

## Shadows 471

### Chapter 471

Blair stayed close, holding her tightly. When she saw Darell walk in, she raised a finger to her lips. "Tell your dad I'm staying with Kyla tonight. I won't be going back to my room." Darell said nothing. On the bed, Kyla still had streaks of tears on her cheeks. Her lashes trembled even in sleep, her shoulders twitching as if she were a wounded snake.

Thinking about what Russell had uncovered about Kyla's actions, Darell felt a wave of disgust rise in his chest. He almost gagged but forced himself to swallow it down. "What's wrong, Darell?" Kayden asked, frowning. He and Justin had grown up with Darell. They knew him too well not to notice something was off. "Dad's waiting for you two downstairs. Let's talk there," Darell said quickly. He turned to his mom. "Mom, just take care of Kyla. Don't worry about anything else." "Alright." Blair's entire focus was on Kyla's pain. She didn't notice Darell's unease at all.

Watching Kyla sobbing unconsciously in her sleep, Blair secretly let out a heavy sigh. What a mess. What a terrible mistake. Blair regretted ever bringing Tilda back. If I hadn't, Kyla would still be fine. The family would still be fine. Even Tilda... She probably would have been fine too. With one careless choice, she had caused nothing but pain for everyone. She couldn't escape the truth - she was guilty. Kayden and Justin followed Darell in silence down to the living room. There, Russell sat in the haze of cigarette smoke, something he rarely touched.

The smoke curled around his face, but even through the gray fog they could see the storm in his eyes. The sight made both brothers' hearts sink. Their instincts told them terrible stuff had happened while they were away. "Dad," Justin broke the silence. "We're all here now. Can you tell us what happened?" "Dad..." Kayden echoed. "You tell them, Darell," Russell cut in sharply, his voice flat. "I don't want to talk about Kyla Jenson right now." "What?" Justin and Kayden froze. Did they just hear him right? Once, Russell spoiled Kyla like a little princess.

He would have pulled down the stars and the moon if it meant making her smile. And now he spoke her name with such coldness it didn't even sound like the same man. Darell sighed heavily. He had no choice but to share the truth with Justin and Kayden. When they heard it, their faces froze in shock. They looked just like Darell had earlier - stunned, unable to believe a word of it. Kayden was the first to react. "Dad, maybe this is a mistake. Maybe Kyla..." "She's not that kind of person, right?" Russell helped him to finish the question.

No One His eyes burned red , filled with an icy fury . Even Kayden , usually calm and collected , was rattled into silence . " I wanted to believe that too ! " thought Kyla could never bessell shouted . " I prayed it wasn't true . Before I knew the truth , I like this . But I was wrong - dead wrong ! The day I misjudged Tilda , I already suspected Kyla , because she stood to gain the most . But I let her tears fool me . I let her weak act deceive me . And I let my favoritism blind me while I pushed Tilda away .

It became the fool who only now learned the truth about what happened half a year ago ! " His voice rose , shaking with fury and grief . " Tilda was right . I'm nothing but an arrogant fool , always preaching empty words , chaining others with hollow promises , while I couldn't do a thing myself . I'm the biggest clown of all ! " Russell grew increasingly worked up . Finally , he choked on the smoke from his cigarette . His body shook with violent coughs , and tears spilled down his face . " Dad , calm down ! Please don't get so worked up !

" Darell and the others rushed forward , trying to steady him . " Dad , maybe Kyla had her reasons , " Justin said softly . His heart ached . He didn't want to believe it . Justin couldn't accept that the one who had driven Tilda away , who had plotted it all from the shadows , was Kyla . And then - Kyla had still played the part of the innocent . If that were true , what did it mean for him ? For all those years he had cherished Kyla as his only sister ? For all the trust he had given her ? Were all those innocent , bright smiles nothing but a performance ? " Reasons ?

The only reason she had was fear , " Kayden snapped . " She was afraid that once Tilda came home - as Mom and Dad's real daughter , our real sister - we'd push her aside . She thought we'd neglect her just to make up for nineteen years of lost time with Tilda . That's it . " Kayden was nothing like Justin . He wasn't gentle . He wasn't sentimental . He didn't cling to old ties . All he could think about was this - Tilda had been betrayed and driven away , not by strangers , but by Kyla . The very sister they had trusted the most .

Chapter 472 Who Wants Me Dead ? The trust they once placed in Kyla now felt like a sharp knife stabbing deep into their hearts .. Betrayal born out of trust was the most unbearable wound the Jensons could ever suffer . Kayden swore he would never forgive her . Justin fell silent . It was the first time he had ever seen his brother lose control like this . Kayden looked like a wild beast lurking in the dark , ready to tear its prey apart .

As close as they were , Justin knew - if calm , steady Kayden had reached this point , then no matter what reason Kyla might give , Kayden would never forgive her . But Justin's heart still wavered . Even if Kyla had hurt Tilda - the girl who had once saved him and meant so much to him . reason , Justin couldn't shake the thought that Kyla must have had some some hidden pain , that pushed her to do it . Russell's voice was low and bitter . " Do you know why Tilda gave up on us ? Why did she walk away ? When she came back to this family , she was a stranger to us .

I worried about Kyla's feelings more than I cared for hers . As her father , I never gave her the warmth she deserved . I gave it all to Kyla instead . " I even let my anger get the best of me because I was worried about Kyla's feelings . I misunderstood Tilda and forced her to apologize . " Tilda had already proven her innocence , but I still wanted to brush it off and make the whole thing disappear . That's why she chose to walk away in disappointment . She'll never forgive this family . " Tilda has every right to feel hopeless about me , about this family . And I - I never saw it .

Why didn't I see it ? " His fists clenched so tight that his nails dug into his palms . The pain in his hands was nothing compared to the guilt and heartbreak in his chest . No one could feel this regret more than Russell himself . It wasn't just that one day . No - it went far beyond that . 1/3 step of that downfall was on him . He had driven their relationship to this point , where it felt like life or death between father and daughter . All because of a vile adopted daughter he should have seen through long ago . He had let Kyla deceive him over and over again .

" Dad , please don't do this to yourself . It hurts all of us , " Justin said quickly , trying to comfort him . " None of us saw Kyla's true colors . This isn't just your fault . " " So what do we do now ? " Justin asked after a pause . " We know who Kyla really is . Should we tell Mom ? " Russell shook his head . " No . Your mother is already torn apart because of Tilda . She can't take this - not yet . Did you see how she just cried for Kyla ? If she finds out what Kyla has done , it will break her completely ." But Kayden wasn't convinced . He spoke coldly . " I don't care .

Knowing who Kyla really is , being around her makes me sick . I can't hide it . Mom will notice sooner or later . " " And Dominic doesn't know yet . Should we warn him ? " Even Darell , who had always been calm , felt disgust in his voice . Just saying Kyla's name made him uneasy . Acting was his job , a performance . But Kyla's acting was real . She had used it to hurt the family , wound Tilda , and twist their love into her weapon . Russell said , " They'll be back for the winter holiday . We can talk to them privately then . " They're still tied up with the company business in Endralsia .

Don't pull them away from work right now . " Darell , Justin , Kayden - since you three are home , remember : keep an eye on Kyla . Don't let her catch on to anything . " If Kyla does anything suspicious , tell me at once . If she dares to pull any more stunts behind our backs , I'll make sure this troublemaker is gone from our family - even if it means ignoring your mother's feelings ! " 2/3 Who Wants Russell's eyes were cold and hard as steel . This time he was genuinely mad . He meant it .

As Kayden suspected , betrayal by a trusted family member was unforgivable , especially when that betrayal cost them someone even more important . " All right ! " they said . Pres Tilda had no idea how big the storm had been that took place in the Jenson Villa . She'd spent the whole night working . Her software kept scanning the Assassin network's databases automatically . The databases were huge and locked behind layer after layer of tight permissions . Even as the Dark Web's top hacker , Tilda knew she couldn't find who wanted her dead in a few hours . She concentrated .

Her fingers flew over the keyboard and mouse so fast they left a blur . Finally , her screen lit on a key lead . She injected a virus and began to break into Skin's level - six database . Soon she found the recording she was looking for . " Morse code altered by Skin itself . Task entry , buyer's voice recording . " Based on the decoded pattern match , this record fits best , with about a 75 % probability . "

Chapter 473 Kill Order Tilda loosened her shoulders and clicked the mouse . She opened the audio file . A familiar voice filled her headphones . " Kill Tilda . I don't care how much it costs . I want Tilda dead to avenge my children . " Tilda narrowed her eyes . Danger flashed across her face . She would never forget that voice . Daphne . Of all people . Daphne had hired Skin , an assassin group ranked fifth on the dark web , to put a price on head . The recording showed Skin was still in the fact - finding stage . They just received Daphne's request and were probing Tilda's information .

Tilda's If they thought the hit carried little risk , they'd move on to negotiating a fee and setting the job in motion . Haha ! A cold smile tugged at Tilda's lips . These assassins weren't ready to come after her . Daphne had married into the Bells . For her to reach out to a Dark Web group was not surprising . What Daphne didn't know was far more important : Tilda was the number - one hacker on the Dark Web . Those killers that were trying to take her life , they were way below her league . Luckily , they weren't hunting her because of her true identity .

They were acting on a contract . A plan began to form in Tilda's mind . She called Andy . " Andy , what did you find ? " 1/4 " Everything's handled . Una will get the notice soon , " Andy said . " What about you - did you find anything ? " " Yeah , I traced them . Daphne hired Skin Organization to take me out . They're still digging around , " Tilda said . " What ?! " Andy clicked his tongue in surprise . Even though Skin only ranked fifth , Andy had expected it would take days to trace them . With Tilda's level of cover , digging up that trail should have been slow work .

He simply asked casually ; he didn't expect an answer so fast . Looks like he needed to update what he thought about Tilda's skills . She was still young , but she had a rare gift . Six months ago , Tilda wasn't the same person she was now . She'd grown without even noticing . " Lucky break . It didn't take me long . Andy , listen to my plan , " Tilda began , laying out the idea . " I get it , Tilda . If this is what you

want , you have my full support , Andy said . " Okay , Andy . That makes me feel a lot better . " After he hung up , Tilda sent Jude another message .

Her screen still showed last night's chat . His message read , " Goodnight . Smile emoji . " She tapped the phone screen and typed . " Jude , I want to kill someone . You okay with that ? " A moment later Jude replied , " Who ? Knife emoji . " She laughed to herself . Jude could be a ruthless tyrant who decided life and death . But with Tilda he could seem almost gentle , almost normal . The funny part was he sent a knife emoji on WhatsApp when they were talking about murder . 2/4 This guy was ridiculously cute . Tilda wrote , " Don't worry , it's someone from your family .

I'm not going to kill the innocent . She was blind and messed up with me . " She's my prey , Jude . You don't need to step in . I'll take care of it . " Jude narrowed his eyes at the message . A dark , dangerous look slid across his face . My family again . Dammit ! Why do these people keep looking for trouble with Tilda these days ? Jude wanted nothing more than to tear apart whoever had the nerve to touch her . Jude typed back , " I want to help you , but I'll respect your call . Tell me her name so I know who to watch . " Tilda replied , " Your Aunt Daphne . " Aunt Daphne ?

Jude's mouth twisted into a thin smile . The smile was wrong - hungry , red under the surface . He had been far too kind to their side of the family over the years , holding back the last shred of kinship . They had taken advantage of him again and again . He had already crushed that family's last hope . But they still had the nerve to target the woman he loved most . Jude wrote , " To be honest , I want Daphne to vanish from this world right now . Together with her birth family . " He had never felt so ready to make those people disappear from earth .

Jude knew that after Daphne married Ryan , she'd quietly used the Bells ' influence to help her birth family . Over the years the Kahlers grew bolder and worse . Jude had cracked them down before . After killing several leaders , they'd behaved for a while . But Daphne resented him because of this . Because Daphne was his aunt , Jude had spared her life . If anyone else had abused his family power like she did , Jude would have torn them into pieces . Daphne was the one who kept pushing her luck . She couldn't blame Jude for being ruthless . Tilda replied , " The Kahlers ?

Do whatever you want with them . The only person I plan to kill is Daphne ."

Chapter 474 The End of Daphne " Anyway , Jude , this is my prey . Don't interfere . As for everything else , do whatever you want . " " Fine . " At that moment , Daphne had dozed off in the hospital . She still sat beside the bed of her daughter , who was in a coma . Daphne had no idea her time was almost up . Her death was already closing in . After finishing his chat with Tilda , Jude made a call . " Sire , what are your orders ? " " Pass it down . Once Daphne is gone from this world , wipe out those scheming Kahlers . The innocent ones - leave them alone . " " Yes , sire .

" By three in the afternoon , Tilda and Andy had taken Una to the airport . " Oh my gosh ! Why is there suddenly a problem with my thesis ? It was fine before ! I don't know what to do now . " Una looked like her whole world had collapsed . She had planned to spend a few fun days in Jeselton with Andy and Tilda . But that morning , right after she woke up . her professor called . Her thesis had issues . Una had to return to school immediately to fix it . " Oh no ! " Tilda tried to cheer her up . " Just go back and study hard . We'll be fine here . " " Yeah .

Once you finish fixing your paper , we'll have plenty of time to hang out again ." Una sniffled . " Sob , sob , sob . If only I had even one - tenth of Tilda's brains . Why am I so dumb ? It must be my family's bad genes . " 1/3 After Tilda calmed her down again and again , Una finally boarded her plane in tears . Andy leaned close and said , " I've already arranged people to watch over Una . She won't notice anything strange when she gets back to Slosa . " "Good , " Tilda nodded . " At least the danger came from Daphne's order and not because my identity was exposed .

Those hitmen don't like stirring up extra trouble . They won't waste time on people close to me . " " Still , we've made all the preparations just in case , " Andy added . Tilda smiled with relief . " Thank you, Andy . With your people protecting Una , I can relax . " Andy pouted , annoyed . " Why are you thanking me ? Come on , between us , you don't need to say that . Forget it . Every time I bring it up , you mess it up anyway . I'm tired . So , you're heading there next ? " Tilda spoke calmly . " Yeah . If I want to work with someone , I should show up with a gift , right ?

" Andy paused . " With the bond between you , me , and him , you don't need all that trouble . One word from you and he'd help . " " Andy , you know I already turned him down , " Tilda said firmly . " When it comes to business , I don't want to give him the wrong idea . That's why I chose this plan . I trust how he does things , but I won't give him false hope . " " Fine . We'll do it your way , " Andy sighed .. Then , out of nowhere , his throat tightened . He let out a few choked sounds , almost like he was about to cry . Tilda frowned . " What are you doing ? " " I knew it !

When I saw the way Jude looked at you , I could tell something was off . Now it's clear . You rejected me because of that guy ! " Andy groaned . " I don't get it . You and I click so well . What does that jerk have that I don't ? " The thought of Jude getting to Tilda first made Andy's chest ache with envy . He was the one who had met Tilda first and fell for her first . Why did some jerk that showed up later get the girl ? Just because fate dropped him in at the right time ? Was destiny really stronger than years of friendship ?

2/3 By looks , skills , and power , Andy was no worse than Jude . In fact , he had known Tilda far longer . They were both dazzling in their ways . Andy , tall and pale , with sharp blond hair and piercing blue eyes , looked like a knight out of some gothic painting . Tilda , with long hair , hands in her pockets , and pale , smooth skin , carried an effortless cool that turned heads wherever she went . So when Andy blurted things like " Why him and not me ? " or " That's why you turned me down ? " it drew attention . People nearby couldn't help eavesdropping , whispering , and pointing .

Soon it looked like Tilda had dumped a handsome guy for someone else , making her seem heartless . Even Tilda was speechless at the drama . " Guess it's fate , " Tilda said at last , unsure of her answer . She couldn't really explain why she liked Jude . Tilda had turned down plenty of men before . Her heart was made of stone . She and Jude did share some similarities , sure . But compared to the easy comfort she had with Andy , being with Jude gave her something different . A sort of rush , that spark she never felt otherwise . Maybe that was it . Love was just love .

Chapter 475 Friends , Not Lovers Friendship is just friendship . It can't be forced into something more . And it shouldn't be mistaken for love . That wouldn't be fair to Tilda . And it wouldn't be fair to Andy either . " Alright , let me make this clear , " Andy said . " Tilda , if that scumbag ever hurts you , you'd better tell me ! " You break up with him right away . I swear , I'll risk my life to make him pay . " Andy clenched his fists . His bright blue eyes burned with fire , and even his pale face seemed to glow with color . Tilda gave him a small smile . " I'll remember your promise .

Please take good care of me , my knight . " Night fell . In a shabby roadside motel , a tall man climbed the narrow stairwell . He stood six feet tall , weighed about 170 pounds , and wore a heavy winter coat with a hood . pulled low . His hands stayed buried in his pockets , but his eyes flashed with sharp light , like a hidden blade ready to strike . He reached the third floor and stopped at Room 305 . After checking that no one had broken in , he unlocked the door and stepped inside . He scanned the room , checked the hidden tripwires he'd set , and studied the camera feed .

Everything was untouched . Quiet as usual . Today was another peaceful day . He dropped his backpack on the bed , walked out to the tiny balcony , and lit a cigarette . He had been following Tilda for days now . From what he saw , her life was plain and simple . 1/4 She ate , drank , and went out for fun . Nothing more . She looked no different from any carefree college kid on break . But that didn't explain why the Bells were willing to pay such a fortune for her head . If killing Tilda were really that easy , the organization could make a fortune .

But was this world champion really as simple as she seemed ? Especially Andy , the guy who'd been spending time with Tilda lately . Even his boss wouldn't dare to mess with him . Anyone who ran in his

circle wasn't ordinary . He kept thinking Tilda wasn't as plain as she looked .. As he finished his cigarette , he reached for his phone to send today's report through Skin's encrypted channel . A cold dagger touched the back of his neck . The chilly sensation froze him . His heart dropped . Impossible ! He'd checked every corner , every wire , every trap . How did someone slip in ?

How had they avoided all the lines he'd set ? This person didn't leave a single trace behind . A bead of sweat rolled down his forehead . His Adam's apple moved as he swallowed . He knew , with a sinking certainty , that tonight might be his last . This wasn't an amateur . This was an expert . 2/4 And the worst possibility bubbled up in his mind - was this person sent by Tilda ? Or Skin's rivals ? His cover was blown . Now they had come to kill him . He tried to glance over his shoulder , desperate to find some tiny opening , some chance to escape . Tilda had altered her voice beforehand .

She commanded coldly , " Don't even think about turning around . " The next second , the man felt his body freeze . He couldn't move at all . Tilda had done something to him . Immediately after , he was dragged from the balcony back into the room . Then , with one swift motion , Tilda's blade cut through the tendons in his hands and legs . Her technique was so sharp and so precise that he didn't even feel the pain . Blood burst from the wounds . His eyes went wide , sweat poured down his face , and his breath came in short , panicked bursts .

Staring at the silver - colored mask on Tilda's face , he felt like he was looking at the devil . himself . Now his limbs were useless . He couldn't even crush an ant . Tied down and helpless , all he could do was wait for his fate . The way she masked her presence , the skill of her movements - it was terrifying . " W - who are you ? " He stammered , his voice trembling as he forced the words out . " I can die , but at least please let me know who I'm facing ! " He was desperate to leave behind some piece of information . " Don't bother , " Tilda said flatly .

" The fifteen bugs you planted in this room ? I've already destroyed them . Even if you wanted to pass my identity to Skin , hoping they'd avenge you - it's nothing but a pipe dream ." 3/4 " All fifteen ? " His heart raced . He knew the bugs himself . ruth . For him to break into a place like this , he couldn't have found all fifteen Not without using some kind of high - tech scanner . " And one more thing , " Tilda said coldly . " The dead don't deserve to know my name . " The only reason she spared him was that she still had questions for him .

Other than his mouth , he had nothing else of value . Tilda slipped a hand into her pocket and pulled out a small pill bottle .

Chapter 476 Rain When the man saw the bottle of pills , something clicked in his mind . But his body was too weak . He couldn't even bite his tongue to end it all . Tilda forced the pill into his mouth . The drug rushed through his veins , breaking down and spreading across his body . Slowly , his mind grew fuzzy .

His thoughts scattered . His pupils rolled back , turning white . " If you choose this line of work , " Tilda said coldly , " then you'd better be ready for revenge from enemies . " And besides , as long as there's money , your group never cared who lived or died .

Do you even know how many innocent lives have been stolen because of you ?" Her words cut like ice . " The Skin Organization , money hungry to the core , deserves to vanish from the dark web . As for you , no matter who takes you down , you've got no one to blame but yourself ." Tilda's voice was cold , like wind drifting through a midnight forest . She gave him the death sentence. The man , barely conscious , could do nothing . Before the drug fully consumed him , Tilda pressed for answers . She made him reveal how he contacted the Skin Organization and every detail of the process .

Then she searched his bag and found an old , battered phone . With a few lines of her hacking code , she planted a virus into Skin's network . Once she finished , she called Andy . " It's done . Handle the cleanup . I'm leaving now . " " Got it , " Andy replied . The next day . Tilda prepared her gift . 1/4 She logged into the dark web . On a certain profile page , she left a message . " Give me an address , Rain . I want to talk . " It didn't take long for her to receive a reply . " Should I come to you , or do you want to come to me ? " " I'll come to you .

Some things need to be said at your base . " " Alright . I'll give you the address . Oh , and I'll bring Andy along . " Andy was known in the dark web as a trusted go - between . Andy openly used his own name , as if the most dangerous place could also be the safest , unlike Dominic , who kept his cover tight . No one else pulled a stunt like Andy did . After all , with one slip , your whole family could end up dead . Rain asked , " Okay . I'll send the address . It's been a while since I last talked to you and Andy . How are you doing ? " " I'm fine . Don't worry about me .

" Rain wrote , " Good . The rest we'll discuss in person ." Tilda replied , " Deal . " The line went quiet . The meeting was set . Tilda kept thinking about how she'd met Rain and Andy . Back on the Dark Web , her only close contacts were Andy , Rain , and DJ . Rain was the first to see Tilda's true face . He was the youngest of the three , younger than Tilda . They first teamed up to infiltrate a cult and rescue women and children who'd been brainwashed . Rain led the R Organization . 214 He came from an old Lucien's killer family .

From childhood he'd been fed a brutal creed : kill or be killed . He'd survived countless near- death situations , even being forced to kill his closest friends and brothers to prove himself . The law of the jungle was their rule . Only the last survivor mattered . He survived those challenges and became the leader of the R Organization . Few people knew Rain's real age .. He was only eighteen . A barely legal

age . If he'd been born into a normal family , he'd have just started college and been living an ordinary , exciting life .

Instead , he'd become a machine for killing , without feeling . When Tilda first met Rain , he was only thirteen . Already he had skills and presence that made seasoned killers take notice . He was far beyond his years . Rain asked for very little when he helped Tilda . He wanted her help to bring back his feelings . He'd killed his brothers and his closest friend . He'd learned to use whatever it took to survive . " Only yourself . Only your skill . That's the rule ." That had been the clan's creed for Rain since he was a child . For a long time the family had almost brainwashed him .

They'd trained him to be ruthless . They'd taught him to trust no one . But even inside that foul , dark household , one person showed him warmth - his mother . On the surface she obeyed the clan . Behind closed doors she gave Rain kindness . That small mercy kept the last piece of his humanity from being destroyed . She told Rain that he didn't have to live the way they wanted . Then his mother was drawn into the family's internal power fight and was killed .

went cold with fury . On her deathbed she begged him to choose a different life .

If he wanted to survive and be anything else , he would have to destroy the family that made him . So Rain pretended to obey . He carried out the missions . He sharpened his teeth . But secretly he built a network on the Dark Web . He recruited people , gathered talent , and founded R Organization . In time this organization grew into the third - largest assassin force- more powerful than his family could ever be . And when the time came , Rain wiped out his family .

Chapter 477 Beneath the Snow At that time , Rain was only 15 years old . When it came to combat instincts and killing ability , no one was more gifted than Rain . If it hadn't been for Rain's mom , he wouldn't have found his way back and risen from the ashes after destroying his family . Even Tilda would be afraid to go up against someone like him . He was absolutely terrifying . When Andy came to find Tilda , Rain had already sent his address . Tilda showed it to Andy for a quick look . Andy rubbed his chin . " Endralsia ? That country seems to have some mysterious connection .

with you ." " Never mind all that . Let's get this done quickly and head back home . Endralsia is freezing cold this time of year , and I don't want to stay long ." Tilda had strong endurance , but she wouldn't freeze in sub - zero temperatures for no reason . Andy remained silent . Andy didn't want to remind Tilda about what happened with the Jengers . Tilda was happy now , and she didn't need those dark memories haunting her again . Soon , Andy and Tilda booked their flights and flew to Endralsia . They arrived at the address Rain had given them . The remote outskirts of Melville .

The area looked especially desolate in the cold and falling snow . It was completely deserted .. When they reached the exact coordinates , Tilda sent a message . " Rain , I'm here ." 1/4 A second later ,

mechanical sounds clicked and whirred . The entire ground began to shake . Tilda pulled Andy behind her and cautiously stepped back . She noticed a section of the snow - covered ground ahead rising up . The snow melted away , revealing a door . The door opened automatically . Rain's voice came from below . " Come on in . " Tilda and Andy exchanged glances .

They weren't surprised by this scene and went down together . After descending a flight of stairs , they came to an elevator . Tilda and Andy pressed the button for the 10th basement level . The elevator descended rapidly . When the elevator doors opened ... " Queen , Andy , long time no see ! " A figure in a white hoodie rushed toward Tilda . About 5'5 " tall with curly white hair , he was dressed entirely in white , wearing slippers that made soft pattering sounds . His canine teeth showed when he flashed a bright smile . In Tilda's arms , Rain looked up .

His unique , charming eyes shone with nothing but warm affection . He was a cute kid , like an adorable brother straight out of an anime , with maximum charm . If he were exposed to the public , he'd cause crowds to cheer wildly . His photos would go viral on all major social media platforms , including Twitter and video apps . He could debut and become a top celebrity without breaking a sweat . Who would have thought that the leader of the dark web's third - ranked assassin organization was so young ? He looked like a beautiful anime character come to life .

That curly white hair , charming eyes , and perfect height were absolutely captivating . 2/4 " Ahem ... Rain , I know you and Queen have a good relationship , but you don't have to completely ignore me , right ? " Andy cleared his throat several times to remind him he was still there . Hey , don't ignore me ! " Not at all , Andy . Long time no see ." Rain replied but still held onto Tilda without letting go . Andy thought to himself . Damn ! What a brush - off ! Andy was a top lawyer and dark web intermediary who had never been ignored like this before . It was so frustrating .

" Alright , Rain . We came here for something important this time . Are you the only one here ? " " You know my personality , Queen . When it's not mission time , I don't like crowds . Only my two personal guards are in the base right now - and you know them . " " Hmm I remember you had three personal guards ? " " He ... died during a mission . When Rain said this , his eyes clearly dimmed . Tilda pressed her lips into a thin line . " Sorry , Rain . I didn't mean to bring that up . " " It's fine . In this line of work , who knows if they'll be alive tomorrow ?

This was the path they chose , and they were prepared for any outcome . " " By the way , Queen , it's rare for you to come find me . Is there something important ? " " Yeah , let's find a place to sit down , and I'll tell you slowly ." After Tilda finished explaining about the Skin Organization , Rain's charming

eyes narrowed . A chilling killing intent flowed out . At that moment , Rain's cute image completely vanished without a trace . It was like watching someone become possessed by a demon . Even that pale , delicate face seemed stained with blood .

Andy , who was beside them , couldn't help but swallow nervously . So this is the aura of the leader of the dark web's third - largest assassin organization ? Andy had encountered the leader of the dark web's second - largest assassin organization before .

## Chapter 478

" Get your people ready and leave on schedule . I'll take down their network infrastructure first . That'll buy you five minutes . " " That's more than enough . Working with Queen really is the best ! " Rain looked at Tilda with those captivating eyes . They were filled with admiration , obsession , and other emotions . Rain called over his two personal guards . He explained the plan to take over the Skin Organization . Both guards accepted expressionlessly without objections . For them , Rain's orders were more important than life itself . Rain's commands were absolute .

Even if he told them to shoot themselves right now , they'd do it willingly . Because even bad guys have their saviors . Rain was their only ray of light . He'd saved them from a rotten , hopeless world . In short , they were loyal to the death . After taking the USB drive downstairs , Rain returned . " Queen , why don't you stay in Endralsia for a while ? Keep me company . Otherwise I'll be so bored . " Rain tugged on Tilda's arm , acting cute . If Rain's reputation wasn't so fearsome , Tilda would have trouble believing this adorable kid was actually the king of assassins .

" Sure , but you'll need to disguise yourself . Otherwise , you'll cause too much of a stir ." Tilda ruffled Rain's hair . Rain's white hair felt like cat fur , soft and fluffy with an amazing texture that made you never want to stop touching it . From the bottom of her heart , Tilda had always treated Rain like her little brother , ever since . they first met and worked together . This kid was just too endearing to resist . " Awesome ! As long as Queen is willing to stay and play with me , I'm fine with anything ! " Andy's thoughts wandered . 2/3 Am I suddenly the third wheel here ?

How do I deal with this ? I should've known better than to come to R Organization's base . But leaving Tilda to come here alone would've worried me . Man ! This is awkward ! The next day was sunny with no snow in sight . They left the base and drove toward the city . Andy had business nearby . He left early that morning to meet his contact . Rain sat in the passenger seat with a lollipop in his mouth . He smiled

at Tilda beside him . " It's a shame Andy couldn't come , but spending time alone with Queen feels even better ! " " I haven't hung out with Rain in ages either .

It's been five years since that mission ended , right ? " Time really does fly by . You were only 13 back then , and now you're 18. " Tilda said with a touch of nostalgia . new ven " Queen , you forgot - the already passed . According to Cetherland calendar , I'm already 19 now . " Tilda was shocked . Right , the new year had passed . Rain was 19 . Tilda was already 20 . Since her rebirth , Tilda had lived one full year in this new life .

Chapter 479 Coffee and Confessions It was completely different from her previous life that had been nothing but misery . " Queen , do you have someone you're interested in ? " Rain suddenly blurted out this question . Tilda was silent for a moment . " Yeah , I have someone I like . " Rain's expression shifted when he heard this . He threw his lollipop out the car window where it broke apart on the pavement . " Is he good to you ? " " He's very nice to me ." " That's good then ... But if he ever gives you any trouble , you have to tell me . I've got your back , and I'll end him .

" A bloodthirsty crimson light flickered in Rain's eyes . His obsessive emotions were laid bare for all to sec . If Jude ever had a change of heart toward Tilda , Rain would be ready . He'd take Jude's place in at heartbeat . " Come on , Rain , we came out to have fun today . Don't think about all that stuff . " Having fun is what matters most ! By the way , where's that café you mentioned ? The one with really good coffee ? We're almost in the city ." " Um ... let me use the car's navigation ." Tilda cleverly changed the subject .

Actually , Tilda understood that Rain had special feelings for her . When that mission ended , Tilda had helped Rain recover his emotions . Rain had confessed to her right away . That had really shocked Tilda at the time . However , Tilda had turned him down . It wasn't because of the age difference . In her heart , Tilda only saw Rain as her little brother . She didn't have that heart - racing flutter she felt with Jude . After that , Tilda and Rain hadn't seen each other for five years . Counting her past life , it had been ten years .

They only communicated through private messages on the dark web . Knowing Rain was doing well and staying true to his principles put Tilda at ease . Looking at things now , Rain hadn't let go of the past . At least Rain had probably come to terms with it better over time . After all , he was still just a 19 - year - old kid . No matter how much he had achieved , he was still just a teenager . If she could help it , Tilda didn't want to work with Rain either . Collaborating with someone who had feelings for her felt weird - especially when she saw him . as her little brother .

Unfortunately , among all the people Tilda knew , only Rain had the capability . Only he could be trusted to handle the mess after taking out the Skin Organization . Hopefully everything would go smoothly . They arrived at the café the navigation had directed them to . Tilda parked the car and got out with Rain . Because Rain stood out too much , he put on his parka hood and sunglasses . He covered himself up completely . This barely hid his curly white hair and charming eyes . Otherwise , people would definitely cause a commotion . Rain pouted . " Queen , this feels so weird .

I never had to do this before . " 2/4 He restlessly rubbed the two bunny ears on his hood . In the past , Rain used dark web stealth techniques . He'd avoid drawing attention completely . As the R Organization's leader , Rain's stealth techniques were absolutely top - notch . He had a real talent for fading into the background . Even with striking looks , he could avoid attracting notice . " Just to be safe , sorry for the trouble , Rain . " " Well ... if it's for Queen , it's not a problem . " If anyone familiar with Rain had been around , they would've been shocked speechless .

Despite Rain's cute appearance , his personality was incredibly stubborn . Once he decided on something , he would absolutely do it . If he hated something , he absolutely wouldn't . No amount of persuasion from anyone would work . But one word from Tilda could make Rain obediently listen . In a way , Rain was really dependent on Tilda . He genuinely liked her . Pushing open the café door , they walked into the warm interior . Tilda could immediately smell rich , freshly brewed coffee . " This really is a nice place . What would you like to drink ?

" Rain followed beside Tilda like a devoted shadow . He spoke sweetly . " I've tried everything here . This time . I'll have the same as you . " " Then let's get two Americanos . " Tilda preferred drinking Americanos . They were a bit bitter , but great for staying alert with immediate effects . It was freezing outside , and Tilda hated the cold . She preferred to stay warm , but she had made a promise to Rain . She wanted to spend quality time with Rain and wouldn't break her word . Once they found seats , Rain sipped his hot Americano . He propped his chin on his hand .

" So , Queen , what about that other job you mentioned ? The one after we take down the Skin . Organization ? " " That's just a sideshow . For you , it'll be a piece of cake . It's better to focus on eliminating the

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Rain was extremely sensitive to stares like this ..

Through his sunglasses , his eyes found the man staring at Tilda . His killing intent began to stir restlessly . After taking a sip of coffee , the man spoke to her companion sitting across from him . " I ran into

someone I know . I'm going to say hi . " " Huh ? Mr. Lowell ? " Tobias's secretary , who had been reporting work progress , was stunned . She watched Tobias stand up and walk toward Tilda's table . " I never expected to run into you here , Tilda ." Hearing Tobias's voice , Tilda narrowed her eyes and turned around . " What a coincidence .

I didn't expect you to still be in Endralsia . " Tilda was obviously asking a question she already knew the answer to . Tobias was still in Endralsia for a reason . He'd received intelligence secretly passed from the Jensons through Kyla . He planned to get a piece of the Jenson Group's business expansion in Endralsia . However , Tilda had to pretend she didn't know . " Yeah , the startup phase is killing me . Look at these dark circles under my eyes . I haven't slept well in days ." Tobias pointed to his eyes , a pair of beautiful deep eyes that had inherited his parents ' excellent genes .

" By the way , Tilda , I ran into your brothers . " Just yesterday I was doing business with them . It went really late . " " You got one thing wrong , though . They're not my brothers , just strangers . I have no obligation to know anything about them . 2/4 " Also ... Mr. Lowell , I don't think our relationship is that close . You don't need to get so personal by calling me by my first name . " When the Jensons were mentioned , Tilda's tone dropped . It became ice - cold . Tobias whistled and raised both hands in surrender . " Okay , okay , my bad for saying the wrong thing .

How about I make it up to you somehow ? " Tobias's instincts told him that Tilda wouldn't keep too much distance . Back at the auction , Tilda had approached Tobias first . Regardless of Tilda's motives , Tobias knew she'd make a good ally . Even if she couldn't be an ally , she absolutely couldn't become an enemy . This woman was unfathomable and extremely dangerous. Tobias's impression of Tilda had never changed from the beginning . " Not necessary . " These two words weren't spoken by Tilda , but by Rain . " Can't you see she's not interested ?

Get lost ." Even without killing intent , Rain's ice - cold words sent chills down Tobias's spine . Even Tobias noticed Rain's unusual nature . Although the person in front of him was disguised , making it hard to see his appearance , it was impossible to recognize his identity . " Alright , I won't disturb you any further then . " Tobias's instincts told him this seemingly young teenager was dangerous , absolutely someone not to mess with . Finally , Tobias turned back to Tilda . He spoke in a voice that only the two of them could hear . " As an apology , Tilda , let me tell you something .

It seems like the Jensons have sent someone to tail me . " As for who exactly it is , you can guess . He's hiding right here . " Tilda's eyebrows furrowed deeply . 3/4 The Jensons were already suspicious of Tobias ? That made sense . At the auction in Slosa , Tobias had perfectly figured out their bottom line .

He'd successfully won the bid . Then they met again in Endralsia and got caught up in the Hotel Morloss incident . Over the past few months , Tobias had used Kyla's intelligence . He'd made the Jensons suffer quite a few losses .