

Beyoncé and Jay Z: ROCKED BY A LOVE CHILD SCANDAL

A stunning paternity suit against Jay leaves Bey fearful she's married a man she can't trust

Temperatures were near record lows in NYC on Feb. 16, but Beyoncé and Jay Z seemed pretty toasty together as they stepped out for dinner at trendy Nobu. After months of tension and reports of Jay's wandering eye threatened to tear the couple apart, things were

finally back on track for them. They recently confirmed a joint album was in the works and were even rumored to be expecting a second child. But Bey and Jay's blissful bubble was just hours from popping. Two days later, the Internet exploded after stunning reports that

Jay, 45, is being sued by a 21-year-old New Jersey man who's alleging the rap mogul is his father. For Beyoncé, 33, the news called into question everything she thought she knew about her husband of nearly seven years. "She wasn't prepared for this, and it's devastating for her," says an insider.

"For sure, this could cripple their marriage."

LIKE FATHER, LIKE HUBBY?

Court papers filed by Rymir Satterthwaite allege that his mother, Wanda, and the rapper hooked up in the early '90s. And Satterthwaite claims Jay has been ducking a paternity test that could easily put the questions to rest. Whether or not the allegations are true, Beyoncé once again feels betrayed by her husband, says the insider. "Last year, the constant tales of Jay Z's cheating nearly ruined her marriage, but she could dismiss it as rumors," the insider notes. "Now, seeing this child has brought up so many terrible feelings for her."

It's also eerily familiar territory for the "Halo" singer, who in 2010 was heartbroken to learn her dad, Mathew Knowles, had cheated on her mother and

Jay Jr.?
Facial plastic surgeon Yael Halaas tells *Life & Style* that Rymir Satterthwaite could indeed be related to Jay Z: "They share similar facial structures and have an uncanny resemblance to each other in the jawline, nose and lips."



fathered a love child with actress Aleksandra Wright. "Bey lives in fear that she has married her father," says the insider. "And incidents like this make her worry just how much alike Mathew and Jay are."

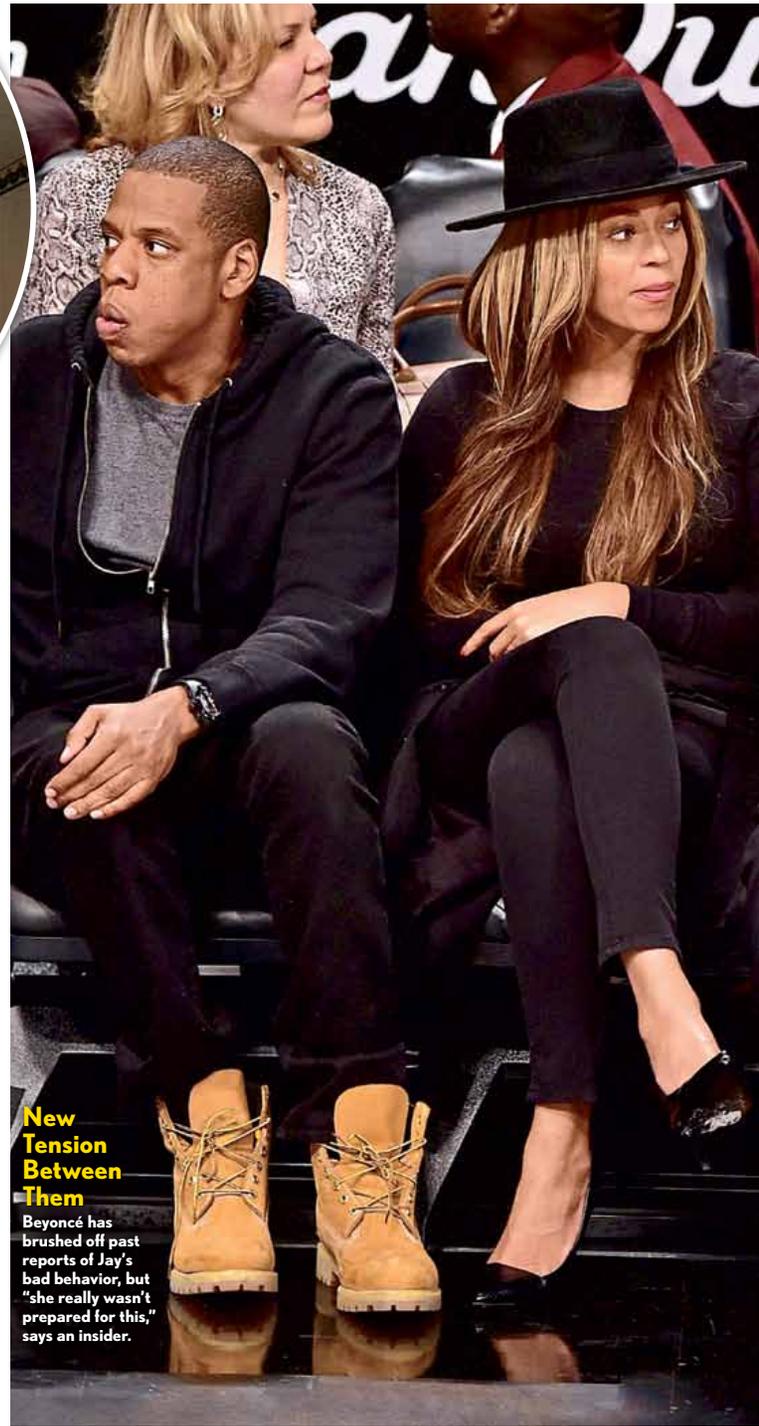
IMAGE UNDER FIRE

But the biggest casualty of the betrayal might be Bey's image. The star has spent years cultivating the idea that she, Jay, and 3-year-old daughter Blue are the perfect family, but this latest scandal has washed all her work away. "Image is everything for her, and this is another blow to the [family's] reputation," says the insider. "It's crushing for Beyoncé, because she feels like she has no control over things and it seems to be getting worse."

For now, Beyoncé can only wait and see how the drama unfolds. But no matter what the outcome, her relationship with her husband has been damaged to its core. "She wants to be able to trust Jay," says the insider, "but it has been endless heartache." **LS**

They Had Finally Put Their Problems Behind Them

Ever since Beyoncé's sister, Solange Knowles, famously attacked Jay Z in an elevator last May, Bey and Jay's marriage had struggled against an unending series of infidelity rumors. But in recent weeks, things had finally taken a turn for the better. "They had just started a happy new chapter in life, moving to Los Angeles to raise their daughter and have more kids," says an insider. Now Beyoncé's afraid everything's falling apart again.



New Tension Between Them

Beyoncé has brushed off past reports of Jay's bad behavior, but "she really wasn't prepared for this," says an insider.

CLOCKWISE FROM MAN GETTY (2), R/R