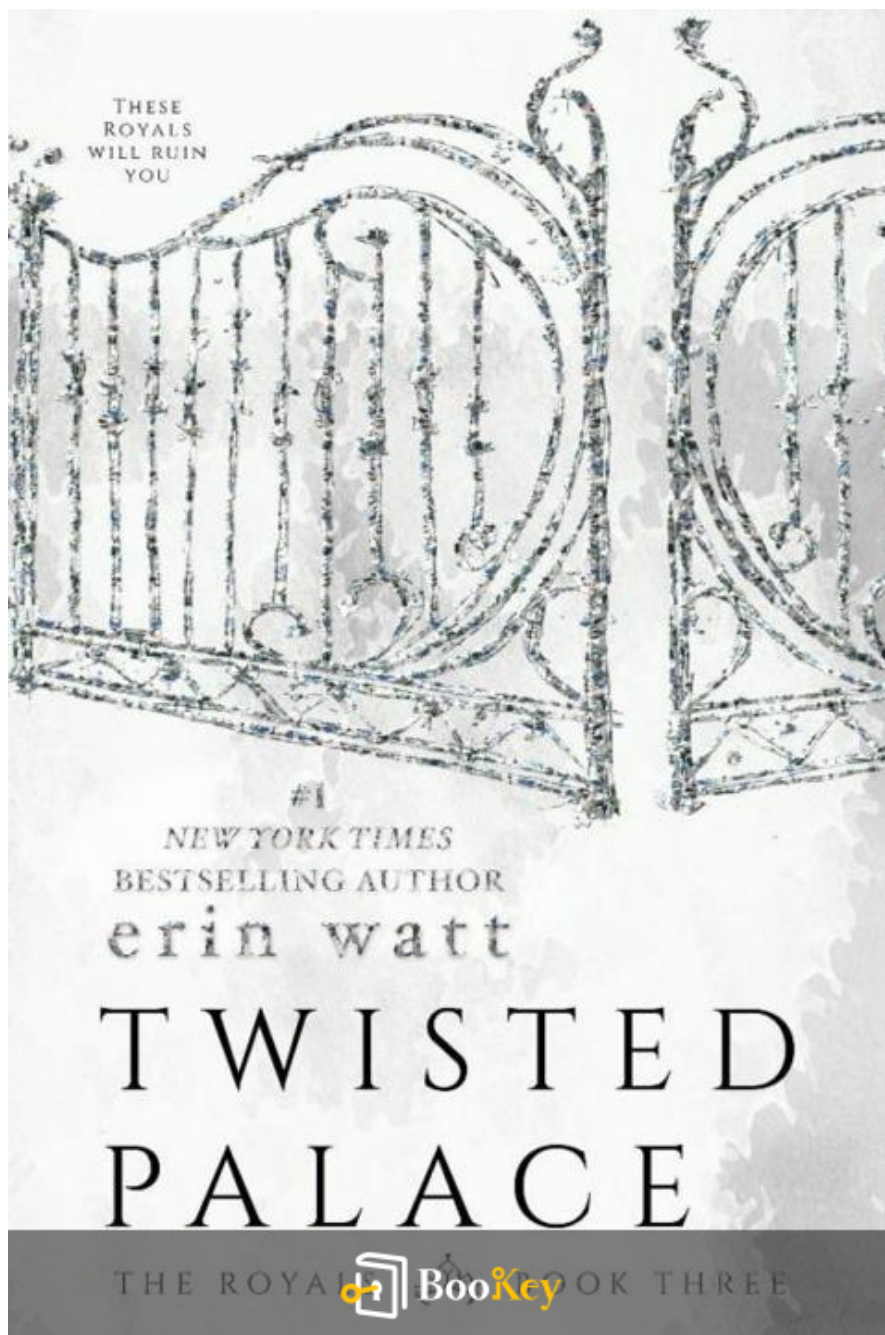


Twisted Palace PDF (Limited Copy)

Erin Watt



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Twisted Palace Summary

Love and betrayal threaten the elite's perfect facade.

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About the book

In the heart-pounding conclusion of the Royals series, "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt delivers a whirlwind of secrets, love, and loyalty that will leave you breathless. As Ella Harper navigates the treacherous waters of her relationship with Reed Royal, they are forced to confront not only the dark legacy of the Royal family but also the devastating truths that could tear them apart forever. Caught in a vicious game of betrayal and deception, Ella must compile the courage to stand strong and fight for her life, her love, and her newfound place in a world riddled with privilege and peril. With every twist and turn, this gripping tale will keep you on the edge of your seat, eager to uncover how far love can go when faced with the ultimate test.

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About the author

Erin Watt is a dynamic author duo consisting of writers Elle Kennedy and Jen Frederick, who brilliantly blend their talents to create captivating young adult fiction that resonates with readers worldwide. Known for their engaging storytelling and deeply relatable characters, they gained widespread recognition with their bestselling series, *The Royals*, which includes the popular title "Twisted Palace." Their collaborative work is characterized by its mix of romance, drama, and intrigue, successfully drawing readers into complex narratives filled with emotional depth and unexpected twists. With their unique voice and innovative approach to storytelling, Erin Watt continues to establish themselves as key figures in contemporary young adult literature.

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Chapter 1 Summary:

In the first chapter of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, we meet Reed Royal, who finds himself in a tense interrogation room after the shocking death of Brooke Davidson, his father's girlfriend. As the detectives press him with uncomfortable questions, Reed plays it cool, insisting on his right to remain silent until his lawyer arrives. He showcases a mix of bravado and vulnerability, clearly grappling with the chaotic turn of events that have led him to this moment.

Reed is acutely aware of his privileged status as a Royal, reflecting on how he's always managed to escape serious consequences with money and connections. However, he struggles with his reputation as he sits there in handcuffs, tormented by the image of his girlfriend, Ella Harper, witnessing his arrest. The emotional weight of Brooke's death hangs over him, and despite Reed's defiant demeanor, there's an undertone of fear and confusion about the implications of the investigation.

The interrogation escalates when Detective Cousins pressures Reed, who maintains his right to silence, refusing to speak without a legal representative. His lawyer, Halston Grier, eventually arrives, bringing a sense of formality and seriousness to the situation. Grier is there to help navigate the storm that has gathered around Reed, but Reed still feels the sting of potential betrayal; he realizes that lawyers can testify against their

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clients if related by blood, adding a layer of tension to their discussion.

As Grier begins to extract details about Reed's relationship with Brooke, it's clear that Reed is being forced to confront not just the events of the evening but also his own inner demons and the facade he has maintained. The chapter establishes a gripping atmosphere of suspense and complexity, exploring themes of privilege, guilt, and the struggle for identity against the backdrop of tragedy, hinting at a turbulent journey ahead as Reed fights for his innocence and the truth behind the chaos unraveling in his life.

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Chapter 2 Summary:

In Chapter 2 of "Twisted Palace," Ella finds herself in a rapidly escalating crisis as she grapples with the fallout from a shocking event: Reed, her boyfriend, has been arrested for the murder of Brooke, a girl tied to the Royal family's chaotic narrative. When Ella rushes to Easton's room to wake him, her urgency stems from a deep-seated anxiety about Reed's situation; she can't quell the dread rising within her. After some coaxing, Easton wakes up and, upon learning of Reed's arrest, his shock mirrors Ella's own turmoil.

With the weight of the moment pressing down on her, Ella hastily begins to pack Reed's belongings. Her frantic motions underscore not only her determination to support him but also her instinct to prepare for the worst, hinting at a history of instability in her life. The Royal mansion's grandeur stands in stark contrast to the turmoil that each character is experiencing, amplifying the theme of appearances versus reality.

As tension mounts, Easton expresses concern about the possibility of Reed's guilt, which Ella adamantly denies, despite her inner turmoil. The chapter delves into the interpersonal dynamics among the Royal brothers, revealing their complexity and how deeply intertwined their lives are with each other and with Ella, who is becoming a part of that tapestry. The twins, Sawyer and Sebastian, unknowingly add to the chaos when they enter, revealing that



they are unaware of the gravity of the situation until Ella shares details about Brooke's pregnancy and the implications for Reed.

Furthermore, Ella is confronted with her estranged father, Steve, who is surprisingly alive, an unexpected twist that adds a layer of emotional complexity. Her refusal to engage with him at this moment highlights her struggles with familial connections and the fears of her chaotic past resurfacing. The chapter beautifully contrasts the urgency of the present circumstances—the looming implications of Reed's potential guilt and the reality of her father's presence—with the pack of clothing and supplies she prepares, as if ready for the possibility of running away from it all. Ella's internal conflict resonates throughout the narrative, manifesting in her resolve to protect Reed and the burgeoning relationships with the Royal family.

Ultimately, the chapter sets the stage for a gripping narrative, showcasing themes of loyalty, secrecy, and the conflicting emotions surrounding family ties, all while building suspense around Reed's predicament and Ella's reaction to both her past and present. As Ella holds tight to Easton's hand, a sense of solidarity emerges, hinting at the strength she will need to navigate the storm brewing around them, mirroring the resilience she is beginning to realize is part of her identity as a Royal.

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Chapter 3:

In Chapter 3 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella is grappling with a tumult of emotions after a long, sleepless night filled with anxiety over Reed's arrest. The chapter opens with her alone in a sitting room, worrying about Reed and Callum and replaying worst-case scenarios in her mind. Just as she's becoming overwhelmed, she encounters Steve O'Halloran, her father, who has unexpectedly returned after being presumed dead for nine months.

Steve, appearing less disheveled than before, is confused about his sudden reintroduction to his daughter, who he doesn't recognize. Ella feels a wave of panic, uncertain of how to relate to him, especially since he seems more of a stranger than a father. Before their conversation can delve deeper into their relationship, Ella sees Reed and Callum returning home. Her relief is palpable as she rushes to Reed, seeking comfort in his presence. Reed reassures her, but Callum quickly interjects, forbidding any discussions that could complicate Reed's situation as a potential witness in a murder case.

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Chapter 4 Summary:

In Chapter 4 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella confronts a life-altering truth as she comes face to face with her father, Steve O'Halloran, who has unexpectedly reemerged after being presumed dead. The chapter begins with palpable tension in the room as Steve learns that Ella is his daughter, resulting from a past affair with her mother, Maggie. Despite the shocking revelation, Steve's initial reactions are mixed; he seems curious yet overwhelmed. Ella struggles with the emotions tied to this new connection, feeling apprehensive about meeting a man she barely knows but is tied to by blood.

As the scene unfolds, Steve's return triggers a range of reactions. While Callum, a father figure in Ella's life, offers support, Ella remains anxious about having her "father" living in the same house, highlighting her reluctance to form new bonds after her childhood of constant moving. The Royals—Reed and his brothers—quickly rally around Ella, reassuring her that they won't let her go live with Steve, thereby reinforcing their strong familial ties.

After Steve and Callum retire to discuss business, Ella and Reed retreat to her room. A mix of fear and desperation surrounds them, amplified by the tension from Reed's recent arrest in connection to the murder of Brooke, who was pregnant with his child. Reed reassures Ella of his innocence,

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revealing that Brooke attempted to extort money from him and that their encounter was complicated but not lethal. Despite this, Ella grapples with the fear of losing Reed and contemplates running away together to escape the looming threat of the accusations against him.

The chapter intensifies when Dinah, Steve's wife, enters and reacts dramatically to Steve's unexpected presence, leading to heightened tensions as she accuses Reed of being involved in Brooke's death. This accusation stirs a storm of emotions within Ella, who feels the weight of looming questions and fears for Reed's future. As the reality of their situation sinks in, Ella seeks comfort in Reed, vowing not to lose him amidst the chaos. Reed's confidence reassures her, and they find solace in each other, even in the face of uncertainty.

Themes of identity, family, and loyalty weave throughout the chapter, highlighting Ella's struggle to connect with her estranged father while navigating the tumultuous relationships with those around her. The interactions reveal deep emotional bonds and the fear of separation, setting the stage for further turmoil and revelations that are sure to come in the story ahead.

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Chapter 5 Summary:

In Chapter 5 of "Twisted Palace," the tension in the locker room is palpable as Reed Royal faces scrutiny and suspicion from his teammates following a controversial incident involving the death of Brooke Davidson. Easton, Reed's brother, quietly comments that the gossip might have already spread, which is evident in the hushed atmosphere where usually there's laughter and camaraderie. Reed feels the weight of the accusations against him, knowing that his previous fighting record has drawn unwanted attention, particularly because of his recent altercation that led to an assault charge last year.

As Reed interacts with his teammates, it becomes clear that many are wary of being associated with him. Ronald Richmond confronts him, insinuating that Reed is a distraction to the team and bringing negativity that could jeopardize their chances at the State Championship. The team dynamics shift as Liam Hunter voices concern about Reed's presence; he suggests that even if Reed didn't commit the crime, the speculation surrounding him could hurt their season. This prompts Reed to reflect on how much importance his teammates place on their football status and personal success, revealing a theme of loyalty versus individual ambition.

Easton, ever the supportive brother, stands up for Reed, emphasizing his value to the team. Wade also tries to lighten the mood, insisting that Reed's

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presence is crucial for their goals. However, Ronnie's bitterness festers, culminating in a cruel remark about Reed's mother, which crosses a line for Reed. In a blind rage, he lashes out physically at Ronnie, resulting in a messy brawl that ends with Reed being pulled away by their coach amid a stunned, silent locker room.

This chapter underscores the themes of loyalty, reputation, and the challenges of navigating personal demons amidst external judgment. Reed's struggle with his temper and the pressure from his peers highlights the complexity of being labeled a 'Royal' and the misguided perceptions that come with it. The violence erupts as a coping mechanism, but Reed is left feeling ashamed, realizing that his efforts to change the narrative are overshadowed by his explosive behavior. The chapter encapsulates a moment of vulnerability and the harsh reality of how reputation can sway friendships and create divisions within the team.

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Chapter 6:

In Chapter 6 of "Twisted Palace," the fallout from Reed's arrest is palpable, casting a shadow over Ella's everyday life as she works at a local bakery. While she manages the register, whispers about the Royals and the allegations against Reed fill the air, making her acutely aware of the judgment that accompanies her status as a Royal ward. An elderly customer's comment about her living situation stirs a mix of embarrassment and loyalty in Ella, as her chaotic childhood with her mother starkly contrasts the stability the Royals have provided her.

The tension escalates as Ella rushes to Astor Park, hoping to find Reed but only discovering Easton waiting alone. Easton's evasiveness raises her suspicions, and when her friend Val arrives, the gossip of Reed's altercation with Ronald Richmond during practice reveals just how much the rumors have spiraled. Though Easton insists it wasn't a big deal, Ella's instincts push her to make sure Reed is okay, reflecting her deep care for him amidst the chaos.

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This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

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Chapter 7 Summary:

In Chapter 7 of "Twisted Palace," Reed returns home to face his father and their lawyer, Grier, after a fight at school that has escalated the already tense situation surrounding the murder charge Reed faces. The chapter begins with Reed feeling the pressure of rumors swirling in school, especially concerning his involvement in the death of Brooke, a girl with whom he had a contentious relationship. His girlfriend, Ella, is also affected by these events, and as Reed interacts with his father, he senses disappointment mixed with anger.

As Reed enters the study, the atmosphere is thick with tension. His father berates him for the fight with Richmond, emphasizing the gravity of the charges against him—specifically, that he is facing a second-degree murder charge. Reed's emotions are a tumultuous mix of anger and shame as he grapples with the gravity of his situation. Grier delivers shocking news: Reed's DNA was found under Brooke's fingernails, raising serious implications for his case. The conversation quickly turns into an interrogation about his whereabouts after leaving Brooke's place; it appears he returned home later than expected, which only heightens the suspicion against him.

Grier scrutinizes Reed's actions and injuries, tying them to the fights he participates in on the docks, which could paint him as a violent individual in



the eyes of the law. In a raw and honest moment, Reed defends himself, asserting that he doesn't harm women and is not a killer. His father's support comes through, urging Grier to focus solely on defending Reed.

The chapter's overarching themes of guilt, shame, and the struggle for identity amidst a backdrop of family expectations are palpable. Reed is caught in a whirlwind of defending his character and navigating the consequences of his actions, both past and present. The mention of Ella adds a layer of personal stakes, as Grier warns that Reed's relationship with her could be a vulnerability in his case. The chapter ends with Reed's determination to prove his innocence, but the weight of the situation looms heavily over him, creating a gripping sense of anticipation for what is to come.

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Chapter 8 Summary:

In Chapter 8 of "Twisted Palace," Ella finds herself anxiously grappling with the tension surrounding Reed after a troubling meeting with his lawyer, Callum, and a detective's unexpected arrival at school. While waiting for Reed, she senses his unease stemming from a mysterious hour he was unaccounted for, raising alarm about potential consequences for his past actions. Despite Reed's reassurance that he won't be locked up, Ella's fear of losing him amplifies, especially as memories of her previous loss haunt her.

Their encounter is interrupted by the arrival of Detective Cousins, who is there to interview students as potential witnesses concerning Reed's situation. Ella's protective instincts kick in as she asserts her right to have a guardian and lawyer present during any questioning, showcasing her growing strength and resourcefulness. Reed's grim demeanor indicates that he knows the stakes are high.

As Ella sits in chemistry class, her worry deepens, especially when Easton expresses his concern about the possible repercussions of Reed's fights and the involvement of others like Savannah, who knows sensitive information about Reed's family. Fueled by anxiety, Ella resolves to confront Savannah, hoping to persuade her to remain silent about the damaging secrets that could implicate Reed.



When Ella finally tracks down Savannah, the interaction is tense. Savannah, who harbors resentment towards Reed and his family, initially dismisses the idea of helping, reflecting her ambivalence. However, after some intense discussion about Gideon's troubles and the potential consequences for Reed, Savannah surprisingly agrees to keep quiet, showing a flicker of loyalty to Ella and Reed's innocence.

Through this chapter, themes of loyalty, fear, and the fight against injustice unfold, showcasing Ella's evolution as she fights not just for Reed, but also for her newfound strength and the relationships that matter to her. The tension builds as the looming threat of the detective's inquiries creates an atmosphere of uncertainty, keeping readers on edge about the fate of the characters involved.

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Chapter 9:

In Chapter 9 of "Twisted Palace," Ella is increasingly anxious and paranoid about her friend Savannah after not seeing her at school following Savannah's lunch meeting with a detective. The tension heightens when Ella learns that both Val and Jordan, Savannah's siblings, are also being interviewed regarding the murder investigation surrounding Brooke. Ella is afraid of how the interviews might unfold, particularly since Jordan is likely to speak negatively about Reed, Ella's boyfriend, who is suspected in the case.

As Ella processes her fears, she encounters Easton, Reed's brother, who lightens the mood. Reed later shows up, inviting Ella to ride home with him. His concerned demeanor hints at something serious happening at home. During the drive, the couple navigates Ellie's anxiety about Reed's situation, and Reed tries to ease her worries while revealing his own stress. Their playful banter transitions into deeper conversations about relationships and pasts, but the tension resurfaces when they arrive home.

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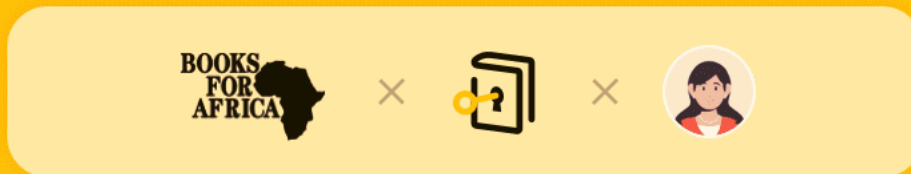
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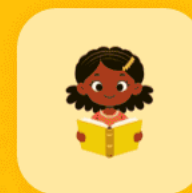
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Chapter 10 Summary:

In this intense chapter of "Twisted Palace," Reed finds himself caught in a whirlwind of emotions as he confronts a shocking proposal from a lawyer regarding Ella's safety. The atmosphere is charged as Reed steps between Ella and a man named Daniel, someone he deems dangerous and unworthy of her trust. Ella, however, feels cornered by the possibility of a severe prison sentence and considers a deal that would put Daniel back in the picture to keep Reed out of prison. Despite Reed's vehement objections, insisting that Daniel poses a threat to Ella's well-being and autonomy, Ella is adamant that her own sacrifice might be worth the price of Reed's freedom.

Reed feels the frustration mount as they engage in a passionate argument, clashing over decisions that could define not only their futures but their relationship. Ella's father, Steve, adds a layer of tension as he attempts to take control of Ella's life, offering her the option of moving into a hotel with him and his new partner, Dinah, which she adamantly refuses. The struggle for independence intensifies as Reed is determined not to let Ella slip away from him.

The chapter also highlights their growing bond as Reed pulls Ella close, trying to protect her from the chaotic decisions adults around them are making. Ella proposes a proactive approach to uncovering the truth about a

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murder they're entangled in, and instead of being deterred, she becomes more resolute. Their discussions reveal Ella's determination as she suggests compiling a list of possible suspects, asserting her agency in the face of danger.

The tension peaks when Ella expresses her desire to attend Brooke's funeral, arguing that it could provide critical information about the murder. Despite Reed's strong objections, Ella remains unwavering, illustrating the theme of defiance against protective instincts and the desire for autonomy. This chapter captures the essence of their relationship—a mix of fierce protection, stubborn independence, and a shared resolve to confront their challenges head-on, even as dark forces loom over them. The stakes are high, and both characters are pushed to their limits as they navigate danger and deception.

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Chapter 11 Summary:

In Chapter 11 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella finds herself driving with Easton to Brooke's funeral, where tensions are high and feelings are complex. The chapter opens with a humorous banter between Ella and Easton, who makes light of Reed's discomfort regarding Ella's decision to attend the funeral. Ella is determined to support Callum during this difficult time, despite Reed's objections. This demonstrates her growing independence and strength, as she chooses to stand by Callum rather than submit to Reed's controlling instincts.

Upon arriving at the funeral home, the reality of Brooke's death sets in for Ella. She grapples with the gravity of the situation and reflects on her own experiences with loss, revealing her vulnerability and hinting at her complicated relationship with grief. The atmosphere is somber, and Ella notices the meager turnout at the service, hinting at Brooke's isolation and lack of genuine connections despite her beauty.

Dinah, Brooke's supposed closest friend, disrupts the proceedings with an outburst aimed at Ella and Easton, showcasing her volatile emotions and further complicating the family's dynamics. Callum stands up to Dinah, asserting their right to be there, which hints at his protective nature and the complexities of their shared past with Brooke. The chapter expertly captures the tension within the O'Halloran and Royal families, providing insight into

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their fractured relationships.

As the service unfolds, Callum delivers a touching eulogy for Brooke, revealing some of his deeper feelings and regrets, even as Dinah's grief becomes increasingly convoluted with anger and blame. Ella ponders the relationships of those around her, particularly as she contemplates the possibility of hidden motives in the midst of this tragedy. The presence of police detectives at the funeral also adds an air of suspicion, as Ella becomes hyper-aware that the killer could be lurking among them.

Ella's discussions with Easton and Gideon signal her growing awareness of the dangerous dynamics at play, both within her circle and in the world outside. A pivotal moment occurs when Ella suggests investigating Brooke's past for hints about who might have wanted her dead, revealing her determination to uncover the truth despite the emotional turmoil.

The chapter highlights themes of loyalty, loss, and the struggle for identity, particularly as Ella balances her allegiance to Reed, Callum, and her own emerging sense of self. The emotional complexities deepen as they consider their losses and the messy connections between love and betrayal that bind them all. In a blend of humor and heartache, Ella reflects on her life and choices, setting the stage for escalating tensions as the investigation into the mystery of Brooke's death unfolds.

Key Points	Description
Setting	Driving to Brooke's funeral with Easton amidst high tension.
Humor	Light banter between Ella and Easton regarding Reed's discomfort with Ella attending the funeral.
Independence	Ella's determination to support Callum despite Reed's objections, highlighting her strength.
Reality of Loss	Ella reflects on the impact of Brooke's death and her own experiences with grief.
Funeral Attendance	Small turnout at the funeral, indicating Brooke's isolation despite her beauty.
Conflict	Dinah disrupts the service, expressing her anger towards Ella and Easton, complicating family dynamics.
Protective Nature	Callum defends their presence at the funeral, indicating his protective role.
Eulogy	Callum's speech reveals his regrets and feelings about Brooke, amidst Dinah's emotional turmoil.
Hidden Motives	Ella reflects on potential hidden motives during the service and the presence of detectives raises suspicion.
Investigation Suggestion	Ella proposes investigating Brooke's past to uncover the truth about her death.
Themes	Loyalty, loss, identity struggle, and the connections between love and betrayal are explored.
Emotional Reflection	Ella reflects on her life and choices, setting the stage for future tensions.



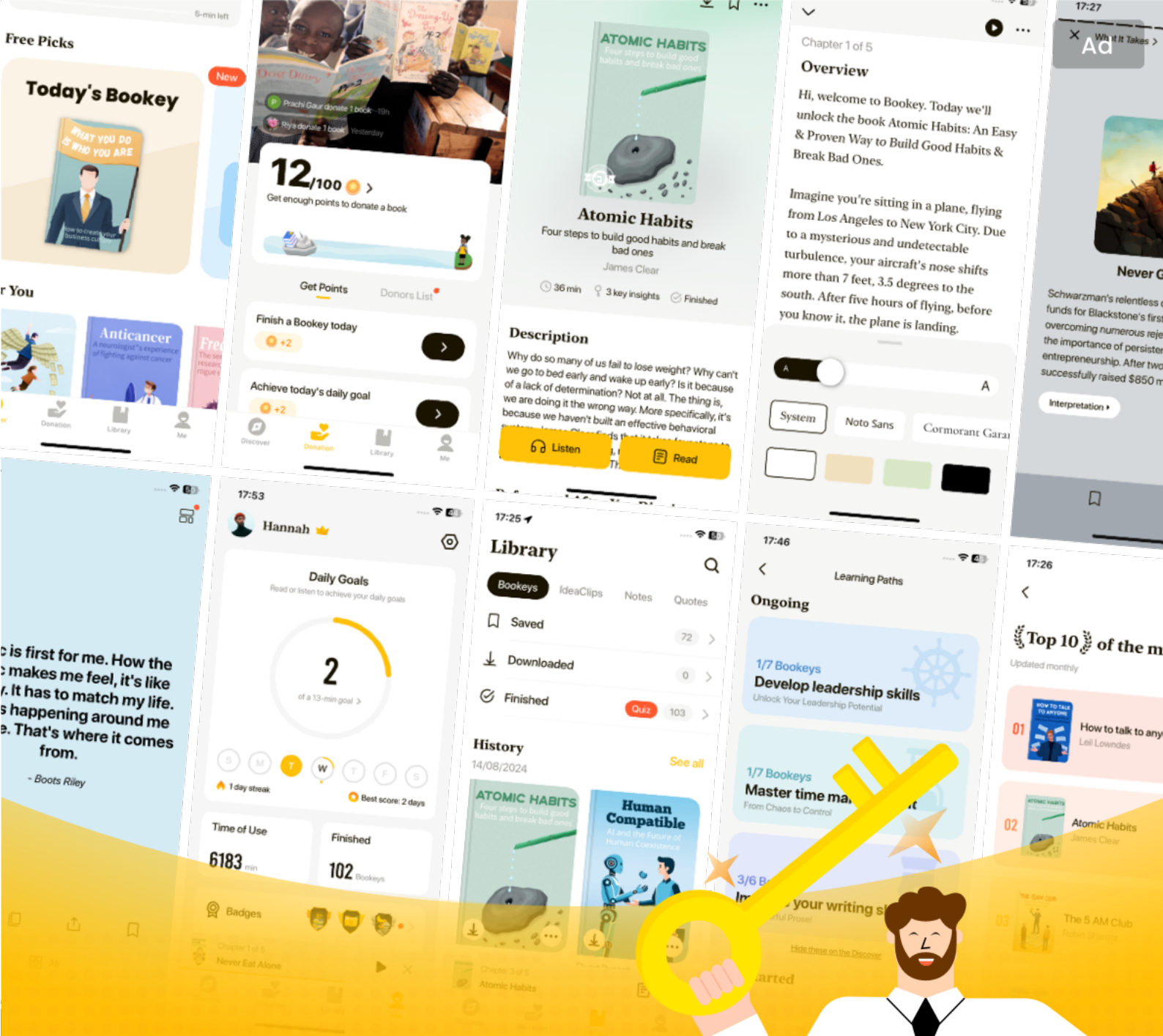
Chapter 12:

In this chapter, Ella finds herself navigating a complex web of emotions and circumstances after Reed's troubled past resurfaces, following the events of a funeral for Brooke, a recently deceased friend. As Ella and Reed share a moment in the car before heading into a bakery, the tension is palpable; Reed is visibly distressed about the legal troubles he faces. Ella struggles to comfort him, knowing that the reality of the situation is daunting. They kiss, and Ella tries to mask her own anxiety by reassuring him that they will get through this together.

Once at the bakery where Ella works, the atmosphere shifts as her boss, Lucy, reveals distressing news: Ella's father, Steve, recently found alive, is trying to dictate her life and employment choices, claiming it's inappropriate for her to be working early morning hours. Ella is furious and bewildered, feeling that Steve, who abandoned her and her mother, suddenly believes he has authority over her. Lucy, caught in a tough position, expresses sympathy but ultimately sides with Steve's wishes, leaving Ella feeling frustrated and powerless.

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Chapter 13 Summary:

In Chapter 13 of "Twisted Palace," Ella wakes up to find her father, Steve, waiting for her in the lobby of her school. Their relationship is already strained, and Ella's apprehension about spending time with him is palpable. Steve reveals that he used to attend the same school, throwing Ella off balance as she grapples with the unfamiliar dynamic of having a father who wants to bond with her.

Steve takes her out of school, insisting that she can't hide behind other people, which surprises Ella. As they move outside, Ella is awestruck by Steve's luxurious sports car, a Bugatti Chiron, although she playfully admits her ignorance about cars. Despite her reluctance, she gets in the car, feeling the weight of their relationship and her own fears about the uncertainty of her father's intentions. The encounter feels more awkward with every question Steve throws at her, and Ella struggles to connect with him amidst feelings of avoidance and discomfort.

Their trip to the pier leads to a confrontation about why Steve got her fired from her job at the bakery—a job she loved. Steve, revealing ignorance about her previous circumstances, brushes off her concerns and insists he will take care of her, igniting more frustration within Ella. As she tries to steer the conversation, she jokes about a past she wants to forget, testing Steve's reaction and inadvertently revealing the complexity of her feelings



toward him.

Later, back at Reed's place, Ella shares her tumultuous day with Reed and his brother Easton. She describes Steve as childish and self-absorbed, feeling overwhelmed by his attempts to be a father when she still doesn't even know him. The brothers listen sympathetically, but Ella's fear is palpable when she reveals that Steve wants her to move in with him and his girlfriend, Dinah. Reed and Easton's strong reactions to this news showcase their protective instincts toward Ella.

Though the brothers attempt to comfort her, they reinforce Ella's panic, as her father's intentions remain unclear to her. The chapter closes with Ella wrestling with her growing anxiety—wondering if she will ever truly connect with Steve or if their relationship will remain fraught and uncomfortable. This stark contrast between family ties and her longing for autonomy highlights key themes of belonging, identity, and the struggle for control in a life filled with uncertainty.

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Chapter 14 Summary:

In Chapter 14 of "Twisted Palace," Ella takes her friend Val home after school, hoping to reconnect amidst the chaos surrounding them. As they ride, Ella senses Val is upset, likely due to her complex feelings for Wade, who has recently hooked up with someone else. Val admits to feeling hurt and confused, reflecting on her past with her ex-boyfriend Tam, which adds to her emotional turmoil. The discussion points out the theme of betrayal and the difficulty of moving on from past relationships.

Ella tries to comfort Val, who declines an invitation to the football game, choosing instead to stay home for a self-care night. Meanwhile, Ella is obligated to attend the game as it's a family event meant to display solidarity for Reed, who is under scrutiny after being accused of a serious crime. Ella reflects on the tension at school regarding Reed, feeling the weight of judgment and speculation from their peers.

At the game, the atmosphere is tense as Ella, along with Callum (Reed's father) and the twins, faces blatant disdain from the crowd. Reed, on the sidelines and unable to play due to injuries, looks isolated, making Ella feel helpless. She observes the competitive game and struggles with her feelings towards Steve, her recently discovered father, who seems more interested in dominating the interactions than building a genuine connection with her.



Conflict arises with Steve, who tries to dictate Ella's actions during the game, leading to a simmering resentment in her as she grapples with her emerging independence and the complications of having a father figure again. This tension reflects the overarching themes of familial loyalty, identity, and the struggle against controlling relationships. The chapter ultimately leaves Ella feeling frustrated and anxious, especially as she worries about Reed's situation and her place within this complicated family dynamic.

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Chapter 15:

In Chapter 15 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Reed grapples with the aftermath of a tough football game where he remains sidelined, overshadowed by the whispers from the crowd and the emotional turmoil stemming from the ongoing investigation into Brooke's death. He feels a palpable sense of isolation as he is forced to join his father and Steve for dinner in a public display that feels unnatural given the circumstances. Unlike his teammates celebrating their victory, Reed is consumed by thoughts of Ella, longing for her presence amidst his turmoil.

After dinner, Reed and Ella steal away to her bedroom, navigating their burgeoning romance with the wild mix of youthful passion and underlying anxieties. Their intimate moments reveal Reed's deep feelings for Ella, highlighting a blend of love and physical desire that drives their encounters. However, their tender escape is interrupted when Steve barges in, his fatherly rage erupting at the sight of his daughter and Reed together. Tensions soar as Steve accuses Reed of taking advantage of Ella, asserting his authority as her father and demanding she pack her bags to leave Reed's

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Chapter 16 Summary:

In Chapter 16 of "Twisted Palace," we find Ella grappling with her tumultuous new living situation after being pulled from her home to stay with her estranged father, Steve, and his wife, Dinah. Their first moments in the upscale hotel reveal the stark discomfort of their relationship. Ella feels resentment toward Steve for his sudden presence in her life after years of absence, and she remains silent and cold to him as he attempts to engage in conversation.

Upon entering their extravagant suite, Ella is overwhelmed by the opulence, though she remains emotionally distant. This dynamic is highlighted during a tense dinner where Steve behaves affectionately toward Dinah but also shows his controlling nature, revealing a complex power play. Ella observes their interactions and perceives the underlying tension, particularly as Dinah seems submissive at the table.

As they eat, Steve attempts to discuss Ella's future, suggesting she join extracurricular activities at school, revealing his desire to be an involved father. However, his controlling tendencies clash with Ella's fierce independence, leading to a heated yet stifling dinner filled with awkward moments and veiled insults. Dinah's demeanor shifts from confrontational to practically demure, leaving Ella even more confused about the true nature of her new family.

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The tension escalates when Dinah barges into Ella's room, asserting her dominance and making threats veiled as warnings about their living arrangement. This confrontation reveals the hostility and deep-seated insecurities between the women, especially as Dinah taunts Ella about her past and current circumstances.

Meanwhile, Reed's presence remains a constant support for Ella through their texts, as she longs for their connection amidst her chaotic new life. However, the weight of suspicion surrounding Reed as a suspect in Brooke's death lingers, causing Ella distress.

The chapter encapsulates themes of familial conflict, power dynamics, and the struggle for autonomy. Ella's efforts to maintain her identity while navigating the treacherous waters of her new home with Steve and Dinah depict her resilience as well as her vulnerability. This emotional tug-of-war forms the crux of her character development, as she grapples with her feelings for Reed and her longing for a normal life, now complicated by her father's overreach and Dinah's malice.

Chapter	Summary
Chapter 16	Ella struggles with her new living situation after moving in with her estranged father Steve and his wife Dinah. Their interactions are strained, characterized by Steve's controlling nature and Ella's resentment. A tense dinner reveals the dynamics between the characters, with Dinah's



Chapter	Summary
	<p>submissive behavior adding to Ella's confusion. A confrontation with Dinah in Ella's room highlights their hostility and insecurities. Throughout, Reed remains a source of support for Ella, although suspicion around him adds to her distress. The chapter explores themes of familial conflict, power dynamics, and Ella's struggle for autonomy as she navigates her complicated feelings and seeks to maintain her identity.</p>

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Chapter 17 Summary:

In Chapter 17 of "Twisted Palace," Reed reflects on one of the toughest weekends of his life. With his lawyer Halston Grier, he discusses the overwhelming evidence against him in a case related to a murder charge. The DNA found under Brooke's fingernails puts him in jeopardy, and Reed is frustrated by the thought that his explanation of being scratched in anger might not clear him in court. He longs for the comfort and support of Ella, his girlfriend, missing her companionship amid the chaos.

Monday brings a mixture of hope and dread for Reed. He is eager to reconnect with Ella after a weekend of distance but remains aware of the tension stemming from his recent behavior, including a fight that has left his coach unimpressed. While enduring harassment from a classmate, Reed manages to keep his head high, dismissing the judgment of others.

The moment he reunites with Ella brightens his day. Their chemistry is palpable as they sneak away to kiss in a secluded classroom, where their passion starts to escalate. However, their bliss is short-lived when they are caught by a teacher, leading to serious repercussions.

Reed finds himself in the headmaster's office alongside Ella and their parents. Tensions rise as Steve, Ella's father, expresses his anger at Reed for what happened. He blames Reed's behavior for the school's intervention,



further straining their relationship. Ella defends her desire to stay in school, but Steve's icy demeanor reveals his determination to break up their romantic relationship.

The exchange becomes heated as Reed stands his ground, insisting on his connection to Ella. Despite the chaos and suspensions surrounding them, Reed's feelings for Ella remain steadfast. The chapter ends with Steve firmly ordering Reed to stay away from his daughter, signaling a significant turning point in their young love amidst the challenges of their lives. Themes of love, loyalty, and the pressures of adult expectations resonate throughout this chapter, capturing Reed's determination to fight for his relationship in the face of adversity.

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Chapter 18:

In Chapter 18 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella finds herself engulfed in anger as she grapples with the aftermath of her tumultuous relationship with her father, Steve. Still reeling from being scolded about her skirt and dealing with Reed's suspension, she's grateful to have Val by her side. Val, always the supportive friend, tries to help Ella navigate her frustrations, pointing out that Steve's overprotectiveness may stem from a place of care. They discuss the challenges of having a more traditional family dynamic compared to what Ella is used to.

During lunch, Ella finally meets with Val in the notoriously crowded south bathroom, where they are joined by a handful of other girls. As they share stories of their family dynamics, Ella feels an unexpected sense of belonging despite her usual discomfort with sharing personal issues. The girls empathize with her plight regarding Steve's strictness, affirming that his behavior is quite common among fathers.

Just when things seem to be getting manageable, the mood shifts with the

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Chapter 19 Summary:

In Chapter 19 of "Twisted Palace," Ella finds herself caught in a whirlwind of emotions as she navigates her complicated relationship with Reed and her tumultuous living situation with Steve and Dinah. The chapter opens with Ella happily confronting Reed, who's been suspended but defiantly chooses to wait for her outside school. Their interaction is filled with playful banter, showcasing the chemistry and warmth between the two, despite the outside world's judgment.

Ella hints at a secret project she and Val are working on to circumvent Steve's strict rules, which keeps the reader intrigued and hopeful for her plans. However, she's also feeling the strain of her living situation, where Dinah's taunting behavior adds tension to her day. When Ella receives a package from Steve containing unflattering khakis, it symbolizes the added layer of control he has over her life. Their relationship is complex; while Steve shows a façade of caring, Ella grapples with discomfort regarding the sudden gifts and his invasive authority.

Ella's conversation with Val reveals her determination to join the dance team, which would mean spending more time away from Steve and potentially closer to Reed. Val reassures her that agreeing to Jordan's proposal doesn't mean she has to compromise her values—an empowering realization for Ella.



After school, when Ella returns home, she faces Steve, who has been attempting to connect with her more meaningfully. Their conversation reveals Steve's struggle with parenting, his attempts to trust Ella, and his misguided intentions regarding her upbringing. Steve tries to assert his authority by planning a lavish trip to London just for the two of them over the holidays, which Ella learns could mean missing out on Christmas with Reed, igniting her sense of unfairness.

Dinah's reaction to Steve's control over her spending and Ella's growing affection for Reed paints a picture of a family dynamic that is anything but stable. As the chapter concludes, Ella is left feeling a mix of excitement and dread about her new opportunities, including the impending game and the potential to deepen her relationship with Reed.

The themes of love, autonomy versus control, and the complications of family dynamics resonate throughout this chapter. Ella's journey reflects her desire for independence and happiness amid chaos, leaving readers eager to see how her plans unfold and how relationships evolve in the face of adversity.

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Chapter 20 Summary:

In Chapter 20 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, we follow Ella as she navigates the intense world of dance practice while simultaneously trying to juggle her relationship with Reed under the watchful eyes of her stepfather, Steve, and the demanding dance team led by the fierce Jordan. Ella's dedication to improving her dance skills is evident as she endures grueling twice-a-day practices, leaving her exhausted but determined to make her mark on the team—even if it's just to impress Reed.

During practice, Ella receives unexpected support from her teammates, particularly Hailey, who compliments her dancing and shows a glimmer of camaraderie within the otherwise tense atmosphere dominated by Jordan's mean-girl tactics. Despite feeling out of place and dealing with the lingering presence of Reed's ex-girlfriend, Abby, Ella begins to find connections with some of the other girls, revealing a sense of solidarity against Jordan's bullying.

As the chapter unfolds, Ella's excitement builds for the upcoming football game, where she plans to spend more intimate time with Reed. The conversation between them brims with tension and affection, hinting at their evolving relationship. Reed reassures her about their plans for the night, and there's a mutual understanding about wanting to take their relationship to the next level.

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The bus ride to the game becomes a bonding experience rather than a torturous ordeal, as Ella engages in a conversation about her past as a stripper, revealing her courage to be open about her experiences amidst the judgmental comments from Jordan. However, her teammates rally around her, emphasizing their support and subtly shifting the narrative away from the negative dynamics instigated by Jordan.

Upon arrival at the venue, Ella's excitement amplifies as she spots her friend Val, who surprises her with a thoughtful gift—lingerie meant to spice up her romantic evening with Reed. This moment underscores the newfound friendship between the two girls, and Val's playful teasing opens up a dialogue about their respective relationships, solidifying their bond through shared experiences and mutual support.

As they prepare for the big night, the chapter highlights themes of friendship, self-acceptance, and resilience in the face of adversity. Ella's journey reflects her growth as she learns to navigate the complexities of teenage life, the pressures of fitting in, and the importance of standing up for herself and those she cares about. Overall, this chapter beautifully captures the anticipation, excitement, and emotional stakes of young love and friendship, setting the stage for the events to come.

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Chapter 21:

In Chapter 21 of "Twisted Palace," Ella grapples with nerves as she prepares for the cheerleading routine at her school's first playoff game. Despite some initial wariness about her teammates, she feels a sense of belonging and confidence. Ella quickly realizes that her relationship with Reed is a topic of envy among the other girls, which surprises her but also boosts her confidence. As she performs, the adrenaline rushes through her, and she executes the routine flawlessly, earning a standing ovation.

Post-performance, during the football game, the atmosphere is electric. Ella watches Reed and his teammates play, feeling pride and excitement as Astor Park wins the game, propelling them into the next playoff round. Amid the joyous celebration, Ella shares a sweet moment with Reed, exploring their romantic connection further.

The chapter shifts focus as the group heads back to their hotel after the game, where tensions arise when Wade, who still has feelings for Val, unexpectedly joins them. Val's discontent at Wade's presence adds drama,

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Chapter 22 Summary:

In Chapter 22 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Reed finds himself in a seemingly cheerful mood on a Sunday morning, enjoying breakfast with his brother Easton on the terrace. Their lighthearted conversation is briefly interrupted by curiosity about their family's complicated romantic entanglements, particularly Easton's interest in someone new. However, the jovial atmosphere quickly dissipates when their father arrives with heavy news: lawyer Grier needs to see Reed immediately.

Inside the study, Grier lays out troubling information concerning the ongoing murder charge against Reed. He reveals that the prosecutor's office has gathered statements from various individuals in Reed's life, suggesting that the evidence against him is substantial. Grier methodically reads through the damaging statements from classmates and acquaintances, painting Reed as someone who frequently engages in illegal street fights, particularly after football games. Reed feels the oppressive weight of guilt as Grier reminds him of past incidents where his temper led to violence, particularly after insults concerning his deceased mother.

The dialogue escalates into tension when Grier brings up the injuries sustained by another student, Austin McCord, during a fight with Reed. Reed's frustration mounts as he tries to justify his actions, expressing that defending his mother's honor is something any man would do. Underneath

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their contentious exchange, it's evident that Reed's anger is deeply tied to his unresolved grief and the strained relationships with his family post-tragedy.

The chapter reaches a dramatic turn when Grier receives a call about the results of an autopsy related to a serious case concerning Brooke, further intertwining Reed's legal troubles with personal stakes. When Grier grimly reveals that Reed's father is the one implicated in a paternity test regarding Brooke's baby, a chilling silence settles over the room. Reed, initially fearful for himself, now bears the burden of this shocking revelation about his father's involvement, which adds another layer of complexity to their fraught family dynamics.

This chapter captures the themes of loyalty, familial obligation, and the struggle with personal demons, as Reed wrestles with the consequences of his actions and the dire implications they hold for his family's future. The tension between Reed's desire to protect his loved ones and the harsh reality of the legal system looms large, creating a gripping atmosphere filled with uncertainty and emotional turmoil.

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Chapter 23 Summary:

In Chapter 23 of "Twisted Palace," Reed finds himself in a tense and emotionally charged meeting involving his father, Callum, and their lawyer, Grier. The chapter opens with a shocking revelation: Callum learns that Brooke's unborn child is indeed his, despite his belief that a vasectomy had made him infertile. The weight of this news hits both men hard, causing an unsettling silence as Callum grapples with his guilt and regret over the lost opportunity to be a father to the child he never thought was his.

As Callum departs, clearly distressed and unable to focus, Reed prepares for a difficult conversation with Grier regarding legal troubles that have escalated. Grier brings up Ella O'Halloran, a runaway who has become a controversial figure in Reed's life. Grier presents accusations and statements from several people, painting Reed in a negative light and suggesting that Ella has influenced his behavior for the worse. Reed becomes increasingly agitated as Grier cites various claims, including those from Jordan Carrington and Abigail Wentworth, which accuse him of being violent and unfeeling.

As Grier relentlessly lays out the evidence and accusations against Reed, he reveals how dire the situation is. Reed becomes overwhelmed by the mounting accusations, each one twisting his words and enhancing the prosecution's case against him. He desperately defends his character but



finds himself painted as a "kid of privilege" from a morally questionable family, with a history of violence that suggests he could be capable of murder.

The climax of the chapter comes when Grier offers Reed a plea deal for involuntary manslaughter. With the looming threat of a death penalty if he doesn't accept, Reed is faced with a devastating choice. The stakes are incredibly high, and the sense of desperation builds to a boiling point as Reed realizes the chilling implications of the legal system closing in around him. He wrestles with feelings of helplessness as Grier insists that pleading might be the only feasible way to avoid a much more severe future. This chapter highlights key themes of familial obligation, the complexities of truth, and the harsh realities of consequence, drawing readers into Reed's internal struggle and the chaotic world he inhabits.

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Chapter 24:

In Chapter 24 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella finds herself juggling her feelings for Reed and her current living situation with Steve, who remains unaware of her romantic entanglement. After dinner, she receives a text from Reed that sends her heart racing. Despite her curiosity, she exercises restraint and waits until she's alone to read it, revealing her deep desire to reconnect. The tension mounts as she realizes Reed has been avoiding her, which stirs insecurities but also intensifies her longing.

Ella devises a clever plan to sneak out and see Reed by pretending to have a date with Wade, a suggestion from Reed himself. This sets off a series of humorous but tense events, as she first consults her best friend Val, who surprisingly agrees to talk to Wade, showing a softer side to her earlier dismissal of the guy.

The narrative takes an intriguing turn when Ella has a conversation with Steve. He mistakenly believes he's won the battle against Reed, leading Ella to assert her independence and frustration. Their back-and-forth is filled with

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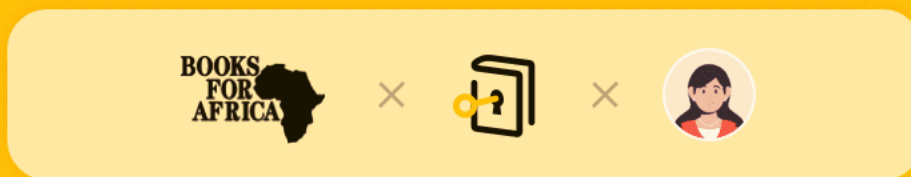
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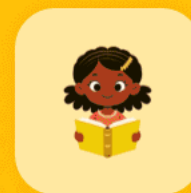
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Chapter 25 Summary:

The chapter begins with Ella getting ready for a date with Wade Carlisle, where her father, Steve, gives his approval of her wholesome look. Ella is understandably nervous about the date but reassured by Steve, who encourages her to have fun. When Wade arrives, there is a warm exchange between him and Steve, highlighting Wade's good looks and charm. Ella is relieved and excited to see her boyfriend, Reed, but keeps a cautious distance from Wade during the ride to the Royals' home.

As soon as they arrive, Reed sweeps Ella into his arms, and they share a passionate kiss, showcasing their undeniable chemistry. However, their romantic moment is interrupted by Wade's playful comments, reminding them of their audience. After Wade departs, Ella is eager for intimacy with Reed, but he redirects the conversation to more serious matters, revealing troubling news about the ongoing paternity case involving Reed's father and Brooke.

The results of the paternity test hit Ella hard—Reed's father is the biological father of Brooke's baby. Reed shares his father's emotional struggle and the implications that come with the revelation, which further complicate Reed's legal troubles. The atmosphere shifts as Reed discloses that the trial date for his case is set for May, and there are no leads from his legal team. This grim update leads Reed to consider a plea deal that could see him imprisoned for

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up to twenty years, a prospect that crushes Ella.

In a fit of emotion and desperation, Ella tries to distract Reed from the anguish of their situation by initiating an intimate moment. They engage in a fervent encounter that blends passion with underlying sadness, as Reed appears to struggle with the severity of their future apart. After their physical connection, Reed tries to maintain a level-headed perspective, explaining that sex won't solve their problems, which leaves Ella feeling hurt and upset.

The chapter paints a poignant picture of love intertwined with hardship, emphasizing themes of longing, uncertainty, and the impact of outside circumstances on personal relationships. Ella's fear of losing Reed contrasts with the deep connection they share, encapsulating the struggles many couples face when confronted with overwhelming challenges. Ultimately, the tension between their desires and harsh realities serves as a powerful reminder of the difficulties posed by unforeseen events in their lives.

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Chapter 26 Summary:

In Chapter 26 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Reed Alton returns home from school to find his lawyer, Grier, waiting with unsettling news regarding his case. After a tense and strained date with Ella the night before, Reed grapples with the heavy reality of the witness statements that threaten to implicate him further in the murder case of Brooke. The chapter begins with Reed feeling frustrated and overwhelmed by the mounting pressure of the situation.

Grier hands him a statement from Ruby Myers, who claims to have witnessed an encounter between Reed and Brooke the night of her death. Reed is infuriated by the inaccuracies in the statement and vehemently denies Ruby's claims, insisting he never had any interaction with her or Brooke in the way described. As Grier pushes Reed to consider a plea deal for a reduced sentence, Reed finds himself at a crossroads, torn between the desire to fight for his innocence and the grim reality that a trial could expose his family's traumatic past to the public, causing further pain.

Conversations with his father offer little clarity; though his dad supports whatever decision he makes, the weight of the situation is evident on both their faces. After a heart-wrenching internal struggle, Reed considers the implications of taking the plea deal—a five-year prison sentence—versus risking a trial that could destroy his family's reputation. He resolves that it



might be the only way to protect those he loves from the fallout of the trial.

When Ella arrives, Reed's heart lightens momentarily, but he must convey the heavy news about the plea deal to her and his brothers. Their reactions are intense and filled with disbelief. Ella is particularly upset, passionately arguing against Reed's decision and suggesting alternative options, including a previous deal that could bring Daniel back into their lives. Still, Reed stands firm in his resolution to plead guilty, recognizing that this decision is ultimately about protecting his family from further trauma.

The theme of sacrifice emerges strongly in this chapter, as Reed grapples with the personal cost of his choices. He reflects on how his pride led to this precarious situation, illustrating a deep sense of responsibility toward his family. The chapter culminates in an emotionally charged confrontation as Reed prepares to make a decision that will determine the fate of his future and the well-being of those he cares about.

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Chapter 27:

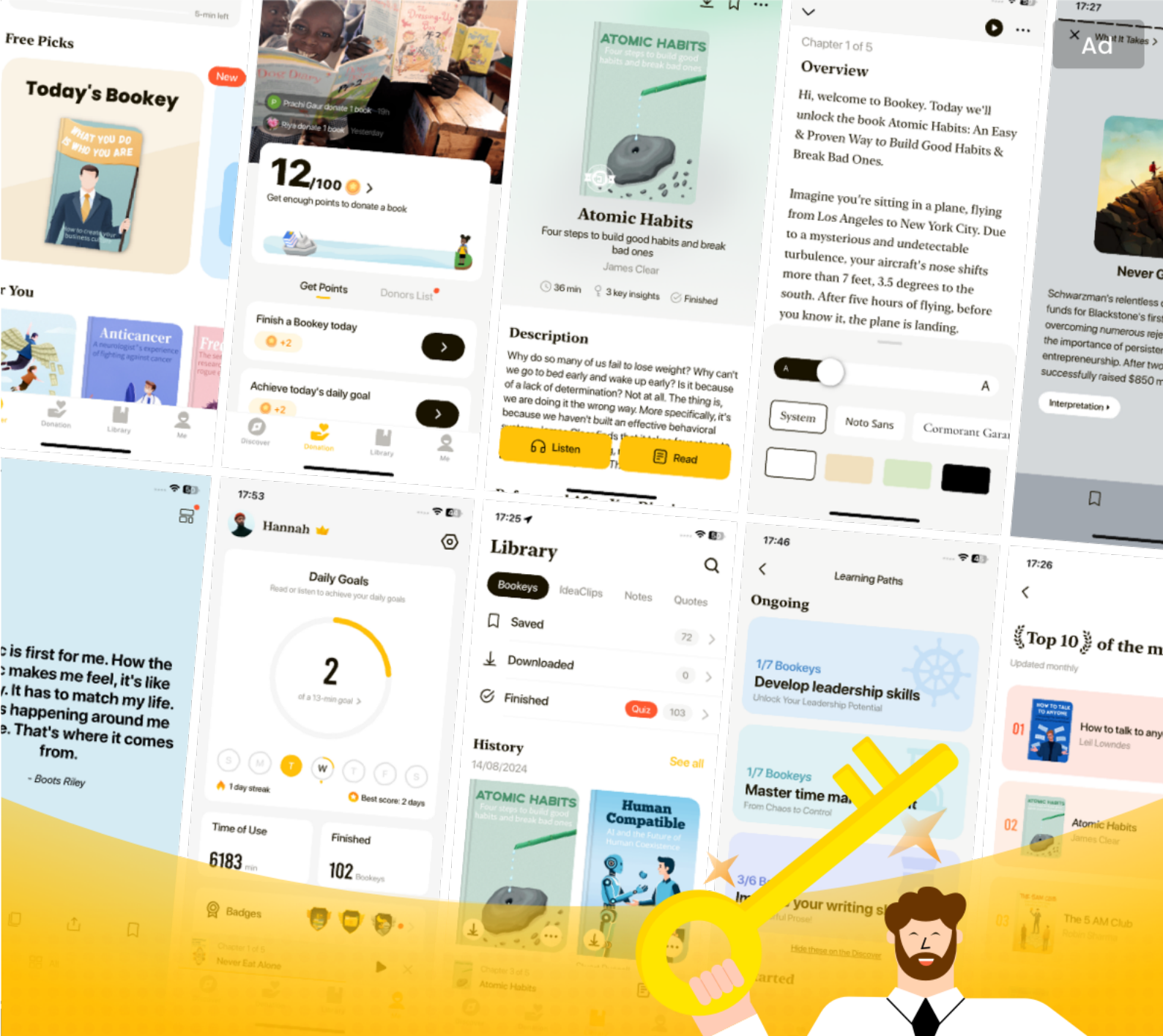
In Chapter 27 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella grapples with a whirlwind of emotions regarding Reed's decision to accept a plea deal for a crime she believes he didn't commit. While she understands Reed's desire to save his family's reputation, she resents him for not fighting against the injustice he faces. The tension is palpable among the Royal family as Easton and the twins express their disapproval of Reed's plan, yet Reed remains resolute, citing the potential severity of a trial's outcome.

After a brief interaction with Callum, who offers support for Reed's decision, Ella confronts Reed directly, letting her anger spill over as she protests the plea deal. Reed remains calm but firm, acknowledging the risks involved in going to trial given damaging testimony against him. Their conversation quickly shifts from tension to an intimate moment as Ella passionately kisses Reed, affirming her unwavering love for him despite the looming threat of his imprisonment.

The emotional high of their connection leads to a night filled with passionate

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Chapter 28 Summary:

In Chapter 28 of "Twisted Palace," Ella's mounting frustration leads her to confront Dinah in a hotel room about possible connections to Ruby Myers, a key player in the brewing tension surrounding Reed's situation. Ella resumes her aggressive investigation after dropping Val off, but finds Dinah in a drunken state, lounging unbothered. Their exchange quickly turns tense as Ella presses for answers about whether Dinah paid Ruby to frame Reed. The conversation reveals cracks in Dinah's facade, as she shifts from mocking to emotionally vulnerable, expressing her grief over her friend Brooke's death and her resentment toward the Royals' social circle.

Dinah's recounting of her relationship with the late Maria Royal paints the Royals in a darker light than Ella has ever known, prompting Ella to question the integrity of the family she loves. Despite Dinah's manipulation, Ella remains resolute in seeking the truth. The chapter culminates in a fierce confrontation where Dinah coldly defends her intentions of pursuing Reed's conviction, hinting at a darker side to her motives. Ella's determination intensifies, even as she recognizes the risks of her investigation.

When Ella later reaches out to Reed, their phone call highlights their deepening bond amid the turmoil. Reed's insistence on accepting a plea deal is a painful reminder of their impending separation, and Ella wrestles with feelings of helplessness and love. Her attempts to maintain a facade of



normalcy at school crumble when Jordan Carrington confronts her, reminding Ella that she is still entwined in troubling social dynamics. Jordan's demand for a favor that involves Reed threatens to complicate Ella's already turbulent life, leaving her feeling cornered and anxious about the future.

This chapter explores themes of betrayal, loyalty, and the murky depths of social hierarchies. Ella's fierce protectiveness over Reed juxtaposes with Dinah's vindictive ambition, highlighting the destructive power of jealousy and longing. As the stakes rise and relationships become strained, the tension between what is right and wrong blurs, adding to the story's dramatic intensity.

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Chapter 29 Summary:

In Chapter 29 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, the tension between Ella and her rival, Jordan, escalates as Jordan demands that Ella allow Reed to take her to the Winter Formal. Ella initially dismisses Jordan's outrageous request with laughter, firmly asserting that Reed is not available, but Jordan quickly reminds her of the stakes: if Ella refuses, she risks being grounded for life and possibly being sent to a new school by her strict father, Steve. Ella finds herself torn between her loyalty to Reed and the allure of rejoining the dance team, which Jordan offers as a bargaining chip.

As the conversation continues, Ella realizes that Jordan sees Reed as little more than a trophy—someone to elevate her status at Astor Prep, especially since Reed's social standing has been rebounding after his controversial past. Ella's irritation with Jordan solidifies her resolve not to give in easily, but the threat of her father finding out about her lies looms large. Despite the stakes, Ella courageously holds her ground and vows to think about the proposal.

Meanwhile, Reed returns home to find Ella studying in his room, which sparks a mix of happiness and concern for their relationship dynamics, given Steve's disapproval. Ella reveals Jordan's ultimatum, which shocks Reed. They share a moment of tenderness, but Reed is obviously disturbed by the thought of going to Winter Formal with Jordan, whom he openly neglects to



view favorably.

As Reed processes the implications of Ella's deal, he realizes that giving in to Jordan's demands might be the lesser of two evils, especially considering the potential fallout for Ella with her father. Their conversation reveals deepening feelings of love and commitment, culminating in Reed's reluctant agreement to be Jordan's date—still hoping to keep his bond with Ella strong and alive.

The chapter underscores the main themes of loyalty, social status, and the sacrifices made in love, as both Ella and Reed grapple with the consequences of their choices. Ella's determination to honor her commitments contrasts with Reed's protective instincts, showcasing their strong emotional connection amid the looming threat of external pressures. As they prepare for the Winter Formal, the stakes continue to rise, and the foundation of their relationship is tested by the actions of those around them.

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Chapter 30:

In Chapter 30 of "Twisted Palace" by Erin Watt, Ella finds herself in a drastically different world as she prepares for a Winter Formal, reflecting on her transformation from a life of hardship to one filled with luxury and glamour. She's driven to the Royal estate by her father, Steve, who grumbles about the traditional roles of courtship but ultimately admires how beautiful Ella looks in her stunning gown, which makes her feel like a real-life Cinderella. However, her excitement is interrupted when Reed, her romantic interest, descends the staircase in a dapper tuxedo, sparking undeniable chemistry between them.

The flirtation between Ella and Reed intensifies as they share a moment that almost leads to a more intimate exchange, but they are interrupted by Wade, who arrives as Ella's date. The scene shifts as the group prepares to leave for the dance, where Ella's dress, a symbol of her newfound confidence and self-expression, stands out against the backdrop of her former life. Easton, one of Reed's friends, shows a surprising maturity as he offers to protect Ella while Reed is away, highlighting the supportive friendships she has

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Chapter 31 Summary:

In Chapter 31 of "Twisted Palace," Reed finds himself reluctantly attending the winter formal with Jordan, a girl he isn't particularly fond of but is being civil for Ella's sake. Jordan accuses him of being late and insists he wear a gold tie to match her extravagant dress. Their interaction is filled with tension as Reed struggles to maintain his composure, fighting against Jordan's bratty behavior and the absurdity of their arrangement. After some back-and-forth, they take a series of awkward photos for Jordan's parents, which only amplifies Reed's frustration.

As they arrive at the country club, Reed's attention is immediately drawn to Ella, who is surrounded by friends and looking radiant. Leaving Jordan behind, he embraces the moment with Ella, sharing a kiss and feeling reassured by her presence. Meanwhile, the dynamic between Reed and Jordan continues to sour as they interact, especially when Reed defends Ella against Jordan's derogatory remarks.

The atmosphere shifts dramatically when Abby, Reed's ex-girlfriend, confronts them. In a fit of rage and raw emotion, she lashes out at Jordan, expressing her feelings about Reed and their past relationship. Abby's unhinged outburst not only shocks the party attendees but also underscores her unresolved feelings toward Reed. Her comments evoke a sense of pity from Reed as she runs out, leaving an atmosphere of tension lingering in the



air.

Jordan, unfazed by the drama, takes control of the situation and insists on dancing, leaving Reed in a complicated emotional state. The chapter highlights themes of loyalty, jealousy, and the complexity of relationships, demonstrating Reed's struggle between his past with Abby and his current love for Ella. Through sharp dialogues and intense confrontations, the chapter paints a vivid picture of a night filled with chaos, revealing the deep connections and conflicts among the characters.

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Chapter 32 Summary:

In Chapter 32 of "Twisted Palace," Reed and Ella reflect on an emotionally charged evening that started with awkward formalities at a Winter Formal and ended in turmoil, particularly regarding the fallout from Abby's emotional breakdown. Reed feels the burden of guilt for the pain he's caused, especially as he grapples with his impending prison sentence. Although he acknowledges that he's broken up with Abby and hasn't led her on, her grief weighs heavily on him.

The conversation shifts to Reed's decision to sign the plea deal early, a choice he believes is right for both him and Ella, as it would eliminate the strain of having to hide their relationship during his time in prison. Ella is shocked by his decision, insisting that there may be ways to prove his innocence. However, Reed is steadfast, knowing he can't ask her to wait for him through five years of imprisonment. He suggests they take a break, wanting Ella to enjoy her senior year without being tied to his troubles.

In a moment of raw emotion, Ella kisses him passionately, making it clear that she wants to stand by him, defying his attempts to set her free. Reed struggles between his desire for her and the self-imposed responsibility to let her go. Their conversation reveals the depths of their feelings, with Ella declaring her love and commitment, challenging Reed's notion of protecting her by pushing her away.

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The tension culminates in a deeply intimate moment, as Reed acknowledges his own feelings and desires, realizing that he can't bear the thought of Ella with someone else. He ultimately chooses to embrace their relationship, declaring his commitment to her as an inseparable team. The chapter highlights themes of love, sacrifice, and the struggle between responsibility and desire, culminating in a passionate affirmation of their bond.

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Chapter 33:

On a tense Saturday morning, Ella learns from Steve that they're moving back to the penthouse that very night. Despite her initial shock, the idea of leaving the cramped hotel sounds appealing, especially as tensions between Steve and Dinah escalate. Ella's apprehension grows as she reflects on Dinah's possible involvement in Brooke's death and her suspicions about the payment to Ruby Myers, a waitress linked to the case. She feels a sense of urgency as Reed is about to sign a plea deal that could send him to prison.

After a quick call with Reed, where she learns the unsettling news about Ruby's loan being legitimate, Ella finds herself overcome with emotion. She steels herself, knowing she needs to regain focus, especially with the move back to the penthouse looming over her.

Once at the penthouse, Ella immediately senses the haunting atmosphere. Dinah's strange behavior only heightens her unease, and she becomes determined to look for clues that might connect to Brooke's death. Her inner turmoil is punctuated by Steve's attempts to distract the two women with

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Chapter 34 Summary:

In Chapter 34 of "Twisted Palace," Ella finds a devastating letter hidden in a lamp, revealing shocking truths about her father, Steve O'Halloran, and the tangled relationships within the Royal family. When Steve grabs the letter and reacts with shock, Ella learns that the letter was written by Maria, Callum's wife, who confesses to being in love with Steve while also expressing her inner turmoil about her feelings and marriage. As Ella presses Steve for answers, she learns that the affair was real and deeply complicated, fueling her anger and disbelief.

Ella grapples with the implications of the letter, realizing that it changes everything she thought she knew about Steve and Callum's family. Her heart races as she contemplates sharing this truth with Reed, Callum's younger brother, but Steve vehemently opposes revealing the letter, fearing it would devastate the family further. As tensions escalate, the confrontation takes a darker turn when Ella accuses Steve of being responsible for the death of Brooke, his wife. Their altercation reveals Steve's guilt and rage, and he admits to accidentally killing Brooke during a confrontation, though he insists it was an accident.

In the midst of this chaos, Dinah enters the scene, holding a gun, which drastically shifts the atmosphere. As Steve continues to downplay the situation and deflect blame, Dinah's fear and anger culminate in a desperate

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act—she shoots Steve in the arm. The chapter ends with Steve groaning on the floor in pain, while Dinah commands Ella to call for help, underscoring the frayed emotions and perilous nature of their family dynamics.

This chapter is rife with themes of betrayal, the consequences of hidden truths, and the fragility of family bonds. It vividly illustrates Ella's tumultuous journey as she navigates her fractured relationships and the grim realities of her family's history, creating a gripping atmosphere of tension and desperation.

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Chapter 35 Summary:

In Chapter 35 of "Twisted Palace," Reed answers a frantic call from Ella, who urgently asks him to come to the penthouse with Callum and the rest of the family. Her distress prompts Reed to take immediate action, rushing to gather his brothers and father. The atmosphere is tense as Reed fears something dire has happened, especially when Ella mentions the police are present. He frantically tries to reach her again, but she hangs up, only adding to his worries.

Upon arriving at the penthouse, Reed finds a chaotic scene with police cars and officers. He pushes past two police officers into the living room, only to discover Ella is unharmed but clearly shaken, alongside the mess of a familial crisis unraveling. The tension escalates when Reed spots Steve, his godfather, handcuffed and appearing distressed. Dinah, Steve's estranged partner, reveals that he attempted to attack Ella to silence her after she uncovered that he was responsible for Brooke's death.

As emotions swirl, Ella confirms the shocking truth: Steve tried to pin the murder of Brooke on Reed. This revelation sends Reed into a rage, but he holds back due to his concern for Ella, who is anxious for his well-being. The dialogue reveals layers of betrayal, with Steve admitting to an affair with Reed's mother that led to long-standing family turmoil. Ella had discovered a letter revealing the affair, further shaking the Royals' already

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unstable foundations.

When Callum learns the gravity of Steve's actions, he confronts him, resulting in a physical altercation. Reed and his brothers stand united against the man who betrayed their trust and family ties. In the heat of the moment, Reed realizes he must remain focused on taking care of Ella and finding a way forward, leaving the darkness of their past behind.

The chapter culminates in a hopeful yet bittersweet moment as Reed decides to take Ella home, where she belongs. Their banter about mundane topics, like cleaning, lightens the mood amid their family crisis. This final exchange signifies not only a physical departure from their tumultuous past but also the promise of healing and a fresh start, underscoring the themes of loyalty, resilience, and the importance of family in overcoming adversity.

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Chapter 36:

In Chapter 36 of "Twisted Palace," Reed finds himself back in the courtroom, where Halston Grier has successfully arranged another hearing, this time with Judge Delacorte presiding. Though Reed harbors resentment toward the judge—who had tried to bribe his father—he aims to appear humble as Grier suggests. The atmosphere is tense as they all wait for the judge to appear, and Reed reflects on recent events, particularly Ella's safety following a shocking confession about the details of a murder that had wrongfully implicated him.

As the hearing begins, the courtroom's nervous energy is palpable when the prosecution moves to dismiss all charges against Reed, citing new evidence that exonerates him and points to Steve O'Halloran as the true suspect in the crime. Despite the awkwardness and Delacorte's evident disdain for the situation, the motion is ultimately granted. Reed experiences a profound sense of relief at finally being cleared of wrongdoing.

However, the emotional weight of the moment is compounded when the

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Chapter 37 Summary:

A week after a tumultuous series of events, Ella finds herself settling into a routine at home with Reed. Dressed in comfort, she steps out of the bathroom to discover a surprise waiting for her: a stack of colorful college brochures spread across her bed. Reed, who's lounging on the bed with the TV on, prompts her to consider their future together—where they should go to college. This thoughtful gesture warms Ella's heart, especially when Reed shares that he's researched schools with strong dance programs for her.

The bond between Ella and Reed deepens as they discuss their aspirations. Reed's casual admission that he'll follow her lead in choosing their paths reveals his commitment and support, characterizing him as not just a boyfriend but a genuine partner. In contrast to her previous plans of attending community college and settling for a mundane life, Reed's encouragement opens up new possibilities for her in the arts. They jokingly exchange perspectives on their friends and family, balancing lightheartedness with deeper discussions about the lingering effects of their past traumas.

As they lean into their connection through playful banter and intimate moments, Ella confesses her desire to take dance lessons, inspired by her peers. The couple shares a moment filled with tenderness and passion, but Ella breaks it as they prepare for family dinner, emphasizing her

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commitment to healing and moving forward.

The atmosphere shifts as Ella contemplates her estranged father, Steve. Though she steadfastly rejects any connection to him, the truth looms over her: her trust fund is tied to him—a point of contention she grapples with but ultimately chooses to define on her own terms. She finds satisfaction in her decision to negotiate with Dinah to eliminate the blackmail evidence against Steve and Savannah, focusing on the future and the family she's building with Reed and their friends.

As they join the family for dinner, Ella feels a sense of belonging, realizing how much she cherishes the word “family” in the context of her life now. Together, Reed and Ella step into the shared warmth of their newly established domestic life, symbolizing their commitment to each other and the fresh start they are both eager to embrace—one filled with hope, healing, and love.

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