

# CHAPTER 67: JAMESON

Jameson and Avery are in the midst of a high-stakes game, having just obtained an ornate golden key adorned with jewels and pearls. Jameson is captivated by the key, recognizing it as one of two needed to win, but he remains cautious about its true purpose. The odds of it being the correct key are uncertain, and he refuses to settle for mere chance, determined to find better alternatives. Their dialogue reveals a competitive edge, with Jameson emphasizing that Hawthornes don't accept unfavorable odds when there's a way to tip the scales in their favor.

The pair revisits the clues they've gathered, including phrases like "smuggle nothing out" and "let the wheels turn," trying to decipher their meanings. Avery quietly murmurs additional idioms, such as "leave no stone unturned" and "no rest for the wicked," which catch Jameson's attention. He recalls a stone garden but dismisses the idea of searching there blindly, trusting his intuition that a more definitive clue lies within their current room. The tension builds as Jameson's focus narrows on the phrase "no rest for the wicked," sensing it holds deeper significance in the context of their game.

Jameson dissects the phrase, linking it to biblical connotations of eternal punishment and the absence of mercy—themes that resonate with the game's ominous title, "Devil's Mercy." Avery picks up on his train of thought, suggesting fire and brimstone as possible metaphors. Their shared realization leads them to fixate on the stone fireplace in the room, silently agreeing it might hold the next clue. The chapter highlights their seamless partnership, where unspoken cues and mutual understanding drive their strategy forward.

As they move toward the fireplace, Jameson poses a rhetorical question about finding a way to start a fire, hinting at their next move. The chapter ends on a note of anticipation, leaving readers eager to see how the duo will unravel the next piece of

the puzzle. The dynamic between Jameson and Avery, combined with the clever interplay of clues and intuition, creates a compelling narrative of intrigue and determination.

