

Can't Win Me Back Novel Online Free

Chapter 277

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Alyssa had always been like that. She would be completely focused on an object of her interest and fall into a world of her own.

Suddenly, it occurred to her that Jameson was waiting for her. She quickly spun around to find him patiently standing on the side, this time with a straw basket in his hand filled with pink roses that carried an understated beauty.

The breathtaking charm of the flowers reminded her of a quote from Wislawa Szymborska, which said, "Only a rose blooms as a rose, no one else."

"Ms. Taylor," Jameson addressed her while approaching with the flower basket.

"Oh, don't step in here! Be careful not to dirty your clothes!" she hurriedly stopped him when she noticed his sparkly clean outfit. However, he made his way through

the thorny shrubs in an attempt to get to her.

She pursed her lips in embarrassment.

"Ms. Taylor, this is for you." His eyes were as soft as the sunset colors when he handed her the basket.

"Thank you, but I can't accept your gift," she turned him down with a smile.

The basket might be a small gift, but she thought it would be inappropriate to accept roses from him, which appeared more like a symbol of courtship.

Her rejection was expected. He reframed his act with a smile. "A beauty like you is worthy of the roses. More importantly, I wanted to give you a basket of roses for your research because you seemed interested in them.

"The roses come with soil. You can plant them in your garden and keep them blooming year-round with proper care."

Upon hearing that, Alyssa had no reason to turn down his rose basket. After some deliberation, she caved in and took it from him. "Well, thank you, then."

Suddenly, he frowned and bent toward her. She blinked in surprise, holding her breath as his face loomed before her.

"What's wrong? Is there something on my face?"

"Yeah." He nodded in seriousness.

"Where?" She wiped her face in confusion, leaving a soil mark on her cheek like a dirty kitten.

With a doting look, Jameson took out a white handkerchief and wiped away the stains on her cheek and forehead. It took her a while to react to his swift move, and she frantically said, "I'll do it myself."

"It's fine. You look clean now." Gazing deep into her eyes, he quickly withdrew his hand. He had a knack for coming to a

stop at the exact moment she started feeling uneasy at their intimacy.

He was flirting. The idea popped up in her mind, but she shrugged it off very soon. Perhaps Jameson was merely being attentive because of his mild temperament and the fact that she was a childhood friend.

They heard a flurry of footsteps in their direction. Alyssa raised her gaze and was instantly stunned. 1

Jasper was standing stiffly a few steps away from her. He was not agitated nor furious, even though something was simmering in his eyes. It felt like the calm before the storm.

Apparently, Jasper had observed the interaction between Alyssa and Jameson. He clenched his fists, white-knuckled.

He watched helplessly as Alyssa beamed at Jameson and accepted the rose basket. He also witnessed Jameson gently wiping

away the dirt on her cheek.

The two were close to each other, like a match made in heaven.

Jasper felt the muscles in his back stiffening as he gritted his teeth. His mind was buzzing and in pain from the shock.

He realized that Alyssa wasn't here to fight for his project. She was here to view the sea of roses with her new lover.

Deep down, he'd rather Alyssa show up as a business rival to seize his partnership opportunity and inflict torture on him.

He'd willingly give her anything she wanted rather than watch her showering another man with all her affection that was once reserved for him.



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Jasper, looking grim, was experiencing an emotional rollercoaster at the moment.

Alyssa did not share the same sentiment. She merely felt unlucky to have run into him.

Bumping into Jasper in the lovely rose garden was akin to stepping on dog shit—a mood killer. She secretly grumbled, thinking that she might need to start reading her fortune of the day before leaving her house.

Liana, clinging tightly to Jasper, was an eyesore to Alyssa.

Jameson leaned closer to Alyssa and chuckled into her ear. "Don't panic. I'm here for you."

Feeling ticklish, she thought, "What's there to panic about? I'll take things as they come."

"Ms. Taylor, what a coincidence!" Liana was no longer the belligerent young lady from before. She asked softly, "Is this gentleman your boyfriend? You make a perfect couple."

Alyssa had a deadpan look in her eyes. She obviously wanted to ignore Liana.

However, Jameson replied, "Thank you for your compliment. Though, I'm not her boyfriend yet."

Alyssa had not caught the meaning behind his words. Jasper tightened his fists, looking frosty.

Jameson was implying that he would become Alyssa's boyfriend one day. Was it an act of provocation or merely a statement of his increasingly intimate relationship with Alyssa?

Liana observed the frown on Jasper's face and sensed the stiff muscles on his arm. She knew that he still had a place in his heart for Alyssa.

Still, she was relieved to learn that Alyssa had a new boyfriend. Between Jasper and Alyssa, one of them had to be the first to let go of their three years of marriage.

Liana was in awe of Alyssa's popularity. She was curious about Jameson and his background, given how handsome and well-mannered he was.

"Mr. Beckett, are you here to enjoy the flowers with your fiancée?" A smile crept onto Jameson's lips. "Better hurry up. The rose garden is closing soon."

"I'm not as romantic as the two of you." Jasper looked into his eyes with rivalry and deliberately ignored Alyssa. "Xavier, call the owner of the rose garden. I need to talk business."

"Sure." Xavier quickly dialed a number. To everyone's surprise, they heard a ringing phone. The sound seemed to be approaching them.

"That's weird. Is he nearby?" Xavier

scratched his head and scanned his surroundings in confusion. The ringing phone seemed to grow louder.

"Mr. Schmidt."

Jasper was stunned at the sight of the man walking up to Jameson with a ringing phone.

"Mr. Schmidt, there's a call for you." Carl politely handed the phone to Jameson while shooting a disdainful glance at Jasper.

Jameson chuckled faintly and swiped his finger across the screen to end the call.

At the same time, Xavier watched the call disconnect. He gaped at the scene with the phone in his hand. Similarly, Jasper was in disbelief. His face paled.

"I am the owner of the rose garden you're looking for. Regretfully, I have a business partner now. You might have to return with empty hands." Jameson turned to Alyssa. "Ms. Taylor, I accept your

partnership proposal."

Alyssa glanced at Jameson, who was holding out a right hand. He added, "Let's work well together."

She casually glanced at Jasper's crumbling expression and his bloodshot eyes.

It was an exhilarating moment to witness Jasper's defeat. However, she felt as if she was bullying him after winning the battle with little to no effort.

Anyway, she decided to brush off her guilt and celebrate the moment. Dimples appeared on her cheeks as she smilingly shook Jameson's hand. "Mr. Schmidt, I look forward to working with you."



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Jasper's entourage stared at each other in shock, especially Xavier, who looked like he was struck by lightning.

Noticing Jasper's grim expression, Liana tried to be thoughtful and quickly comforted him. Jasper, don't worry. It's just a rose garden. You can still reach out to the many rose gardens across the country."

Jasper removed his arm from her grip while she was talking. The impact of his movement caused her to stumble backward in an embarrassing moment.

"Let's go, Mr. Schmidt." Alyssa didn't bother to take another look at Jasper and Liana. She beamed gently at Jameson instead.

"Sure. I've made a reservation at the restaurant. We can leave at any time now."

Jasper felt suffocated when Alyssa and Jameson exchanged smiles. His brows knitted in anger as he stepped forward to stand in Jameson's way.

"Mr. Schmidt, let's talk in private." Jasper did not falter even after he had lost the deal.

"If this is about the rose garden project, I have nothing more to discuss with you." Jameson was unwilling to waste more time on Jasper.

"What if this is for something else?" Jasper cast an enigmatic gaze on Alyssa.

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Jameson brought Jasper to a pavilion in the rose garden. They sat across each other. They might be surrounded by roses, but the air was tense and frigid.

"Please keep it short. I have a date with Ms. Taylor." Jameson checked his wristwatch impatiently.

"A date? I thought you were talking business with her." Jasper refused to back down in front of another man when it was about Alyssa. "You might be the only one who saw it as a date. I knew my wife of three years better than you."

"Is that so?" Jameson shrugged and mocked, "Three years of sham marriage. Why are you confident that you know her better than I do?"

Jasper clenched his fists as his eyes clouded with hostility. "Did you look into me?"

Jameson shook his head with a smile. "Everything I do is out of my interest in Lyse. It has nothing to do with you.

"She did not snatch your rose garden partnership from you. In fact, I was waiting for her all along. I won't give up my rose garden to anyone except for Lyse.

"I know your secretary contacted my menin private. I didn't have a chance to tell

you in person that I have never wanted to work with the Beckett Group."

Jameson kept dropping Alyssa's nickname to show off their intimate relationship.

Jasper drew a breath with fury in his eyes. "Jameson Schmidt, I know a few things about you even if you haven't been back for long. Those who don't know you, like Alyssa, might be deceived by your façade, but I won't. I am aware of the stuff you did in Kontina."

Jameson Schmidt was a notoriously cruel character in Kontina. He was the epitome of wealth and desire to everyone. His romantic and gentlemanly act in front of Alyssa showed how calculative he could be.

Jasper shouldn't have concerned himself with Alyssa's matters after the divorce, but he was enraged and fearful at her growing relationship with Jameson.

The smile froze on Jameson's face. He lazily nudged his glasses but did not refute

Jasper's accusation.

"You always have women swarming around you. But you shouldn't to y around with Alyssa. She's not your plaything when you feel like messing around. You'd be foolish to think you'll win her over with a few bouquets of roses." Jasper's good-looking features frosted up.

A few seconds later, Jameson chortled. "That's odd. You seem to care about her and reluctant to let her go. So, why did you divorce her and marry someone else?"

It was a pointed question that shook Jasper at his core. A jolt of electricity coursed through his body.

"I know I am a character. I might be evil, but at least I have true feelings for Lyse and loyal to her. It's better than marrying Lyse and hurting her by longing for another woman like you did.

"Anyone could accuse me of my behavior, just not you." Jameson grew increasingly

harsh in his reply. "I don't care if you feel remorseful or not. You are divorced.

Whoever she dates and falls in love with is none of your business."

Jameson made his way out of the pavilion but came to a halt. He turned to face Jasper, who was now as stiff as a statue. "I have been planning this for years. Your three years of marriage is nothing compared to my wait."

Sitting alone in the pavilion, Jasper paled and trembled when he replayed Jameson's words.



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As the visitors gradually exited the rose garden, only Alyssa and Liana were left behind in the endless sea of roses.

In the fading light, Alyssa's bare face looked as luminous as the moon, to the envy of Liana. Putting aside their grudges, Liana had to admit that Alyssa was an extraordinary beauty.

Alyssa's beauty evoked fear and resentment in Liana. After all, Alyssa had spent three years under the same roof with Jasper, despite their relationship being a sham marriage.

She bit the bullet and went up to Alyssa while flicking her straight hair. She no longer looked like the frail woman when she was around Jasper. She flashed Alyssa a victorious grin.

"You found a new love pretty fast. Quite skillful, aren't you? You should have done

that sooner. No matter how much you bother Jasper, he will not take another look at you."

Alyssa stared at Liana, as though she was staring at a madwoman. "Why would I want his attention like a peacock?"

Liana choked and silently cursed at Alyssa. She showed her trump card next. "I'll tell you some good news since we ran into each other. I'm getting engaged with Jasper at my birthday party."

"Is that so? Congratulations, but I don't have any gift for you," Alyssa replied mindlessly.

Liana was enraged at Alyssa's indifference, which she perceived as an affront. "You can deny it as much as you want, but I'm sure you are secretly pissed off. You can't do anything about it. I will be Jasper's spouse, and you will be a joke in Solana City."

"Hey, Liana Gardner. Every time we meet,

you are either screaming about winning over Jasper or showing off your relationship. Is that your life? Do you have nothing to show except for a divorce and a boyfriend?" Alyssa sighed in boredom. She lost some brain cells every time she spoke to Liana.

Even so, it was hard not to clap back at an arrogant and ignorant bitch like Liana.

"What did you say?" Liana glowered at Alyssa.

"I understand the urge to show off because you're marrying up, but you should at least talk to the right person. He might be a treasure in your eyes, but he's just trash to me. It's all meaningless, don't you think?"

Trash?

Liana's face was flushed when she retorted, "This is pure sour grapes! The meaner you are, the more you care about my engagement with Jasper! You call him

trash only because you're upset! Who wouldn't be if they were abandoned by their lovers after wasting three years of their lives!"

Alyssa's eyes frosted up. Her dagger-like gaze gave Liana the chills.

"You have to learn when to stop. You shouldn't cross a line just because I've backed down. My kindness is not a green light for running your mouth. This is my last warning—do not take advantage of my courtesy, or you'll suffer, Ashley."

The mention of "Ashley" was akin to dropping a bomb on Liana. She was ashen-faced and badly shaken. Feeling the blood rushing through her veins, she held her breath and stumbled backward.

"What's with that look?" Alyssa grinned when she saw Liana's pale face. "Wasn't Ashley your name when you were studying in Mosgravia? I've never come across anyone like you who jumps at the mention of their name."

"I don't know who is Ashley. This is my first time hearing the name. I don't know what you're on about," Liana fervently denied any association with the name as her breathing became shallow.

Ashley was an easy woman and a gold-digger, the exact opposite of Liana's prim and proper persona she crafted for Jasper.

Alyssa narrowed her eyes. With a dangerous gleam, she inched closer to Liana with her arms behind her back. She bent over and flashed a hostile and knowing smile at Liana.



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