing . Tilda had never been so embarrassed in her life .

Chapter 183 Trash Is Trash Tilda stood on the stage . Her face was as pale as a ghost . She felt like a clown while everyone laughed at her . Tilda had nowhere to hide . In front of the whole crowd , she was deeply humiliated . Russell , shaking with anger , slapped her hard across the face . Tilda fell to the ground , coughing up blood . Blair watched coldly from the side . Her brothers ignored her and dragged Kyla away , as if they didn't even know Tilda existed . At that moment , Rebecca was clutching her stomach , laughing so hard she had tears in her eyes .

She whispered something proudly to Ryan and Daphne . Tilda still remembered that scene . Ruining Rebecca was far from enough . The shame she had suffered in her past life - she was determined to make Rebecca pay for it , so much so that Rebecca would wish she'd never been born ! Suddenly , the sound of fast footsteps echoed through the hallway . " Rebecca , where are you ? " Rounding the corner , Tilda ran straight into someone . " It's you ?! " Howard never dreamed he would bump into Tilda here . Originally , Howard had come to Hetsa to receive treatment and leave Slosa for a while .

After all , the Jensons had way too much power in Slosa . Even with a private doctor , there was no guarantee that news of his injuries wouldn't get out . If his family found out , they'd worry and ask too many questions . And if he had to admit Tilda was the one who beat him up , his pride would be gone . As soon as he felt a little better , with Wade's help , Howard flew to Hetsa to continue receiving treatment at the hospital . Once he was almost healed , he saw on Rebecca's social media that she was in Hetsa . Moreover , she was not far from him , so he thought he'd met up with her .

After all , Rebecca was like his little sister . When Howard arrived at the restaurant , where Rebecca had posted her location , she and her friends were gone . She didn't answer his texts or calls , which gave him a bad feeling . He asked the staff and checked the security cameras to find out which way they'd left and followed in that direction . He ran into Tilda here . Suddenly , his bad feeling just turned into reality . " Tilda , where's Rebecca ? What did you do to them ? " Howard asked anxiously .

Tilda showed up right where Rebecca disappeared . Howard knew what Tilda could do in a fight . If she'd gone after Rebecca , Rebecca wouldn't stand a chance . Tilda looked bored . " Do I know you ? Don't act like we're close . Get out of my way . " Who did Howard think he was , acting like I owe him an answer ? First Rebecca , now this idiot . What rotten luck ! Tilda's eyes flashed with disgust . She shoved her hands in her pockets , ready to walk past him . Seeing the look on her face , Howard's temper snapped . He clenched his fists . " Tilda , how can you talk to me like that ?

I'm your brother ! " He protested . Tilda had wanted to ignore Howard . But when he shamelessly called himself her brother , her gaze turned icy cold . " You'd better watch what comes out of that mouth ! My brother ? You really think you deserve that ? " Tilda turned her head , giving Howard a long , slow look up and down . " Not bad - you recover quickly . Last time I saw you , you were lying there like a beaten dog , barely breathing . And now , just a few days later , you're bouncing around like nothing happened . " Howard's face stiffened .

The aches and bruises from before seemed to flare up again . He frowned at the thought . The last time Howard faced off against Tilda , he was completely crushed . Every move he tried , she saw right through it . Howard got beaten like a punching bag . It was the worst humiliation he had ever suffered in all his years of fighting . " Tilda , don't get cocky ! I just underestimated you last time , that's all . " " Haha ! " Tilda snorted with laughter . Suddenly , she shot out a kick . So fast it blurred the air , making a sharp popping sound . Howard's heart thudded in shock .

He hadn't expected Tilda to make a move right then . Instinctively , he tried to dodge . But Tilda's kick stopped short . It was a fake - out ! Crap ! Howard's heart nearly stopped . Next thing he knew , Tilda's fist smashed into the right side of his face . He staggered backwards , stumbling several steps . Half his face went numb , and he tasted blood in his mouth . Tilda didn't even bother to give him another attack . She just looked at him like trash . " Really , Howard ? That's your excuse ? You lost because you let your guard down ?

Trash is trash ! Why are you barking like a dog ? " Howard scrambled to explain , " I'm not fully healed ! And your ambush caught me by surprise ! " Tilda burst out laughing . " Oh , please ! Do you think your opponent in a real match is going to go easy on you because you're injured ? Will they just hand you the

championship belt out of pity ? " She shook her head . " And you think that was an ambush ? If you're dumb enough to get close to someone you hate - someone who would love to see you gone - shouldn't you be extra careful in case they hit you out of nowhere ? "

Chapter 184 The Price of Defeat " A trash like you ? You can only win at silly games . If this were a real fight , you'd probably have gotten yourself killed a hundred times by now . " Tilda couldn't help but laugh at Howard . These days , it seemed like even the WWE championship didn't mean much . If someone like Howard could win the belt , then it wasn't much to brag about . Howard was so angry , he nearly cracked his own teeth at Tilda's humiliation . But he couldn't argue- because Tilda was right . Every word stung with truth .

Despite Howard being careful when he approached Tilda and staying alert , he still got caught off guard . Even though Tilda might attack without warning , Howard was still quick enough to react . He was sure he could dodge her strike . But he still got hit by Tilda , ending up completely humiliated . Desperately , Howard tried to come up with excuses . Anything to comfort what little pride he had left . If only they were in the ring . If only he weren't hurt . If only the fight had been on his terms , Howard was sure he could've beaten Tilda .

He came up with all sorts of excuses to comfort himself . Howard just couldn't accept that he lost , and lost so badly , to his little sister . He lost to the one he looked down on the most , crushed with such a devastating defeat . The difference in strength between them was so wide that it felt impossible to close . Tilda walked away , not bothering with that trash . She would've left Howard alone if he hadn't kept calling himself her brother . That made her sick . Why bother wasting her time on trash like him ?

There were so many better things to do in Hetsa - like sightseeing , strolling down the food street , sipping milk tea , and waiting for a message from Kaleb . After all , hang around trash long enough , and you'll start to stink too . As Tilda left , Howard could only watch her go . He clenched his fists , slowly got up , and made up his mind : when he recovered , he'd challenge Tilda again - fair and square . No more excuses . If he lost , so be it , but he wanted to be fully prepared and give his best shot . Just then , a piercing scream echoed through the alley .

It was Rebecca , Howard's heart tightened . He forgot about his injuries and rushed toward the noise . " Rebecca , where are you ? " After searching , Howard found Rebecca leaning against a wall . Her face twisted in pain . Around her , people were sprawled out - some barely conscious . Vania was there : she was stripped bare . Howard didn't ask what happened . He hurried to Rebecca's side . " Rebecca , are you okay ? Was this was this Tilda's doing ?

" The moment he said Tilda's name , Rebecca trembled all over , like a mouse who'd just seen a cat . " Howard , please don't mention Tilda . I don't want to hear that name ever again . " " Okay , okay , I won't . Geez , your wound is pretty bad . I'll get you to a hospital right now . " Thank you , Howard . Please , just get me out of here . " Howard glanced at the thugs passed out on the ground . " What about them ? " " Forget them . I barely know those people , " Rebecca said , brushing them off . She and Vania were never real friends anyway .

And just a while ago , Vania tried to push Rebecca to fight Tilda , while she herself tried to run away . With Rebecca's temper , if she didn't kick Vania while she was down , that was already a big favor . Anyway , Tilda had recorded everything . Vania's life was probably ruined after this . Howard couldn't carry everyone out , so he helped Rebecca to her feet and led her away . Once they made it out of the alley , Rebecca asked , " Howard , how did you track me down ? " " I went to the location you sent me .

You weren't there , so I asked the staff and checked the security cameras and saw you heading this way . " Howard could already guess most of what had happened . Rebecca and her friends must've run into Tilda and tried to get the video from her . But with Tilda's skills , it was easy to spot someone following her and lure them into a trap - just so she could turn the tables . Howard was just about to call a cab to take Rebecca to the hospital when her phone rang . " It's my mom ." Rebecca bit her lip .

Tilda had promised she wouldn't leak the embarrassing video of Rebecca crawling on the ground and barking like a dog . Still , Rebecca's heart was pounding in fear She answered the call and put on her best fake smile , like nothing had happened . " Mom- " " Rebecca ! What had you done ? Why is there a video of you crawling on the ground and licking someone's shoes like a dog ?! " Hearing Daphne's frantic voice , Rebecca felt like she'd been struck by lightning . She was petrified . " That ... that can't be ... Mom , you must be kidding , right ?

" " Do you think I'd joke about something like this ? Someone sent me a video of you doing that ! My god ! What on earth did you do in Hetsa ?! "

Chapter 185 The Promise of Hope " It's Rebecca , isn't it ? " Ryan's face turned stormy as he snatched the phone from Daphne's hand . " Rebecca , you troublemaker ! I let you do what you want out there , but don't forget what I warned you ! If you ever did anything to embarrass this family , I'd never forgive you ! " Rebecca couldn't hear the rest of his rant . Just then , Howard managed to hail a cab . He was about to help Rebecca inside when she suddenly fainted on the spot . " Rebecca ?! " Tilda had just returned to her hotel room when Kaleb sent her a message .

" River will pick you up tomorrow at 1 p.m. , Queen . This time , you have 30 minutes with Professor Kerrigan ." Tilda smiled . " Thanks , Kaleb . " Thirty minutes - enough time to really talk to Dane . Of course , she wished she could spend the whole night talking with him , but she couldn't push Manfred

any further . He'd already gone out of his way to make this meeting happen . The most important thing was that she'd finally found Dane . It wasn't all for nothing ! The next day , right on time , River arrived at the hotel and drove Tilda to the base .

Tilda moved through the security checks easily and met Dane again . " Dane ! " she called out , her smile bright and genuine . She looked like the same girl who had just returned home . Tilda was longing for family , her eyes full of excitement and hope . Tilda's eyes practically glowed with happiness . Dane reached out and gently tapped her nose . After meeting Queen for the first time and seeing her character for themselves , Manfred and River decided not to attend this time . They just watched on camera to ensure Dane was safe and even extended the meeting to 30 minutes .

For Tilda , that was a huge sign of trust . Finally , she could ask Dane the most important question .

Dane , what's your blood type ? " Dane typed on his tablet . " Type O . " Type O ? " Tilda raised her eyebrows in surprise . So it wasn't the same rare type she had . Is Dane's genius IQ pure talent ? Dane wrote , " My condition can't be cured . The mentor said it's a genetic issue . Unless science makes a huge breakthrough someday . Because of this , I can only speak with Mentor ." Dane looked down , hiding the hint of sadness in his eyes .

Actually , when Dane was little , things were different . He was six years old , with a three - year - old sister and a baby brother . His family was whole and happy . But one day , a man disguised as a civilian rushed into their home ; he was a suicide bomber . In an instant , Dane's whole family was gone . Dane was the only one who survived , barely making it out alive , and was sent to an orphanage . After that , Dane never spoke again . Everyone thought he was mute . That was until he met his mentor - his ray of hope . Thanks to that old man , Dane became the person he is today .

No one could explain why Dane couldn't talk with the current scientific progress . Most people guessed that the trauma of losing his family had shocked him so deeply . He lost the ability to speak . But with time and love , some said he might recover . Tilda pressed her lips together ; after a while , she finally made up her mind . " Dane , do you trust me ? " " I trust you , " Dane replied without a second's hesitation . To be chosen by a mentor - to be one of his mentees - meant family . It meant trust .

" I don't know if my medical skills can help you , " Tilda said softly , " but Mentor always taught me holistic medicine . I remember hearing your name from him while I was studying . " I think his real hope was that one of his mentees might someday find a way to cure you . " Mentor Hearing this , Dane's heart was moved . He nodded at Tilda and wrote , " Then I'm counting on you , Tilda . "

Time was up . Manfred and River came back in . " Mr. Parker , you're just in time - I have a favor to ask , " Tilda said . She took out a piece of paper .

Tilda quickly wrote down the names of several pressure points , the method to apply the needle treatment , and how long the session was . Then she with a prescription . " You can have any medical expert check these . There are no side effects , " Tilda assured them . " If you can find a skilled doctor to treat him , maybe Dane will be able to speak again . " " What ?! " Manfred and River looked at each other , stunned . " Please , trust me , " Tilda said . She knew her time was short . Even though Dane trusted her , it would be harder to convince Manfred and River .

Tilda couldn't promise her treatment would work , but she had to try .

Chapter 186 The Cure Even though Tilda was confident that her needle technique was second to none - thanks to her mentor's training - she knew she couldn't perform the treatment herself . Manfred would never agree to that . Dane was a national treasure . As long as there was a prescription , they could always find a top doctor to treat him . The results shouldn't be much different . " I understand , Queen . I'll find a professional to review and carry out your treatment plan , " Manfred said after a moment's hesitation , carefully putting away Tilda's handwritten prescription .

If Tilda's method could cure Dane , it would be a huge win for the country . For Dane himself , it would mean more than getting more efficient at work . He'd finally be able to speak and live like everyone else - something Dane had always wanted . Dane grabbed his whiteboard and wrote , I want Tilda to be the one to treat me . " " Professor Kerrigan , I know what you want , but that's out of the question , " Manfred replied firmly . " We just haven't known Tilda long enough to trust her that much .

Even if her prescription passes review , we still need to get approvals , find a reputable doctor , and double - check everything . Your health is too important , and no one wants to take any risks . " " Dane , don't make things hard for Mr. Parker , " Tilda comforted him softly . " I'm just glad they'll try my treatment . Whether it works or not , I've done all I can . " After that , it was all up to fate . Tilda had never really shown her medical skills before - there'd never been a reason . Holistic medicine was ancient and powerful .

It had been passed down for generations , but in the modern age , modern medicine usually worked faster and produced quicker results . as no point in being stubborn . When anyone got hurt , they'd go to the hospital In times like these , there was no for the fastest fix - even Tilda . When holistic and modern medicine were combined , the results could be amazing . Holistic medicine could help when modern medicine couldn't , especially for strange and difficult cases . Tilda wasn't a saint . She didn't just heal everyone who asked for her help .

This time , Dane's condition seemed to need her skills . Dane finally caved in . Over the next few days , Tilda traveled back and forth between Hetsa and the research base . Manfred and the others grew more trusting of her . Then , one day , Manfred arrived with news . " Queen , your prescription has been approved . No problems at all . The top medical experts in the country . have checked it , and they're amazed . For a case as rare as Professor Kerrigan's , they said only a genius could write down that prescription .

" One of the best doctors in the country - Dr . Rick Day - lives right here in Hetsa . He'll be here at the base in ten minutes to treat Professor Kerrigan . All you have to do is observe and guide us to make sure everything . goes smoothly . " Manfred looked a little guilty at this . " Sorry about that . I tried to help you get permission to perform the treatment , like Professor Kerrigan requested , but the request was denied . The higher - up decided that Dr. Day could give your treatment plan a try . " Tilda nodded .

" I understand . With such a famous doctor in charge , nothing should go wrong . Now we just wait and see if it works for Dane . " Soon after , Rick arrived at the base . He was in his seventies , with gray hair but still full of energy and spirit . As soon as he arrived , he excitedly asked Manfred , " Mr. Parker , who wrote that prescription ? " " Dr. Day , this young lady - Queen . Her real name ... " Manfred glanced at Tilda . Tilda introduced herself calmly , " Tilda Jenson . A sophomore at Orica University , majoring in computer science . Nice to meet you , Dr. Day .

" " A young girl like you ?! " Rick was so surprised his glasses nearly fell off . He gave Tilda a long , disbelieving look . " Don't be fooled by her age , Dr. Day , actually ... " Manfred started , but Rick waved him off . Rick waved his hand and laughed , " No , no , you don't need to explain ! Sorry , I was surprised . But geniuses- yeah , I get it . Everyone here at Lab Seven is amazing in their own way . " Rick had seen a lot in his long career as a renowned doctor . He'd treated countless patients .

When he first heard about Dane's background , he already thought Dane was a once - in - a - lifetime talent . Now , with Tilda turning out to be a prodigy in holistic medicine , it didn't even seem that strange . " Guess it's true - genius can come young , " Rick sighed . " Honestly , all of us older doctors knew about Professor Kerrigan's condition . We tried many ways to help him , but nothing worked . It's bothered us for years . We kept searching for a breakthrough , but after two years , we still had nothing .

And somehow your prescription gives us the answer we'd been looking for all along ? "

Chapter 187 A Hidden Legacy BA " So there are pressure points like this , and when combined with the right herbal prescription , the effects balance each other out , working in harmony . It might even bring

results beyond expectations ! " Manfred's face lit up . " Really ? So , does that mean Professor Kerrigan's illness ... ? " " Let's not get ahead of ourselves , " Rick replied carefully . " Professor Kerrigan's condition is highly unusual . Modern medicine has proven powerless , and all we can do is try .

Judging by theory , this formula should be effective , and it's worth attempting . " Young lady , if I may ask , who is your mentor ? Under whom did you study medicine ? " At the mention of her mentor , Tilda's gaze softened . " My mentor ... all I know is his surname is Kerrigan . Professor Kerrigan is my senior . We were both taught by the same mentor . " " I see , " Rick said with admiration . " To have trained both Professor Kerrigan and yourself ... your mentor must be a truly extraordinary figure . " He couldn't help but feel a pang of regret .

Tilda's mentor was clearly far too accomplished . Otherwise , with talent like hers , he would have wanted to take her on himself , to raise her as his own successor . With her talents , she was bound to inherit the honor of a renowned doctor one day , surpassing her predecessors , carrying the art further , and contributing to the nation's future . As the conversation continued , it was finally time for Dane's acupuncture treatment . Standing not far away , Tilda quietly observed as Rick prepared the needles .

After sterilizing each one , he drove them into Dane's pressure points with precise and practiced speed . He truly lived up to his reputation as a renowned doctor ; each step was carried out exactly as Tilda required , seamless and precise . The prescription Tilda had prepared had long since been sent off to be brewed . She pressed her lips together . It seemed she didn't need to worry too much . From here on , it was only a matter of waiting to see whether it worked . A few more days passed . Tilda had now been in Hetsa for ten full days .

That afternoon , Simon called , his voice full of excitement . " Tilda , your painting has made it to the finals ! The competition is the day after tomorrow . You're practically guaranteed the championship . Don't you want to come see for yourself ? " Sure Tilda thought for a moment . She had already stayed in Hetsa long enough . Although reuniting with her senior had been a joy , there were still people waiting for her in Slosa . And her studies . She couldn't keep lingering here in this cold , sterile base .

The only drawback of holistic medicine was its slow results . With other illnesses , Tilda was confident she could see progress within a short time . But Dane's condition was far too complicated . Even her mentor , let alone the nation's most renowned doctors , had been powerless before it . Despite the acupuncture and herbal prescriptions , there was still no sign of Dane regaining his speech . For now , all she could do was complete one full course of treatment and then see if another solution could be found . Or perhaps , this method wouldn't work at all . Perhaps no solution existed .

Dane knew she was preparing to leave , and his expression betrayed a trace of reluctance . Yet for once , he didn't try to hold her back . He knew that no matter how important they were to each other , clinging out of selfishness and forcing her to stay would only ruin her future . " Dane , we've already exchanged numbers . I'll call you whenever I want to talk . " And we can video call every day . I'll keep up with Dr. Day's treatments and discuss your progress with you ." She smiled faintly . " Traveling is easy these days . If you ever want to visit me , just catch a flight to Slosa .

I promise I'll make sure you have a great time ." Tilda then stepped forward and wrapped her arms around him . " Dane , even if I'm not by your side , what matters most is that we've finally found each other . " And don't worry . Mr. Parker and the others are good people . They'll protect you and make sure your talents shine here . " Her voice softened . " And don't worry about me either . I can take care of myself . And if one day , I find any of our seniors , or even our mentor , you'll be the first to know .

When I have time , I'll come back to the base to see you ." Dane hugged her gently , his hand resting on her head , as if she were his dearest little sister . Though he said nothing , his silence carried an answer , like he was saying , " Sure ." When the time came for her to leave the base , Manfred and the others gathered to see her off. " Queen , after spending so many days with you , it's hard to believe you're leaving all of a sudden . We'll really miss you . " " It's alright , Mr. Parker .

Just like we agreed before , I'll still assist remotely if you need me . But life inside the base ... it just isn't something I can get used to ." Turning to Rick , Tilda said seriously , " Dr. Day , I'm leaving my senior in your care ." After speaking , Tilda gave Rick a respectful nod . " Hey , there's no need for that , " Rick said quickly , flustered . " I've learned so much from our exchanges . If anything , I should be the one showing respect to you !

" In his urgency , he bent at the waist to return her respect , feeling ashamed of the arrogance he'd once held of that first moment he had thought about taking her as his disciple . Tilda's knowledge and skill were in no way less than his own .

Chapter 188 An Unexpected Encounter Some of the unusual yet highly effective prescriptions Tilda had suggested were ones Rick had never even seen before . She had outshined her mentor . Those so - called geniuses might have been smug , but in front of a true prodigy , they didn't even stand a chance . There's always someone stronger , someone smarter . Before meeting Tilda , Rick had been narrow - minded , proud of his own small achievements , never realizing how limited his world really was . Now that he had met Tilda , Rick finally realized just how wrong he had been .

She was only 19 , already the top hacker of dark web , with medical skills that seemed almost impossible for her age , and countless identities hidden up her sleeve . It was hard to even imagine what she would

become as she continued to grow . He couldn't help but long to meet Tilda's legendary mysterious mentor - the one capable of producing both Tilda and Dane , two geniuses so extraordinary they defied logic . Truly remarkable . After some polite chatter , River drove Tilda to the airport . She stepped out of the car with her suitcase . " This is where we part .

Thank you , River . " River gave her a quick hand gesture . " Queen , if you ever come back to Hetsa to see Professor Kerringan , just say the word . I'll be here to pick you up anytime . " After these days together , he had come to respect her deeply . Everything Tilda did was straightforward , never contrived . If a spy could fake sincerity that convincingly , River thought he would honestly have to admire it . Tilda left without looking back . She dragged her suitcase into the departure hall . She pulled out her phone and typed a quick message to Dane .

" Dane , I'm at the airport now , about to board . You'd better behave and stick to the treatments . " " Alright . Have a safe journey home , " Dane replied . Just as Tilda was still warmed by Dane's message , a disbelieving voice cut through the air . " Tilda ? Perfect . She must have picked the wrong day to travel . The day had been fine enough , but of course she had to run into a mad dog again . Tilda stood , ignoring the speaker entirely , and dragged her suitcase the other way . " Tilda ! I'm talking to you !

Why are you ignoring me ? And what did you do to Rebecca ? She's losing her mind because of you ! " Seeing her brush him off only made Howard's anger explode . He charged forward , ready to grab her . But before he could , Tilda suddenly shouted , " Help ! Pervert ! " Howard froze , completely stunned . This scene felt strangely familiar . The airport was crowded , bustling with travelers , and security officers were patrolling nearby . The moment Tilda cried out , every head turned in their direction . The guards rushed over . " What's going on here ?

" Tilda darted behind one of them , her face the picture of fright . " Help ! He's a pervert ! He tried to molest me ! " In an instant , every suspicious glare zeroed in on Howard . No one would have guessed that this buff man , who looked so proper , could be a molester . Now it proved that appearances meant nothing . " Tilda , what nonsense are you spouting ? " Howard's voice cracked with rage . " Officer , I know this woman . She's setting me up- " A bystander interrupted . " Officer , I can vouch for her . I saw it .

The young lady was just walking ahead , and this man came chasing after her like he was about to pounce . Looked like he was going to eat her alive . " " Yes , yes , I saw it too . Maybe he really is a creep ? Big guy like that - it's terrifying . " " I was so worried for this young lady . If this creep had laid a hand on her , how could a fragile young lady like her fight back ? " A group of retirees from a passing tour chimed

in one after another , loudly siding with Tilda . Howard nearly exploded with rage . Were these bystanders seriously calling Tilda fragile ?

This was the same woman who had once kicked a group of thugs flying , and even flattened him with ease . Fragile ? If she counted as fragile , then no one on earth could be called strong . " You ... you're all fooled by her looks ! She's not- " Before he could finish , Tilda lowered her gaze . A soft , broken sob slipped from her lips , her voice rough and trembling with helplessness . " Thank you ... thank you , everyone . I was so scared . I really was " Right now , the only person I can count on is the officer . Please , help me

1 Anyone could play the victim when they had to . 11 And with Kyla , a natural - born actress who could've won an award for her fake fragility , she , as a lifelong example , gave plenty of material for Tilda to draw from . She'd watched Kyla play the delicate act for years . Even if she hadn't performed it herself before , she knew the moves . So when Tila put on the act , she played it flawlessly , down to the last trembling word . The crowd instantly melted with sympathy . Her frail act only made Howard look more vile , more dangerous , in their eyes . Howard was speechless .

Why did the way she spoke sound exactly like Kyla ? The worst part was , Howard knew he wasn't a pervert . Tilda was flat - out lying . So why did everyone believe her ? And then it hit him . Every time Kyla pulled the same stunt , they had believed her too .

Chapter 189 Framed He had instinctively sided with Kyla every time like he was blind to everything else . As if the truth didn't matter at all . " Alright , sir . Please come with us for questioning while we pull the surveillance footage , " one of the security officers said in a tone that brooked no argument . Tilda Jenson ! " Snapping back to himself , Howard shook his head violently , almost dizzy with rage . He was furious . How could he ever have compared Tilda to Kyla ?

Tilda was filthy , deceitful , a liar through and through - not even worthy of touching a single hair of the innocent , kindhearted Kyla . But the officers already saw him as a pervert . They held him firmly and marched him toward the security office for questioning . With so many witnesses around and uniformed guards on either side , Howard didn't dare fight back . No matter how hot his temper burned , he wasn't stupid . Lay a hand on someone here and he'd make headlines . Or worse , land in detention for a few days . " But my flight is boarding soon , " he protested weakly .

" After the investigation is complete , we'll assist you as quickly as possible , " one officer said flatly . Howard was then taken away . As for Tilda , the moment the disgusting man disappeared from sight , she felt the air turn instantly fresher . By the time the surveillance footage was reviewed and multiple accounts taken , the officers confirmed that Howard hadn't actually done anything physical . Only then did they release him , though their eyes were still filled with suspicion .

After all , the footage clearly showed him charging after Tilda - an imposing man , nearly six foot three , over 170 pounds of muscle barreling toward her . No wonder she had cried for help . Anyone would've felt terrified being chased like that , it was as if a bear were hunting them down . If not for the fact that Howard hadn't actually laid a hand on her , the guards would've arrested him on the spot . It was humiliating . Beyond humiliating . And now , he had even missed his flight . The only option was to rebook for an hour later .

Staring at the plane already climbing into the sky , he clenched his jaw in rage . Tilda , just you wait . Once I'm back in Slosa , you'll pay for this . When Tilda finally returned to Slosa , Una had already gotten word and rushed to meet her at the airport . " Hey Tilda ! " Spotting her , Una practically threw herself into Tilda arms , grinning from ear to ear . " Una , it's been days . Did you miss me ? " " You heartless woman . You ran off to Hetsa without me . Why would I miss you ? " " Come on , I wasn't off having fun .

I had important business to handle . " The two of them teased each other , laughing as they left the airport side by side . As for Dane , Tilda thought about telling Una the truth . But in the end ; she decided against it . His identity , was too unusual . For someone like Una , who lived a simple life in the open , knowing too much could only bring danger It would make her a target . After agreeing to meet Una later for dinner , Tilda finally made her way back to her apartment .

Tilda set her suitcase down , but before she could rest , she flipped open her laptop and logged into the private forum she used to keep in touch with Jarrett and the others . Tilda asked , " It's been ten days . How's the assignment I gave you coming along ? " Jarrett replied , " Take a look at mine ! I've them . " Theo said , " Me too ! " Astrid and Zach typed the same reply , " Same here ! " After grading their assignments , Tilda pointed out their weak spots and gave some professional feedbacks . Then she assigned them new tasks . Long training pays off in the moment of action .

For now , there was no threat to national security . But that didn't mean one wouldn't come . The four of them were talented , quick to absorb Tilda's advice and turn it into real skill . Best of all , they were obedient . Whatever she told them to do , they'll do Tilda nodded , satisfied . They were so much better than that damned Dominic . it , never once arguing back Howard didn't make it back to the Jenson Villa until hours later than planned . The humiliation he'd suffered at the airport in Hetsa still burned in his chest . He cursed under his breath .

Damn Tilda . What a curse . If I ever get my hands on her , I'll kill her . Wade had already gotten word of his arrival and was waiting at the door . " Howard , why are you so late ? " " Don't even ask , " Howard muttered . He didn't dare badmouth Tilda in front of Wade . Well , not anymore . Wade's attitude toward her had completely changed . When it came to Tilda , the two of them were no longer on the same side . If Howard said a word against her , Wade might actually scold him for it . He wasn't that stupid .

Even if Howard couldn't figure out what kind of spell Tilda had cast over Wade , he knew one thing for certain that he would never forgive her . She was a traitor who had stabbed the Jensons in the back . The humiliation she'd dealt him would be repaid , sooner or later . " Where did Mom and Dad go ? " Howard asked . " After what happened with Dominic , they've been a mess , " Wade explained . " And with the lawsuit against Tilda making such a scene , they've basically been staying at the company these days , trying to manage everything . "

Chapter 190 Bad Move " Dominic just started calming down yesterday and went back to work . Mom and Dad still worry though , so they want to spend more time with him . " " Sorry , Wade . Something this big happened to Dominic , and I wasn't there to help . You guys had to deal with it alone ... " " Enough , Howard . We're family . Don't say that . What matters is you getting better , so no one has to worry anymore . " Howard looked at Wade , opened his mouth , but stopped . He thought about telling Wade he had run into Tilda in Hetsa . Yet , what was the point ?

Wade would just overthink it anyway . Forget it . The bigger problem right now was Rebecca . She had been so scared that she fainted and ended up in the hospital after getting yelled at by her parents . Things got so bad that they were close to cutting ties with her . For now , that video has not been leaked . Tilda had only sent it to Ryan and Daphne . So they would probably go after her soon . Tilda , don't let the Bells take you down so easily . I'll deal with you myself . And when I do , I won't hold back . This time , I'll crush you and take back my pride . The following morning .

Tilda had already set up a meeting with Professor Linscott to grab the invitation directly from him . She figured it was safer to keep the invite on her just in case something happened , like if he could not make it at the last minute . Showing up without it would be humiliating . " Tilda , tomorrow's the big day ! I'm literally buzzing ! You're gonna crush it , win the whole thing , and blow everyone's minds ! " " And when you do , that bitch Kyla is gonna be so shocked she won't know what to do with herself . It'll be the ultimate face - slap moment !

Una was hyped beyond belief , way more than anyone else . She looked like she was ready to throw a party already . Tilda smirked . " She is already beyond humiliated , but a little extra wouldn't hurt . "

Whenever it came to humiliating Kyla , Tilda never held back . " Alright , let's head to class . We've only got ten minutes . " " Chill , it's barely a five - minute walk . We're fine ... Tilda ! " A sharp , angry voice sliced through the chatter .

A Tilda lifted her head and spotted Daphne marching toward her , dripping in labels and hiding behind her oversized sunglasses . She did not waste a second - her hand flew up , clearly aiming to slap Tilda . However , Tilda caught her wrist midair , calm as ever . " Let go of me , you little tramp ! You dared lay a hand on my daughter ? I'll kill you ! " Daphne raged , teeth . gritted , acting like she owned the place . Tilda only gave a cold , mocking laugh . Then - smack ! She slapped Daphne across the face . Still not satisfied , she hit her again .

The double blow sent Daphne stumbling backward , frozen in shock . Daphne stood frozen , her cheeks burning red . She looked completely dazed , like her brain had short - circuited . Her wide eyes locked on Tilda . " Seriously ? How much foundation did you slap on this morning ? My hand's covered in powder . " Tilda wrinkled her nose at her palm in disgust . Ugh . She was going to need to drown it in sanitizer later . Gross . " Oh my god ! Tilda , you're so cool ! " Una finally snapped back to reality , practically fangirling as she stared at Tilda .

At first , she had not even registered what was going on - just that Daphne had stormed over with her hand raised already . However , Tilda did not just block her . She turned the tables and smacked her back . Twice . Straight up savage . " You ... you hit me Daphne's voice shook , her eyes wide in disbelief . When the pain finally caught up , her shock turned into pure rage . Never in her life had anyone dared to lay a hand on her . She was the pampered princess at her house . After marrying Ryan , she was also treated like royalty . But this Tilda ?

She just kept crossing her line again and again : And now she had actually dared to slap her twice ! Unforgivable ! Daphne charged at Tilda , ready to strike back . Bad move . Tilda did not hesitate to unleash four more slaps in quick succession . A brutal combo . Now , Daphne's face was puffy and swollen , and reality finally sank in . She froze , clutching her cheeks , and stumbled a few steps back , clearly terrified that Tilda might hit her again . " What's the matter ? Backing off already ? " Tilda flexed her fingers casually . " I thought you wanted more .

My hand's filthy now , but hey , you're an elder . As the younger one , I figured I'd be polite and grant your little request . "