

The Love that Never Really Dies Chapter No 241

Luke sounded like he was about to cry on the phone, and Sebastian's expression changed when he heard what he said.

Hospital? Something happened at the hospital? Is it Sasha?

Sebastian instantly grabbed the car keys and ran out when her name popped into his head. "What happened?"

"Ms. Wand... Ms. Wand is gone!" Luke's voice was still shivering. "We've looked everywhere in the hospital for her. We've even gone through the security footage! We found nothing! It was like she just vanished into thin air!"

Sebastian remained quiet as he hurried down the stairs.

Suddenly, he stopped in his tracks and remembered what Vivian had said about her mommy disappearing.

Why would her mommy suddenly disappear? Bulls***!

"How can a breathing person just disappear like that?" Sebastian roared into the phone, his eyes were getting increasingly terrifying. "Find her! Even if you have to flip the whole city over, I want her found!"

Sebastian was panicking. As someone who always had total control over his emotion, he felt like he was about to go insane at that very moment.

"Wait, Mr. Hayes. Mr. Hayes Sr. came to the hospital," Luke quickly added.

“What did you just say ? My father ?”

“Yes! After he left, we found people from the Hayes residence through the security footage. Mr. Hayes, this... What does this imply ?

Luke was actually reluctant to ask that last question because once he said it, it would mean that a war between the father and son was inevitable.

The fact was, their relationship was never close, so things were only going downhill further from then on.

However, the importance of a human life vastly outweighed the decline of their relationship.

As expected, Sebastian immediately ended the call. After that, everyone who saw him in the villa would have felt his intense murdering intent as he walked past and disappeared like a whirlwind.

It was very terrifying.

Right then, Matteo came out. “Daddy, where are you going ? Did something happen ?”

Ian was still hugging Vivian while patting her back. When he heard Matteo ask that question, his emotionless face turned and looked towards them.

“Do you want to know ?”

Matteo was hesitant as he did not want to know what went on amongst the adults. He knew it was too complicated for him to comprehend. He only wanted his father and mother to be safe so that they could live happily as a family.

In the end, Matteo just went and sat down with his brother and waited for their mother to come home.

...

At the Hayes residence.

Before Frederick did what he did, he actually knew that his son would eventually find out.

Nevertheless, he did not expect him to be this fast. Frederick had just caught wind of the situation and sent his men out, and Sebastian's car was already at his doorsteps.

"Mr. Hayes, what brings your here?"

"Get out of my way!"

Tim heard the commotion and immediately came out, thinking he could hold him down for a bit.

Having said that, the minute Tim got out, Sebastian, who just got out of the car, saw him and his eyes instantly turned red as he stared at him. With a roar, Sebastian kicked Tim onto the ground.

Sebastian had never acknowledged Tim's position as a butler. He did not like him and cared nothing about him.

With a body covered in murderous intent, Sebastian walked in. All the family members that heard the commotion all came out to see Sebastian marching into the residence early in the morning with a terrifying aura.

As soon as they saw him, they immediate returned to their rooms.

To them, Sebastian was Death Incarnate. He was not someone they could offend, so hiding was the best option.

In the end, Frederick, who was waiting for news in the living room, met up with his son, who was ready to kill at a moment's notice.

“Where is she?” Sebastian got straight to the point when he saw Frederick.

Seeing that he asked, Frederick's expression changed as he stood up.

After some quick decisions, he decided to not admit to anything.

“Who're you talking about? Why aren't you at the company this early in the morning? What did you come here for?”

Sebastian sneered. He thought that his father would be as smart as him since they were related by blood. But now, Frederick was putting on an awful act, jesting like a clown in front of him.

Sebastian grabbed a chair and pulled it over to him before sitting down. At the peak of his rage, he was the calmest.

“If something similar to the doctor were to happen to her and she died. Do you believe me if I tell you I'd go to the police station now and confess that I was a murderer?”

“You... “

Frederick was caught off guard. He never anticipated Sebastian would say something like this as he shot up from his seat in rage.

Is he mad? He is doing all this for a woman like her?

Frederick looked at Sebastian in disbelief. At that very moment, his son felt like a stranger to him.

“Sebastian Hayes, I’m doing you a favor here. The only thing I can do is help you bury that secret forever. Am I wrong for doing that?”

“No, you did nothing wrong.” Sebastian shook his head calmly. “But that doesn’t give us the reason to kill someone.”

“What did you just say?” Frederick was stunned.

Sebastian looked at his father as his bloodshot eyes narrowed and emitted a fiendish shine.

“The reason was simple. If you do this, I’d just think that I was the one who killed everyone around me, and now is the turn of the mother of my children. Tell me, who’s next after you kill her?”

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All of a sudden, he raised his head, exposing the killing intent from his eyes. It was so intense that it made people shudder.

Frederick was shocked and took a few steps back.

For the longest of time, he could feel the chills in his bone, rendering him speechless.

“You... You’ve actually gone mad!”

“Yes, I’ve gone mad. If you kill her, I really can’t guarantee what I’d do.” Sebastian gritted his teeth as he forced those words out of his mouth.

That was exactly why he was there.

Either Frederick handed the woman over to him, or Sebastian might go on another rampage.

Eventually, Frederick’s face turned pale.

He had expected it to be hard to explain once Sebastian found out about his plan, but he did not expect that Sebastian would be so adamant to the point where he was even threatening his own father.

When did he start caring so much for this woman? He was ever bothered about what happened to her back in the day.

Frederick stared at his son, both frightened and angered at the same time. It was the first time he realized his son was a total stranger. He was unable to read what was on his mind.

“I did not kill her. I didn’t even touch her! So you stop losing your stupid act at once!” Finally, it was like Frederick had lost the war and was surrendering himself over.

Sebastian immediately narrowed his eyes.

“You didn’t?”

“Yes, I’ve never thought about killing her. I just wanted her to stay by my side and not go out anymore. But that woman of yours ran away last night. I’m looking for here too.”

When the old man finished, he got angry once again.

Frederick did not want to go that far. He even thought about compensating her, so he prepared deeds as well as expensive jewelry, thinking to gift them to Sasha once she arrived.

He never actually thought that she would run away.

After a while, Sebastian understood the situation. As he breathed a sigh of relief, he stared at his father, with hints of mockery in his eyes.

“You think she would just stay put and let you imprison her forever?”

“You... “

Frederick was rendered speechless once again.

Luckily, Sebastian had calmed down as he stood up and straightened his shirt. “I’ll find her myself, but I hope something like this never happens again. You know what kind of person she is better than I do, don’t you?”

“What did you just say?”

“I said, didn’t you already know what kind of person she was when you proposed the engagement back then?” He turned around to look at Frederick, his gaze more terrifying than the first.

While Sebastian watched Frederick, he showed no signs of anger, but his dark eyes were still able to pierce the old man’s soul and digging out all his deepest and darkest secrets.

When did he found out about this ?

Frederick turned pale.

At that moment, he no longer had any confidence to continue arguing with Sebastian. It felt as if his disguise had been ripped away, and he was back to being just an old man again, his face was filled with mixed emotions. He looked pathetic.

Looking at him, Sebastian sneered before turning around and left.

He was absolutely right about the marriage. Everyone thought that the Hayes family was very righteous as they reached out to a lonely girl whose family was in shambles.

No one knew that Frederick had ulterior motives, that the girl was the target in the first place. All because she accidentally stumbled into Sebastian's secrets.

Frederick could not stop worrying that one day, she would spill the secret and ruin Sebastian's life. That was why he proposed a marriage to her when she was at her lowest.

On the other hand, the girl felt so much guilt towards Sebastian because of that incident, but she still liked him.

She gave up her chance to study in a university, gave up on the chance for her family to rise, and took a gamble by marrying into his family.

Ultimately, she ended up in the current predicament.

When Sebastian left with his car, he was shivering.

He actually did not know about it. It dawned on him during the conversation with Frederick. The way he disregarded her life like that said it all.

It took a huge toll on Sebastian.

He never knew that his father was actually a very cruel character.
Frederick even fooled him with his impeccable acting skills.

All of a sudden, he blasted the car horn. His emotion had reached its peak as he smashed his fist into the steering wheel.

He felt pained.

Sebastian never knew that one day, his heart would ache for that woman.

It felt like he was stabbed in the heart. He did not want to admit it, but the pain he felt was too realistic. It was enough to make Sebastian fall flat on the steering, unable to sit straight.

Why is she so stupid? Is it worth it just for me?

Back then, when he found out that she was the person who left him those letters, he had no reactions. When he found out that she kept his secret, he felt indifferent.

However, at that moment, Sebastian's heart was in pain, like it was pricked and cut by needles and knives, causing him so much pain that he could not even hold the steering wheel.

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At that point in time, the Bentley was on the road at top speed, swaying from side to side, scaring away all the cars that saw him.

What's this driver doing?

Is the guy drunk?

Some of the people even wanted to call the police.

Luckily, a phone call came in on the Bentley.

“Mr. Hayes, good news.” It was Luke. “The hospital just called and told me that the nurse was able to record what happened on her phone. Ms. Wand left the hospital with someone else. It wasn’t Mr. Hayes Sr.’s men.”

He was eager to relay the news to Sebastian.

On the car, the man with red eyes slowly got up as he calmed down.

“Who was it?”

“Umm... It’s blurry, so we can’t make out who it was, but I got some men working on it. It won’t be long before we find out.”

“Alright. I’m heading over,” Sebastian said as he put the pedal to the metal and headed straight toward

...

Sasha really did leave with someone.

That someone was none other than the man she asked Wendy to look for, Brandon Emmanuel.

“Do you really want to head over to the psychologist’s country? Isn’t that a bit too far? Things are happening over here. Why are we going over there?”

Brandon sat on the sofa. They were at a filming set not far away from the center of Avenport. He looked at the woman who was not far away, having her way with a map.

That woman, was Sasha.

She secretly contacted Brandon the day before after Frederick's visit and asked him to sneak her out. So, he brought her to the set.

It was a safe haven at the moment.

With the Emmanuel family in complete chaos, no one would think that Sasha would be at the set with Brandon.

Sasha planned out all the places that she needed to go before looking at Brandon. "Of course! Since you said your brother never gave him any money, we should start from the source of that money then."

"But you don't have to go overseas to trace the money, right? It was transferred out of my brother's domestic account."

"Who knows? There are so many mule accounts out there. You won't even be able to detect what they do behind the scenes. The names are definitely just facades."

Sasha was very experienced in this, most likely because she and Raymond worked together on several financial investments back then.

With that, Brandon finally kept quiet.

However, he was still curious about why Sasha trusted him.

Not only did he beg his uncle, Brandon even went to see Sebastian personally to tell him that the Emmanuel family was not the culprit.

Unfortunately, no one believed what he said, and in the end, the Emmanuel family was in shambles.

Why does she believe that our family had nothing to do with what happened?

Brandon quietly looked at Sasha for quite some time before asking, "Sasha, why do you trust me? I don't think my family has ever treated you well."

Sasha, who at the moment was drawing on the map, fluttered her eyelashes and looked toward Brandon, who looked like an injured dog, waiting for Sasha to comfort him.

"Because I don't think your family is that stupid."

"What?" Brandon was surprised. "Stupid?"

"Yes." Sasha nodded. "It's my life we're talking about here. You wouldn't need to go through such an elaborate ruse at the banquet. You guys would probably get rid of me quietly."

Brandon was speechless.

He stared at woman in front of him, not knowing how to respond.

She's changed. She's talking about life and death here. How can she just joke about it!

In the end, Brandon decided to no prob any further. He followed Sasha's instructions and made arrangements for a helicopter to come that night before he left to film his scenes.

As soon as he left, the smile on Sasha's face immediately turned cold. She sat in front of the table and tightened her grip on the map, squeezing it as the murderous intent sipped out of her eyes.

Truth be told, she had other reasons to believe that the Emmanuel family was not the culprit. It was because of the psychologist.

No one knew as she never mentioned the schizophrenia to anyone except in the book she wrote back then.

In that book, she created a male lead character who was perfect in every way, and his only flaw was that he had an illness.

The illness he had, was schizophrenia.

Her book was very popular when it was first released because of the setting. However, she was overwhelmed by the Wand family's bankruptcy and her marriage into the Hayes family, so she never bothered with it ever since.

Having said that, when she came back, she found out that the book had been published.

She was stupefied.

On top of that, the publishing company was located in Moranto, where the psychologist was from. That was too much of a coincidence.

Sasha walked to the window with a glass of water in hand as she looked towards the setting sun. Her gaze was sharp while all that was left on her expression; was the intent to kill.

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Two hours later, Brandon finally finished filming and was ready to leave.

However, just as he was about to make a move, his assistant handed him his phone and said, "Mr. Brandon, there's a call for you."

Brandon held the phone to his ear. "Hello?"

"I'm only giving you three minutes. If I don't see the woman within three minutes, I'll make sure the Emmanuel family dies in the police station."

Brandon jumped in fright at the sound of the villainous voice on the phone.

What the hell?

This bastard is quick.

How did he even do that? I was there last night myself, and I've hired a hacker to hack into the hospital's surveillance. How did he find out so soon?

Brandon turned pale. "Sebastian, don't you dare! Sasha is not your prisoner! Why should I hand her over to you?"

Even under threat, he remained loyal to Sasha and was not going to betray her.

However, when the man spoke again, he felt a sudden chill as though coldness had crawled through the phone.

"Are you testing my patience?"

When Brandon remained silent, the man continued. "Fine. I'll give you what you want."

Suddenly, Brandon heard his older brother, Philip, wailing in agony through the phone. "No... no... Brandon, help me. Please..."

Brandon was frozen in fear.

The bastard!

In the end, he had no choice but to run to Sasha with reddened eyes.

At that moment, she was waiting in the lounge.

Sasha had packed everything and was waiting for his return before leaving together.

Sasha asked when she saw a despaired Brandon, "What's wrong? What happened?"

His eyes were bloodshot. "I'm sorry, Sasha. They've found us."

Sasha was rendered speechless.

When she came back to her senses, she grabbed her bags.

"Why are you only telling me now? Didn't you say that it's safe here? How is it possible for him to find us when the signal has been blocked?"

Sasha ran and cursed at the same time.

Not daring to reply, Brandon could only trail behind her.

As soon as both of them came out of the set, they saw a black Bentley with several off-road vehicles parked outside the entrance.

At that point in time, it was as though she was walking into a lion's den.

Damn!

Sasha's face turned pale in an instant.

She staggered back in shock as she watched the man get out of the car. In the cold dark night, he looked tall and lean, and his long windbreaker blended into the night. There was a deadly aura about him. With every step towards her, his chiseled features appeared menacing.

Sasha panicked even more.

Her mind went blank. Her heart pounded in fear when she thought back to the conversations she had with the father and son in the hospital. She was trembling like a leaf as he came closer.

Is he here to take me back?

She was not going to fall into his hands.

She was not going to let them lock her up. Otherwise, she was as good as the walking dead.

Thud!

With despair in her heart, she dropped the bags she was carrying.

Sebastian strode towards her.

Before he could open his mouth to speak, Sasha suddenly turned around and ran.

“Sasha, where are you running off to? Stop right there!”

Sebastian grew even more furious. He roared at her and was hot on her heels.

Despite being petite, she was quick on her feet. He chased after her for nearly five minutes but failed to capture her.

She ran to the set and came to a halt. There was a huge canopy in front of her, and finally, she had nowhere to run to.

“Where are you going to run now?”

He sneered at her when he saw that there was nowhere else for her to run. He was panting after the mad chase.

Sasha couldn't speak.

At that moment, her heart was filled with sorrow. She panted breathlessly as she looked at the man in front of her. Her pursed mouth softened in a bleak smile.

“Why won't you let me go? I gave birth to your children. What more do you want? Do you really want me dead?”

It was Sebastian's turn to be speechless.

Is she crazy? I want her dead?

Putting a lid on his temper, he walked over to her. Then, he reached out his hand to her and said, "Come here."

Sasha was silent.

In that instant, she sank her teeth into his hand. Then she turned around and ran toward the crane that was parked behind the studio.

Without any hesitation, he sprinted towards her. He caught hold of her and held her tightly in his arms.

Just then, a few crew members came out of the studio when they heard a commotion outside. They were shocked by the scene in the dark set.

"What's going on here? My God, why are there so many luxury cars parked at the entrance? Who are these people?"

"That's right. I've never seen anything like this before."

Everyone at the scene was shocked.

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Just then, a tall young man with a woman thrown over his shoulder walked out of the set.

"Sebastian! Let go of me! Put me down, you scumbag!"

She was struggling to free herself from his hold. She pounded her hands on his back and kicked her legs wildly in her attempt to get rid of him.

However, her efforts were futile; he was simply too strong.

Ignoring her angry cries, he carried her out with a stony look on his face. In an effortless move, he shoved her into the black Bentley.

Everyone was stunned.

Who is this woman?

They had seen her accompany the hottest actor, Brandon Emmanuel in the morning, and by evening she was in the arms of a badass man.

This man, from his grandiose convoy to his handsome face, was obviously no ordinary man. And he was no less than Brandon Emmanuel.

Who in the world is this woman?

Who is she to make these two men go crazy over her?

But she was not much of a looker.

The actresses on the set were losing their minds with jealousy.

Now that Sebastian had shoved her into the car, still furious, he glared at her fiercely.

“Listen to me carefully, Sasha. If you still don’t tell me the truth, then I promise you won’t see the children ever again.”

And he closed the door with a loud slam.

As expected, Sasha stayed inside and sat still.

She glared at him with reddened eyes, and tears of anger welled in her eyes. But at that moment, she sat there obediently and remained motionless.

Finally, the large convoy left the set.

An hour later, at Frontier Bay.

When Sasha got out of the car, she was greeted by the sight of the dimly lit Royal Court One. There were only a few street lamps lighting the path in the huge garden.

She took a step forward and was about to go in by herself.

Right then, a large hand grabbed her back collar and pulled her back.

“What are you doing? Let go of me. I’m not going to run.”

“Haha.”

He responded to her with a sneering laugh.

Just like that, she was brought home by this scum like a pet that had gotten lost.

“Mommy! Mommy is back!”

Who would have thought that the children, who should have been asleep, had stayed up and were waiting for them to return?

When the light came on with a click on the switch, Sasha stood at the entrance and discovered her three children sitting quietly on the sofa.

Oh my God!

In that instant, she heard a childlike whimper, “Mommy, you’re finally back.”

The cry belonged to Vivian. She let out a loud sob and ran to her mother with her short and chubby legs.

Sasha’s heart ached at the sight of her.

My precious daughter.

Sasha knelt down and hugged her little darling daughter. “Yes, I’m back. Did Vivi behave today?”

“I was a bad girl, Mommy. I wasn’t a good girl at all today. Mommy, please don’t leave Vivi. From now on, I will be a good girl, okay?”

The little girl cried and claimed that she had misbehaved.

In her mother’s embrace, hot tears raced down her cheeks. She clung on tightly to Sasha with her small arms, as though she was afraid her mother would disappear again.

Sasha’s eyes reddened, and she became even more upset.

She hugged the child so tightly to her chest. Right now, she wanted nothing more than to slap herself across the face.

What have I done?

Matteo and Ian approached her, too.

After seeing their mother holding their sister tightly in her arms, both boys had tears in their eyes as they cried out pitifully to her, "Mommy..."

Sasha felt even more awful.

What else could she say?

The only thing she could do now was to hold her three children tightly in her arms.

After about ten minutes, when mother and children had finally calmed down, Sebastian called for Wendy to bring the children to bed.

"Go on, sweeties. Wendy will tuck you in."

"What about you? Will you come up too?" Vivian still wouldn't let go of her.

Holding back her tears, Sasha caressed her daughter's head tenderly.

"I will come up soon."

"Alright."

The little girl finally agreed. When she went upstairs with Wendy, she kept turning around to look at Sasha.

After the three children were taken to bed, Sasha and Sebastian were left alone in the spacious living room.

Is it time to say it now?

He has finally captured her and brought her back to see the children. Now would be the time to hear my sentence.

Sasha's heart was so cold, and she had a smile that was not quite there.

"You've seen the children yourself. Are you happy to see them so miserable?"

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“What?” Sasha slowly lifted her head and wondered if she had heard him wrongly.

Sebastian continued to mock her. “I said, what do you think of yourself now that you’ve seen the children? Haven’t you been boasting about you being a good mother? Are you proud of what you did today?”

His words cut like a blade.

Sasha’s face was ghastly white.

She couldn’t answer his question. Indeed, she felt a sense of guilt towards her children. She felt even more sorry to them for the decision she had made.

No! They forced me to do it.

Sasha shut her eyes. For a moment, her skin was deathly pale.

“Do I have a choice? At least I would still have the chance to see them after I run away. But if I were to fall into your hands, I would be as good as dead. I wouldn’t be able to see them if I’m dead, right?”

Her words pierced through Sebastian’s heart like a sharp blade. He had no words as he sat there with a sting in his heart.

So that was why she ran away.

But why wouldn’t she believe me? Does she really think that I’m my father?

The man grew frustrated.

All of a sudden, he recalled he had not done a single good deed for her ever since they got to know each other. As he thought of this, a ball of anger rose up in his heart.

It's no wonder she did not believe me at all.

He had been horrible to her and had never treated her well. He would do the same if he were to be in her shoes.

Sebastian stopped talking at once.

“What’s the matter? Why did you stop talking? Am I right?”

Sasha’s expression grew colder with his silence.

Sebastian was so frustrated that his veins popped out of his forehead.

Finally, he couldn’t take it anymore and said, “You must be crazy. What do you mean by falling into my hands? You’ve always been in my hands, isn’t that right?”

Sasha was rendered speechless.

Has he lost his mind?

The man seemed to have found a counterattack point. He got up from his seat and faced her.

“I caught you when you were in Clear. Didn’t I let you see the children then? Even my own son, whom I’ve raised for five years, turned against me. What more do you want? Huh?”

Sasha had no idea what he was talking about.

However, she couldn't deny that it was not the answer she had anticipated from him. And because of that, she breathed a sigh of relief inwardly.

“He's my son too!”

“That's right, he's your son. You can see him any time you want and take him wherever you want. But I've said this before, I won't divorce you, Sasha. We can be co-parents and raise the children together. So why are you still having such delusional thoughts? Are you really crazy?”

He really wanted to pry open her head to see what was inside.

How silly can this be?

Sasha was startled.

As though something had struck her on her head, she froze in her seat and stared at the man with wide eyes.

How could I forget?

They were not going to proceed with a divorce, and just like what he had just said, they were going to raise the children together as a wholesome family.

But why would he want to lock me up now?

Am I missing something?

Realization slowly dawned upon Sasha.

Once her head was cleared, she felt a sudden burst of happiness in her heart. All the coldness, sadness, and despair deep within her dissipated.

In just a few seconds, the light in her eyes returned.

Sebastian was silent.

He finally breathed a sigh of relief inwardly after seeing her eyes lit up with renewed hope.

However, he couldn't be honest with her. Yet.

The truth was that Frederick was bound to be involved again. By then, with her intelligence, she would find out the truth about being married into the Hayes. That would be a bigger blow to her.

Sebastian rubbed his throbbing temples. "Is there anything else you want to say? If there's nothing else, please go to bed."

Sasha took one look at the man and finally went to bed obediently.

She is just like a cat. If I treat her kindly and coax her, she is docile.

Sebastian had never noticed this side of her before.

Xandra witnessed how Sasha was being brought home by Sebastian.

At that moment, she was ecstatic because it meant that this woman wouldn't be going to Moranta ever again. It would also mean that she won't be able to find out about the psychologist's puppeteer and the book.

But shortly afterward, her spy at the villa in Frontier Bay reported that there wasn't much of a stir in Royal Court One after the woman's return.

Instantly, she became upset again.

That would mean that there was no conflict between those two.

What happened between them? Isn't Sebastian afraid of Sasha spilling his secret? With Frederick's involvement, is there really nothing I can do?

She became riled up with jealousy and hatred again.

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"Aunt Kelly, our plan failed."

"We're lucky that Matilda did not rat us out. I'm warning you, you better not mess up again, or I will kill you!"

Kelly, who had been in trepidation for the past two days, grew angry when her niece mentioned it again.

They were indeed in dire straits.

When their plan had failed, they did not expect Sebastian to put an end to the Emmanuels. He even handed over his aunt to the police.

Thanks to her quick thinking, Kelly had gotten someone to pacify Matilda and promised her the safety of the Emmanuels. Otherwise, she and her niece would not be where they were now if Matilda had confessed.

Kelly was bogged down by it.

Xandra stopped talking and repeatedly looked at the book in her hand. She stared at the word that was in the book—schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia. Her guess was right.

The man had a skeleton in the cupboard, so why should they still be suppressed by him? After all, the cards were in their hands now.

She stroked the word with her red nails, and a satisfying smile spread across her face.

Sasha slept soundly that night, probably because she had a load off her mind. Besides, she had not fully recovered yet, considering she had just fled from the hospital.

When she woke up the next day, it was a particularly bright day for her.

“Ian, shall we wait for Mommy to have calzone together?”

“Yes, it’s Christmas Eve today.”

She could hear the soft voices of children whispering in the quiet room.

Sasha sat up in bed and saw two children sitting on the mat near the window in her bedroom.

One was a handsome and cool child, and the other was cute and innocent.

It was Ian and Vivian.

Sasha got out of bed and said, “Good morning, my dear children.”

“You’re finally up, Mommy.” At the sound of her voice, Vivian quickly got up from the mat and dashed towards her.

Sasha bent over and cuddled her daughter, and then she looked at her eldest son who was walking towards her.

“I’m sorry, I overslept. Have you both eaten yet?”

“Not yet. It’s Christmas Eve, so Ms. Dolivo made some calzone. But Grandpa and that bad woman are here. Do you want to go down, Mommy?” Vivian asked as she blinked her big eyes.

Sasha was startled.

Grandpa and the bad woman?

Who?

"You don't have to go down, Mommy. We'll send the food up." In a snap, Ian made the decision. His domineering and cold character was just like his father.

She pulled her son into a tight embrace and caressed his head.

Although Sasha was touched by Ian's thoughtfulness, she felt she should go down to meet Frederick and the woman. They were probably here to see her anyway.

She gave a small, self-deprecating smile as she thought back to yesterday's chaos.

Afterward, she sent her children out of her room and went to the bathroom to wash up.

Ten minutes later, when she came out from the bathroom, she looked fresh. There wasn't the slightest trace of sickly pallor on her face.

"Mommy..."

Vivian was still in the room. She was not familiar with the people downstairs. Since she wasn't feeling courageous, she stayed in the room to wait for her mother.

Upon seeing that, Sasha stepped forward and held her daughter's little hand.

Both mother and child made their way down the stairs.

"Vivi, you've finally come down. The calzone is ready, come and have a bite."

When they came down, they saw Xandra in an apron. Her chestnut-colored curly hair was casually clipped behind her head with a hairpin.

At the sight of Sasha, Xandra immediately greeted her warmly.

Sasha raised her eyebrows at her odd appearance, and she felt a little uncomfortable about it.

What's the matter?

Is she playing another trick again? Is she playing the role of a virtuous lady of the house?

With Vivian's hand in hers, Sasha's face was devoid of emotions as she walked past Xandra. "Wendy, are the children's breakfast ready?"

"Yes. Vivi's milk, Mr. Ian's cereal, and Mr. Matteo's tarts are ready. They've been waiting for you to come down for breakfast."

From Wendy's tone, it was obvious that she paid no heed to Xandra, who came here early in the morning to play hostess.

Sasha took the children in with her.

Not once did she look at the woman.

In an instant, Xandra became infuriated, and she ground her teeth in anger. She wanted so badly to dump the calzone into the trash.

However, she put on a big smile when she saw Frederick coming in with the two children from the gate.

"Mr. Hayes, Sasha has come down. Let's go have breakfast."

"Okay."

The old man with the walking cane nodded and walked to the dining hall with the two children in tow.

Sasha came in together with her daughter from the kitchen.

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"Ms. Wand, don't take it to heart. Mr. Hayes didn't know they were coming. Mr. Hayes Sr. said he wanted to have dinner with the kids since it's Christmas Eve," explained Wendy when she saw Sasha.

Actually, why would I care? I'm not related to the two of them and I don't own the place. They can come as they please.

Sasha lowered her gaze nonchalantly. “Don’t worry. Go attend to them; I’ll take care of the kids.”

Having that said, she served the children’s food from the kitchen and went to the garden.

Looks like I’m not needed here. She acted like the lady of the house when she greeted me just now. Does she want me to see them as a loving family?

Sasha sneered quietly.

But when she was feeding the children, she heard someone coming from behind and she turned around to look.

“Sasha, why don’t you eat inside instead? Are you still afraid that Dad would want you to return? Don’t worry; it won’t happen again. He only came here for a meal.”

Xandra? Why isn’t she having her breakfast in the dining room?

Sasha was suddenly agitated.

“How did you know about that? What do you know?”

“I don’t! But when you escaped from the hospital that night, I stayed in your room at Hayes Residence. The following day, someone told Dad you ran away, so he sent others looking for you. What happened? Did you do anything wrong?”

Xandra, you venomous viper!

She obviously knows everything. Yet, at this moment, she still plays the good daughter-in-law in the dining room at the villa.

“You... you’re staying at Hayes Residence?” A pale faced Sasha asked.

“Yeah, don’t you know? Dad has completely accepted me. Didn’t you notice that I’ve been calling him ‘Dad’ now? Besides, we actually came today to bring the boys home because Sebastian will be back every Christmas. As for this place...” Xandra suddenly stopped talking and bent down toward Sasha.

“You can stay here if you like. I’m merely being generous toward you and your daughter.”

Sasha was livid. She dug her fingers deep into her palms and glared at the cruel woman furiously.

So this is the primary purpose of her visit today, huh? Generous? Did she say she’s being generous for letting me and my daughter stay here?

Her fingertips were soon covered in blood.

“Nonsense! My daddy will not spend Christmas with you! He will spend it with Mommy and me. Go away, you bad woman!” Vivian screamed at that critical moment.

The little girl glared furiously at Xandra and waved her chubby arms as if she was ready to chase away the evil woman who was bullying her mother.

Instead of backing off, Xandra choked the little girl. “How dare you talk to me like that, you little bastard? Do you know that I’m already sparing you by letting you stay?”

Smack!

Suddenly, a slap landed on her face.

As she loosened her grip on the Vivian to cup her swollen cheek, someone took the child away.

“How dare you behave like a shrewd at my place?” Sebastian roared, appearing out of nowhere.

The fury in his eyes resembled a thundering storm, even when he was carrying his daughter in one hand.

And the bloodstains on Sasha’s fingers only made things worse.

“You have more guts than before now, eh, Xandra? How dare you step into my place without my permission and even harm a kid? Am I dead to you?” He glared at her murderously.

Since it was inconvenient to fight with a child in his arm, he lifted his leg and sent her a flying kick instead.

Xandra screamed in horror and hit the ground. She pressed her hand against her chest while recovering from her shock and pain.

This is the man indeed.

Tears streamed down her face as she stared at her beloved man; her heart in pieces.

Why?

Why do I love him so much? I have stayed by his side for the past five years. Yet he’s still treating me so ruthlessly. Am I nothing compared to the b*tch who got him into trouble that year?

If not for her, he wouldn’t have to suffer in jail for so many years. What did that woman have to offer?

Sasha was shocked, too. She didn't expect him to be home so suddenly.

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She didn't know he would be so harsh on Xandra. Is he out of his mind? This is his beloved woman!

Sasha stood up with difficulty. "What... what have you done? Why did you k-kick her?"

"Are you feeling sorry for her? Hmph! Are you a saint, Sasha? Will you be around after she kills you and Vivian? Can't you tell right from wrong? Are you really that dumb?" The man started yelling at her.

Consumed with anger, Sebastian blurted whatever came across his mind. How he wished his words could kill her.

He was furious with Sasha for being magnanimous, but he wanted to tear Xandra apart for raising her hand at Vivian.

His words struck Sasha like a bolt of lightning.

She knew she wasn't a saint, and she really wanted Xandra to pay for what she did to Vivian.

However, to see Sebastian struck the woman with such cruelty was beyond words.

Hearing the commotion, Frederick and the two boys came out to look. Suddenly, the old man's expression changed drastically.

"Sebastian, what happened? Is this your doing?"

Sebastian narrowed his eyes.

He wanted to say something, but after noticing Sasha's pale face and her clenched fists, he looked at the two boys standing at the side.

"Ian and Matteo, bring Mommy and Vivi inside first."

"Yes, Daddy."

The two children were pleased with their father today, so they immediately did as told.

The next moment, Sasha and Vivian were brought into the villa. Still, Vivian turned to look at her father several times.

Matteo asked, "What are you looking at?"

Vivian beamed at him. "Daddy saved me just now! He's so awesome!"

Matteo's eyes widened in shock. "Really?"

Vivian smiled brightly and nodded. "Yeah! When that bad woman was choking me, Daddy came and carried me away. So I decided to love Daddy again."

Ian was speechless.

Did she ever stop loving him?

—

Everyone left the garden except for the Frederick and Sebastian.

"What are you doing here?"

"Do I need your permission to come?" Frederick grumbled.

The hostility in Sebastian's eyes showed he wasn't going to relent.

"You can, but if you're here to interfere with my life, don't blame me when I stop letting you see my children. Think carefully."

"You—" Frederick was so angry that he couldn't speak.

Since he had never beaten his son in an argument before, he took a deep breath and calmed himself. "I came here with the woman you love."

"The woman I love? You mean Xandra?"

"Who else?" Frederick found his turning point and sounded more confident.

Sebastian had insisted on marrying Xandra back then. However, he sneered derisively, to his father's surprise.

"She's unworthy!"

"What did you say? Unworthy?" Frederick looked at him in disbelief. "Why? You let her stay by your side for the past five years and you begged me to approve your marriage. So why is she unworthy now?"

This bastard. He insisted on bringing Xandra back when Sasha was about to give birth.

Actually, I've always wanted Sasha to be my daughter-in-law. She was pregnant with my grandchildren and she's Rufus' daughter. That made her the perfect addition to the Hayes.

However, Sebastian claimed that he only loves Xandra and he would only marry her. What does he mean she's unworthy?

"Because I was blind!" Sebastian was suddenly annoyed to admit this embarrassing fact.

Frederick's eyes widened in shock. Blind? I've never heard him admit his own mistakes before. He's a perfectionist who couldn't bear criticisms. What happened to him?

"So you mean you won't marry Xandra anymore?"

"Have I not made myself clear?"

"What about Sasha, then?"

"What about her? I didn't divorce her anyway!" Sebastian responded angrily.

Then he looked at his watch. When he saw that it was almost time to return to work, he left the old man alone and went inside the villa.

At that moment, Frederick was speechless.

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Sasha had been waiting idly in the bedroom upstairs.

She stared blankly at her bloody palms for a long time while she tried to make out what had happened earlier.

She definitely did not see it coming.

He actually hit that woman for me...

Sasha was overwhelmed with mixed feelings. Finally, she went to the bathroom to clean her wounds.

"Daddy, here you are! Mommy's hands are injured. Can you help her with this first aid kit?"

"She didn't bring it?"

Sasha was shocked by the man's voice outside. She immediately rinsed her hands and headed out.

"Don't worry, it's nothing."

She stood at the entrance with her head bowed and her fists nervously tightened.

Am I kidding myself? I won't give him the satisfaction of mocking me for injuring myself just because that woman irritated me.

Therefore, Sasha decided to ask the man to leave.

However, after hearing his son's words, Sebastian frowned. "Go with your brother and bring me the first aid kit"

"Alrighty, Daddy!" Matteo was delighted with this task. After agreeing cheerily, he went upstairs to the study with Ian as instructed.

Sasha felt defeated. She wanted him to go, but he kept coming closer.

"Why are you still standing here? Are you going in or not?"

She relented and went into the room.

The bright morning sun shone through the window and filled it with warmth and coziness.

Nevertheless, Sasha felt tense. Why did he come up and even made his son get the medicine? Is he really going to treat my wounds?

She suddenly had an idea. I'll just tell him no!

Unfortunately, the boys handed the kit obediently to their father, and he entered the room.

"Stretch out your hand," ordered Sebastian frostily. The man was in a bad mood, indeed.

Wasn't she mighty when she fought against me? Why did she back down when it was someone else? If I didn't come back in time, I'm afraid those two women would fight to the death.

Sebastian was still furious. When he saw Sasha staring at him blankly, his veins bulged up and he grabbed her hand.

"Ouch!" Sasha finally reacted and moaned in pain.

"Oh? So you do feel the pain," the cold, handsome man jeered. "I thought your nerves are defective."

She glared at him. How rude.

Despite his sarcasm, Sasha quickly realized it was just a facade. When Sebastian grabbed her hands and saw the damage, his eyes narrowed with concern. He treated her wounds with a gentleness that was foreign to her.

It startled Sasha.

Her heart fluttered; it felt like a dream.

She had never enjoyed any of his special treatments or imagined him being gentle to her.

Is this my imagination?

She was in a daze.

"Still in shock?" He jeered.

After treating her wounds, Sebastian lowered his gaze at the woman and saw her gaping at him like a fool.

However, it was merely disdain. There were no more signs of hatred and impatience in him. Not even anger.

He only peered at her dismissively, but that didn't hide his tender gaze.

Sasha finally came back to her senses and retracted her hands as if she was shocked by electricity. "N-Nothing. By the way, why did you come back so suddenly? Don't you have a lot of work today?" She intentionally changed the topic.

"Are you stupid? I came back just to save your butt. Sasha, aren't you usually strong-willed and always fighting against me? So why did you back down just now?"

She was dumbstruck.

She was not usually a coward, but his words were too terrifying.

Who am I to have him save me?

She gulped timidly and finally spoke after a long time. "Wh-What are you talking about? I wanted to fight back, but you came back at that time."

"Yeah, right." Sebastian didn't believe her nonsense.

Seeing that she was fine now, he was ready to leave.

"Since it's Christmas Eve, make us something special tonight. I'm coming back to have dinner with the kids."

"A-Alright," replied Sasha carefully.

Finally, Sebastian left under her watchful eyes.

This is too mortifying! Is he okay? He looks like a different person! Is he possessed by someone else?

The next moment, she fell into bed while trying to calm her restless heart.