

## 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 Jensions . 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 . и ... 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 . ۞ u 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 Jensions .

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 .

Π 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 Jensions 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 .