The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 331

Roaring at him, Solomon had the urge to smash Sebastian head's with a beer bottle.

He really is a madman!

How can someone like this be released from prison? Or even occupy such an important position? Are people who back him blind?

After bellowing a couple of times, Sebastian seemed to have snapped out of his rage.

Looking at the choking woman in front of him, he froze momentarily.

"Nancy, are you alright?"

Seizing the moment, Solomon quickly pried Sasha away from Sebastian's hand.

The moment she was freed, Sasha desperately gasped for air, breathing as deeply as she could while holding onto her neck. Even her fingertips were shaking from the shock.

She realized that she had been seconds away from death.

"Mommy..."

When Vivian saw her mother being saved, she wailed desperately in Sebastian's arms.

When Solomon heard her, he reached out his hands to carry her over.

However, having regained his senses, Sebastian avoided Solomon's attempt to take the girl from him.

"What are you doing?"

"What am I doing? Sebastian. I'm trying to save your child. Do you not know what you just did? Hmm?"

Solomon's gaze darkened as he looked at the other man; the look he gave Sebastian was tinged with pity.

Still holding her chest and heaving, Sasha glared at him when she heard his words.

"Save my child? It appears that you know everything about me. Solomon, who on earth are you? How do you always appear at the crucial moment of our quarrel? In fact, you even come here and provide her with an option to escape. Tell me, what is your agenda? Are you only aiming to have her? Or is there more to your plot?"

Speechless, Solomon didn't expect Sebastian to be level-headed after going through such an emotional rollercoaster.

Not only was Sebastian not provoked, but he also managed to calmly question Solomon's motives, causing the latter's expression to drastically change.

Meanwhile, Sasha turned to look at him. This time, it was no longer one of blind trust but one of shock instead.

It was tinged with disbelief and anger.

When Solomon saw the look on her face, he panicked. "Nancy, let me explain..."

"What's there to explain? Will you explain how you have known her all along? Or will you explain the fact that you, a shareholder of Prime Cloud Corporation, were trying to get close to her all along? Solomon, do you think that by breaking us up, she will go with you?"

Smirking, Sebastian interrupted him again.

Solomon's face had lost all color then.

He had not expected to be exposed by Sebastian after waiting in the shadows for such a long time. It now appeared that the man had always been one step ahead of him.

"Sebastian Hayes!"

"What? Is that not enough for you? Would you want me to go on?"

"Enough!"

Finally, someone ended the exchange.

However, it wasn't Solomon, but Sasha, who did so with a seething expression.

At that moment, Sebastian complied while Solomon waited dejectedly for the backlash.

Given how the matter had developed, it made sense for Sasha to drop Solomon and return to Sebastian's side.

However, what Sasha was about to say next would shock everyone. Turning her attention to Solomon, she remarked, "It's time to board."

Solomon was stumped.

Just when he was filled with despair, a lifeline was thrown at him. Nodding ecstatically, he picked up the luggage.

As for Sebastian, he was dumbfounded.

The matter unfolded in a way he had not expected at all. Gaping, he watched the two of them turn and walk away.

Meanwhile, when Vivian saw Sasha leaving, she began to struggle vehemently. "Mommy, mommy!"

Why?

Why did it turn out this way?

Finally, Sebastian recovered from his shock. Holding Vivian in his arms, he dashed forward like a madman. Reaching out to grab Sasha, he pulled her forcefully around.

"Why are you doing this? Didn't I make myself clear?" Sebastian lashed out, overwhelmed with rage.

Sasha's face was white as sheet when she felt his hand come into contact with her skin.

Despite seeing the fury in his eyes and the paleness of his lips, she gathered her courage.

"What he has done is nothing compared to what you and your father did to me. Sebastian, do you know how easy my choice is, given that you have destroyed everything I have?"

A deathly silence ensued.

Her words were like a knife that pierced right through his heart. Suddenly, he could feel a cold and dark sensation creep into him as if his world was about to collapse.

So, this is hell.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 332

Closing his eyes, he staggered backward...

"Vivi!" Sasha cried out in shock.

With quick reflexes, Solomon managed to catch Vivian, who was about to fall onto the ground.

Sasha heaved her sigh of relief when she saw her daughter in good hands. Lifting her gaze, she prepared to berate Sebastian for his carelessness. As she did so, she was stunned to see that the man's cheeks looked moist.

She then realized that tears were rolling down from his closed eyes.

What beautiful eyelashes...

They were thick and slightly curled at their ends, just like two rows of fans. As they trembled and fluttered shut, they looked like wet butterfly wings that were fluttering desperately.

"Goodbye, Sasha."

The man finally loosened his grip. After that, he turned around and left. Despite trudging ahead, he never did turn back.

Sasha stared blankly at him.

After a long while, Sebastian's silhouette disappeared from the waiting area. Only then did Sasha suddenly feel as if something had been cut out from her.

As an excruciating pain seized her heart, she swooned for a moment before crouching down. Finally, she held her chest and bawled in agony.

We are... finally over.

By the time Roxanne found Sebastian after driving around for a long while, it was already dawn.

Since spring had arrived early in Avenport, it rained every day. That night was no exception. The woman had assumed that he would be at the airport but was surprised to see him when she was halfway there.

The man was stumbling along the road, looking like a corpse. Given that there wasn't a soul around, and the airport was miles away, Roxanne realized that he had trudged his way in the rain the entire time.

Has he gone mad?

Does he have a death wish?

As her face paled, she stopped the car and dashed up to him. "Sebastian, what are you doing? Are you crazy? Why are you walking alone on the highway in such heavy rain? Are you trying to kill yourself?"

She was utterly furious.

Within that fury was a sense of unprecedented fear and panic.

However, the man looked as if he didn't notice her presence at all. Staring blankly ahead, she could hardly see any color on his face due to the rain. The way he looked now was no different than that of a zombie.

Is this even real? How could a woman hurt him to this extent?

Where did his domineering aura and arrogance go? He is supposed to be Sebastian Hayes! De facto king of the city!

Roxanne's eyes filled with hatred at the thought of Sasha hurting the man like that.

"How did she turn you into a hollow shell like this? What right does she have? I am the one that saved you. For eight years, I have taken care of you. How dare she!"

Clenching her teeth, she extended her hands toward him. When Sebastian put up a half-hearted struggle, she forcefully pressed on a spot behind his neck with her fingers.

The next moment, he collapsed into her embrace.

When she saw that he had finally calmed down, she mumbled, "Don't be sad. I won't let you remember this matter going forward. Both of us will live happily together, alright?"

Sasha finally boarded the plane.

Having cried earlier on, her emotions only calmed after a moment.

When Solomon saw her feeling better, he got another blanket for both mother and daughter. After all, it was cold in the aircraft cabin late at night.

However, just when he came over with the blanket in hand, he heard her remark in an icy tone. "Once we disembark from the plane, don't ever let me see you again."

Solomon was speechless.

The delight he had felt earlier was now replaced by despair.

"Nancy, I..."

"Although what you have done is nothing compared to what Sebastian did, it doesn't mean I can pretend it didn't happen. Solomon, after lying to me for so long, we are now even. I used you just now, and you deceived me. From now on, you should disappear from my sight!"

When Sasha raised her head, her expression was so cold that it sent a chill down his spine. At the same time, he could feel her razor-sharp gaze cut through his heart.

Solomon's face fell.

Even?

It finally dawned upon him that she did mind the fact that he lied to her. Also, she had not chosen him out of them both.

All she did was leave him for later.

After dealing with Sebastian, it was now his turn to be held accountable. It was a heartless move on Sasha's part indeed.

Solomon felt as if all hope was lost. "Nancy, do you really have to do this? I admit I lied to you, but I have never harmed you. Over the years, I have stayed by your side, and everything I did was to protect you."

"Protect me?" Those words felt like a joke to her.

"Why do you want to protect me? I'm not related to you in any way. Why must you do so?"

"When I was twelve, I almost fainted from hunger in school. During that time, you were the only one who gave me a piece of bread to eat. From that moment on, I only had one goal in mind — to never let any harm come to you as long as I live."

Solomon's voice choked when he brought up what happened in the past.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 333

Twelve? That year, Sasha was eight and had just started primary three.

Did I ever give him a piece of bread?

Sasha couldn't remember doing so at all. During that time, she had been engrossed with writing to the boy who had been locked up because of her. With her childish handwriting, she would write her letters word by word carefully.

Therefore, she couldn't recall such an incident at all.

"I don't need your protection, neither do I remember ever giving you anything. If I really did, I want to tell you that I regret doing so. My act of kindness doesn't give you the right to manipulate me by pretending to be noble!"

Sasha's words were extremely harsh.

Just like a knife, they cut through Solomon's heart, causing him to go through an avalanche of emotions.

He had indeed pretended to be noble.

Despite claiming that he was protecting her for noble reasons, only he knew what his true agenda was.

He had gotten to know her in Clear for five years. When Sebastian brought her back to Avenport, he followed her there too. And then, there was Wall Street and also that night itself.

How dare he claim that he has not done anything to harm me?

If I remember correctly, the year he's talking about was also the same year Xenia transferred to my school. Coincidentally, she was in primary six.

Sasha closed her eyes and didn't say another word.

The next day, when the plane landed in Moranta, it was already daylight; another brand new day had arrived.

"Mommy, have we arrived?"

When Vivian got off the plane, she was greeted by the sight of unfamiliar buildings. She hugged her mother tightly, feeling nervous yet curious as she scanned her surroundings.

Picking her up, Sasha nodded. "That's right. We're here. From now on, both of us will be living together in this place."

Despite missing her brothers, the young girl grunted in acknowledgment still.

When both of them left the airport, Solomon was nowhere to be seen. Sasha couldn't care less about the man; all she wanted to do was hail a cab and head home.

A lanky youth suddenly called out to her, "Sha, over here."

That was when she realized that Lance had come to pick them up.

Perhaps, Solomon informed him about my arrival before he left.

Devoid of emotion, Sasha picked Vivian up and handed her luggage to her cousin.

"What happened over at Wall Street? Have they investigated us yet?"

"No, Andy is dealing with it. It's nothing major, really. So, there's no need to worry," Lance answered casually with the bags in his hands.

Sasha smirked in response.

About an hour later, the three of them arrived at their rental apartment. After putting Vivian in Lance's care, she gave Andy a call.

She needed to inform him about her return, given that she was reliant on him going forward.

The woman decided to focus on work and nothing else. She endeavored to gather some amount of capital before her dad was released from prison.

After that, the Wand family would make a comeback.

As luck would have it, Andy and she successfully secured a couple of huge projects and amassed a massive amount of money.

One day, when Sasha saw the amount of savings she had, an idea suddenly struck her.

"Lance, now that we have the funds, I would like to buy back the Wand family home. Do you know who bought it during the auction back then?"

At that moment, Lance was going through the accounts.

Over the last few months, he had become quieter. He was no longer as talkative and clingy compared to the time he first arrived with Sasha.

As time passed by, the woman had gotten used to his new demeanor.

"Sure, I'll find out and let you know," he replied earnestly. Putting away the documents in his hands, he got on it right away.

A few minutes later, he found the answer.

"A man named Bryan Xander bought it. He's probably from Avenport."

"Great. Why don't you find out what his contact number is and ask him if he intends to sell? I'm willing to pay him double of what he paid during the auction," Sasha stated generously.

In truth, the Wand family home wasn't worth that much. When she was five, they moved into the house after they arrived from the north. Rufus had just started his own business when he bought the place.

She was only willing to pay so much because the house contained many beautiful memories she had shared with her family.

Lance went to check at once. Meanwhile, a tiny little head peeked in to see what was going on.

Oh? Mommy and Uncle Lance are working. Should I use this opportunity to call Matt?

Standing by the door, Vivian's eyes flittered around as she got lost in thought. The next moment, she turned and ran back to her room. There, she gave her brother a call.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 334

Ring... Ring...

"Hello?" Someone answered very quickly, much to Vivian's delight.

"Matt, it's me, Vivi. Did you miss me?"

"Yes, I did, Vivi. How have you been? Ian and I were worried when you didn't call for an entire day."

The moment the call connected, Matt complained incessantly.

Huh?

An entire day? Didn't I call them yesterday?

With the phone in her hand, Vivian looked puzzled.

Nevertheless, she was glad that her brothers missed her.

Pouting her lips, she ranted, "That's all because of Mommy. Over the last few days, she was at home instead of working in the office. Hence, I didn't manage to give you guys a call."

Mommy's not working?

Matteo was stunned when he heard it. "Why isn't Mommy at work? Is it because she knows Daddy is engaged to Ms. Rocke..."

Before Matteo could finish, Ian sprang to his feet and cupped his brother's mouth.

"Are you crazy? Why did you tell Vivi about it?"

"Mmm..."

When it dawned upon him that he shouldn't have let the cat out of the bag, Matteo shut his mouth.

Fortunately, Vivian wasn't someone attentive. Hence, she didn't pick up on what Matteo had said.

"Matt, I heard Mommy instruct Uncle Lance to buy Grandpa's house."

"Really?"

The brothers were ecstatic at the news.

If she intends to buy Grandpa's house, does it mean she's planning to return soon?

Both boys turned excited at the idea.

However, when they suddenly heard the roar of a car from downstairs, their expressions changed. After reminding Vivian to take care of herself, they frantically ended the call on their smartwatch.

A few minutes later, Sebastian and Roxanne entered the house.

"What are both of you doing? Why do you look flustered?"

Sebastian had sharp observational skills. The moment he saw his sons come down, he noticed that they looked out of sorts.

Ian's lips were sealed.

Racking his brains, Matteo explained, "It's nothing really. We were just playing chess. By the way, Daddy, why did you come home so suddenly? Don't you need to work today?"

"Work? No. Today, Roxanne and I are going to check out the hotel where we are going to hold our engagement banquet. Both of you should behave and obey Ms. Dolivo while we are away."

Furrowing his eyebrows, Sebastian gave the boys a reminder as he headed upstairs.

The brothers were speechless.

What is he doing at home if he needs to check out the hotel?

Oh no! Is he looking for the household register? Does he want to register his marriage with that woman?

The same thought crossed their minds. The next moment, their expressions changed as they shifted their attention upstairs.

"Come over here, you cute little boys. Come and see what I have bought you. Ian, this is a limited edition Transformers toy. Also, Matteo, this is the golden game card that you have coveted all this while."

Oblivious to what was going through the children's minds, Roxanne brought out the gifts the moment she entered the house.

If it was in the past, the brothers would have loved the presents.

However, all they gave her now was a look of resentment. After exchanging pointed glances, both of them ran upstairs.

"Hey! What are both of you doing? Why did you run away? Don't you want the presents I got you?"

Roxanne's entire countenance turned awkward when she saw their response.

At that moment, Sebastian was searching for something in his bedroom on the third floor. Just when he pulled open the drawer, he heard a loud thud from downstairs. Jolted by it, he then heard a child's cry ring out.

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"Ahhh..."
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"Matt..."

When he heard the shrieking cry, Sebastian dropped whatever he was doing and dashed out immediately.

"Are you alright? What happened?"

"Daddy, Matt fell down. He... He's bleeding..."

On the second-floor staircase, both boys were bawling out loud. One had fallen down while the other was frightened.

Sebastian's expression drastically changed when he saw the chaotic scene.

Dashing over, he quickly picked up the boy who had fallen. Matteo was crying his lungs out with his mouth full of blood.

"Someone! Prepare the car!" Sebastian was in a state of panic. Sprinting down the stairs, he dashed out of the house, ignoring Roxanne who was in the living hall.

Ian followed closely behind, wiping his tears as he ran after his father.

The moment he saw Roxanne, he gathered his composure and swore at her.

Roxanne was shocked; she hadn't expected to be snapped at by a crying child.

Why does he harbor so much animosity toward me? It never used to be like that.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 335

When Roxanne saw the scowl on Ian's face, she felt humiliated by a child for the very first time in her life.

"Ian, what has gotten into you? Why are you being rude to me? All I did was ask you about your brother."

"Because you're not worthy of my kindness!"

Ian's reply was scathing.

The frosty vibe he was emitting sent a chill down her spine.

Not worthy?

Roxanne stared at him, dumbfounded.

It was the first time she heard a child spew such vile words.

After she brought their father home the other day, he fell terribly sick. She then informed them that she had erased the memory of Sasha from his mind. Hence, she was expecting them to resent her for it.

However, she didn't imagine that it would turn into full-blown hatred.

Just when she was about to lecture Ian with her grim expression, Wendy heard the commotion and rushed over.

"Ian, what are you doing here? Aren't you going to check on your brother?"

"I am."

Stretching out his arms in Wendy's direction, Ian looked like a completely different person from the one who had been seething just now.

Roxanne was speechless.

Wendy remarked, "I'm sorry, Ms. Rocke. We're going to check on Matt. Just make yourself at home."

At that, Wendy hurried away, leaving Roxanne on her own.

The woman was instantly feeling vexed and outraged by the treatment.

What's the meaning on this?

Why are they disrespecting me? What have I done wrong?

I brought Sebastian home and helped him find peace. Why aren't they grateful for it? Is it because I didn't do enough?

She was utterly infuriated.

However, that was only the beginning. When she was supposed to check out the hotel for their engagement banquet, she received a call from Sebastian while she was walking in the villa's garden.

"Roxanne, we have to cancel our plans for today. Matteo's injuries are quite bad, so I can't make it."

Sebastian canceled their appointment without any hesitation. His voice sounded frantic, but it was simply out of concern for his son.

Roxanne was rendered speechless upon hearing him cancel a plan related to their wedding.

Before she could react, Sebastian had ended the call.

B*stard!

At that very moment, she was overwhelmed by rage.

In truth, the engagement had been difficult for her to accept. After all, she didn't believe in marriage. Hence, she had rejected it when their parents wanted the two of them to be married back then.

But now, she proposed for them to be engaged for the sake of Sebastian's health. She also did so to prevent him from being harmed by Sasha again.

Is this what I get in return?

Furious at him, she wanted to call him back to demand an explanation.

However, she received a call from someone else instead.

"Hello?"

"Roxanne, didn't you say you wanted to check out the hotel? Why aren't you here yet? Your dad and I have arrived."

It was her parents informing her that they had reached the venue.

The gloominess on Roxanne's face intensified. "There's no need to do so anymore. Sebastian has left, and we can forget about the engagement!"

Her mom's expression darkened at that. "Left? What happened? What nonsense are you talking about? What do you mean the engagement is off? Explain it to us properly!"

Her parents very much approved of Sebastian. Hence, they panicked at the suggestion that the man had backed out of the engagement.

Left without a choice, Roxanne explained everything to them.

When she finished, her dad began scolding her. "Are you not ashamed of yourself for throwing a tantrum? His son is in the hospital right now. Instead of being concerned, why are you ranting about it instead?"

"I…"

"Shut up and hurry to the hospital right now. Your mom and I will also head over there."

Trevor was someone reasonable, so he was cognizant of how stubborn Roxanne could be at times. After scolding his daughter, he ended the call and drove his wife to the hospital.

After the call ended, Roxanne headed to the hospital too.

Meanwhile, at the hospital...

Matteo's wound had been treated. When he fell earlier, he had broken his front teeth, causing a lot of blood to ooze out. Nevertheless, it was enough to frighten Sebastian to death.

"It's alright. A new tooth will grow out in no time."

When the doctor who was treating Matteo saw how he snuggled up to Sebastian, he couldn't help but comfort the little boy with a smile.

Seeing how distraught his son was, Sebastian felt equally sorry.

All this while, Matteo had always been tough and optimistic. This was the first time he had cried till his eyes were swollen.

Sebastian patted him gently. "Don't worry. The doctor is telling you the truth. A stronger and more beautiful tooth will replace the one you have lost."

He gently pinched Matteo's nose, which was a rare gesture.

"Really?"

Having heard his father's words, Matteo blinked his eyes and finally stopped crying.

Ten minutes later, the doctor had written down the prescription. While Sebastian went to get the medication, Matteo waited in the consultation room accompanied by Ian.

"Does it hurt?"

"No, it doesn't!"

Although his eyes were still red from crying and his lips swollen from the fall, Matteo shook his head defiantly at Ian's question.

Touched by his resilience, Ian hugged his brother tight.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 336

"Thank you, Matt."

"No thanks are needed. We're brothers, after all. Stopping Daddy's marriage to that woman is our objective. We must get rid of her and bring Mommy back!"

With Ian hugging him, Matteo swore with his fist clenched tightly.

Ian's resolve was just as strong as his brother's.

In truth, Matteo's fall wasn't an accident. It was part of their plan to stop Sebastian from registering his marriage with Roxanne.

Despite succeeding this time at great cost, they were already concerned about the next step in their plan.

As long as the core issue wasn't resolved, the scenario would just repeat itself.

Consequently, the brothers frowned at their prospects.

"Our current priority is to stop them from getting registered."

"What are you proposing?"

"We have to destroy the household register!"

Given his ruthless disposition, Matteo's suggestions were always extreme.

However, Ian knitted his eyebrows instead.

Although it was possible, it wasn't a permanent solution because a new household register could be easily applied for. Hence, it wasn't the best option.

"I think we better get Mommy to come back." After much consideration, Ian put forth his opinion.

"Mommy?"

With his eyes still moist from tears, Matteo looked at Ian with anticipation.

Ian's right. Mommy's return will solve everything.

"However, she doesn't intend on coming back now. So, what are we going to do? Although Vivi says Mommy is going to buy Grandpa's house and may return, I don't think there's a high chance of that happening."

"Mmm-hmm. Therefore, we have to set things in motion on our own."

At the crucial time, Ian, who resembled their father more in terms of intelligence and disposition, racked his brains for a solution.

Since Ian had gotten involved, Matteo naturally went along with his brother's plan.

At Wall Street, Moranta.

Within a short period of time, Lance got in contact with Bryan, who agreed to sell the house after a quick negotiation.

"Is it true? Did he agree? That's wonderful. In that case, you should go back and complete the ownership transfer."

Much to his surprise, Sasha wanted Lance to close the deal at once.

Me?

I'm not really familiar with the place. What am I to do if something goes wrong?

Lance wanted to persuade Sasha to go instead.

To his dismay, she rejected his suggestion.

Her excuse was that she was too busy with work and couldn't take time off.

Is she really busy, or does she not want to go? Perhaps, she just wants to avoid the place.

Left without a choice, Lance booked a flight ticket for himself.

Unexpectedly, Sasha received a call from Jackson that very night.

"Sasha, what are you doing? Are you abandoning everything for the sake of money? Do you not want your family or your children anymore?"

The moment the call connected, Jackson admonished Sasha harshly.

The woman was initially delighted to answer Jackson's call. After all, this was the first time he had called her since she left.

However, she was stunned by the scolding she received.

"Uncle Jackson, wh-what did I do? Am I not doing that right now?"

She was referring to how she was taking care of the Blackwood and the Wand family. That included her father, who was about to be released from prison soon.

However, Jackson continued with his tirade. "Are you? What did you even do? Do you know what happened to your son? Let me tell you, if you don't do anything, he will probably end up losing his life."

Jackson's words were harsh, given that the boys were still so young.

Sasha turned pale at once.

"Uncle Jackson, who do you mean? Wh-what happened to them?"

"What happened? See for yourself." With that, Jackson ended the call angrily. A few moments later, Sasha received a photo that she frantically opened.

Little did she expect to see a child whose face was swollen all over on her screen.

What was even more terrifying was the fact that there was a hole in his front teeth; it looked as though it had been punched out of him. Her eyes flashed with rage at the sight.

Sasha's hands began trembling violently.

"Who did this? Tell me. Who did this to my child?"

Losing her mind, she screamed into the phone. The next moment, she was overwhelmed by both panic and murderous intent.

Meanwhile, Lance happened to be standing behind her. When he saw her lose control, he took a peek at the phone and was shocked by what he saw.

"Is that... Matteo? What happened to him? Did he get beaten up? Why does he look terrible? Who hit him? Didn't Sebastian do anything?"

Just when she was on the verge of fully losing her mind, Sasha received another message from Jackson: Matt said his stepmother did this to him. Given how violent she is right now, what's going to happen to the brothers in the future? Especially when she has her own kids?

Sasha's body trembled furiously.

When she heard that her children had been harmed by their stepmother, she was both devastated and filled with hatred at the same time.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 337

Stepmother? Has Sebastian married Roxanne?

Her heart tightened painfully at the thought. For the past half-year, she had not felt anything at all.

But the moment she heard the news, she suddenly found it difficult to breathe.

The moment she called Jackson back, she spat out, "They... They are also his children. Does he not care?"

"If he cared, would this have happened? Let me tell you that the Rockes and the Hayes are closely intertwined now. Soon, they will be living

together. If you don't want your son to die in their hands, you have better come back at once!" Jackson raged before ending the call once more.

Sasha's head began to spin.

Even the Rocke family has moved in?

Roxanne did mention that their families were supposed to have entered a marriage of convenience in the first place. Therefore, now that she has become Mrs. Hayes, there's nothing strange about them moving in.

However, why do they need to torture my son?

Is it because Sebastian intends to have other children? Are they no longer important to him when he has new kids? Or is it because they are my children?

Sasha shut her eyes in anger.

Finally, she decided to return in person.

Meanwhile, Lance was delighted by her decision. The day she was due to fly, he woke up early on purpose to send her to the airport.

"Sha, don't worry. I'll hold the fort and take care of Vivi here."

"Mmm-hmm."

Sasha nodded plainly before boarding her flight in a rush.

After having had a night to think through the matter, she had managed to calm down. There was nothing else in her mind other than her children.

Having boarded the plane, she settled into her seat by the window. Coincidentally, the lady sitting beside her was a fellow Chanaean.

"I know, I know. This time, I will definitely take pictures of the best scenes. So, don't worry boss. I will make sure our magazine sells out!"

After rambling on for a long time, the woman finally switched off her phone after the flight attendant had urged her to do so.

"I'm sorry, my boss is just really naggy. I hope I didn't disturb you," the lady apologized courteously when she noticed Sasha sitting beside her.

Sasha shook her head to show that she didn't mind.

Just when she thought the girl would keep to herself, she took out a magazine.

"Here, this is a copy of our magazine. It's really famous, and a lot of my articles are in there. Go ahead and take a look."

"Thank you."

Sasha accepted it graciously; she had nothing better to do anyway.

When she took a look, she realized that she had often seen the magazine on the streets of Moranta. It focused mainly on the entertainment industry and was more popular among youths.

"Oh, you're a reporter. In that case, what story are you going to cover back in Chanaea?"

The lady reporter's face lit up in delight at that question.

"The wedding of the century. Both sides come from prestigious backgrounds. If I can get a scoop, my magazine will definitely sell out."

"Wedding of the century?"

Sasha chuckled at the term.

Since she's an entertainment reporter, she probably means some famous superstars. After all, this is what their work revolves around.

Not giving it too much thought, Sasha returned the magazine to the lady before curling up to sleep.

I wonder if I will be able to take the children back with me.

It might turn into an ugly battle. Either that or I might be able to take them easily. After all, the children seem to be unwanted.

Sasha clenched her fists at that thought.

A few hours later, she arrived at the Avenport airport.

After putting on her sunglasses, she set foot in the city once again. For a fleeting moment, she was lost in thought.

Suddenly, someone patted on the back. "Miss, by the way, I forgot to ask you. What are you doing here? Did you come for work?"

It was the lady reporter again.

Regaining her senses, Sasha glanced at her, replying, "No, I'm from around here."

The lady nodded. "I see. In that case..."

Sasha didn't know what she was going to say. However, the lady's face lit up when she looked in a particular direction. Her eyes seemed to be bursting out of their sockets.

"Wow! It really is the wedding of the century! Even the airport has a billboard of their wedding pictures!"

Shrieking in excitement, she pointed at the large LED screen.

Sasha turned to look in reflex.

The moment she saw it, her entire body tensed up.

"So, he's the legendary Astoria tycoon. What a handsome young man! Look how exquisite his features are! They really do make him look like nobility. My God! If he joins the entertainment industry, all the current celebrities will pale in comparison."

The lady was furiously taking pictures of the LED billboard.

Sasha just stood there, spacing out.

Her mind went blank the moment she saw the massive wedding photo. All she could hear was a buzzing sound in her ear and nothing else.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 338

This was her first time seeing Sebastian's wedding photos.

When they got married back then, they didn't take any. In fact, when they needed to register their marriage, Frederick had to piece two different pictures together.

Thinking about it now, Sasha felt that it was a shame.

But now, he and his first love were standing on the screen, blinding her.

The two looked destined to be together. The man looked dashing; every chiseled angle was a symbol of perfection.

As for Roxanne, she looked just like a princess, leaning submissively on him. Whoever saw her could feel the blissfulness she was exuding.

It turned out that the wedding of the century the lady reporter was talking about was their wedding.

Sasha didn't know how long she stayed standing there, frozen to the spot.

It wasn't until the seller, who was waiting at the old Hayes residence, gave her a call that she regained her senses.

"Hello? Ms. Wand? Have you gotten off the plane?"

"Yes. I'm heading over right now." Recovering her gaze, Sasha ended the call and buried her emotions away.

After that, she left the airport with her luggage in hand.

She reminded herself that everything that was happening was no longer any of her business.

She soon arrived in the city.

Just like in the airport, the wedding photos were plastered on every billboard in the city. Furthermore, she could hear everyone talking about it everywhere she went.

Many of the hotels she wanted to stay in were filled with people.

Given how crowded it was, Sasha clenched her fingers and ordered the driver to take her to Old Town instead.

"Mister, take me to Horington, please."

"Horington? Isn't that place being marked for demolition? What are you going there for?"

The driver was surprised to hear her intended destination.

Sasha was stunned. "Demolished? Since when?"

The taxi driver replied, "This year. Ever since New Town was built, Old Town has slowly become deserted."

This taxi driver must be a local given how much he knows.

Why didn't Uncle Jackson tell me it's going to be demolished? Furthermore, he must still be at Horington. He didn't tell me to head elsewhere to find him.

Didn't I give him quite a lot of money? Why didn't he move?

Shocked by the revelation, she told the driver to hurry on over to Old Town.

The moment she arrived at Jackson's house, she saw a sign outside that marked the place for demolition. It was so big — one would not miss it.

Why didn't he tell me about this?

Sasha got out of the taxi at once and rushed into the compound.

"Uncle Jackson..."

"Are you crazy? Why did you ask her to come back today? Did you want her to see that jerk's wedding? Why must you cause trouble at a time like this?"

Just when Sasha called out, she heard the voice of a middle-aged woman sound from the second floor. She sounded extremely angry.

Sasha held her tongue at once.

The voice belonged to her aunt, Sharon.

Ever since Xenia died, Sasha didn't dare talk to her aunt anymore — especially after the woman had slapped her. Whenever she heard Sharon's voice, she would subconsciously be seized by fear and nervousness.

"Why are you accusing me of causing trouble? Am I not doing this for the two children? Didn't you see how badly Matteo was beaten?"

"Why do you need to ask her to come back? That daughter of Trevor's is obviously not one to be trifled with. If that silly girl returns and catches wind of the wedding, do you think she will have it easy? Let me remind you, she might end up getting triggered and end up doing something foolish. When that happens, the boys will be worse off from it," Sharon berated her husband.

Jackson fell silent in response.

Meanwhile, Sasha had heard their entire exchange...

Aunt Sharon is wrong. The wedding has no impact on me whatsoever.

However, she couldn't tolerate what she heard her aunt say about the children.

What does she mean by the boys will have it worse?

Does she mean that they are suffering under Roxanne now? Where are they now, and what sort of condition are they in?

Given that their wedding is today, where will they leave my children?

Sasha didn't dare think any further. When she felt the pain in her chest reverberate throughout her body, she didn't care for anything else.

With that, she turned and left.

She knew she had to track down her sons first...

At Royal Court One, Frontier Bay.

Ian and Matteo were both dressed like gentlemen. Looking dashing and adorable, they were waiting for someone to pick them up.

"Why isn't Mommy here yet?"

"Be patient!"

Ian, who had always lacked a general sense of security, began to worry when there was no sign of Sasha still.

Matteo reached out his hand to pat his brother in reassurance.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 339

"Don't worry, she'll be back for sure. The last thing she wants would be to see her children suffer. Just wait and see. Once we reach the hotel, we'll be able to see her there," Matt consoled Ian like an experienced grown-up.

Ian felt as if a weight had been lifted off him when he heard that.

The two brothers waited until the bride had arrived, but there was still no sign of their mother. They were disappointed to say the least.

What's going on?

Does our mother no longer want us anymore?

Matteo started to worry a little, and all of a sudden, something occurred to him.

"Cr*p! Do you think she has gone to Frontier Bay instead?"

Ian's eyes lit up upon hearing that.

It can't be!

How can she be that stupid?

What do we do now? Sh*t! Daddy isn't here either. Has he gone to Frontier Bay as well?

The duo saw a hint of panic in each other's eyes.

Meanwhile, Sasha had indeed arrived at Frontier Bay.

She had come here because she was sure that her two children would be made to stay at home while their father was getting married to that woman. After all, they had been treated so badly that Sasha could not imagine that they would be invited to the engagement party.

When she arrived, she saw that the lawn was still as luxurious and majestic as before. Hardly anything had changed since she was here six

months ago. Flowers were still blooming everywhere. The huge villa, which was located on the hillside, was as grand as a castle.

Still, why is it so quiet here?

Sasha felt something was amiss.

She dismissed her uneasy feeling and was more concerned about not getting spotted by the security guards. As such, she pulled her cap lower and hastily went around to the back of the garden.

Going in on all fours would be the most ideal way.

Sasha jumped off from the fence and was about to go to the second floor to find her sons when someone appeared at that moment.

"Do we need to move these items to Rose Villa?"

"I don't think so. Mr. Hayes didn't mention anything. I don't think it's appropriate though."

The voices seemed to come from the housemaids.

Rose Villa?

What are they talking about? Are they referring to the new house?

Perhaps, the two of them have gotten another place as their marital home? That will explain why it is so quiet here. Even the servants are talking like this.

The exceptionally smart Sasha figured it out at once.

Immediately, her face turned pale, and a suffocating discomfort swept over her.

After around a couple of minutes, the two servants finally left. Sasha calmed herself down and continued to tiptoe.

Will the two boys still be able to stay here if that's the case?

If Sebastian and Roxanne were not staying here anymore, Sasha doubted that they would take Ian and Matt with them seeing how much they were being detested. What will happen to the boys now?

Please don't tell me that they will be staying with Frederick.

The more Sasha thought about it, the worse she felt.

"Matt? Little Ian? Where are you guys?"

"Matteo?"

Suppressing her fury, she went through all the rooms looking for her children.

Unfortunately, there was no sight of them on the second floor.

That's strange. Where have they gone to?

Sasha began to get a little panicky. Just as she was about to go to the hanging garden, she heard the sound of someone coming into the villa.

"Mr. Hayes, why are you back here? We received a call from the hotel, and they said Ms. Rocke is already there. Why aren't you there yet? The ceremony is about to start."

"I know. I'll be right there."

Sasha freaked out at the sound of the deep, manly voice coming from downstairs.

Oh my God! It's Sebastian!

Isn't he supposed to be at his own wedding? What is he doing here?

In a state of panic, she turned back from the hanging garden and sneaked into one of the rooms before he came upstairs.

He mustn't find me here. Otherwise, I will die a horrible death!

Sasha had never been so scared in her life.

It was indeed Sebastian who had returned to the villa.

Today was the day of his engagement party with Roxanne. However, he had only just returned from the office, and there was no makeup artist with him.

All he wanted was a change of clothes.

Just as he reached the second floor, he realized that something was not right.

The children would always close the doors after they left their rooms.

In addition, the air no longer smelled of the disinfectant anymore.

He frowned.

All the while, Sasha was hiding in the room, not daring to make a single sound.

Thankfully, she did not have to hide for too long. Perhaps, as a result of the servant's reminder, Sebastian had gone up to the third floor and then rushed off in a hurry.

He had finally left.

With that, Sasha let out a sigh of relief.

She ran to open the door and planned to get out of there soonest.

"Ahhh!"

Her scream burst out without warning, and it could be heard throughout the entire second floor.

The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 340

It's too horrifying!

Is he a ghost? I heard him go downstairs a while ago. How does he appear outside this room now? Does he not realize that he could have given me a heart attack?

Sasha's mind went blank.

Sebastian was standing outside the door and glaring at her.

His expression was terrifying like a violent storm was brewing. Nevertheless, she found it strange that there was no other emotions on his face.

Don't tell me that after six months, this is all I meant to him?

Sasha stared at him in a daze.

"You're not dead yet?"

"What ?"

Sasha's mind went blank for a moment. She had no idea what he was talking about.

In the end, her reaction angered him further. "How dare you lie to me!"

Thud!

Before Sasha could react, he had already grabbed hold of her collar and pinned her against the door panel.

"Mmm..." She had not expected such a reaction from him. In a split second, she started struggling in horror.

"S-Sebastian, let go of me. Sebastian..."

"Let go of you? I can't believe you still have the cheeks to say that! Sasha, you're really brave. How dare you pretend to be dead! Since you like to play dead that much, I'll grant you that wish today!"

The moment he finished speaking, his fingers went around her neck and squeezed tightly.

"Mr. Hayes! What are you doing? Let go of her!"

It was a good thing that Wendy had heard the commotion and came running upstairs. She rushed forward at the crucial moment and put a stop to the madness.

Sasha's face had already turned a shade of deep purple!

When Sebastian finally released his grip, she slumped beside Wendy and started to cough violently.

Why is he behaving like this?

What exactly is going on? Why is he behaving the same way like he saw her a long time ago?

Sasha was so terrified that she was trembling all over with tears in her eyes. She kept staring at him with a fearful look like a deer in fright.

Wendy whispered in her ears, "Ms. Wand, Mr. Hayes' memories with you have been erased by Ms. Rocke using hypnosis."

"What did you say?"

Sasha was thunderstruck!

His memories have been erased through hypnosis?

Why?

She felt her blood turn cold all of a sudden, like a knife that had been plunged deep into her heart. At that instance, she looked bewildered at the man who wanted to kill her and felt her heart aching so badly.

Wendy could sense her disbelief, and she added, "Don't you worry, Ms. Wand. It wasn't Ms. Rocke's idea. Mr. Hayes asked her to do it. When you left six months ago, he came back and fell seriously ill. Once he got better, he went to see Ms. Rocke."

Of course, the housemaid's tone was not as cordial as before. Her dissatisfaction with Sasha was apparent throughout her words.

Sasha was about to say something but found herself to be at a loss for words.

All she felt was a chill running down her spine She was so shocked that her face went pale as she froze.

"Detain her!" Since Sebastian had lost that part of his memories, he behaved like a completely different man.

Right now, all he wanted to do was to deal with the woman who had lied to him for the past five years in the cruelest manner possible!

Wendy was instantly stunned.

"Please, Mr. Hayes. Don't do this. Let her go for the sake of the children."

"Children?" He was out for Sasha's blood and had no wish to listen to anybody. Instead, he sneered, "Is she even fit? What has it got to do with her?"

Sasha was speechless.

Before she could say anything, a few bodyguards had already appeared at Sebastian's command.

Subsequently, Sasha was in their custody.

By then, she was in a daze and wondered what was going on. There was no protest or struggle from her.

Wendy, on the other hand, felt sorry for her and tried to talk to Sebastian, "Mr. Hayes, where are you taking her to? Don't forget it's your

engagement with Ms. Rocke today. You will have to be at the hotel later on."

Nobody seemed to listen to her.

Now that Sebastian's memories had been reset to the beginning, the murderous look in his eyes remained throughout with no hint of dissipating.

In the meantime, after more than an hour of waiting, Roxanne had finally received news of the happening at Frontier Bay.

"Ms. Rocke, Mr. Hayes had taken Ms. Wand away. She had turned up at the villa, and Mr. Hayes became furious after seeing her. He said he wants to feed her to the dogs and ends up detaining her."

"What did you say? Feed her to the dogs?"

Roxanne was both mad and happy when she heard the news.