

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 621

There's only one possible explanation for this... Sebastian must've entered my personal information and facial recognition data into the security system long ago! I haven't returned to the country at the time as we were still fighting at the time...

Having regained some of her courage, Sasha then headed straight for their former home. The villa's garden was still locked by the wrought iron gates which were icy-cold in the winter. It looked deserted and barren surrounded by withered flowers and trees, and even the playground that the kids loved was covered by a layer of dust.

Why on earth would he even think of coming here with the state that it's in?

Regardless of what she thought, Sasha scanned her face at the front gate and entered the garden anyway.

The front door to the house was unlocked, and the place looked completely empty.

"Sebby? Are you there?" she called out cautiously when she got to the living room, but the deafening eerie silence in the long-abandoned villa was all that greeted her.

Could it be that he's already left?

She lowered her head in disappointment at the thought of that, only to notice a fresh set of footprints on the dusty floor.

Her eyes immediately lit up with excitement, and she quickly followed them up to the third floor.

Why is the villa in such a state? Sebastian stayed in the countryside after getting into a fight with Frederick, and later moved into the Wand residence with me after my return. I thought he had sold the villa, but it turns out he didn't... If that's the case, why not have someone

clean the place on a regular basis or something? That way, we could stay over every now and then.

Sasha thought to herself as she pulled her hand back upon touching the dusty staircase railing.

"Sebby?" she called out once again outside the familiar-looking bedroom door, but there was still no response.

Suddenly, she heard the sound of something falling to the floor inside the room.

"Sebby!" she shouted while opening the door.

Oh, my god! He really is in here!

The room was dark as the thick curtains weren't drawn, and she could see him lying motionless on the bed with his eyes closed and the blanket on.

What shocked her the most was the messy state of the bedroom that had always been sparkly clean every time she came by.

All the tables, chairs, ornaments, and even the paintings on the wall were all over the floor. On top of that, there were chunks of wood and broken glass everywhere.

Is he really that upset?

Sasha's eyes reddened at the thought of that, and she quickly rushed toward his bed as she asked, "Sebby, are you okay? What happened to you?"

She reached her hand out to touch his forehead and see if he was sick, only to have him open his eyes all of a sudden.

"What are you doing here?"

"Huh?" Sasha froze in surprise when she heard that and simply stared blankly at Sebastian.

She was about to tell him that she came looking for him out of concern when he didn't come home last night, but he grabbed her before she could say anything.

There was a sharp glint in his bloodshot eyes as he pulled her hard with both hands, causing

her to lose her balance and fall on top of him.

"Ah..."

Sasha let out a groan in pain and tried to struggle free, only to have him reverse their positions in one swift motion.

With his burning hot body on top of hers, he began raining down a barrage of kisses while violating her aggressively and forcefully.

Sasha's mind was in a daze the whole time, but she chose not to resist even after regaining her composure.

Just like an obedient little kitten, she let him have his way with her until she passed out eventually.

It was already three in the afternoon when Sasha woke up again.

Greeted by a ceiling and a dimly lit room around her upon opening her eyes, she took quite some time just to recall where she was and what had happened.

"Ugh..."

It wasn't until she tried to move that she felt a strong pain shooting through her body, and her face burned bright red as she slowly recalled what happened earlier.

Damn it... Sebastian, you b*stard...

Sasha lay in bed for a little while longer before getting up and throwing a shirt over her body.

"Where are you, Sebby?" she called out to him while limping toward the bedroom door, only to realize there was no one outside.

Huh... Where is he?

"Mommy, you're finally awake! Daddy has headed over to the office! He wants you to take us

home after getting up!"

Suddenly, a high-pitched and crystal-clear voice was heard coming from downstairs.

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Sasha looked down and saw her two sons standing there staring at her with mischievous grins on their faces.

Her face blushed moments later when she realized how she was dressed, and she quickly scrambled back inside the bedroom, slamming the door shut behind her with a loud bang.

When did those two get here? Wait... They said Sebastian wanted me to take them home, so... Does that mean he brought them here?

Sasha calmed down slightly at the thought of that.

Little did she know, the smiles on the kids' faces vanished the moment she shut the bedroom door.

"What do you think Daddy's playing at this time? Why would he choose to sleep here instead

of coming home to us? Also, I can't believe he just got up and left even after Mommy came looking for him! How dare he call himself a man?" Matteo asked. Despite them being very smart, they were still too young to understand adult matters. Having been raised by Sebastian, Ian kept quiet as he already had a feeling this would happen.

Even so, he was disappointed to the core when he saw Sebastian driving off without looking back earlier.

"I'll take care of this. You just make sure Mommy doesn't find out."

Matteo pouted reluctantly but agreed to do as told anyway.

Just like that, the three of them headed back home later that afternoon.

Suspecting nothing after hearing what the two of them said, Sasha began making dinner together with the housemaids upon arriving home.

"Little Ian, could you ask Daddy when he'll be home? Mommy's about to make dinner!"

"Okay!"

Ian, who was playing with Vivian at the time, ran into the living room to give Sebastian a call.

Meanwhile, in the penthouse suite of Hayes Corporation, Sebastian glanced at his phone that was vibrating on the desk before putting it on silent.

Are you kidding me? He's not even answering calls from his family now?

Luke was surprised when he saw that, but kept his thoughts to himself and carried on talking about the case from yesterday.

"The case is closed. Solomon has pleaded guilty, and Sinch Enterprise has returned the stocks it took from Hayes Corporation. However, he managed to get away scot-free by pinning all of the blame on another vice president in the company," Luke said while placing the files on Sebastian's desk.

As Solomon was a lawyer himself, they had anticipated for him to easily find a loophole in the case and get away with his crimes.

As such, Sebastian was not surprised in the slightest upon hearing the news and simply shot Luke a cold glare in silence.

Um... Is that my cue to leave now or what? Mr. Hayes seems to be in a really bad mood today, so I think it would be dangerous to stick around. I'd better leave...

Right as Luke was about to turn around, Sebastian called out to him and said, "Didn't they have us on the ropes at some point? Why would they suddenly plead guilty?"

"Huh? How did you know that?" Luke asked out of surprise, only to quickly cover his mouth when he realized he had misspoken.

Sebastian glared daggers at him, and the atmosphere was so tense that it felt like he would skin Luke alive if he didn't come clean.

Luke shuddered a little as he said, "M-Mr. Hayes... I didn't mean to keep it a secret or anything! I just thought there was no need to worry you since we won anyway..."

"Worry?" Sebastian chuckled coldly. "What do you mean by that? Come on, tell me."

Luke had broken out in a cold sweat at that point.

He didn't want to talk about it because it would lead to more conflicts between the two, but Sebastian had found out about it on his own.

"We had a bit of an issue with our evidence. It's the CD that we presented the court with. Solomon was somehow able to present an exact same copy, except theirs was a lot more

complete.”

“More complete?”

“Yes. Basically, it included the part that we edited out where he knelt in front of Frederick...”

Luke’s voice grew softer and softer toward the end of his sentence.

As expected, the tension in the office increased to a terrifying degree after that, and the sounds of their breathing were all they could hear in the deafening silence.

“So, my master tape was taken away?”

“Who took it? Was it her?” He spat those words forcefully out of his mouth.

Oh, no!

Luke quickly looked up and defended Sasha by explaining, “S-Sir, I’m sure Mrs. Hayes had her reasons for doing that! I mean, Sinch Enterprise only pleaded guilty after she went there!”

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“Is that so? But that man got away scot-free, didn’t he?” Sebastian asked with a sarcastic smile on his face.

“Huh?”

Luke didn’t know what else to say at that point.

Yup, she did it again... This woman has really gone too far this time...

The phone on the table rang once again, snapping Sebastian out of his state of rage.

He then grabbed the phone and answered it, “Hello?”

“Daddy, I’m sick...”

Sebastian froze when he heard the weak voice on the phone, and he forgot all about his anger instantly.

“What happened to you? Where’s your mom?” He instinctively asked about Sasha as he was

absent while his child was sick.

“Mommy isn’t home right now, and I don’t know where she went. Will you take me to the hospital, Daddy? I’m not feeling so good...” Ian mumbled weakly.

He even coughed a few times just to make it seem more convincing.

Having lost all motivation to work after hanging up, Sebastian switched off his laptop and stood up from his desk.

“Are you going home, Mr. Hayes?” Luke asked in confusion.

“Didn’t you hear? My son is sick! I want you to call that woman and have her head home immediately! Honestly, how could she be so irresponsible as a mother?” Sebastian snapped back at him impatiently before grabbing his car keys and storming off, leaving Luke all alone in his office.

He stood there for quite a while before scratching his head in confusion. He wants me to call Mrs. Hayes? Why doesn’t he call her himself? I don’t understand why he feels the need to do it through me...

Back at the Hayes Residence, Sasha was still busy preparing dinner in the kitchen.

Given their passionate lovemaking session and what the kids had told her earlier, she assumed Sebastian was no longer mad at her, and that the two of them had made up at

last.

As such, she was planning on making a sumptuous feast that night.

“You sure are great at cooking, Madam! Look at all these dishes you’ve made!” the housemaid exclaimed when she saw the food on the kitchen counter.

“Haha, not really! These are just some simple dishes that I learned while raising the kids back then!” Sasha said with a smile as she placed the last calzone onto the plate.

She had made those specifically for Sebastian as he disliked greasy food and was allergic to leek.

I stuffed these with beef, ham, and his favorite Matsutake mushrooms! I’m sure he’ll love it!

Sasha thought to herself happily as she served it up on a special plate.

“Have you called your daddy yet, Little Ian? When will he be coming home?” Sasha asked as

she stepped out of the kitchen after everything was ready.

She had wanted to ask him what time Sebastian would return, but there was no sign of Ian anywhere.

“Don’t bother looking for Ian, Mommy. He went out to wait for Daddy at the front door!”

Vivian called out to her from the garden.

Ah! So he’s gone to welcome Sebastian.

Feeling glad to hear that, Sasha stopped looking for Ian and went upstairs where she changed into a clean coat as her clothes reeked of smoke.

Sebastian had just arrived outside the Hayes Residence and was surprised to see Ian waiting for him in the cold weather.

Wait... Didn’t he say he was really sick?

That was the first thought that came to mind, and it made him a lot more furious.

He then stopped the car and came running over to his son as he asked, “Why are you standing out here, Ian? Is it really bad?”

However, Ian took a step back when he saw him.

“Did you and Mommy get into a fight again?”

“What?”

With his outstretched arm frozen in mid-air, Sebastian frowned when his hug was refused. Did this kid trick me?

Ian didn’t care if he got mad as he really wanted an answer. “Mommy hasn’t slept well ever since you returned, and she came home crying last night! Did you bully Mommy again? Answer me!”

Having fully confirmed that Ian lied to him about being sick so he would come home, the look of anxiety and worry on Sebastian’s face disappeared as he went livid with rage.

“Ian! How dare you lie to your daddy?”

It was Ian’s first time seeing this terrifying side of him, and even he went pale from fear himself.

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Unfortunately, that only lasted a few seconds. The kid became even more fearless when he shouted again, “Hey, I am asking you a question. Did you bully Mommy? Tell me!”

He was just like Sebastian and would fight persistently to protect the people he loved. He didn’t care what danger lay ahead.

And Sebastian? Who did he take after?

Perhaps he was just like his biological father, who died due to that fearlessness and persistence.

Sebastian's irises narrowed. He felt the emotions, which he had just spent so much effort suppressing, flooding and attacking him again. That got him to reach out to drag the naughty little rascal over.

"Sebby? You're home?"

Sasha suddenly showed up. She was wearing a khaki shirt with short sleeves while her hair was tied up into a bun. Her watery, brown eyes shone when she saw Sebastian there.

She ran over happily.

Ian stopped making a fuss right away. He stood quietly at the side as if nothing had happened earlier.

"Mommy..."

"Huh? Why are you waiting for your daddy here? It's too cold out here. Don't worry. He won't

run away and will definitely go play with you now that he's home."

Sasha crouched down in front of her son. She saw how his big, round eyes seemed wet with

tears and assumed that it was caused by the icy wind.

That got her to caress his tiny face with a broken heart.

"Let's go, Sebby. It's too cold here, and our baby is freezing."

She picked her son up before turning to look at the man standing behind her.

Sebastian was speechless.

He hesitated and wondered if he should say anything. That hesitation prompted Ian's eyes to glare icily over and shoot a silent warning at Sebastian. In the end, Sebastian's legs moved, and he followed everyone in.

"Matteo, Vivi, come quick. Your daddy is home, so go set the table. We're having dinner."

When all three of them entered the house, they saw the bright orange light illuminating the place. It made the icy winter seem warm all of a sudden. The kids were playing; the housemaids were busying away; and the appetizing smell from the dining room was drifting over...

Everything was telling Sebastian that he was in the best possible position in life.

Simple, lovely, calming, and peaceful...

Sebastian ended up sitting at the dining table. He never showed any emotions or acted up during the meal. Instead, he ate like he had always done so and was patient in getting the kids to eat well.

"Alright, you've finished eating, and your daddy is tired, so let the housemaids help you shower, then go to bed, okay?"

Sasha was understanding and noted that the kids had been messing with their dad during the meal. Hence, she had the housemaid babysit the kids.

The only thing off was that her eldest son, Ian, was acting a little strange.

Huh... he is hesitant to leave and keeps staring at his dad...

"Alright now, your daddy won't run away, so you don't need to keep staring like that. Be good

and go to bed, okay? I promise that I will get him to play with you tomorrow morning."

Sasha noticed that weird stare, so she walked over to soothe him in exasperation.

The kids were delighted to hear that. One replied, "Okay, Mommy."

Everyone left happily after that.

Matteo dragged Ian along.

The place became quiet as soon as the kids left. The housemaids cleared away the dirty dishes, and Sasha saw Sebastian there. She blushed when she recalled what happened earlier that day, but she walked over anyway.

"Sebby, shall we retire to our room as well? You worked all day, so you should rest early."

Sebastian never replied.

His gaze was stuck on her, and it was as if he was scrutinizing it.

Every smile, every blink, and the way her eyes shone in anticipation when she said those words... He caught it all. He even caught the fleeting blush across her beautiful face and guessed that she recalled what happened earlier that day.

I will never be able to reject her requests. If he could, Sebastian would take her to their room

right away and hold her tightly in his arms.

He would never get tired or bored with her.

Unfortunately, he couldn't be with her.

Sebastian refused to let her suffer like Frieda did because Sasha was his everything.

"No, I think I'll head back to Frontier Bay," replied Sebastian when his lips parted. He could hear how calm and distant he sounded when he said those words.

"Huh?" blurted Sasha, who suddenly tilted her head up and stared at him in astonishment.

"Y-you're heading over to Frontier Bay? Why?"

All it took was a few seconds for the incredibly intelligent woman to turn pale.

Sebastian acted like he never saw anything. He stood up and spoke as if she was a stranger. He even looked over with an icy glare before he answered, "I think it's better if we take some time apart."

"Huh?"

Sasha had finally reached the point where she couldn't speak anymore.

It felt as if rain had fallen on the parade in her mind, and boom! Suddenly, her mind was blank.

W-why do we need to stay apart for a while?

She simply didn't understand it.

She stiffened in addition to being pale, and her eyes shone with disbelief as tears swelled up. Sasha looked in to his eyes, and asked in a quivering voice, "W-why do we need to stay apart for a while?"

"Because it is undeniable that you played a role in my mom's death. I simply can't convince myself to live with you anymore."

Sasha was speechless.

"Besides, you care about him too, don't you? You even went as far as stealing from the company just to save him. Isn't it great that I am giving you the opportunity to think about what you really want?"

Sebastian looked away. His tone was borderline cruel when he told her the two reasons why

they should stay apart.

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Silence finally befell after he said those words.

It was as if every sound and every vibration in the universe had paused. Sasha was as pale as paper, but at that moment, she simply couldn't say a word.

All that was left was crystal clear tears rolling down her cheeks.

Everything he said was true.

Sasha couldn't deny that she played a role in his mom's death. Her intention was to protect him, but by keeping the truth from Sebastian, Sasha inadvertently caused Freida to die by the Jadesons' hands.

That was simply how things were.

Sasha could tell him why she stole from the Legal department and let him know that the truth wasn't what he thought it was...

But no one would believe that.

The tape she stole was the original and only copy.

Moreover, Solomon was spared by the legal system in the end. His freedom was something Sasha couldn't explain away.

It only took a few minutes to kick Sasha down from cloud nine, and she felt like she had fallen to hell. All she could do was reach out with her trembling hand and grip the edge of his shirt like she did when she was a kid. Tears rolled down her cheeks like rain.

"That's not what happened, Sebby. L-listen to me. Sebby..."

"Let me go!"

History was repeating itself in an eerily similar way.

Sebastian pulled his shirt away promptly and cruelly like he did when he was a kid.

Distaste and hatred donned his face, as he walked straight away.

Sasha couldn't speak.

She swayed a little before her legs gave way in the dining room, where she could still smell the dinner they had together earlier. She just sat there on the floor.

Karl was already outside the place at the time.

Actually... It was more accurate to say that he had been waiting for quite a while. He was sent to investigate the Jadesons, and it just so happened that he learned something. That was why he returned that night.

At first, he planned on entering the premises right away to report his findings.

However, he noticed that something was off when he was hanging out on the rooftop. That got him to change his mind, and he waited patiently outside.

"Mr. Hayes."

Karl rushed over and supported Sebastian when he saw how the latter ran out and fumbled.

Unfortunately, Karl was too late.

Karl felt something warm and wet when he held Sebastian to stop the latter from falling.

That sensation prompted Karl to tilt his head down. The faint light from the front porch showed Karl that crimson red liquid was sitting on his palm...

"Mr. Hayes, what...?"

"Shut... up. Leave now!"

Sebastian's mind was spinning, and he felt like his chest was about to split open. He managed to give that order, but he fainted beside the bodyguard at the very next second.

That's right. Sebastian had been suffering from a fever for the entire day. Sasha actually noticed that when she went to Frontier Bay earlier that morning. Unfortunately, Sebastian pulled her in, and they slept together. That distracted Sasha and made her forget all about his illness. Karl had no choice but to hurry out of the place with Sebastian. The former helped the latter into the car and saw the blood at the edge of his lips. A terrifying thought flashed past Karl's mind. Wait, is his brain overstimulated in the past few days? His blood vessel didn't break apart, did it? Karl sped down the road and went straight to the hospital. Half an hour later. Fortunately, the doctors' diagnosis was different from what Karl had presumed. "Oh my gosh, how can he not take care of himself when he's running a fever that high? He's lucky that it was just high blood pressure this time. Why the hell did you let him get so agitated when his fever is so terrible? You realize that being so excited can lead to heart problems, right? He may be an adult, but that doesn't mean he's immune to conditions like these."

The doctor reprimanded Karl mercilessly after examining Sebastian's condition. Karl couldn't say anything at that moment. All he could do was grin awkwardly and let the doctor clean the unconscious Sebastian up. After that, the doctor attached a saline bag to Sebastian. Karl was truly wronged. He wasn't even allowed into the house when he brought Sebastian to Frontier Bay on the day before. Hence, there was no way he could know that Sebastian was sick. As for Sebastian getting agitated... Well, that was something Karl definitely couldn't prevent. He was just a bodyguard, so how could he butt in on his employer's family matters? Still, he took the prescription and went to the pharmacy obediently after the doctor handed the slip over. "Karl?" "Mr. Chandler?" Karl had the prescription with him when he heard someone calling out to him. He tilted his head up and seemed pleasantly surprised when he saw the other guy. Mr. Chandler. Yep, the person who showed up suddenly was Sebastian's pal, Jake Chandler. "Mr. Chandler, what brought you here? Did Mr. Hayes call you over?" "No," replied Jake. He flung his head a little and tossed his hair to the other side of his youthful, handsome face. Unfortunately, he was not smiling as brightly as he used to. A mild hint of loneliness had tainted his eyes. "I heard about what happened to Sebastian, so I thought I'd drop by to visit him. How is he doing?" asked Jake as he shifted his gaze toward the region behind Karl.

Karl thought about how his boss fainted earlier, and that got him to sigh, then shake his head. "It's bad. Honestly, this is hitting him hard." "Yeah, I thought so. Devin had it bad as well. He never knew that the mission his family

assigned to him was to capture Sebastian's mom. That got him to throw a tantrum when he got back, and he is locked up now," shared Jake with a heavy heart.

Karl didn't know how to respond to that because Devin was one of the reasons why Sebastian was hurting.

They were on the train when they found Frieda, and Devin had every opportunity to let her go. However, he hesitated for a moment when Sebastian stepped up to take Frieda away. Devin's men fired his gun at the very next second, and tragedy ensued.

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"Devin actually feels really guilty about it. He wants to drop by, but his family had locked him up, so he can't," said Jake to defend Devin. The former deliberated it, but he felt he should defend the latter anyway.

Karl, however, scoffed upon hearing that.

Guilt?

Mr. Hayes called Devin after learning that he was the one who took Frieda away. If Devin actually cared, he wouldn't have hung up on Mr. Hayes.

Moreover, when we reached the train and saw him in person, he didn't let Mr. Hayes leave with his mom. Instead, Devin kept negotiating and asked if he could take Frieda to the Jadesons' Residence first.

What bullsh*t. There was no way Frieda could survive if she was brought over.

All in all, Karl thought that Devin played a significant role in the matter.

Perhaps the fault stemmed from Devin's upbringing and how he was trained to obey the Jadesons' commands, though. He was not like his Uncle Shin and didn't have the courage to

fight against his family.

He certainly didn't have the guts to stay true to himself.

"Come on, let me take you to go see how Mr. Hayes is doing," said Karl to change the subject. He turned around immediately after to take Jake to Sebastian's room.

Jake didn't reply.

He turned grimmer and could only follow along.

Sebastian remained unconscious in the room. He laid quietly on the bed and had a bag of saline attached to him. One look was all it took to see how he had turned pale with deep eye

shadows donning his face. He looked utterly disheveled.

How did his condition turn so bad in just a matter of days?

Jake felt even worse upon seeing that. He thought about what he wanted to say, but he could no longer deliver the speech he prepared.

"Please feel free to sit, Mr. Chandler. I'll head over to collect the medicine for Mr. Hayes."

"Okay," murmured Jake.

He nodded before he went and sat down beside Sebastian's bed with slumped shoulders and head.

Jake actually had another reason for dropping by. For years, the four guys had been close pals. Hence, the huge issue arising between Devin and Sebastian had made Jake and

Shawn feel bad as well.

That was why Jake rushed over. He lived near the city, after all.

“What do we do now that you and Devin are in such a dilemma? You know, Devin really didn’t

mean to do all that. He meant to come to visit after everything happened, but the Jadesons locked him up. Sebastian, do you think you can find it in you to not blame him?” asked Jake. He sat on the chair and seemed a little troubled when he spoke up for Devin.

Devin and Jake’s friendship was stronger than most friendships. They both grew up in Jadeborough, and their families were close because both worked for the government.

That made it so that Jake grew up watching Devin.

Cough! Cough!

No one knew how much time had passed, but Sebastian, who had been resting on the hospital bed, suddenly coughed. After that, he slowly opened his eyes in the cold, uninviting hospital room.

“Sebastian, you’re up!” blurted Jake, who was instantly delighted upon seeing that.

Cough!

Sebastian coughed again. Perhaps it was because he had just woken up and still hadn’t gotten used to his surrounding, but he couldn’t catch his breath.

Jake noticed that, so he quickly poured Sebastian a glass of water. “Sebastian, are you alright?” asked Jake, “Here, let me help you up.”

After that, Jake helped Sebastian sit up on the bed and handed the latter a glass of warm water.

The warm liquid flushed down Sebastian’s burning throat and eased the pain. That finally made Sebastian feel better and allowed him to regain a fragment of his strength.

“What brought you here?” asked Sebastian.

He looked at Jake, but his slightly pale handsome face showed no warmth when he did so. Jake saw that, so he quickly explained himself, “I came to visit you, Sebastian. Shawn and I are so sorry that we weren’t around when something so terrible happened between you and Devin. If we had been around...”

“This has nothing to do with either of you,” interrupted Sebastian cruelly. There was even a hint of impatience in his eyes as he spoke.

That frightened Jake and shut him right up.

He knew just how bad Sebastian’s temper was. They had known each other for years.

Among the four of them, Devin was the warmest and kindest one, whereas Sebastian was his polar opposite.

Sebastian was quick to lose his temper and was difficult to pacify once he did so.

“So, uh, Devin asked me to deliver a message for him. He said that he hasn’t told the family who you really are and claimed that he would keep this secret for you if you wish so,” informed Jake carefully as he inched away from the bedside.

The Jadesons doesn’t know who I am yet?

As suspected, Sebastian shifted his gaze to Jake and taunted, “Is he joking? He already sent

his men to go after my mom, so how could the Jadesons not know who I am?”

“It’s true. When Devin received his mission, his family only told him to capture your mom.

They never even mentioned you. Remember, Sebastian, that you are a member of the Hayes

as far as anyone else is concerned. If no one investigates your birth, no one will know that

you are actually Shin's son."

Jake was quick to offer the explanation Devin gave when the former saw how Sebastian wasn't buying any of that.

That was the truth as well. The Jadesons actually only knew about Frieda. They knew nothing about Sebastian's true identity, and that was all thanks to Frederick's work from all those years ago.

Sebastian finally stopped talking.

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There was a moment when a glimmer of hope shone within Sebastian's heart.

It was as if he was in a deep well, and someone suddenly tossed a rope down. He might not be able to climb out of it himself, but at least he could save everyone else. He could send everyone away.

Thank the heavens that it's not too late.

"Sebastian?"

"I heard you. Go back and tell him that my surname will only ever be Hayes. I will not accept any other surnames or titles!" growled Sebastian icily and clearly when he told Jake his decision.

Jake understood what that meant right away.

He will not accept another surname, so that means that he doesn't want to be a member of the Jadesons.

That also means that Devin has to help keep everything a secret for as long as he could.

Jake left soon after.

Karl was stunned when he entered the room because it only took a moment, but his employer had already become the only one in the room. "Mr. Hayes," said Karl, "Did Mr. Chandler..."

"Look into my wife's recent schedule and learn if she had been in contact with that woman in Jetroina," interrupted Sebastian harshly. His voice carried no warmth, and it was as if he had turned into an entirely different person.

Karl was stunned once more.

He wants me to investigate Madam? Why? How could she possibly have gotten in touch with Yancy? That is simply impossible.

Karl assumed that he misheard it, so he asked, "Mr. Hayes, is your fever not down yet? How

could Madam possibly be in contact with that woman? That's just ridiculous."

"You'll know if it's ridiculous once you investigated the matter," insisted Sebastian.

His tone was even icier than before. It felt as cold as the chilly wind outside, and Karl felt a chill run down his spine after hearing that.

What is up with the guy? Does he not trust his own wife?

In the end, Karl had no choice but to sigh before investigating the matter.

Sasha had no idea how she survived through the night.

All she knew was that morning had rolled by when she regained consciousness.

“What did he say last night? Why were you acting like a lunatic? You might’ve already frozen

to death if I hadn’t dragged you into your room.”

Sabrina acted totally out of character that night and stayed guard inside the room. Her bloodshot eyes were burning with exhaustion. She was so frustrated that she demanded an answer when she saw Sasha waking up.

Sasha couldn’t speak.

She hadn’t even answered that question before she recalled how merciless Sebastian was when he spoke. Her nose became runny, and tears gathered in her eyes once more.

“Okay, fine. You don’t need to tell me anything. Also, don’t you cry. I’m warning you. You better not let the kids see you like this. If they do, they will turn the entire place upside down,” said Sabrina, who stopped Sasha from talking because she felt a headache coming when she saw Sasha in that state.

Sasha turned a little paler.

It took her some time before she found the right words. Her voice was thick with tears when she looked at Sabrina, who was leaving to babysit the kids, and said, “Thank you...”

Sabrina didn’t reply.

This life is really getting out of hand. Why is everything always in a mess?

Sasha left the house at eight o’clock sharp to go to work.

She had to go because that was the only place she could see him and explain herself. I must answer the two issues he mentioned last night.

Sasha had already decided. It didn’t matter if he’d listen or if he’d even understand what she would say. She had to tell him the truth and let him know that she didn’t want to leave him.

She definitely didn’t want the two of them to grow apart because of something like that.

Sasha showed up in the office.

“Look! She’s here...”

“Oh yeah, she’s here. What was she thinking? She’s already the boss, so why does she keep

trying to help others?”

“Who knows?”

Those words surprised Sasha. The people in the office were no longer greeting her politely and were, instead, pointing and gossiping about her.

Sasha didn’t speak.

There was no real reason, but she suddenly had a bad feeling, so she rushed into the elevator.

As suspected, when she reached the operational department, she noticed that her colleagues were no longer as friendly as they used to be. They simply greeted her hurriedly before they returned to their seats.

It was as if she was a tornado that would cause destruction to them if they got too close.

What is going on?

Sasha felt even more uncertain.

She hurried into her office with her bag. That was when she saw how the computer on her desk was missing. Additionally, it was obvious that someone had rummaged through her drawers.

“Jenny? Jenny!”

Sasha couldn't remain calm anymore, so she shouted for her assistant.

"Ms. Wand," greeted Jenny, who rushed over immediately.

"What the hell happened? Where is my computer, and what happened to my documents? Who rummaged through my office?"

"Ms. Wand, the internal investigation department sent someone to investigate you. We don't know the specifics, but they showed up early this morning and took everything away," replied Jenny as her voice trembled. Fear was written all over her face.

Sasha's expression took a sharp change.

The internal investigation department... That is the department that specializes in investigating the higher-ups of the company. Their job is to make sure that no one breaks the law or embezzle funds, and they have caught many bloodsucking leeches over the years, so... why are they investigating me? I never did anything.

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Moreover, she wasn't just the head of the department. She was also the president's wife, so why didn't they do things discretely? Who the hell allowed them to do so?

Sasha was a little angry.

Two minutes later, the internal investigation department called her.

"Sorry Ms. Wand, but we found something in your computer. Do you mind dropping by?"

Sasha didn't speak. She simply hung up and headed over with a grouchy expression.

There was no way there'd be any incriminating information on her computer because she had never done anything bad. Hence, she was fearless.

Sasha barged into the office angrily.

However, when she showed up, she was surprised to see that the people had gotten into her

chat history and printed it out for her.

"Ms. Wand, this app is synced with the one on your phone. Please take a look and confirm if it is your record."

Sasha couldn't speak.

She instantly turned pale because that chatroom was the one she shared with Yancy. They were discussing how she would steal the footage from the company!

She had forgotten that the software was installed on her computer, and that particular company sync every device in real-time.

"No, this is... You have to listen to me..."

"We're sorry, Ms. Wand, but our department is only responsible for examining the computers. We are not the ones who will be interrogating you. I will send the record to Mr. Hayes right away. Please talk to him in person about it."

The employee sent the record up to the chains of command before Sasha could even react to it.

She was speechless.

It only took a second. She felt like a bucket of ice water had rained down from her head and froze her from head to toe.

N-no! thought Sasha. I only did all that because my hands were tied.

She was utterly lost as a hint of fear seeped out of her. She immediately left the room and ran as fast as she could to the top floor where the president's office was located.

At that moment, the entire office was discussing the matter. It was as if she had returned to the previous state. She was no longer the prestigious and powerful wife of the company's president. She had reverted to the clown that everyone dissed and hated.

Sasha ran into the president's office.

"Sebby, I..."

She barged into the room. At first, she wanted to explain herself right away.

However, when she entered the room, she saw how the guy sitting behind the enormous desk was staring right at the computer in front of him. He didn't even blink!

His expression was as terrifying as raining bombs.

Fear suddenly arose within her, and her words became stuck in her throat. She simply couldn't say anything.

"What are you here to say?" Sebastian asked.

His voice was filled with more distance than anyone could imagine, and every word inspired fear when they escaped his lips.

Sasha couldn't help trembling once more.

What was she there to say?

Naturally, she was there to tell him that things were not as they seem. Those records were only there because she was conning Yancy at the time and was going through the motion.

"Sebby, I..."

"Do not call me that! Hearing you say my name disgusts me," roared the guy all of a sudden.

His fuse broke, and after howling like a lunatic, he lost control, then smashed his computer onto the floor.

Sasha was scared.

She hugged her head and screamed before she stumbled backward.

Has he gone insane?

Her eyes instantly turned red with tears.

"Sasha Wand! I can't believe I trusted you. I actually thought that I misunderstood you and went to Horrington despite the heavy snow. I even took the smelly and disgusting public transport for you! Yet, now it's proven that my suspicion had been right the entire time. How could you make a deal with that woman and rescue her son?"

The guy had bloodshot eyes, and he howled as he pointed at the shattered computer on the floor.

That glare was so intense that it was as if he would skin her alive.

Hearing that made Sasha feel like someone had added fuel to the hazardous fire that was swallowing her whole. She tilted her head up, and there was a second when her face turned so ridiculously pale. It was so terrible that she instinctively shut down, and she didn't know what to do.

"Did I hit the bull's eye? So you admit that you are the one who rescued him?"

Sebastian saw how she looked and instantly felt insulted. His glare inspired as much fear as a real-life demon might.

Sasha's lips parted.

No, that is not what happened! I saved the guy, but I only did it for you.

Sasha swayed. Her pale fingers gripped her chest. She hadn't even said anything before her

tears rolled down her cheeks.

"Sebby, I-I only did that for you..."

"Awh, how f*cking noble. It all comes back to me, doesn't it? Are you trying to say that you only rescued him because you don't want that woman to expose how I am not Frederick's biological son?"

Sebastian finished Sasha's sentence for her.

Sasha was taken aback.

She came back around instantly. She nodded profusely and replied, "Yes, that is what happened!"

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Sebastian immediately laughed like a maniac, then added, "You really will say anything to lie

to me now, huh? Yancy's objective is to get her hands on Hayes Corporation and make her son the head of the company. She hadn't achieved any of that, so why would she expose that secret?"

Sasha couldn't speak.

She stood there for a few seconds. She couldn't quite figure out what he was talking about. Her confusion remained until the guy staring at her suddenly sneered. His eyes shone with more than just distaste and anger. There was also immense pain, hatred, and sorrow.

That got revelation to hit her.

He's right! Yancy is smarter than that. She will never expose Sebastian's identity right now because that fact is her best trump card. She will never play that card unless she has something to gain! In other words, she was playing me the entire time, and I kept being conned.

What might that mean?

It meant that deep down, Sasha instinctively didn't want to see Solomon anywhere near her. She might have rescued him subconsciously, but it was undeniable that she did so willingly.

Sasha broke down.

"N-no, I-I didn't do it on purpose. I had no intention and was only w-worried about you..."

Her words were in pieces, but she tried to defend herself, anyway. No one could have anticipated it, but a doctor like her could actually be pushed so much that she couldn't even think straight anymore.

Sebastian stared icily.

He saw how she had turned into a mess and noted how she was trying to defend herself. Unfortunately, she couldn't even find an excuse. That made him feel like he was being insulted.

"Sasha, we should get a divorce."

"What did you say?"

Sasha heard those words. She tilted her head up suddenly, and her stunning face turned paper pale.

Sebastian didn't look at her.

He was comparatively calm at that point and had returned to his seat. He leaned against his

backrest while his sickly pale handsome face shone with exhaustion.

"I am tired. I don't want to debate about what is going on between you and him any more, and I don't want to think about what happened to my mom, either. We should just part peacefully," explained Sebastian calmly.

Sasha felt like lightning had struck her.

A divorce? He wants a divorce because of that? Why? Are those crimes really that unforgivable? Everything I did, I did for him. As for the matter with his mom... I didn't do it on

purpose. Why must he give me the death sentence? How is this fair?

Sasha was shaken to her core. She stared at the cruel man in front of her and couldn't believe that he would utter those words.

"Are you kidding me? I am sorry about what happened to your mom, but the matter between Solomon and I... Okay, let's say that I intended to help him, but even then, I only did that because I wanted to kick him out of my life sooner. How can you say that there is something between the two of us? And on what grounds are you divorcing me? Sebastian Hayes, aren't

you being too impulsive?"

Sasha had come back to her senses and was growling at him.

Sebastian stared silently. That gaze was so cold that it was as if he was looking at a stranger.

"No, it's not impulsive. It's a torture to be with you now because I think about how my mom died in my arms whenever I see your face. Also, every touch just reminds me of how Solomon pushed you to the wall that day at the hospital. You know how I am, Sasha. I will not condone even the slightest flaw, and I definitely won't use second-hand stuff."

That last sentence was simply too cruel.

Sasha turned pale again immediately after Sebastian said those words. Her sharp fingers dug into her palm and the pain stung her like nothing else.

Second-hand stuff? Must he use words like that to describe me? When I have already made things clear?

Sasha turned teary-eyed once more, but that time, it was from sorrow of being wronged. She

demanded, "Sebastian Hayes, must you insult me like this? Fine, if that makes you feel better, then so be it. I will tell you this, though. I will never agree to a divorce."

Her tears dripped down, but surprisingly, she said every single word clearly when she told him that she wouldn't sign the divorce papers.

To make matters worse, she stubbornly sat down on the sofa after she finished speaking. Sebastian was taken aback.

He probably never anticipated that reaction. In the past, she was so sensitive that she would

overthink things if his tone were off. Yet, at that moment, she remained calm even after being insulted like that.

She won't sign the divorce papers?

The guy sat there. His long fingers had curled, and he had clenched his fist so tightly that his

veins were showing.

“Fine, then we will go by the law! I have the evidence with me, anyway. It might actually be faster this way,” replied Sebastian before he shot an icy glare at the computer he smashed onto the floor.

Is he accusing me of cheating?

Sasha was shocked. Her eyes bulged and her jaw dropped as she stared at the guy. She couldn't speak for a few seconds.

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Sebastian caught her reaction. Distaste shone in his eyes once more, and he shouted impatiently, “Guards!”

“Mr. Hayes.”

“Get her out of here, and in the future, do not let her set foot in here without my permission.”

His symmetrical, handsome face oozed cruelty as he issued that order mercilessly. He sat there and never took another look at the woman.

His gaze remained ferocious.

Sasha stared numbly.

She remained in a daze even after they dragged her out of the office. At that moment, she didn't even know where she was anymore. It felt like she was dreaming.

He actually asked for a divorce, and he was so adamant about it that he would go to the courthouse to sue me if I refuse to sign the divorce papers.

Why? Didn't we just agree to start anew and live together happily as a family? How did things suddenly turn out like this?

Sasha stood in front of the elevator.

“Madam, where are you going? The operational department is that way,” said the guy who dragged her away after he saw how she was standing still. He even pointed in the right direction for her.

Unfortunately, Sasha couldn't seem to hear him.

She stood there numbly for a while before she stepped forward and walked out of the office like a zombie.

“What's up with her? Did something actually happen?”

“Obviously. Did you see how shattered she looks? I heard that she barged into her husband's office just moments ago.”

“I simply don't understand. She already has it all, so what was she thinking?”

The gossip around the office never ended, even though everyone saw how terrible she looked.

They're right. What the hell was I thinking?

Sasha left the office like she was a zombie and wondered where she should go. She scanned around while in a daze, then she turned right.

Ten minutes or so later, Luke barged into Sebastian's office and reported, “Something terrible happened, Mr. Hayes. Madam... She went to the metro station.”

The guy working away at his desk did not take a pause, his hands kept swirling the tip of his pen against the paper as he asked, “So what? Do you feel like chasing after her?”

Luke was speechless.

What the hell does that mean? She's not my wife, so why would I chase after her? I only

came to report my findings.

What Luke found to be strange, however, was that Sebastian would usually put his job aside

whenever he heard about how Sasha was acting out of character.

Yet, at that moment, Sebastian behaved like he didn't even know who she was.

"Never talk about her again or I will fire you!"

Luke didn't respond.

Sebastian added, "Also, write up a notice and tell everyone in the company how she broke the rules. She is fired and will no longer be clocking in."

This man is actually doing something even more heartless and cruel?

Luke was stunned to his core.

Has he lost his mind? Why is he suddenly being so harsh?

Luke couldn't make heads or tails of what his employer was doing, but it didn't really matter.

Luke was just the hired help, so he was not in a position to ask despite being confused.

That day, as Sasha stood numbly at the metro station, the company put out a notice about her heinous crimes.

The punishment for that, and the most heartbreaking part of her day, was that she got fired.

"Why are you eating ice cream? It's cold today, and you'll get sick if you eat it."

There weren't many people there, but surprisingly, another girl saw Sasha when she was eating her ice cream on the bench.

Sasha slowly turned to the girl. The former replied, "I'll be fine. I was just thinking about something and will head home after I finish eating it."

"Okay..."

The little girl nodded while still being somewhat confused.

Yeah, I can go home after I finish eating it. The same thing happened in the past, right? I had

some ice cream while I was in Horington, and he came to take me home just as I finished it.

Thinking about that past prompted Sasha to scoop a huge chunk of ice cream from the cup and shove it into her mouth.

Maybe it was because she scooped too much ice cream or perhaps it was something else, but she suddenly felt so cold that she shivered. That chill emanated throughout her body.

She tilted her gaze down. Drip! A drop of warm tear fell into the cup.

I don't have a home anymore. I am about to get a divorce, so my home no longer exists.

She suddenly felt a sting in her heart. It was as if someone had clawed something out of her chest and tore her muscles and nerves along with it. She was in living hell, and it hurt so much that she couldn't finish eating. With her ice cream still with her, she brawled.

"Miss, are you okay? What's wrong?"

A good Samaritan saw her and walked over to ask how she was doing.

Unfortunately, it seemed that Sasha couldn't hear anything. She cried as overwhelming sorrow and unending pain threatened to drown her. Her ears could no longer take in any surrounding noise.

The good Samaritan had no choice but to sit at her side and keep her company while waiting patiently.

Sasha cried for about ten minutes or so before she slowly calmed down.

"Are you feeling better? Do you need a napkin?" asked the good Samaritan who kindly offered a piece of tissue.