

## When Love Lasts Chapter 8

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Hansen and Ben immediately shot glances at Jace, hinting at him to stick to his own business. However, Jace couldn't care less about their reminders as he returned Heather her phone after glancing at his two roommates. "Come with me, Heather!" With that, he walked out of the dorm. Heather hurriedly told Hansen and Ben to keep an eye on her luggage, grabbed her handbag, and followed after Jace, leaving Hansen and Ben looking at each other. When she caught up to Jace, she noticed he looked preoccupied, and she couldn't help pursing her lips, asking concerningly, "Jace, is something bothering you?" "Promise me you won't cry after you see Ryan," he said solemnly as they walked. Actually, it was between Ryan and Heather. He didn't have to get himself involved. Then again... Jace's brows locked into a deep furrow. Heather freaked out, thinking something terrible had happened to Ryan. Even her voice cracked. "Has something bad happened to Ryan? Is he okay?" "He's fine. Alive and kicking, in fact," Jace answered indifferently. For the rest of their journey, no matter how Heather asked, Jace would only say 'You'll know when we get there' to prevaricate her. Hence, she could only be patient. The two came to the back gates of the campus, and outside was a wide road. Beyond it were five or six-story-high apartment blocks and food streets. After leading Heather into an alley, Jace turned into an intersection with a stainless steel railing door a few feet away. All who came in and out of the gates were young couples. Heather was beginning to get the gist, but she was still unwilling to trust her gut instinct. Jace opened the gate and entered, and Heather followed after him with a slightly bowed head. Following that, they went up to the third floor and stopped at a green anti-theft door. Jace pulled a set of keys out of his pocket, opened the door, and went in. Only after entering did Heather realize it was a four-bedroom apartment with a living room, dining room, kitchen, and balcony. It was three times larger than the apartment she and Lara rented. Meanwhile, Jace walked straight to the leftmost room and knocked on the door. "Who is it?" Ryan's voice came from inside. "Me!" Jace answered. At that, Ryan asked, "Didn't you say you were staying in the dorm tonight? How come you've returned?" "Come out for a second. I need to talk to you," Jace urged. "Give me a minute, then. Let me put on my clothes," Ryan said. Just then, a female voice came from inside the room. "Seriously, Miller. What bad timing." "Relax, Sweetie. Let me find out what he wants, and we'll get back to it," Ryan coaxed. The voices from inside the room weren't loud, so only parts of the conversation could be heard from outside, but it was still distinct enough to tell a woman was with Ryan. Heather knew so, for she was standing right next to Jace. It hadn't reached bedtime yet, so why would Ryan need to put on clothes before he could come out? Tears began welling up in her eyes as she felt a lump in her throat. When Ryan opened the door, he was stumped by the young woman standing next to Jace. "Ryan, what the hell are you doing just standing there?" The female inside the room spoke up, and the next second, she appeared in front of Heather. Her long hair was let down, and beneath her light makeup was a gorgeous face. What was more, she was wearing Ryan's white dress shirt, showing off her fair, long legs. After sizing Heather up, the woman smirked and teased, "Yo, Jace, you've finally gotten yourself a girlfriend, huh, you bookworm!" Jace shot Roxanne a dismissive glance, and just as he was about to say something, Ryan beat him to it. "She's my cousin! From the village!" Ryan explained with a smile. Heather's lips trembled subtly after she heard Ryan's words. Her heart ached so badly that she even had trouble crying now. "Right, your cousin suddenly came looking for you. So I brought her here!" Jace played along coldly. At that, Ryan turned to his side a little and said affectionately, "Roxanne, I'll take my cousin out for dinner first. After settling her down, I'll come back to you. She surely hadn't had the chance to eat dinner since she came in a long-distance coach from the village." "Okay. I don't want to go out anyway. So I won't join you guys," Roxanne said sweetly. After a pause, she turned to Heather with a smile. "Nice to meet you! I'm your cousin's girlfriend, Roxanne Lincoln." "How long... have you guys... been together?" Heather choked on her words. Roxanne smiled bashfully and wrapped her arms around Ryan's affectionately at that. "Almost a year! Am I right, Ryan?" "Let's talk about this some other time. I should take my cousin out to dinner." Ryan hurriedly changed the subject. Roxanne nodded in response and let go of Ryan's arm. After coming out of the room and closing the door, Ryan turned grim and glared daggers at Jace. Heather, on the other hand, turned to leave, saying nothing, and even began running instinctively. Seeing so, Ryan hurriedly chased after her.