

Savvy Son-in-law by VK Boy Chapter 91

Chapter 91

CHAPTER 91

This was a beautiful morning for Selena. Not only did the coffee given by Delle not make her suffer from adverse effects, she also heard from Delle that Benjamin was staying in the dorms. This was perfect, she thought. "I wanted to give Rebecca to Edward, but seeing how useless the father and son were, I changed my mind. Right now, what I need the most is someone who can stay in the house and shamelessly interrupt the relationship those two got going. And there's no one better than that' guy for such a job. I slapped him and sent him away after he touched Veronica inappropriately, but I'm sure he'll happily return if I give him a call. Shamelessness runs in their blood, after all."

Without hesitating, she dialed a number. Meanwhile, having slept uninterrupted the whole previous night, Veronica was up for one

shock after another after she woke up late and opened her room's door, wearing basically a bikini among bikinis.

"The men were all fired?" she was shocked as Kathy kept giving the details. "What the hell do you mean? Why would they all get fired at the same time? What did they do? Wait, if there are no men, how will I know what dress looks good on me or not?"

Kathy didn't tell her about the whole thing Johnny did as she thought it was better that her family members tell her about such sensitive information. "Surely, I can't depend on the useless son-in-law!" Veronica frowned. "He doesn't even look at me, and when I ask him about my clothing style, he only gives me a thumbs down without minimum courtesy. I've long stopped asking him, but now I should ask him again? Why am I forced to do this? Whose stupid decision is this to remove all the men from the job?"

Roshan who was passing by couldn't help but steal glances at her chest.

"Where are you looking, you snot-nosed brat!" she kicked him in the butt and sent him rolling down the smooth floor. "You are ten years too early to be having such thoughts. Just focus on your studies!"

"Just wait! I'll tell my mom that you kicked me!" Roshan ran away, calling for his mother straight.

“Famous gym trainer ‘Powell Hernandez’ has been found dead in his apartment. The cause of death is believed to be a drug overdose, but we have to wait until after the autopsy report is given.”

Veronica ran upstairs to her sister’s room to tell her the news, but she didn’t find her inside.

“Where’s Rebecca?” she asked Rebecca. “Did she go to Powell’s gym already? No, her slot was in the evening.” “About your sister...” Kathy scratched her cheek and told her something that shocked Veronica who then rushed to the dorms.

Vlad and Mercie kept running around in the dorms, chasing each other, completely lost in their own little world.

Veronica shooed them away like she was dealing with some birds. They got angry at her, but

when she ran toward them a little, they fled without looking back.

“These two kids sure look energetic today, but they talk so little I sometimes forget their names,” Veronica said and sighed. “What were their names again?”

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The hitman grabbed his hidden knife and swiveled fast, but a dagger had pierced his heart before he could do anything. He felt utterly helpless as he looked at his killer.

The one holding the dagger had his face covered with a black cloth from the top of the head to the bottom of the nose, and it didn’t look like a see-through cloth, either. He then twisted his wrist a bit before pulling the dagger out.

“Who in the world... are you...” the hitman fell and lost his life, with his eyes open. Shadow wiped the blood with a cloth before sheathing his dagger. He stared at the villa. “You told me to leave, but I have orders to keep you safe, Lord.” .

He took the binoculars and looked at the pool. Amber was still swimming. “What the-“He put the binoculars down. “Why is she swimming naked? What sort of a woman does that?”

At that moment, Anous' wife came to the villa and began asking for her husband, but the gate guard told her he left the villa last night itself. She wanted to talk to Elizabeth, but he didn't let her in. She could only curse him as she left.

Meanwhile, Benjamin ate the whole of the breakfast pizza his wife had personally cooked for him.

"How is it?" she asked because he didn't tell her how it was. His poker face didn't help her decipher for herself, either. Benjamin just shook his head slightly. "Is that so?" she was a little disappointed, though she didn't show it. "It's not that hot today. Let's go to the beach."

Benjamin just stared at her to see if she really was being serious about going to the beach. "What? Since Powell's body was taken for inspection, we can't even visit him today," she said. "I know it's not the right time to go to the beach, but we've been going through a lot lately. So I think it's necessary to get some fresh air from the ocean." "You're right, sis!" Veronica backed her sister. "I'll go and tell Mom to prepare for the trip. She loves going to the beach! She'll be thrilled."

In a matter of minutes, the maids helped prepare the luggage in three cars. Because it was the weekend, even Elizabeth and her family packed their luggage.

However, to everyone's shock, Selena's motorhome entered the villa, and they had to shift the whole luggage into the huge vehicle. The customized interior of the motorhome was way too luxurious than the kids imagined, packed with beautiful decor and comfortable furniture. Lisa and Roshan thanked their grandmother for bringing this vehicle in time. They even kissed her multiple times after using the espresso machines and the vehicle took the road and offered ultimate comfort.

The king-sized bed was of course occupied by Elizabeth's parents first, which Selena didn't like. She showed them the wine rack and the bookshelves to get them off the bed so she and

her daughters could now occupy the bed for themselves. Nolan and Dorothy could only smile before sitting in the slender yet sturdy teak chairs. "It'd have been nice if Jacob and Shawn were also there. And Louis and his wife and kids, too." "It can't be helped," Elizabeth said. "Shawn is extremely busy these days, Mother-in-law. As for Louis and his family... Well, we know they never go out for vacation, so that's that."

"Mm," Selena glanced at Rebecca and put her hand on her daughter's head. "A lot has happened in one day. Use this time at the beach to relax. Stay with us, not with your useless husband."

"H-He's not useless, Mom," Rebecca spoke back "Isn't he driving this vehicle while we're sitting here comfortably?" "Well, compared to us, he's still useless," Selena didn't want to admit that Benjamin was even a little useful.

Rebecca saw her mom sending the driver away so she could demand Benjamin to drive the motorhome. With him driving, she couldn't spend time with him. Even though she wanted to sit next to him, her mother kept holding one of the arms and didn't let her go where she wanted.

Rebecca didn't like getting controlled and manipulated by her mother to this extent. The more her mother went out of her way to meddle with her married life, the more Rebecca felt like separating herself from the family.

Rebecca gave it a long thought last night. After Selena tossed Benjamin's luggage out of Rebecca's room, she lost a lot of respect for her mother. If things stayed like this, her relationship with Benjamin would never get better. So, she had decided to buy a new house and move there with Benjamin after the wedding reception.

"This is for everyone's good," she thought. It took them two full hours to get to the destination. An ocean of clear blue waters, and the fresh, salty breeze lifted everyone's spirits the moment they got out of the motorhome.

Some people noticed Selena and came for her selfies, but she coldly rejected them, saying she couldn't waste a few seconds on them when an important beach experience awaited her. Still, some shamelessly kept asking her for selfies. Rebecca asked Benjamin to deal with them. Though he didn't want to, he had to step in. "Don't bother my mother-in-law, fellas!" he yelled at those who tried to get a bit too close with her. "Have some decency with someone who is on permanent menopause!" While his words shocked the Sterling folks, the others who heard it were amused.

"Trashmin, you worthless freeloader..." Selena's blood boiled. "You better stay out of my sight, or I'll lose myself." Benjamin looked at the ocean. "Isn't she the biggest beach in the country?" He made the word 'beach' sound more like 'bitch.' "No wonder its waves are always quite rude. It looks beautiful on the outside, but it holds some hideous creatures on the inside. Horrifying. Truly horrifying."

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His words drove her nuts. She lashed back at him. "When you die, I'll be the first to take a leak on your grave!" "But you'll die earlier than me, though," replied Benjamin. "And when you die, I'm sure all the dogs in your villa will be very eager to poop on your grave." "You..." she tried to slap him, but Rebecca stopped her in time. Veronica also joined and took her mother away and told her to calm down.

"What is this, Benjamin?" Rebecca got mad at him. "Why can't you control your mouth a little? I know she isn't perfect, but didn't your mother teach you to respect your elders?" "My daughter deserves someone so much better than him!" Selena yelled from a distance. "I'll be so glad when he's gone from her life!" Rebecca shook her head. She wanted to have some peace and quiet at the beach, but she was starting to have a

headache. Seeing Rebecca getting disappointed and frustrated, Benjamin picked her up into his arms and ran on the beach.

“W-What are you doing, Benjamin?” she was surprised and shocked. “He’s taking Aunt Rebecca somewhere!” Roshan and Lisa yelled, alerting Selena who had briefly taken her eyes off her daughter, but now she gave them chase. “Wait, stop right there, Trashmin!” she ran as fast as she could, but running on the wet sand proved tougher than she thought, especially with the wind whipping at her from every direction. “Where are you taking her? Let my daughter go!” Her loud voice still reached them, but not for long though, as the waves muffled her speech more and more as the distance between them increased. However, she didn’t stop running until she pathetically collapsed.

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Selena regretted not bringing the bodyguards out to the beach with her. She had wanted to trouble Benjamin with the task of keeping fans away from her, but she never thought he would pick her daughter and run away. She dialed for her bodyguards before resuming the hunt for Benjamin who had kidnapped her daughter.

Not just Selena but the whole Sterling family madly roamed on the beach, looking for Rebecca and Benjamin everywhere. They found many pairs, but none of them were the people they were looking for.

There were some topless women bathing in the sun, and Roshan kept staring at them until he received a solid smack on the back of his head from his mother. “Where are they?” Veronica’s neck hurt from looking everywhere.

“Just where the hell did he take her?” Selena’s face was an ugly mixture of rage and resentment. “She isn’t fully healed yet. If something bad happens to her, I’ll kill him myself!” All of them kept looking for the youngest couple on the shore, but it hadn’t yet crossed their minds that they were perhaps looking in the wrong place. Miles from the shore, on top of a medium sized tour boat, surrounded by nothing but deep waters and silence, two souls just kept staring into each other’s eyes. Nobody had spoken a word in the past five or so minutes, and it seemed like they liked the silence that let their eyes talk to one another. As the breeze blew her hair into his face, he closed his eyes and relished her scent. He then opened his eyes and went back to staring at her.

Rebecca’s heart was beating fast enough for her to feel it. Those little skips in her chest. This feeling she never had before felt strangely comfortable for the most part. “How long are you going to keep looking at me like that?” “You are patently pretty, you know that?”

He raised his hand and gently touched her chin." This little chin," he moved his fingers up her face, "these pulling lips, this straight nose that can make anyone envy, and these soft cheeks that make up your wonderful smile... Is there a woman more beautiful than you?"

Her heart thumped as his forefinger ran in little circles on her cheek before sliding down and moving along her jaw and stopping at her chin, where he first touched. She could feel the tips

of his fingers so clearly. Was her chin ever so sensitive?

"No, I have never seen a face more mesmerizing," he said, gazing at her like an artist praising the perfection of nature. "To get to touch this kind of beauty and warmth... am I not the luckiest man alive?"

Her chin quivered a little. She quickly caught his hand and said, "You are only describing my looks. What about my heart?"

He paused a second and looked at her chest. She was wearing a crop top, and the water drops off on her chest made it irresistible for him to look away. "I haven't seen it yet, so it's hard to describe"

"You naughty." She tried pinching his cheek, but the beard made things difficult. "I want to describe you as well, but your beard is in the way. You are going to get it removed before the wedding reception, right?" "I'm planning to," as he said, she lowered her head and kissed his hand long and hard enough, as though it contained many of her apologies. "Can you please cook some food for me?" she requested. There were only the two of them on the boat because Benjamin had paid off the boat's owner using the platinum card. He didn't have the riding license, of course, but he didn't care. After she kissed his hand for probably the first time and asked him to cook for her, how could he refuse? Besides, he wanted this evening to be as romantic as possible, but if he were to spend an hour or two on cooking, then their romance meeting would be moved to that night, which he believed was better in its own way.

"Alright. I'll see what ingredients they have on board," Benjamin said, and she slowly released his hand, making him smile. He then went downstairs. "Come to think of it, she probably hasn't eaten anything since the incident with Johnny," he thought as he checked the trays to see what fish were there. "Mm, I should soften the meat and use as little spice as possible, so it'll be easier to digest." Generally, seafood required much more spice and salt to give the similar level of flavor as land meat, but Benjamin knew many techniques to use less salt and spice to bring out the best flavor.

After he started cooking, Rebecca also helped him at times, though she looked a little scared because they were alone in the middle of nowhere, and it was getting dark. In about two hours, the two dishes, fish and turtle meat, were done along with rice and other varieties. There were no candles, but only modern torches. However, they didn't

complain. They neatly arranged the food on the top deck and enjoyed the meals together with a pair of fulmars for company. Rebecca loved the taste and juiciness of the meatballs much more when eaten with rice. Because the fish were deboned, she didn't need to worry about anything other than making the effort to put the food into her mouth. And even that burden was halved because Benjamin kept feeding her spoonfuls once every half minute while also sparing some for the tube-nosed fulmars.

She felt too embarrassed to feed him back in the same way, especially with the way his whole focus was on her and not on the food.

"Can we see whales now?" she looked around, feeling stupid, as she knew it was highly unlikely to see whales when they weren't much far from the shore. But she had to say something to make Benjamin look somewhere other than at her.

"Whales? Probably not," said Benjamin. "I once made designs of hammerhead sharks and whales for the Animal Welfare Board," she

said, looking at the crescent moon in the sky. "They wanted me to integrate more designs of endangered species onto their clothes, but they were paying little, so I refused." "Do you regret it?" "Not really. Endangered species or not, the sharks and whales are still dangerous beings that kill other creatures to survive, so I don't really feel pity for them." "Yeah. You are right. They are indeed dangerous, though not half as dangerous as your mother. If she were to be on this boat, I'm sure even the sharks would keep their dist—" Rebecca gave a startled and squinted glance at him. "I-I mean," Benjamin struggled to back his words fast, so he kept eating. "I must say the dishes are really tasty. Maybe, it's because you gave me a hand. You have a lucky hand." Rebecca ignored Benjamin's remarks about her mother and smiled. "You are right about the food. It's delicious indeed. You deserve a kiss for that."

WAMWAY Benjamin's expression froze. Did she really say those words? He wanted to hear those words again if he could, just to make sure. However, her gaze told him a story all in itself. He put the food bowl aside and moved toward her, closing his eyes in the process. The smile on her face strengthened and formed a dent in her cheek. She pushed his chin to the side and planted a kiss on his cheek, pretty high up so her lips touched the skin and not the beard.

As she moved her head back, he turned his head, and both their lips touched, for a fraction of a second. She stopped moving backward; her eyes drew in more light as she processed just what had happened and also from the faint taste of his lips lingering on hers. And he looked just as surprised. As seconds sluggishly passed, their gazes glued to each other as their hearts yearned for the same thing. Benjamin closed his eyes and waited, as though he was suggesting to her to come to him. He wasn't touching her, but she felt like he was pulling her with invisible force. She briefly glanced at his lips before looking at him again and moving forward as she closed her eyes, also.

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A few hours back.

Benjamin was driving the motorhome, and they were yet to arrive at the beach. Selena started reading a book after talking for an hour or so with her daughters. Veronica just watched videos on her mobile, but Rebecca took a peek at the book her mother was intently reading. She read a song 'The Sweetest Lover' sung by a character called Stussy Junkzman.

"Sweetest

He

Who

Takes your heat But still looks neat

And gives you treats

Better than the sweets

And never mistreats or cheats

For he owns a well of love

That never depletes." "That's pretty deep, Mom. Which book is it from? Let me see the cover," Rebecca said. "It's from a fantasy novel," replied her mother, refusing to fold the book while she was still reading.

Coming back to the present.

As Benjamin closed his eyes and waited for her to kiss him, she remembered the song, and her heart swelled, for she thought it fit Benjamin perfectly. Though he wasn't really friendly with her family, he always treated her like a princess and never mistreated her. Though kissing someone with a big beard and mustache wasn't her preference, she really didn't care about such trivialities at the moment, for the yearning of her heart for his love has grown over her and began to blossom in many ways. Maybe that was why, even though he wasn't touching her, she felt like he was pulling her with invisible force. She felt attracted to him. She briefly glanced at his barely visible lips before looking at her sweetest lover's face again and moving forward as she closed her eyes, also. "There's the ship!" a loud voice echoed around. "There they are!" It was Selena's voice.

Rebecca and Benjamin looked in the direction where there were two boats heading toward them. Selena and Veronica were on board. Selena was using binoculars. "Were they about to kiss just now?" she thought. "I can never let that happen! Not while there's breath in my lungs!"

Selena then spoke through the mic attached with a loud speaker. "Rebecca, don't listen to him! Don't be fooled by him!" Their two boats closed in and stopped next to Benjamin's boat.

"Come over to our boat," Selena said, waving her hand repeatedly.

"Mom!" Rebecca's jaw slackened. "Are you serious?" How could she get to the other boat with her ankle being in a tricky situation, still?

The pair of fulmars went over to the two ships and began picking a fight with them. "Go away, you shitty birds!" Selena yelled at them through the mic, but that didn't work. She told the guards to shoot them down, but they gave a warning shot with the gun and set the birds in fleeing mode. "Trashmin, you better send my daughter over to my boat," Selena warned, "or..." "It's too risky to send her over a rope or even a ladder with her ankle not fully healed," Benjamin told her, but she shook her head.

"Uh-ah," she looked at the bodyguards. There were a total of eighteen of them. Eight on one boat, and ten on the other. "Go and bring my daughter." The bodyguards began to throw robes, but Benjamin started the engine and drove away from there, shocking everyone. "What are you idiots doing?" Selena yelled at the driver and the bodyguards. "Chase him! Don't let him out of sight!"

She had been to sea many times, so she was not afraid of driving fast on the waters, though Veronica looked so uncomfortable she felt like she might pee any second. When their boat was going too fast, Rebecca also felt scared. "B-Benjamin, slow down."

"Just grab me and close your eyes, Rebecca," he said. "That will do the trick."

"Grab you?" she hesitated for a second but then did what he said. She hugged him from behind, rested her head against his warm and sturdy back and closed her eyes. As the boat dashed on the waters and moved up and down over the small waves, their bodies moved in sync. Her chest was touching him and fueled his sense of adventure some more. He kept taking random directions and made the chasers work a lot

Rebecca kept hugging him throughout, and time passed pretty fast for her. After some rough

realize that they finally reached the shore. She opened her eyes, and she was right, but she didn't look happy for some reason. She wanted to keep hugging him, but she had to loosen her arms around his waist.

He turned to her and looked at her. "You are not feeling dizzy or anything, are you?" "Mm, no," she slightly shook her head. "Then let's get going."

(Where?)

He smiled and picked her up into her arms and jumped from the boat. "Kya!" she screamed in a bit of surprise, but he landed safely and ran on the shore. "Wait, you little bastard!" Selena's boat just reached the shore, and she shouted at the bodyguard to lower a ladder and even hit them with the mic for not responding fast enough to her commands. The bodyguards chased Benjamin on the shore, warning him that he better stop, or they would make him regret his actions. However, their taunts didn't work on Benjamin. His speed was constant and fast as though he was running a marathon. The guards gave it their best, but they couldn't catch up with him and eventually stopped.

After going past tall rocks, Benjamin stopped. There was a small cave with tables neatly arranged, and a small pile of coconuts next to the table. Both of them sat there. As Benjamin was catching his breath, she was smiling. "You can try in the Olympics for running."

Benjamin cut the coconuts with the knife and put straws in them. However, she tossed one coconut aside, startling him. "Why did you throw that away?" he asked. She pulled the coconut in his hand toward her and put another straw in it. Now, he understood why she had thrown the other coconut away. She wanted to drink together from the same coconut! Her heart fluttered as though it had grown wings.

Looking into each other's eyes, both of them slowly sipped the coconut water, not wanting to finish it soon. Nevertheless, it finished sooner than they thought. Benjamin cut another coconut, and they repeated it once more. This way, they emptied seven coconuts together. By the end of it, she was rubbing her little belly and shook her head when he reached out for the eighth

She looked toward the sea. With the moon's reflection falling on the waters, glinting off of the countless ripples and waves, creating their own reflections on each miniature surface curve, the ocean never looked so surreal. Just like how the moon lit up one spot in the otherwise dark

itting before her has lit up her heart which otherwise would have still been so indifferent and cold to the warm things of life. She leaned forward and clasped his hand. "Thank you, Benjamin." He didn't exactly know why she was thanking him, so he looked a little confused. "For everything, I mean," she said. "I want to know you more. I want you to know me more." Her upper body drew near to him, desperate for his warmth. Every cell in her body hungered and thirsted for him as she surrendered herself, wishing to speak to his lips through hers and more.

He couldn't resist her either and was about to lean ahead and reach her. "Trashmin!" the unsettling voice of Selena reached their ears. "NO. NOT AGAIN!" Benjamin went nuts.

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Selena came riding a beach camel and poured foul water on the flames of love burning between the young couple with her vengeful words. They could have ignored her and kissed. They were both indeed desperate, but they didn't want their first most intimate moment when they were both sane and sober to be spoiled with

Afterward, Selena made sure to stick pretty close to Rebecca, so close it even bothered her daughter.

"I wanted to wear a bikini and spend some time under the evening sun, but your worthless husband spoiled everything," Selena didn't look like she would stop badmouthing Benjamin anytime soon. "This is the worst beach trip I've ever had. Period." "Bikini?" Benjamin's expression turned unpleasant. "Why don't people dress their age?" "Shut up, Trashmin!" Selena barked. "There are still millions of men who would die to see me in a bikini." Benjamin felt like vomiting, further enraging her. "Millions of morons, you mean. Look at Rebecca, Mother-in-law. She dresses well for her age. She always wears a bra that fits her well. Her skirts are always the right length. And, of course, she uses high-quality fabric. You and your youngest daughter should learn from her." Rebecca blushed a little as she got praised. "Hmph, who do you think she learned from?" Selena tried to take credit for it, but Rebecca raised her brows and gave a 'really?' look. "Ahem, anyway, we should go back to our motorhome. The others must be waiting for us."

Rebecca looked back at the camel once. "Do you want to ride it?" asked Benjamin.

She hesitantly shook her head. "No, no. I was just looking at it."

Benjamin didn't say anything afterward, but he silently talked with the camel's owner while Rebecca wasn't looking. And then they shook each other's hands. About forty minutes later.

Everyone met at the motorhome again. It was pretty dark at the beach. The coast guards were repeatedly telling them to leave. Selena tried to tip them off, but they didn't fall for her tricks and even fined her.

Benjamin had to start the motorhome and leave the place as quickly as possible. While Selena was busy cursing at the coast guards, she didn't yet realize that Rebecca wasn't around. Rebecca was sitting next to the driver's seat. It was more like a wide couch, so she laid down and rested her head on Benjamin's thigh.

It was uncomfortable, but Benjamin didn't complain. As he turned the wheel, a part of his forearm kept rubbing against her face, almost tickling her. It made her smile, though only

faintly.

more than I feared it. You can also drive this motorhome without any problem. You can drive both cars and motorbikes. You can swim. You can cook. You can be a good handyman. What else can you do?"

"I can bathe in under a minute, too."

"Haha," she chuckled a little. "Yeah, you're right. I'm not sure about the others, but I can never bathe in under a minute, though. No offense."

"None taken, 'cause I'm just fast when it comes to bathing. I can show you next time if you

want."

"N-No thanks."

"At least let me rub your back," his tone was a little persuasive. "You can't do it on your own that well, can you?"

"I have four bath brushes. You know that, I'm sure." "Are you talking about the ones hung to the wall?"

"Yeah."

"But I use them to wash the toilet." "What?" Rebecca sat up at once, her eyes utterly filled with shock. "Haha," Benjamin laughed out loud. "A joke."

Rebecca frowned and pinched his thigh hard.

"AHHH!" he cried out and almost jumped off his seat.

"A joke," she, too, said.

In the meantime, at the chief justice's house. Marisa's head was just brought to the spot. When Terry took a look at his precious daughter's

face, he broke into tears and couldn't stop himself from crying. Jacob patted his shoulder and consoled him. Though everyone else had left. Jacob stayed. "Where's her head found?" Terry asked the police. "In the woods, sir," one of the officers hesitantly replied. "We found it among the monkeys."

Terry ground his teeth. Fury flickered in every fiber of his body. He turned his head and glared at Jacob. "I want to meet your son-in-law." Jacob was completely baffled. "W-What?" His daughter's head was just found, and he still wanted to meet Benjamin? Did Terry go insane? Meanwhile, in a random hospital in the western part of the city.

Francis had been admitted to the hospital and treated, but he looked pathetic. He lost his tongue and so his ability to speak. His assistant who had said she was coming to see him didn't

even show her face even though he had been lying on this bed since that morning. Of course, why would she come when he was in this state? Having lost his tongue, there was no way for him to keep his job. He wouldn't even be able to have a proper conversation with anyone, either. He knew he shouldn't blame her, but he still felt angry that she didn't even visit him, just to see him if not for more.

ule.

As if that wasn't enough, the news of a tunnel collapsing, and the bodies found recently were reported to be squashed by rocks and were in unrecognizable state. Was his son among them? He wanted to go and see for himself, but he was feeling so pathetic right now. How could he let things turn out like this? Only a few days ago, everything was alright, but now, nothing was alright. He lost everything.

The door opened, but he didn't even care to turn his head and look. It must be the nurse coming to check upon him, he thought. "Francis..." However, a familiar voice sounded out.

His head turned on its own, and as the image of his wife, no, his ex-wife, reflected in his eyes, tears welled up pretty fast. "C-C..." he wanted to say her name out, but he couldn't utter it, and it broke his heart. He bawled like a child.

His wife, Cassandra, reached over for him and touched his head with her head as she empathized with him and shed tears alongside him.

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The next morning. Selena woke up to hear the bad news that Rebecca was also sleeping in the men's dorms. This was a shock to her.

"Just what did he do for her to become like this?" her gut twisted. She felt like she was losing his daughter. "Killing some parrots clearly wasn't enough for him. I wish he had a family. Then I would have been able to toy with him."

When she walked out to the balcony with a cup of cream coffee, a camel was eating the grass on the lawn.

"What the fuck?" her eyes sprang out of her sockets. Just then, the camel pooped on the grass, making her vomit out whatever that was in her mouth.

At the same time, Rebecca was standing at the entrance of the dorms, with her eyes shut by Benjamin. He was standing behind her. "What did you want to show me that you closed my eyes like this?" she curiously asked. "You will see soon," he said, "so keep walking." He made her walk until she was close enough to the camel, and then he moved his hands, revealing the tall, impressive camel to her, pleasantly surprising and puzzling her at the same time.

A second later, she looked at him in shock. "Did you... buy this?"

He nodded and smiled. "The owner wasn't willing at first, but then he changed his mind when I said I'll give him the boat."

"Eh? You gave the boat in exchange for this camel?" she clutched her cheeks. "You are crazy. You can buy tens of camels with that money you spent on buying the boat."

"Maybe, but this camel caught your eye, so it's special." Benjamin's words touched her heart. If he called this camel special just because she was interested in it a little, how much more special was she in his heart? She didn't cry, but she was close to shedding a tear. "Why don't you ride it?" Benjamin said and made sounds with his mouth, making the camel get down to its knees. "Eh? How did you do that?" she looked shocked. "I want to do that, too."

"The camel isn't going anywhere. I'll teach you in time. Ride it as long as you want. We can sell it once you get bored of it." "Mm, does it have a name?" "I don't know."

"Then let's name it Beach, since we first saw it at the beach. How does it sound?"

Benjamin gave a thumbs-up.

And then he approached the sitting camel from the side and helped her climb the camel. He sat in the back, pleasantly surprising her. She wasn't expecting that, but his gaze

told her it was necessary, for her own safety. However, his hands held her arms and made her hold the reins. Once the camel felt the pull, it arose. As it got up to its feet, he helped her counteract the camel's motion so she wouldn't fall off its back. It was a short but heart-skipping experience for her. If Benjamin wasn't there, she would have definitely fallen and injured herself. The camel started walking around the garden at a decent pace.

The ride was a little bumpy because of the camel's movements, but it wasn't as uncomfortable as Rebecca had expected it to be. "Do you like it?" he asked. "I think I need to ride it longer to be able to decide," she said, "but for now, it's not bad." The garden's ground was not flat. It was artistically uneven because the villa was built on low hills.

"When the camel is moving, sway along with it," he suggested as the camel was about to make a turn. He also guided her, showing how it should be done, and she began to enjoy the ride more. "If the ground was sandy like at the beach, the camel would have walked in a different

style."

"We can't help it," she said, "but this isn't bad, either. Thanks for making this morning special. I'll never forget this."

"The pleasure is mine," he leaned his head and pecked on her shoulder. She felt a little tingle surfing all over her skin for a second, giving goosebumps on her arms. "B – Benjamin..." she said in a bit of a defiant voice. "Mom is watching!" "I know," he cheekily smiled. "If she doesn't like what she's watching, that's not our problem now, is it?" He parted her hairs and pecked her on the back of her neck, almost making her jump like a spring chicken. She had no idea until that moment that the back of her neck could be such a sensitive spot. A furious frown creased Selena's forehead as a wave of futile fury swept over her. "Who brought the filthy camel into my villa?" she yelled. It was more of a bark that splattered saliva everywhere to her front. "M-Mom's getting mad," Rebecca's pulse quickened. "I think we should get down." "She always gets angry, so don't worry about her," he said. "But..." she was worried that her mom might do something to the camel like she did with the parrots.

"You think I'm not worried about your mother's health?" Benjamin kept talking in a pitiful tone. "But there's no pill for anger, unfortunately. We can only pray that she accepts us."

Vlad and Mercie came running up to the camel.

"Can we also ride it?" they innocently asked.

Benjamin, however, cast a death glare at them, sending shivers down their spines. He didn't

want these unthankful kids to spoil the precious moments he was having with his wife. "Of course," said Rebecca, sounding happy. "Let's get them up here, Benjamin." Benjamin forced out a smile. "S-Sure, but riding four people is impossible. Let us both ride together for a little longer, and then we can let the kids have fun."

"What are you saying? How can you make the kids wait?" Rebecca said, pulling the reins, but the camel wasn't stopping. She pulled them harder, but that didn't work, either. It only irritated the camel. "How do we stop this thing?" Benjamin leaned to the side and rubbed the camel with a hand. "Slow down, Beach. Stop." And the camel slowed down and stopped, leaving Rebecca speechless for a second. She didn't think it would be so simple. Once the camel sat, he got down first and helped her get down safely. Vlad and Mercie wasted no time in climbing the beast by grabbing its hairs. Both Rebecca and Benjamin were surprised by seeing that. Benjamin also climbed it and then tried to help them like he did with Rebecca, but they didn't even let him touch the reins and teach them anything. They completely ignored him and kept doing whatever they wanted and frustrated the camel, but because of its experience, it kept walking patiently. Rebecca felt happy. She wasn't able to care for Vlad and Mercie all that much recently, so seeing them cheerful eased her heart.

At that moment, an old Hyundai car entered the villa and stopped at the entrance. Selena's face regained some glow. "He's finally here." A thirty-eight year old man got out of the rusty car. Half of the hairs on his head were missing. He's got a pot for a belly and usually large buttocks. Chewing on a bubblegum rather aggressively, he looked around and smiled after noticing Rebecca who was looking at him.

(George?) Her expression turned for the worse as this guy had relentlessly tried to have sex with her and her sister years ago. (Why is this piece of shit here?) She had slapped him many times, but he would still come after her. The days back when he lived in this villa were not pleasant, and she instinctively folded her arms in a defensive posture. Benjamin had no idea who George was, but he understood that something wasn't right.

George just smiled and then entered the villa, calling out for his sister and his nieces. "Where are you guys? Roshan? Lisa? And my sister Elizabeth? I didn't bring you any gifts, but I, the biggest gift, am finally back!"

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Rebecca was so worried she didn't even enter the villa and stayed at the dorms. The change in her was obvious enough to easily see. "Who is this George?" Benjamin asked her, even though he thought it wasn't a good idea to remind her of the past. He wanted to hear from her own mouth. "He's Elizabeth's younger brother," Rebecca said with a frown. "He smokes, drinks, gambles, and visits strip clubs. There's nothing good about

anything he does. He's utter filth. He and his sister together tried to marry either me or Veronica off to him, but we both refused. However, if Brother Shawn and Dad had no issues, I might have been forced to marry him, though I don't know what I would have done if things had gone that far. Luckily, Dad was completely against the idea of marrying me or Veronica to someone as useless as him. Mom also objected to it. "Still, he kept trying, and one day, he dared to touch Veronica inappropriately. She slapped him, and he lost his cool that day and slapped her back. After that incident, Mom kicked him out of the house. I don't know why he's here after all these years. He smiles all the time, but underneath, he's extremely jealous. As long as he's here, our wedding reception won't go smoothly. He'll definitely cause something bad to happen. He's that type of guy. Benjamin could feel the anxiousness in her tone. He had never seen her like this before. She was clearly worried to the point she didn't want to enter the villa and look at George's face.

"Just wait here. I'll go and bring the breakfast," he said and then entered the villa.

Elizabeth and her family gathered at the dining table and were all laughing, except Lisa who looked dull because her boyfriend, Nate, dumped her. Even after all the things she did for him, he still broke up because she couldn't buy him the car she told she would.

She had already tried asking her father again, but Shawn refused again.

"What do you do in general, uncle?" Roshan asked. "I work in a garage," said George, smiling. "In a few years, I'll have my own garage." "Garage?" Roshan plainly shook his head. "Roshan," Elizabeth interfered. "Your uncle might not look like it, but his driving ability is second to none. If he had become a racer, I'm sure he would have earned many titles and brought fame to my Flower family!"

"Then why didn't he become a racer?" Roshan asked in a slightly mocking tone.

"We didn't have good contacts back then," Elizabeth said and gritted her teeth. "Everyone we trusted only ended up betraying us. They stole our hard-earned money!" "Still, I will not believe it unless I see his skills for myself." "Haha," George smiled and said, "Let's go for a ride in the afternoon." "Why not now?"

"You'll end up vomiting. That's why."

"Huh, we'll see."

Elizabeth didn't like the way Roshan treated George, but she couldn't blame him, either. Roshan was not even ten years old when George left the villa. He probably could have forgotten eating biscuits from George's hands when he was only a kid. Elizabeth saw Benjamin entering the kitchen. "Hey, Benjamin!" she called out for him. "Why don't you come over and meet my brother, George!" Benjamin stopped and turned around to take

a good look at George. He had no beard, but his mustache looked cool. "I'm busy, so maybe next time." "Busy? What busy? You even quit the job," Elizabeth said, "You have all the free time in the world now, don't you?" "One shouldn't quit their job," George casually said. "It's a bad practice. You must treat your job like it's your life, or you'll not get far in any field you step into. Where did you work? If it's possible, I'll get you reinstated." "He used to work as a pizza deliverer," said Dorothy, snorting. "Pizza deliverer? Pfft," George almost burst into laughter. "Sorry, but I was really surprised. How can the only son-in-law of the Sterling family deliver pizzas?" "We've grown tired of telling him to quit," Elizabeth said, "but he's not the type to listen unless you slap him in the face. Still, how many times can we slap a grown adult?"

"How about you join my garage?" George glanced at Benjamin, speaking in a friendly tone. "I can teach you all the necessary skills in a year or two, and then you can raise your own garage. If you're good, you can earn five to ten grand every year." "As a seven-star pizza deliverer, I used to earn more than that, though," Benjamin's reply silenced everyone. "That's not including the tips. If I include the tips..." he didn't need to say further.

Elizabeth and her mother were no longer smiling.

George still smiled and said, "If it's a garage, your customers will come to you, and you get to choose who you want to service to, but if it's a pizza delivery, you need to go and knock on

talking about money, even a successful mobile canteen owner will earn more than a seven star or a ten-star pizza deliverer. However, there's this thing called prestige. A mobile canteen owner can't look into the eyes of a software engineer and proudly say he runs a mobile canteen."

"If the mobile canteen owner loves what he does, I'm sure he wouldn't feel shameful to tell others what he does," Benjamin countered and glanced at Kathy who was standing on the side. "Kathy, over there, cleans toilets everyday, but I'm sure she proudly tells others that she

"Pigs eat shit and feel proud about it," George said. "You can't compare pigs with tigers and wolves that are much higher up the hierarchy."

"I want to talk more, but I have some work," Benjamin said. "If you'll excuse me..." he then entered the kitchen and packed some food in a carriage box. As he was walking out, two people entered the villa. One of them was Jacob, and the other was Terry Praise. Neither of them were smiling.

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Breakfasts in the Sterling family generally included a plant and egg-based diet. Today was no different either.

Kathy had prepared the usual toast, oatmeal, coffee, and pancakes. All were simple things that even the middle class people could afford.

Jacob's expression softened after seeing the breakfast. He was a simple man with simple tastes, and this menu reminded him of his old times. He glanced at Terry and said in a positive tone, "Why don't we have some breakfast first?"

Terry didn't say anything, but his eyes were still very much red.

Jacob put his hand on Terry. "You haven't slept or eaten anything in 2 days. Your daughter wouldn't want this for you, I'm sure."

Terry frowned and said, "Where's your son-in-law? Benjamin?" he looked at George. "Is it him?"

"No." Jacob's gaze turned sharp as he looked at George who couldn't look back at Jacob. He then glanced at Benjamin who was still standing by the kitchen door. "That guy over there is Benjamin." He had no idea why Terry was so persistent about talking with Benjamin, but he hoped that it was nothing serious.

Terry went straight to Benjamin, neither blinking nor making any unnecessary bodily movements, and while using an umbrella as a walking stick.

George, Elizabeth and others were wondering who the hell this old man was. He looked slightly older than Jacob, but he looked just as intimidating, even though he hadn't really done anything yet.

Benjamin raised his brows as Terry drew near. "You need something from me?" Terry's eyes gained redness from the boiling rage he tried to keep down. After closing in, he said in a low voice, "I know what you did, Benjamin." "Pardon?"

"My daughter Marisa is in her grave now probably because of you," his cheeks slowly swelled in fury. "You're the prime suspect, but I don't want you getting arrested and having an easy time in jail. I want you to suffer a thousand times more than what my daughter went through." He ground his teeth, and bubbles of saliva frothed out of his mouth. "It's not just you who'll suffer from my wrath but everyone related to you. Watch

me bring the entire Sterling family to the ground with a smile on my face. And they will all have no one else to blame but you, their one and only worthless son-in-law.”

Benjamin could feel the killing intent from this old man. He might be wanting to stab Benjamin’s belly with the umbrella at this very moment, but he was holding himself back.” I’m sorry for your loss, sir, but my family has nothing to do with this. If you have anything, take it out on me. Don’t drag the Sterlings into this.”

“So you are the one who’s behind my daughter’s death, then?” Terry put pressure and weight

on the umbrella.

“I didn’t kill her,” replied Benjamin, “but that’s all I can say?” “What?” Terry was shaking with rage at this point. “You think I’ll believe a word of anything you say? I heard you are having a wedding reception soon. Good luck with that, but if that reception successfully happens, then your wife will also need to suffer as much as you do because she’ll be your partner. I will use all my power and influence to crush you, your wife, and her family. I will make sure you have no place you can call home. I will make you come and fall before my feet and beg me to leave you alone.” .

Benjamin frowned. “I can understand your pain, but your daughter isn’t really innocent, whether you’re aware of it or not. I’m hoping you’re not aware of it, or you’re going to really regret it if you come at me or my wife.” “None of that matters now,” Terry’s gaze sharpened. “The only thing that needs to be done is to put you in your grave built at my daughter’s feet. I will be working toward that goal from this moment forth.” Saying that, he patted Benjamin’s shoulder and laughed. “Is that so? I wish you good luck.” Terry then turned around and walked over to Jacob. “Your son-in-law is as much of a man as I expected. No wonder my daughter was seeing him even though he was married to another woman.”

“What?” Jacob and everyone in the hall were stunned into silence. The breakfast box Benjamin was holding fell to the floor. His eyes broadened in shock.

“He once delivered her some pizza it seems, and that’s when she first met him,” Terry explained. “She used to talk about him a lot these past few months, so I wanted to see him myself. Sorry, I didn’t tell you this sooner. I thought she was just being infatuated with him, but now, I’m telling this for your daughter’s sake.” He put his hand on Jacob’s shoulder and said in a low voice, “As for the ticket prices, don’t worry about it. I’ll pass the bill so you can increase the prices. We’ll see to it that you’ll create an all-time domestic record for the first weekend.”

Jacob’s face gained some glow upon hearing Terry’s words. He moved and gave a hug and said, “Thanks, Terry. I really need this boost, but I didn’t know how to talk to you regarding this.”

"It's alright, man. We have been friends even before my daughter was born," Terry reminded Jacob. "I'll be the happiest person if you prosper." Then they shook each other's hands before Jacob requested Terry to have breakfast; however, Terry politely refused. "I'll eat the next time I come here," he said and then left.

Jacob briefly glanced at Benjamin before escorting Terry outside until he got into his car.

After Terry's car drove away, Jacob's expression hardened as he entered the villa. His daughter married this useless man who was not even worthy to work as a butler in the Sterling villa, and this was how he repaid her? The thought itself burned his blood. He folded his sleeves as he strode toward Benjamin. "D-Don't believe what he said, Father-in-law," Benjamin tried to explain. "He was lying."

"Shut up," Jacob put all his strength into his hand as he slapped Benjamin. The sound echoed throughout the hall. Almost all the eyes sitting at the dining table brightened from what they

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As Jacob strode toward him, folding his sleeves, Benjamin's heart started beating fast. "D Don't believe what he said, Father-in-law," he tried to explain. "He was lying."

"Shut up," Jacob put all his strength into his hand as he slapped Benjamin. The sound echoed throughout the hall. Almost all the eyes sitting at the dining table brightened from what they saw. "A man who lost his daughter recently would come all this way if there's nothing going on? What reason would a man of his stature have to lie about trash like you? What would he earn from it?"

Benjamin covered his cheek that turned red from the slap. "Trust me, please. He's lying." "Shut your damn mouth!" Jacob roared and raised his hand for another slap. Kathy had already run upstairs to inform Selena. Elizabeth was leaking out a wonderful smile after a long time. Roshan looked quite shocked, for he couldn't believe that his uncle Benjamin who always chased after their aunt like a dog would be having an affair with another woman. Lisa looked more angry than shocked.

"I knew that he's a cheat," Dorothy exaggeratedly adjusted her dress a bit. "His looks sometimes even made me feel uneasy." "He's always been a cheeky bastard," Nolan remarked. "What are we going to do now?" George asked the big question while looking at Jacob. "With the live-in son-in-law, I mean." "There's only one thing to do," Jacob

grabbed Benjamin's collar and dragged him down the hall. He violently threw him outside the front door. Benjamin fell and rolled down the stairs and hit the shoe stand, causing the sandals and shoes to fall on top of him. "Get out of my house. I'll send you the divorce papers tomorrow. Don't you dare to show your face around here anymore, or I'll break your limbs so you'll never be able to walk!"

Benjamin got up with effort. "I haven't done anything wrong, Father-in-law. Let me explain what—"

"You're still trying to fool me after all this?" Jacob almost burst a blood vessel. He scuttled down the stairs and kicked in Benjamin's belly, causing him to fall back. Jacob didn't stop and kept kicking Benjamin everywhere from head to toe. "I should have never let trash like you into my house, let alone into my daughter's life! I know very well that guys like you are only after money, but after you stood up for my daughter at the birthday party, I thought maybe you were different. But, no. I was right all along. You taught me a very good lesson. I'll thank you for that and let you leave this place in one piece." As he kept kicking, Elizabeth and others rushed out of the villa. Selena came to the balcony and was watching everything with eyes blooming from overflowing happiness and stomach bulging from too many butterflies fluttering in jubilation.

Louis and Bella watched from a different balcony and maintained poker faces, as usual. Vlad and Mercie were playing in the background with a doll.

Shawn just walked out of the entrance without even having breakfast, wondering why his dad was screaming, but then Elizabeth told him everything, and his eyes swelled from fury. "He did what?" The look on his face matched his tone. He dropped the briefcase as a fit of anger swallowed his senses. He quickly joined his father and beat Benjamin together.

Selena never felt better. This was what she wanted to see from so long, and she was finally feasting her eyes with what she had only seen in her dreams. She thanked the judge in her heart for making this possible. "Nobody is perfect. I knew that bastard must be getting into someone else's bed. Otherwise, it's impossible for a man to not force his wife and wait for months without having sex. Now it makes me wonder if he really went to his job daily, or if his salary was coming from the judge's daughter. Either way, he really is cunning. He chose my daughter to be his wife, and then secretly maintained a relationship with the chief justice's foolish daughter. We provided shelter, and the judge's daughter provided both money and pleasure. He was getting everything he needed and managed to keep it a secret all this while." She then thought, "I should go and pay a visit to the grave of the chief justice's daughter."

Kathy also voiced her mind while standing next to Benjamin. "I thought he was an honest man, but he's just a snake." A look of disgust crossed her face.

“Indeed,” Selena amusedly said. “And snakes need to be beaten to death. If we show mercy to them, we’ll only get bitten in the end.” She loved how mercilessly Shawn was beating his brother-in-law.

Shawn used to be a shy kid who used to be bullied a lot when he was in middle school, and that bullying made him less empathetic. When he entered highschool, he grew a lot in height and size, and then he became a bully himself. He grew more arrogant and controlling, but he was unlike other typical bullies in that he always took responsibility for his actions. He was not cowardly or fragile. Having been through a lot of fights in school and in professional life, he became sturdy like a rock. None could shake his heart now. That was what Selena saw Shawn, as the cornerstone of the Sterling family.

As Shawn kicked aggressively, it allowed Jacob to slow down and get his breath back. His whole body had turned red, and he looked rigid but also shaky. “Father-in-law,” George stepped in and helped him stand straight. “Your arteries stiffened from overexertion. You should calm down.”

Selena liked how George used the opportunity well. “He’s gotten smarter than before. Good. Jacob doesn’t lose his anger as long as there are unsolved things, so keep holding him like that.”

Jacob took a few deep breaths but kept watching his son beat the living daylights out of Benjamin.

By the time Shawn was out of gas, Benjamin was coughing blood and bleeding from the nose. One of his eyes looked bad, too.

Shawn grabbed Benjamin’s hair and forcibly lifted him up. Blood and liquids hung from his nose, and he was struggling to breathe, and he was finding it hard to even keep his eyes open. Shawn leaned closer and whispered in Benjamin’s ear, “I’m not doing this for my sister. I’m doing this for me.”

Benjamin’s eyes slightly widened from hearing those heartless words.

Just then, Rebecca walked out of the dorms, wondering why Benjamin was taking so long, and horror struck her face when she saw Shawn repeatedly punching in Benjamin’s face until he collapsed back pathetically. “Benjamin!” she cried out.

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“Benjamin!” Rebecca rushed to him, ignoring the pain in her ankle. Shawn cut her off. “Hold it, Rebecca.” “Brother, move!” she roared and tried to get past him, but he

grabbed her hand and forcibly pulled her away. "Listen to me first, and then you are going to beat your husband yourself," Shawn stated. "What nonsense are you talking about?" Rebecca's eyes were still on Benjamin who was on the ground. "How could you beat him like that? Are you even human?" Tears escaped her eyes. "It isn't just your brother who hit him," Jacob said. "I did, too." Rebecca's face froze. "Your worthless husband is having an affair with the chief justice's daughter," Jacob said. "W-What are you talking about?" Rebecca didn't believe it. "The chief justice's daughter died unfortunately," Jacob continued speaking in an annoyed tone. "Or I would have brought her here to prove it. Still, her father's words are more than enough. There's no reason for the chief justice to lie!" "Don't listen to them, Rebecca," Benjamin said through the pain as blood dripped from his chin. "I don't even know about the girl they're talking about."

"B-Benjamin..." Rebecca's gut twisted seeing him in such a pathetic situation. She tried to get to him, but her brother didn't let her.

"Don't fall for his trap, Rebecca," Shawn warned her, squeezing her wrist with brute force so that his point would get across to her better. "It's better for everyone in this villa if he just disappears from our lives."

"Yes, Aunt. Dad is right," Lisa stepped forth and said. "I think Uncle Benjamin had a crush on me. I saw him following me a few times." Her words shocked everyone as they thought this came out of nowhere. Lisa, however, stood her ground. "I think he isn't innocent." After losing her boyfriend, she didn't know where she should divert her frustration, and now she had Benjamin to divert all her anger toward. In a way, he was responsible for her losing Nate, she thought.

"What the hell?" Shawn's blood boiled. "You even went after my daughter?" He pushed Rebecca aside and attacked Benjamin.

"Stop, brother!" Rebecca caught Shawn's hand. "Maybe, Lisa was mistaken."

"She isn't five, Rebecca," Shawn glared at her, but she didn't back down. She moved past him and looked at Benjamin.

"Is Lisa speaking the truth?" she asked Benjamin, whose eyes were half-open Benjamin shook his head. "You are the only one in my heart. There was no one else before.

There will be no one else after."

Stress marks appeared on Rebecca's chin as tears welled up in her eyes. Benjamin was coming forward to hug her, but Shawn kicked him in the chest and sent him back.

Benjamin fell to his knee and coughed blood. "Brother!" Rebecca clenched her fists and was about to attack him. "I wouldn't do that if I were you," Elizabeth said aloud. She came down the stairs. "Did your husband blind your eyes so much you are going to raise your hand against your own brother? Against your own blood?" Rebecca gritted her teeth and cast an angry glance at her. "This is none of your business." "Not when you're about to hit my husband," replied Elizabeth, shifting her gaze to Benjamin "I will only tell you one thing. Why don't you ask your husband what his name is? I mean, what his real name is." Rebecca's brows drew together. "What are you talking about?" Why did his name matter in this situation? "Just give it a try, sister-in-law," Elizabeth was trying to speak seriously and not laugh even though she wanted to. "Go and ask your husband what his real name is. Why don't you hear it from his own mouth?". Rebecca turned her head to look at Benjamin who was making a sad, hurtful expression. "What is she saying, Benjamin?" Rebecca started walking toward him. Shawn didn't stop her this time. "Isn't your Benjamin Wilde? Tell them that's your name."

Benjamin kept staring at her; the corners of his lips turned down, and his lower lip poked outward and felt heavy as if all the guilt in him had gathered there. A slow shake of his head followed.

Rebecca's heart sank at once.

"There you go. He got the job at the pizza shop, probably using a fake certificate," Elizabeth said. "I doubt what he wrote there is even his real name. It's like his whole life is a lie. Who knows what more he is hiding? Just slap him and kick him out already. He doesn't even deserve to breathe the same air as us!" Tears clouded Rebecca's eyes. "Why didn't you tell me, Benj..." she paused, wondering if Benjamin was his real name or not, and the thought made her heart feel heavy. "I was planning to tell you everything," Benjamin said.

"When?" she raised her voice. Tears streamed down her cheeks. He raised his hand to wipe her tears off, but she pushed his hand away. "Once a liar, always a liar. I don't know what else you're hiding. How can you expect me to trust anything you say?" Benjamin withdrew his hand. Her question was valid, but why did she even need to listen to his words? Didn't he already show his love through his actions? Weren't the days he spent with her already enough to prove his love for her? Perhaps, not. Otherwise, why would she ask

him such a question, unless, maybe she was getting blinded by her burning emotion? "I have a confession," Ashley spoke out, turning many heads in her direction. "I might lose my job for saying this, but I think it's best I tell everyone the truth." She came forward, lowered her head and said, "I slept with Benjamin multiple times." Her face seemed ridden with guilt. "I'm sorry."

Rebecca's expression drastically changed. She felt like two giant boulders pressed her shoulders down and made her knees feel weak. She looked more devastated than

shocked. Did this mean Benjamin was also having an affair with Delle? It felt like her worst fears, no, nightmares had all come true at once. Her whole head hurt, and she fainted and collapsed to the side.

Benjamin caught her before she fell to the ground, but then Shawn violently pushed him away. Everyone gathered around Rebecca and tended to her, with worried expressions on their faces, whereas Shawn began punching and slapping Benjamin repeatedly until he was brought out of the villa.

“I’ll give you until midnight to run as far away as you can,” Shawn said, “because after that I’ll do my best to find you and kill you.” Saying that he went back into the villa. The guard closed the gate and looked at Benjamin who was lying on the street, covered in his own blood.

“Tch, tch, you shouldn’t have married someone from a rich family,” the guard opined, his voice sounding pitiful. “The rich are the biggest hypocrites, after all. It’s fine as long as they’re the ones doing mistakes, but if others do the same mistakes, they go berserk. But at least, he gave you time, so run away while you can.” Benjamin got up to his feet and looked at the villa once. Tears flowed out, but he gathered the strength to wipe his own tears before lowering his head and walking away with a heavy heart.