

Shadows 341

Chapter 341 A Fly in the Way Tilda snapped a photo with the trophy and sent it off to Dane . Moments later . his message popped up . " I'm so jealous . " And at the end of the text , there was a silly emoji . Tilda laughed and typed back , " Don't worry , Dane , I'll be back in Cetherland soon . I'll come by the Lab Seven for New Year's . We can celebrate together . " Dane's response came fast . " You said it , Tilda . I'll hold you to that ." And he added a cute emoji to his text . Tilda blinked at the message . Was it just her , or did Dane really love using those silly emojis ?

Maybe it was because of his illness , his inability to speak . Instead of words , he used these faces to show how he felt . She tucked her phone away and linked arms with Mystro , the two of them chatting as they headed out of the ski grounds . " Tilda ! " That grating voice called out again , making her stomach turn . She leaned close to Mystro and said softly , " Ignore them , Mystro ." Then she kept walking , as if she hadn't heard a thing . But Kayden wasn't about to be ignored . He sprinted ahead , cutting them off and spreading his arms to block their path , panting hard .

Tilda's eyes turned cold . " Funny . Looks to me like somebody just can't take a hint . " Mystro fixed his gaze on Kayden , his tone edged with warning . " What now ? Don't tell me you lost , got embarrassed , and came here just to hassle Tilda . " " Don't misunderstand , " Kayden said quickly . " That's not why I'm here . " He turned to Tilda , a mix of nerves and urgency in his eyes . " I'm sorry for stopping you like this ... but I have something important to give you . " Here ! " He fumbled into his backpack , pulled out a folder , and thrust it toward her .

" And what exactly is this supposed to be ? " " Just - just take a look at it and you'll understand , " Kayden stammered . He pressed the folder into her hands before she could refuse , already backing away . Just then , Tilda looked up and opened her mouth to speak . " I don't want anything from the Jensons . Just the thought of it disgusts me ." Without even glancing inside , she tossed the folder straight into a nearby trash bin . It landed perfectly inside with a dull thud . She didn't spare it a second look .

The sound hit Kayden like a lightning strike . He froze , hollow and stunned . 5 % The scheme he had built up , the bold plan to force the folder into her hands , had been crushed without mercy - discarded as if it were nothing . " Come on , Mystro . Let's go , " Tilda said calmly . " Alright . " Mystro followed at her side as they walked away . People who had witnessed the exchange stared after Kayden . Some pitied him . Others thought Tilda's response had been brutally heartless . But none of them knew exactly what had happened between Kayden and Tilda .

Kayden let out a bitter laugh. He moved like a man drained of life, dragging himself to the trash bin. Slowly, he reached in and pulled the folder back out. "Tilda... do you really hate us that much? Hate the Jensons that much?" His voice was low, almost pleading. "What do I have to do? What would it take to make it up to you?" He had no answer. Every attempt to reach her had been met with her icy rejection, each one cutting him deeper than the last. For the first time, Kayden felt completely powerless, crushed by a sense of failure he had never known. before. Maybe...

Maybe letting her go was the only way. Maybe that was the only chance he had at finding peace himself. Confusion clouded Kayden's face.

the Way Then his phone buzzed. The screen lit up with Wade's name. He straightened slightly, tucked the folder under his arm, and answered. "Hey, Wade." "Kayden, did you find her? Did you talk to Tilda?" Before he left, Kayden had told Wade that Tilda would be at the ski resort outside Fairville. Hours had passed with no word, and Wade, unable to wait any longer, finally called.

"I'm sorry. I just don't know what to do anymore. I don't know how to face her, how to make it up to her." No matter what I do, no matter how much hard I try, I can't seem to warm her up. "For the first time, he admitted his true feelings. Against a wall that solid, could he ever break through? On the other end, Wade went silent. When he finally spoke, his breath was long and deep. "Then let it go, Kayden. None of us will blame you." Tilda was hurt by me, Dominic, and Howard. You and Justin weren't even at home back then. You never did anything to her.

"But you still got dragged into this mess because of us. You and Justin never agreed with what we did. You knew we were wrong...." I was too weak. I tried to make you carry the weight of the damage I caused. I'm sorry, Kayden. I really am." Listening to the remorse in Wade's voice, Kayden slowly calmed down. "Wade, don't say that. I'm the one who should apologize. I lost control just now."

Chapter 342 Kyla's Madness "Trying to win Tilda back was my idea. I ended up dumping the pressure on you without meaning to. I'm sorry." "Kayden? Don't say that. If you do... I'll just feel worse." "Enough. We're brothers - no need for this. No matter what, I'm already in Motrar. I found Tilda. What I came to do, I have to finish myself." Kayden steadied again.. If he wanted Tilda's forgiveness, running into a wall was normal, wasn't it? If he gave up this easily, he shouldn't have come to Motrar in the first place.

Since he was here, quitting now wouldn't be his style. The Jensons... Everyone wanted Tilda's forgiveness, and for her to come home. "Kayden, you- " "Wade, say no more. I've decided. Forget what I said earlier. I'm going to keep trying - at the very least, I need Tilda to hear the piece I wrote for her... 71 Kayden stared at the folder in his hands, his fingertips pressing harder. This was the one leverage he had - the way he might win Tilda back. She had to hear this composition... Kayden, I've decided. I'm flying to Motrar now. Wait for me!" "Wade?

Why the sudden- " " I bear a lot of responsibility for this . I can't dump it all on you . " And I know ... Santiago's temper . Without living through what we did , he'll never understand Tilda ." At that , Kayden pressed his lips tight , thinking of Santiago and Tilda's run - ins . Wade was right - Santiago hadn't accepted Tilda at all . He was furious that Kayden would humble himself to beg her forgiveness . In Santiago's state , forget helping - he'd only make things worse . His prejudice against Tilda was bone - deep . It wouldn't disappear overnight . u ... All right . Come .

" With the two of us , we'll figure out ... some way to make Tilda see what's in our hearts . " Wade , when you leave , don't let Dad and the others know . No need to worry them ." " Got it , Kayden . I know what to do . " After he hung up , Wade thought for a beat , then started packing . He filed a leave with the school and texted Kyla . " Kyla , something urgent came up . I have to travel . Could you cover for me with the family ? " Wade couldn't stay . First , the situation was urgent .

Second , face - to - face with his brothers , he might slip . Because of Tilda , the house grew heavier and stranger by the day - that was undeniable . Especially after Tilda dropped her " X " mask and won a world championship . But the biggest change was in Kyla . Right now , Kyla lay on her bed , lifeless . She'd basically been like this ever since Christmas . She had hollow eyes and dark circles . Even her hair started falling out in clumps . Lately , she'd been having nightmares . They were dreams of watching Tilda shine on the world stage .

Watching all her scheming , her betrayal of the Jensons , she ended up with nothing . Worse , she'd just handed everything to Tilda on a silver platter . Watching the family one by one shift toward Tilda , care about her , and push Kyla to the margins . What could be crueler than that for Kyla ? Nothing . Absolutely nothing . The symptoms worsened - she couldn't sleep . She relied on sleeping pills . Then , Wade's message came in . Kyla's heart twisted with pain . But she forced a cheerful reply . " Got it , Wade . Leave it to me . Don't worry ! " She even sent a smiley face emoji .

" Thanks , Kyla ." The moment they , Kyla's face changed . 2 She hurled her phone at the bed and growled like a madwoman . " Damn it - Wade is definitely going to that bitch Tilda . One by one , all of them ... Why ? What did I do wrong ? " I got better schooling than that lowborn Tilda . I'm prettier . My body's better . She can't compare to me- she can't ! " Why is she the one admired by everyone now ? This must be a mistake . A mistake ! " Her fists pounded the mattress like a storm .

Suddenly- Kyla froze , horrified .. She grabbed at the hair scattered on the bed . " That's weird ... Why is there so much hair ? "

Chapter 343 Ferris Wheel Diner Kyla felt a sudden wave of dread . She hurried into her en - suite bathroom . Clutching her hair , she stared in horror . " W - why ... why am I going bald ? " Ahhhh !!! " For a girl , baldness means a brutal hit to looks , no doubt about it ! And those dark circles ... That sunken face ... How did she end up like this ?! The next morning . Tilda drifted awake in her room . She yawned lazily . Knock , knock- A rap sounded at the door . " Ms. Tilda , are you awake ? " It was Buck . Tilda went down and opened the door . " I'm up .

Buck , where's Mystro ? " Last night , she'd come back to the villa with Mystro ; they burned a lot of time sketching portraits of each other . It got late . Tilda figured she'd never slept at Mystro's place before , so she made do for the night . " Mr. Kerrigan is waiting in the dining room to have breakfast with you . " He also said he's prepared a surprise for you . " " Okay . Tell Mystro I'll wash up and be right down . " Soon , Tilda came into the dining room , smiling brightly .

There , she saw Mystro - standing at six foot three - seated with a napkin at his collar , looking perfectly like a Lucien noble on the white bench . Those pale , clean , long fingers were laced on the tabletop . His lips , cool and thin , pressed together slightly , and his deep brown eyes rippled with a hint of emotion . He looked lost in thought . " Morning , Mystro ! " The princess's joyful cry rang out like a trumpet blast , awakening a prince from his frozen slumber . Mystro snapped back to the moment .

His whole vibe softened . " Tilda , you're up ? " " Mm . Buck said you got up early and even a surprise , so I ran over . " He was caught off guard by that . Mystro glanced at Buck , puzzled . " Buck , you told her that ? " prepped " Mr. Kerrigan ... isn't that right ? You said Ms. Tilda's always the one planning the fun , and you haven't properly played host . " So , today you'd arrange the best places to take Ms. Tilda , am I right ? " Buck was thrown , too . He'd taken Mystro's words to mean a " surprise " for Tilda ... right ?

For once , Buck - who always prided himself on reading Mystro's orders - felt a rare twinge of doubt . Crap , did I get it wrong ? " That's not much of a surprise to her . It can't beat your coffee , Buck . " Mystro lifted a helpless shoulder . For anyone else , having Myst personally craft a day out would be a dream . But with Tilda's abilities , she'd long since seen grander vistas ... It was routine . Tilda puffed her cheeks . " Says who ! Mystro , don't slack just because you think I won't care . I'm looking forward to going out with you today ! " " Okay , okay .

When it comes to you , I never slack - always all in . " Buck , the Ferris Wheel Diner for tonight is booked , right ? " " Of course , Mr. Kerrigan . As soon as you mentioned it , I called them right away . With your name and the VIP card , everything's set ." Tilda pieced together the Yvorian he'd used . " Ferris Wheel Diner ? " " It's a Michelin three - star in Fairville . The chef - owner came from Valkyria , and the menu is vegetable- forward - stunning stuff . " I tried it once - unforgettable .

Without connections , the waitlist is six months . " Mystro gently ruffled Tilda's hair . " If it earns your praise , I'm all eyes ." Tilda touched her chin . For someone from Valkyria to carve out a lane in a place like Fairville - hostile to outsiders - purely on skill , and win three stars ? Those signature vegetable dishes had to be incredible . Night settled , slow and soft . Mystro took Tilda through everything worth seeing in Fairville , and at last they reached the reserved Ferris Wheel Diner . After confirming their names and IDs , the host , respectful , waved them through .

They were led inside to a window table . From there , Tilda could see Fairville's largest Ferris wheel up close , washing the night in seven colors as it turned . Tilda's mouth curved . " Now the name makes sense . Nice ambiance ." For a Michelin three - star , the décor was simple and unadorned , not showy ; the floor was Draxia style - you swapped into slippers . Each step gave a faint creaking sound . It felt really cozy . Tilda didn't mind . If anything , it made her curious ... Just because Tilda liked this style didn't mean everyone else would .

Chapter 344 Bumping Into Tilda and Myst Most diners here are dazzled by the over - the - top luxury of three - star Michelin spots . But clearly , this place's chef doesn't need flashy décor - his food speaks for itself . At the end of the day , a restaurant lives or dies on taste . After ordering , a server brought over a bottle of seasonal soju , pouring it respectfully for Mystro and Tilda . " This is our winter special - smooth but with a kick ." Mystro took the first sip . The burn hit his throat like fire , spreading heat through his whole body .

Tilda followed with a sip , nodding . " Good stuff ." " Tilda , did you already decide on your flight home ? " Mystro asked . " Almost . I'll stay one more day and leave tomorrow . Otherwise , I'll miss New Year's . " " I've been away long enough . I miss my country . My home . " Your country ... " Mystro repeated softly . His gaze rippled , as if he'd made a decision deep inside . Just then , a tall man - six foot one , pink - streaked curls , white chef's coat - walked over , grinning . " Myst , I knew you'd show up . " " Hello , Timothy .

Oh , Tilda , let me introduce you - this is the head chef here at Ferris Wheel , Timothy Robinson . Around here , they call him the Vegetable Magician . " Timothy , this is my junior , Tilda . " Tilda gave a polite nod . " Oh ! I watched every second of the International College Art Competition livestream ! Ms. Tilda , I'm a die- hard fan of your alias - X ! " He leaned closer , practically glowing . " You can see for yourself - some of the posters here are recreations of your work I saw on Motrar Girl Forum . " He was so excited that he asked for an autograph right there .

" Of course , " Tilda said , pressing a hand to her temple . She hadn't expected that once her X identity was exposed , she'd cause a stir everywhere she went . She couldn't believe her alias was this big in Motrar - an army of anime diehards . and Myst Timothy held the signed paper like a treasure . " Perfect ! Now I've got something to brag about to my friends . " " Mr. Robinson . " Then , a waiter whispered something in his ear . " Oh ? He's here , too ? Excuse me , I need to greet an important guest .

" Your dishes will be up soon . Please , enjoy . " With that , he hurried off . Tilda stuck out her tongue . " Didn't think I'd be signing autographs even in a place like this . Exhausting . " " Tilda , your fame's outshining mine now . Timothy has never been that excited to see me . X has basically become a national idol in Motrar . " " Ugh , don't rub it in . I regret revealing that alias . My hand is about to fall off from all the signing lately ! " " Here , let me help . " Like a queen , Tilda stretched out her hand .

Mystro took it into his palm and carefully massaged her fingers . The indulgence was almost sinful . If word got out that the great Myst pampered a woman like this - even massaging her hand - people's eyes would pop out . Meanwhile , elsewhere in the restaurant . " Kayden , long time no see ! " Timothy greeted warmly , pulling the man into a hug . " It's been a while , Mr. Robinson . " " This is my sixth brother , Santiago , and my seventh brother , Wade .

" Wade just landed in Motrar , so I thought I'd bring him to Fairville to taste the Vegetable Magician's signature dishes ." After the hug , Kayden introduced them . Santiago and Wade nodded politely . " Pleasure , Mr. Robinson . We've heard a lot about you . " " No need to be too formal . If you're Kayden's brothers , you're my brothers too . We've been friends since college . " I've already got seats for you . Sit , sit . " " Much appreciated ... " But then Santiago froze , his eyes catching something at the corner of the room .

HAS and Myst He jerked his head back , stunned . " Kayden , Wade , tell me I'm not seeing things . Isn't that ... Tilda ? " And that man with her at the ski resort - the one wrapped up in goggles , scarf , and hat ... That's Myst ? " Back then , Mystro had been so covered up in goggles , a scarf , and a hat , so they couldn't confirm his identity . But now - dressed in a tailored blue suit , his aristocratic aura undeniable - there was no mistaking him .

The prodigy that the international art world called a once - in - a - century genius . Why is Tilda with Myst ? The question spun endlessly in the Jenson brothers ' minds .

Chapter 345 Her Heart " Could it be ... they're dating ? " Just the thought of it made the Jensons feel like they'd swallowed something vile . Wade and Santiago only thought of one thing - Tilda was still so young . She was only 19 , a college sophomore . Sure , they couldn't stop her from falling in love . But with him ? With Myst ? They worried she'd be the one hurt . Myst wasn't just a world - renowned artist - he was a master of disguise , ruthless , and worldly in ways Tilda couldn't match . But Santiago didn't think like his brothers .

So that's why she dared to face us so boldly , why she mocked us without fear ... She climbed up to Myst . Timothy noticed them staring at Tilda's table . He raised a brow . " You ... know her ? " " Don't mind her . Come on , let's just sit . " And Timothy - please don't tell them we're here . I'm asking you . " Timothy gave the slightest nod . Thankfully , Tilda didn't seem to notice them . She must have been talking about something with Mystro that delighted her . Her smile curved softly and bright , like a crescent moon . It was the kind of smile that stole your breath .

One glance at her eyes - lit with laughter yet unfathomably deep , dark as a still well - and you couldn't help but fall under their spell . That smile ... It stunned Wade and Santiago into silence . That smile on Tilda's face ... They'd never seen it before . Whenever Tilda faced them , she was cold , distant - like a hedgehog bristling with quills , ready to pierce anyone who dared get too close . But here , she looked carefree . Genuinely happy . Like a 19 - year - old girl being treated as she should have been all along - a cherished princess , not the unwanted outcast of the Jensons .

For Wade , the pain was sharpest . That smile was supposed to have bloomed for them , for him . But he'd pushed her too far , and he no longer had the right to see it . " Kayden , enough staring at Tilda . What's the house specialty here ? I'm starving . Let's eat . " Santiago said it lightly , but in truth , he just wanted to pull their attention away . Inside , he cursed . What an unfortunate night .

Tonight was supposed to be his big chance - thanks to Kayden's friendship with Timothy , he'd finally gotten into Ferris Wheel , a place he could never book himself . He had been looking forward to the legendary vegetable feast . Instead , they ran right into Tilda . Oh , shit . Am I cursed ? Every time she shows up , everything falls apart . Twice in a row - two ruined nights . My damn luck is rotten . But Kayden suddenly muttered under his breath , " This ... this could be a chance . " " Kayden , you're not seriously- " " Stay here , Wade .

I'll be right back ." Kayden stood abruptly and walked off . Santiago blinked , stunned . What am I , invisible ? Does no one in this family ever see me ? Why would they only pay attention to Tilda ? Am I adopted ? I swear , I must've been picked up off the street . 3 Santiago watched him leave , his lips

pressed thin . He glanced like a thief at Tilda and Mystro's table . Would Kayden's words tonight actually reach her heart ? Timothy himself wheeled a cart over to Tilda and Mystro . " Good evening . " Allow me to personally introduce Ferris Wheel's signature dish - Rainbow Jelly .

" He set down two plates that shimmered like a spectrum , seven colors of soft jelly lined in order . With a tap of the fork , the pieces wobbled like crystal . Just the appearance was enough to catch anyone's eye . Tilda leaned in , intrigued . " All of this is made from vegetables ? " " Of course . Ferris Wheel specializes in vegetables only - no meat whatsoever . We're especially popular among vegetarians and Buddhists . " This one's citrus marmalade . And here - orange juice blended with shiso and other herbs . " Try them separately .

" Tilda nodded , cut a piece , and slipped it into her mouth . It melted instantly on her tongue . Potato , carrot , tomato - each flavor layered and blooming across her taste buds . Paired with the sauces , she counted 14 distinct fresh notes in all . She nodded with satisfaction . " No wonder it's the signature dish . I really like it ."

Chapter 346 A Poem Timothy raised his eyebrows and grinned . " Thanks for the compliment , idol ! " Mystro savored the veggie dish slowly , smiling . " Do you think it's a surprise , Tilda ? " " Definitely . I've never tried a unique dish made by someone else before . " Someone else ? Her words made Timothy pause for a second , but he didn't dwell on it . 『 』 He kept serving his idol . " If you want something a little meaty and chewy , I'd recommend this one . " Just then , a soft piano tune floated through the room . Timothy froze . The band wasn't supposed to start yet .

Why was there piano music ? A name suddenly popped into his mind . Could it be Kayden ? " Sorry , I need to step out for a moment . Enjoy your meal . " Timothy hurried away . Tilda took a bite of the veggie dish , letting the music wash over her . Mystro closed his eyes , clearly impressed . " That's some amazing piano . I've never heard this piece before . Whoever's playing is truly talented . " Tilda pursed her lips . " ... It feels like it's speaking straight to the heart . " The melody carried a warm feeling , like a calling for home . It made her think of the disgusting Jenson's .

They always showed up with fake smiles , clinging to her . They even begged , putting on their " good family " act and hoping for her forgiveness . But who could forgive the stupidity of Tilda's previous life ? Who could put out that raging fire of hatred ? Meanwhile , Timothy had tracked down the source of the music . Sure enough , it was Kayden . He wore a crisp white suit with a bright flower pinned to his chest . His fair fingers danced across the keys , producing a stunning melody . Kayden might not match Justin in the technical aspect , but his real talent was composing .

In some ways , he drew more attention because he could play any instrument he touched . .If he wanted to compose , he had to master them all . Any song he wrote could easily make him a fortune . Someone hurried over . " Mr. Robinson , Mr. Kayden insisted on performing . I thought since you two are close- " Forget it . " Timothy waited patiently for Kayden to finish . As Kayden got to his feet , he saw Timothy and strode directly toward him , locking eyes without flinching . " Sorry , Timothy . " " Do you think I'm mad at you ?

Not at all . " Having a composer like you play here is a huge honor . I could brag about this for years .. " But seriously , if you're using my piano , a heads - up would've been nice . " " Sorry , Timothy . But I had to play this piece for that person . " Timothy met Kayden's intense , unwavering stare and let out a helpless sigh . " I don't know what's going on with your family , but you played that piece for Ms. Tilda , right ? " Kayden looked down . " Yeah . About our family and Tilda- " " Forget it . I don't want to get dragged into your family drama .

Now that you're done playing , why don't you just sit and act like a normal guest ? " ... I'd like to ask for your help again . " " Are you kidding me ?! " After Kayden , the band showed up at Ferris Wheel Diner and took over . But they couldn't reach his level or capture the same intense vibe from the new piece . " He only did one song ? That's a shame . That pianist was amazing . " I even wonder how Ferris Wheel Diner could afford someone like that . It felt more like a friend helping out ." Mystro rubbed his chin , looking a bit regretful .

Tilda stayed quiet , her thoughts drifting to something unpleasant . " What's wrong , Tilda ? Not liking the food ? " " No , it's fine . I just ... got lost in my thoughts for a second ." Just then , Timothy came back to Tilda and Mystro . " Sorry , there was a little hiccup just now . I had to handle it . " Ms. Tilda , a guest left this manuscript for you . " " For me ? " Tilda had a bad feeling . She watched as Timothy handed her the manuscript . After a brief pause , she took it . Looking inside , she saw the sheet music for that piano piece .

As she flipped through the pages , she discovered a poem tucked in .

Chapter 347 What Does She Say? " The moon shines over the sea , floating high in the clouds . " When I think of the moon , I think of you - alone , with no way back . " Proud , it ignores the stars . " Hurt , it drifts past the planets . " The stars feel regret . " The planets feel sorrow . " They knew the moon's quiet beauty . " Why didn't they pay attention sooner ? " This isn't about getting you back . " It's about regret . " So the stars and planets came together and wrote a song ." The song was called " Moon in Clouds " .

Seeing that , Tilda finally realized where that bad feeling had come from . Mystro reading the manuscript with her and let out a soft sigh . " Timothy , you shouldn't have gotten . involved in this . " " Uh , I was just delivering it for the guest . I didn't know what was inside . " Timothy lied , feeling uneasy . He

wanted nothing to do with the situation . Honestly , the only reason he helped Kayden was because they were friends . Back when Timothy was in a tight spot , Kayden had his back . He owed Kayden . Otherwise , Timothy would never have taken such a thankless task .

It just made people mad and got him nothing . Tilda casually dropped the manuscript on the table , then shot Timothy a sharp look .. " Mr. Robinson , if you feel sorry for me and want to calm me down , I need you to do two things for me ." When Tilda stared at him , Timothy felt like he couldn't breathe , like something heavy was pressing on his chest . He could hardly breathe . He even felt as if he said no , she could crush him on the spot . " I ... I understand . Just tell me what you want ... Timothy was panicking inside .

He was Ferris Wheel Diner's manager and head chef , a big shot in Fairville . How did he end up completely overpowered by a girl ? Kayden , you truly screwed me this time ! Hote Kayden had already returned to his table . Wade kept sneaking glances at Tilda's table , watching until Timothy finally left . Then , she stood up and walked away as well . Wade muttered , " Tilda must know that piano piece was meant for her , right ? Is she coming over ? But ... she's going the wrong way . " If Tilda were coming for them , he'd be freaking out instead .

With her temper , if she wasn't touched by what they'd done , she'd definitely say something to crush them . Wade was used to it by now , even numb to it . He owed her . No matter how sharp her words were , he had to take them and couldn't fight back . But if even that didn't move her , not even a little , what could they do ? How could they ever earn her forgiveness ? How could she ever forgive her brothers ? " Wade , relax . We did everything we could . " Tonight was our shot .

Now that we've tried , we have nothing to regret even if we fail ." Kayden sounded like a huge weight had been lifted off him . His face looked lighter , calmer than ever . " You're right , Kayden . This is all we can do . " If Tilda still doesn't come after all this , maybe that's just how it's meant to be . " If it were the old Tilda , she'd definitely come over and laugh at us for wasting our time ." Wade gave a small , embarrassed smile . Santiago quietly ate , rolling his eyes at Kayden and Wade talking nonstop about Tilda .

He wanted to tease them that they were losing their minds over her . Not even good food could shut them up , and he couldn't eat in peace . He'd heard about Tilda so many times that his ears were almost numb . He even felt irritated . Too bad he couldn't say anything , or Kayden and Wade would scold him .. After that , the three ate in silence . Kayden and Wade's hands shook as they ate . They constantly

glanced at Mystro's table . Tilda still hadn't returned . She hadn't come to find them , and she hadn't left with Mystro either . What was she up to ? They couldn't even enjoy their food .

About 15 minutes later , Timothy appeared at their table , looking serious . " Timothy , did Tilda say anything ? " Kayden tried to stay calm . He'd done everything he could . But he couldn't hide the rush of nerves and excitement as he waited for an answer .

Chapter 348 Her Cooking Kayden was desperate to win Tilda's forgiveness and get her back to the Jenson Villa . Then , his family could finally be together . Wade was just as tense , his eyes glued to Timothy . Santiago , on the other hand ? He just slouched back , hands behind his head . He looked completely unbothered . He could already guess what Tilda might say . It'd probably be something humiliating . Only Kayden and Wade were stressing out about it . . .

She went into the kitchen and made something for you guys !" Timothy placed a plate on the table and lifted the lid to reveal Flonche - style cabbage rolls . Kayden's eyes lit up . " Tilda made this for us ? " " That's right . And it tastes incredible ." Timothy actually looked a little freaked out as he said it . It was like watching a cooking prodigy . She was so young , yet the dish was full of creativity and bold flavors . Every step was flawless , the timing perfect . She'd made Timothy's signature veggie dish .

It was just as impressive as his Rainbow Jelly , which had taken him years to master . Timothy felt lucky he'd started his career early . If he'd had to compete with Tilda , he might've ended up second - best . Timothy's praises showed that this dish was truly outstanding . Kayden couldn't wait . " Let's try it ! " He took it as a sign that Tilda was touched by their efforts , maybe even willing to make peace . Perhaps she even agreed to return to the Jensons . Santiago snorted . " You're gonna eat that ? From Tilda ? Watch out for poison ! " " If you're not eating , then zip it !

" Kayden snapped , and Santiago instantly looked aggrieved . " Relax , there's no poison . I watched her cook the whole time . If you're worried ... Timothy cut a piece and popped it in his mouth . Oh yeah , that's perfect ! Even he was hooked . He sneaked another bite . " See ? Totally fine . No need to worry . " As soon as the cabbage roll was cut , the aroma hit everyone and whetted their appetite . Even Santiago , who didn't want to eat at all , felt his mouth water . Wait , why does this smell so good ?

It even smelled better than Timothy's signature dish . How did she do that ? Knowing Tilda had made it just for them , Kayden and Wade grabbed their utensils , cut off a piece , and tasted it . Their hearts pounded with excitement . The flavors exploded as soon as they chewed . " Wow , this is insane ! I can't even describe it ! The texture ... Is this chicken breast ? " And there's buttery sautéed morel mushrooms

, asparagus , and foie gras inside . " Timothy added , " There's also a creamy mousse made from chicken breast , butter , eggs , and fresh cream .

That's the magic of this dish . " | | | | | Before seeing Tilda make the dish , he'd never even thought of using a filling like that . Steaming it all together , she'd made an amazing Flonche - style cabbage roll . Kayden savored each bite . " Tilda's cooking is actually amazing . " Wade set his utensils down , keeping his eyes down to mask a flicker of sadness . Tilda , as your brother , I barely know you at all . What other talents do you have that we don't know about ? What's the meaning behind this dish ? Are you truly moved by us and thinking about forgiveness ?

Wade knew that getting Tilda back felt like chasing a dream that was way out of reach . Still , he couldn't help but hope a little . After all , she'd made them such an incredible dish . Tilda , if you truly want to forgive us , even if you don't come back Even if we end up as strangers ... At least don't stay enemies like before , fighting until one of us gets hurt . If that happened , that Tilda wouldn't make an enemy out of them , Wade would feel okay with it .

Santiago watched Kayden and Wade enjoying the food so much that his stomach started growling . He tried to hide it by pretending to sip his water . Damn , they look like they're loving it . Could it truly be that good ? Regret started creeping in . Man . I truly want a bite . " Ms. Tilda also told me the name of this dish . " She called it ... ' Get Lost .

Chapter 349 A Counterattack As Timothy said that , he couldn't bring himself to look at Kayden and the others . The atmosphere that had just started to feel normal suddenly dropped into a heavy , tense silence . Kayden and Wade's faces fell completely . Bitterness bubbled up inside them , impossible to hide . Santiago cleared his throat . " See ? I told you not to get your hopes up too soon . " Good thing he'd held onto his last shred of self - control and hadn't touched that dish . Otherwise , he'd probably feel like Tilda was mocking him and get frustrated . Kayden and Wade stayed quiet .

Even though they had kind of expected that , they'd let themselves hope for a moment . The higher the hope , the worse the letdown . Timothy turned his face away . In truth , Tilda had one more request . He was way too embarrassed to say it out loud . He was afraid it would crush Kayden and the others . He knew Tilda would reveal her second condition . Right then , the sound of piano keys filled the room . Tilda cleared her throat and said , " Next , I'll improvise a piano piece at will . " I'm calling it ... " The Only One Touched Is the Fool Themselves .

" The diners at Ferris Wheel Diner froze . Some didn't understand Cetherese and whispered in Yvorian , " What does that mean ? " Those who did understand thought Tilda had lost it . Nobody would ever name a piano piece like that . The next second , music poured from the piano . Every note felt like tiny sprites

tickling deep inside , light and playful . It made everyone's heart skip . The audience was instantly drawn in . Tilda kept looking down while her long , fair fingers crafted a beautiful melody on the keys .

That piece was nothing like Kayden's earlier " Moon in Clouds " . It was bold , free , and full of life . It didn't feel like a reply and more like a counterattack . The music seemed to shout , " I don't need you ! You're not that important ! " Without you , I can live even better ! " Tilda's hands made the piano speak . The notes reached straight to the soul , showing why that piece existed . " Tilda can actually play the piano ... " Wade clicked his tongue . Even Santiago looked stunned .

¶ That wasn't just skill - it was talent on another level . The last time Santiago had been that amazed was at Justin's concert . Justin had a reputation as the world's top young pianist because his talent was just unreal . His music felt magical , like he could turn every note into a vivid image in people's minds . That was exactly what Tilda was doing right now . Even Kayden had never heard that piece before . It was completely new , which meant Tilda had composed it herself ! Her original work and performance matched Justin's skill ! It was like a bomb going off in the room .

That was true composing and performing - pure all - around talent ! When the piece ended , Tilda lifted her hands from the keys . With one hand in her pocket , she coolly stood up and walked away from the piano . The audience stayed frozen , still lost in the music . When they finally snapped out of it , whispers spread like wildfire . " Oh my gosh ! That piano piece ... It was incredible ! " " Who played it ? I can't see from here ! " " I've been to tons of concerts , but nothing ever moved me like that . I can still feel the notes buzzing in my chest . It felt amazing !

" That's gotta be Tilda . She just won the International Art Competition . She's the legendary X ! " " X ?! I'm her biggest fan ! No way , she's actually here at Ferris Wheel Diner ! I need her autograph ! " The whole diner was buzzing . Meanwhile , Tilda , the mastermind behind all the excitement , had quietly slipped back to Mystro's table . His eyes were full of admiration . " Tilda , that was amazing . Honestly , you even outshone gold - medal composer Kayden . " " Mystro , I'm done eating . Want to sneak out ?

" " Sure , whatever you say . " They packed up and left together . Wade and Kayden were still dazed . Santiago had been staring at Tilda's table without realizing it . When he saw her and Mystro getting up , he shouted , " Kayden , Wade ! They're leaving ! " " Leaving ? " Wade finally snapped out of it and whipped his head toward her table . But they were already gone . " Kayden , Tilda's gone Kayden ? " Seeing Kayden still frozen , Wade realized something was wrong .

Chapter 350 It's Time to Let Go . " No , this can't be happening ... " Kayden muttered . The way Tilda played the piano just now felt exactly like what Justin had described . She acted like the one who had rescued Justin from his lonely , isolated childhood . Only Kayden could sense that with his perfect pitch . " Kayden , are you okay ? " Sitting next to Kayden , Santiago patted his shoulder . His brother was acting weird , and honestly , it was kind of scary . Suddenly , Kayden leaped to his feet . It startled Santiago so badly that he nearly toppled off his chair .

" I need to check something right now . Santiago , Wade , stay here ! " With that , Kayden sprinted out , ignoring Timothy calling out to him . Timothy muttered , " Why's he running that fast ? Chasing after his sister or something ? Damn , that's intense . " He remembered all Kayden had done for Tilda , only to get humiliated in return . Kayden , this is gonna be rough . All I can do is silently hope you make it . Wade's heart raced as he watched Kayden disappear . " Santiago , stay here . I'm worried about Kayden . I need to check on him .

" He didn't wait for a reply and ran after his brother . Santiago was left stunned . What the heck ?! Doesn't he care about me at all ? I didn't even get to say anything ! Frustration was about to blow up inside him . But now that Wade and Kayden were gone , he was alone . It was the perfect time to sneak a taste of Tilda's cooking without anyone noticing . Santiago's eyes darted around . No one was watching . He grabbed his utensils , cut a piece of Flonche - style cabbage roll , and popped it in his mouth . The texture was perfect , and the flavor exploded on his tongue . " Damn !

This is insanely good ! Even better than Timothy's cooking ! " Tilda can actually make something this amazing . If she hadn't betrayed and humiliated us , I'd honestly want her back as my sister - just so I could eat this every day ! " Good thing Wade and Kayden didn't hear him . Otherwise , he'd be dead meat . Outside , Kayden looked around as snowflakes drifted down . But Tilda and Mystro were nowhere to be seen . He muttered , " Damn , they got away . Could Tilda be the one Justin's been searching for all this time ?

" He knew the chances were slim . It was just a gut feeling . But Tilda was the only person who could make him feel that way . " Kayden ! " Wade caught up to Kayden . " Hey , what's going on ? Why are you so fired up ? Chasing after Tilda ? " " ... It's nothing , Wade . I must be overthinking . It's impossible . " Sorry , I tried everything to win Tilda back , but I got nothing in return . " " It's okay , Kayden . You did your best . " Wade patted Kayden's shoulder , trying to comfort him . He could tell Kayden was hiding something . They were real brothers who grew up together .

Wade could tell whenever Kayden was lying . Since Kayden didn't want to talk , Wade didn't push . " Kayden , I think it's time we let Tilda go ." " Wade , you- " Kayden stared at Wade in shock . Wade smiled bitterly . " It wouldn't be fair to keep trying to win her back shamelessly . We can't keep begging for forgiveness . " We kept going because we felt guilty , like we owed her . But after tonight , her actions made it clear . " If we keep trying , we just pressure her more . Clinging only pushes her further away . " If it were before , this outcome might have been perfect .

That way , Tilda wouldn't threaten Kyla's spot as heiress . But now ? Wade's chest ached as the truth hit him . It felt like being stabbed and twisted at the same time . It felt like he was being torn to pieces . He thought about how cruelly he'd treated Tilda back then . The Jensons even misunderstood her and kicked her out . Did she feel the same way ? The more he thought about it , the more he realized how much he owed her . He'd never be able to repay her . How could he even think about asking for her forgiveness ?

Kayden stayed silent . He didn't answer right away . If he hadn't realized who Tilda truly was , maybe he would've given up entirely .