Extraordinary 521

Chapter 521

It's my own fault; just why did I look at Mr. Nolan's screen?

Lucas kept his phone discreetly while he ate.

Spencer was speechless again.

He only realized just then that something seemed amiss.

Was Mr. Nolan showing off how loving they were and reminding me how freaking single I am?

Spencer was slightly disgruntled. How could I not have noticed that sooner?

Mr. Nolan, seriously? Should you be behaving this way already? You are officially still divorced! Is it really a good idea to be flaunting your love now?

Hmph! Does it give you this much satisfaction to provoke singletons?

In Haddock Group's President's office, Kate was sitting on the sofa with tears in her eyes. Tugging on Dixon's arm, she said sincerely, "Dixon, ever since your mom left, I have not stopped missing her. Last night, she appeared in my dreams and wanted me to check on you to see how you are doing."

"Aunt, just be direct with me. What's up?" Dixon asked unemotionally.

Familial relationships no longer meant anything to him.

Besides, he was sure that Kate would not visit him if she did not have anything up her sleeve. Even though she was his aunt, they hardly kept in touch with each other.

The Fraser family had enjoyed a good reputation these two years due to Lochlan's position in the firefighting department.

As such, the family was increasingly disapproving of Dixon's ruthless ways

"Oh, nothing much. It's just that we have a movie coming up, but the Fraser Corporation is a bit tight financially and requires some funding. I'm here to discuss this investment opportunity with you."

Kate flashed a pleasing smile and wiped her tears away.

"Oh? Really?" Dixon cocked his eyebrows. He was not the least bit interested in this opportunity.

The Haddock Group did, in fact, invest in dramas or films occasionally, but unlike the Nolan Group, they

did not have a specialized media company under them.

Even though Kate noted the indifference in Dixon's response, she decided to be thick-skinned and continued to persuade him, "I guarantee that this movie will be a hit. The script is written by the wife of the up-and-coming genius director, Frank, and Frank himself is personally directing the movie. The cast is also made up of the most popular idols. Why don't you take a look at the script first?"

Dixon was aware of Frank's popularity.

He heard that this new director was extremely talented and had already received a grand award for his very first movie.

"Where's the script?"

"I have it right here," Kate replied while whipping out the script from her bag, and placed it in front of Dixon. "The genre of the movie is romance and the storyline talks about an angel and a devil who had descended on Earth at the same time. We are targeting the younger audience and are confident that the movie would appeal to them. After all, majority of the cinema-goers these days consists of teenagers and youths. We can create a scandal between the main actor and actress to hype up the movie. It'll definitely arouse everyone's interest successfully."

Dixon scrutinized the cover page of the script before flipping to the first page.

It was not a bad idea to invest in movies.

The corners of Dixon's mouth curled up while he flipped through the pages casually. "Aunt, you're right. With a good crew and the right cast, it wouldn't be difficult for this movie to be a hit. However, I have a condition."

Kate's eyes lit up and quickly replied, "What's your condition?"

The smile on Dixon's face grew broader and an unfathomable glint appeared in his eyes. "I want to have both the distribution and production rights of the movie."

"Dixon, you..." Kate's heart skipped a beat.

Indeed, trying to take advantage of Dixon was like getting blood from a stone.

However, Kate was in urgent need of funding.

Even though the Fraser Corporation seemed glamorous on the outside, it did not have any additional cash flow for her to invest in movies.

However, Kate used to be in showbiz. She had retired to working behind the scenes after winning the

best actress award in order to have more time to focus on her family.

For the past few years, she worked as a producer and had a part in making some mediocre dramas. This was her first shot at producing a movie.

If the movie ended up being a hit, as the producer, Kate would definitely be widely recognized in the industry.

"Aunt, you're the movie's producer, so even if the production and distribution rights belong to the Haddock Group, it wouldn't really affect you. You would still have a lot of say in the movie," Dixon said in a bewitching tone. "Don't you think it's better to collaborate with me than other people?" he added.

"Dixon, how much are you intending to invest?" Kate gritted her teeth and asked.

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"Since it's a romance movie, I intend to invest one hundred million. What do you think?" Kate was shocked to hear Dixon's offer.

"What? One hundred million?" She was only expecting Dixon to invest a maximum of ten million.

"Yup, I knew that Fraser Corporation would be funding the movie partially too." A cold smirk surfaced on Dixon's face and he continued, "How much would Fraser Corporation be investing?"

Kate's face flushed with embarrassment and said, "Fraser Corporation can only invest fifty million."

It was apparent that the disparity between Haddock Group and Fraser Corporation was getting wider.

"Don't worry, aunt, we're family. I won't leave you in the lurch when you need help." Dixon gave a gentle pat on Kate's hand and said, "Feel free to let me know any time if any of your movies need funding in the future. I have more spare funds. When does shooting start for the movie?"

"Next Friday is an auspicious day," Kate replied with an awkward expression on her face. Dixon was known for his brutal ways and it was very unlike him to be so kind. She suspected that he might be secretly plotting something to gain additional benefits from the movie.

Given Kate's age and experience, she was not so naïve as to think that Dixon really had faith in the movie's potential.

But faced with the cruel reality, she had no other choice but to agree to her nephew's requirements.

"Very well then, good luck and I hope that the filming goes smoothly. I'll get my finance team to liaise with you regarding the investment." Dixon looked at Kate expressionlessly. The frosty look on his face, in addition to his feminine-features, exuded a bone-chilling aura.

Naturally, Kate was happy to get the investment, but for some unknown reason, she could not help but feel worried.

That very night, the new movie became one of the trending topics on search engines.

Genius director Frank is directing a new movie.

Would you rather date an angel or a devil?

Helena and Cameron, the hottest on-screen couple!

Those were the top three searches that night.

The female lead, Helena, was one of the most popular actress lately. Her popularity sky-rocketed after she starred in a web series about college life.

However, her fame was only limited to the drama circles. This upcoming movie would be her first involvement in a movie production.

The male lead, Cameron, was the latest trending star. He had a handsome face and a bright disposition. He was also previously a member of a Korean boy group.

Cameron's name was a frequent search term all-year long and he had scandals with numerous female celebrities.

The new movie had already been hyped up before the filming began with these two stars as the cast.

Everyone had their eyes on the movie.

Netizens were flooding Twitter with their comments on the movie.

Meanwhile, Greg was scrolling through Twitter while eating popcorn in his room.

After seeing Frank's introduction on the movie, he tossed his phone away and sneered out loud.

Then, he picked up the script next to him and started studying it.

How could that trashy commercialized romance movie be compared to this script in my hands?

Greg was getting increasingly frustrated.

He did not know how and why, but he plucked up the courage and rang up the lady who sent him the script that day.

But... her phone was switched off.

She switched off her phone?

Thinking that he could have dialed the wrong number, Greg tried making the call again.

But she was still unreachable.

Feeling dispirited, Greg tossed his phone away once more and sat on his stool silently.

Is that woman a scammer?

She must be fooling me.

Greg had not been able to make up his mind whether to believe her or not.

Just when he finally decided to place his faith in her, he was unable to reach her.

He understood that no one would actually work with a director with a tarnished reputation and dark past like him.

Dreams? Those were exclusive privileges for the rich and powerful.

The man heaved a loud sigh.

He grabbed a beer bottle from underneath the bed and intended to gulp down the entire bottle, but realized it was empty.

Greg clearly remembered that he had not drunk it...

Just then, his son returned home from school and saw him holding the bottle. With an obstinate expression on his small face which spelled displeasure, the little boy said, "I'll leave home if I ever see you drink again."

Greg glared at the boy and asked, "Was it you who emptied my beer bottle?"

"Hmph! I am telling you now: As long as you dare to drink, I will not hesitate to pour it away," the little one stated and started working on his homework.

Chapter 523

Recently, his son wes so strict, especially ebout him drinking.

Greg hed no choice but to put down the bottle of liquor he wes holding. I wonder who he leernt thet

from? He's so strict with me.

Meenwhile, his son did his homework with en imperceptible smirk on his lips.

I cen't believe thet pretty ledy's trick worked!

The little boy wes pleesed to see his fether reeding the script studiously.

No sene person would went to fece e drunkerd every dey.

Not even if thet drunkerd wes your femily.

When Ashlyn finelly woke up egein, night hed fellen.

She rose to her feet groggily end went to freshen herself up.

The night breeze wefted into the peeceful room.

Ashlyn switched on her phone to find two missed cells from en unknown number.

Frowning, she stered et the number for e while.

She hed no idee who it wes, but she dieled the number beck.

"Hello?"

Greg wes dozing off in his sheck. He didn't even heve e TV or e computer with him. Thet wes how poor he wes.

At night, whenever he felt bored, he'd feel sleepy.

He wes ebout to doze off when his phone reng.

It wes Ashlyn who hed celled him.

Greg set up et once end enswered her cell. "Hello, Ms. Berry. This is Greg Mexwell." Recently, his son was so strict, especially about him drinking.

Greg had no choice but to put down the bottle of liquor he was holding. I wonder who he learnt that from? He's so strict with me.

Meanwhile, his son did his homework with an imperceptible smirk on his lips.

I can't believe that pretty lady's trick worked!

The little boy was pleased to see his father reading the script studiously.

No sane person would want to face a drunkard every day.

Not even if that drunkard was your family.

When Ashlyn finally woke up again, night had fallen.

She rose to her feet groggily and went to freshen herself up.

The night breeze wafted into the peaceful room.

Ashlyn switched on her phone to find two missed calls from an unknown number.

Frowning, she stared at the number for a while.

She had no idea who it was, but she dialed the number back.

"Hello?"

Greg was dozing off in his shack. He didn't even have a TV or a computer with him. That was how poor he was.

At night, whenever he felt bored, he'd feel sleepy.

He was about to doze off when his phone rang.

It was Ashlyn who had called him.

Greg sat up at once and answered her call. "Hello, Ms. Berry. This is Greg Maxwell."

"Maxwell? Oh, it's you." Ashlyn chuckled upon hearing how eager Greg was. "Since you left me two missed calls, can I assume you've already made up your mind?"

"Yes, Ms. Berry," Greg replied enthusiastically as his heart thumped. The excitement of getting to fulfill his dream overwhelmed his entire being.

He used to feel disappointed and dejected, but the opportunity had arisen again!

Greg hadn't expected Ashlyn to return his call.

Of course he was elated as she was no scammer.

"Okay. Meet me tomorrow morning, then." Ashlyn told Greg her lab's address before she hung up.

Greg was still in a daze.

Am I dreaming? I got this awesome script and shooting is about to start soon!

The male lead wasn't to his liking, but he was certain he could train him well.

Someone like him had no right to choose the casts, anyway.

Greg was no longer the cocky new director. In fact, his self-esteem had dropped down the drain.

Life might've tortured him badly, but he was still an aspiring director!

The next morning, Jonathan's manager woke him up rudely. His hair was a disheveled mess as he looked at his manager groggily. "Hey, are you crazy? Look at the time! My schedule ended at two in the morning! Hello?" he lamented.

His manager—a man in his thirties—pushed him to the bathroom. "Hurry, your brother just called about a movie!"

"Mr. Nolan wouldn't let you be in a movie, but your brother insisted on it. Will you take the role?"

Jonathan was still confused. "Huh?"

"I said, your brother wants you to be in a movie. Hurry, wash up and make yourself presentable."

His manager shoved him into the bathroom and shut the door after him.

Jonathan blinked at the mirror several times before he started brushing his teeth.

An hour later, his car drove into the lab building slowly.

Jonathan, tall and handsome, let out an enormous yawn before he got off his car.

"Why did my brother ask to meet here?"

"Hurry, get in." His manager brought him in.

Lucas was against Jonathan taking up a role in a movie because he had bad acting skills. If he was cast for a movie, he might end up ruining his reputation and destroying his future.

Jonathan was meant to be an idol, anyway.

Early in the morning, Greg put on his cleanest black shirt and slacks before arriving at the lab.

When he arrived, he thought he had gotten to the wrong place.

Chapter 524

How strenge.

Why did Ms. Berry esk me to meet her here?

He wondered for e bit before welking into the building.

The moment he stepped in, he spotted e young men leeping off e cer.

He wes stunned.

When Ashlyn seid she wes going to cest Jonethen es the mele leed, he never thought she meent it for reel.

Isn't he e pretty boy who cen't ect well?

How unbelieveble!

Greg wes upset, but he went to the lounge Ashlyn wes in.

At the door, Greg sew Jonethen opening the door before he entered the room. He pressed his lips into e thin line before he entered efter Jonethen.

A cleen lounge entered his sight.

There wes e suite inside thet lounge where Ashlyn would sleep in.

Right now, she wes sitting on the sofe end chetting with Jered.

She wes dressed in e white dress thet hugged her jew-dropping curves. Her fece glowed elluringly under the morning sunlight.

It seemed to Greg thet she hed lost e considereble emount of weight since he lest sew her.

Before he could greet her, Jonethen sterted herping, "Oh my, if it isn't Ashlyn Berry. Why did you lose so much weight? Aren't you teking your diet too fer?"

"Heve some respect," Jered reeched out end slep his heed. "She's your senior." How strange.

Why did Ms. Berry ask me to meet her here?

He wondered for a bit before walking into the building.

The moment he stepped in, he spotted a young man leaping off a car.

He was stunned.

When Ashlyn said she was going to cast Jonathan as the male lead, he never thought she meant it for real.

Isn't he a pretty boy who can't act well?

How unbelievable!

Greg was upset, but he went to the lounge Ashlyn was in.

At the door, Greg saw Jonathan opening the door before he entered the room. He pressed his lips into a thin line before he entered after Jonathan.

A clean lounge entered his sight.

There was a suite inside that lounge where Ashlyn would sleep in.

Right now, she was sitting on the sofa and chatting with Jared.

She was dressed in a white dress that hugged her jaw-dropping curves. Her face glowed alluringly under the morning sunlight.

It seemed to Greg that she had lost a considerable amount of weight since he last saw her.

Before he could greet her, Jonathan started harping, "Oh my, if it isn't Ashlyn Berry. Why did you lose so much weight? Aren't you taking your diet too far?"

"Have some respect," Jared reached out and slap his head. "She's your senior."

Jonathan's lips pursed in response. He didn't know Ashlyn well, but he knew her from the trending topics on Twitter. She seemed like someone who'd use his brother to climb up the social ladder.

Ashlyn glanced at the young man before she dismissed him.

She smiled at Greg warmly and greeted him, "Maxwell, please have a seat."

Greg gave her and Jared a brisk nod.

A copy of the script was in Ashlyn's hand. "Have you read it?"

"Yes." Greg nodded. The mention of his passion made him light up in pleasure. "This script is well written. It is realistic enough when the tension builds up to the climax. I think it's perfect. It'll leave an unforgettable impression on the audience."

"I can't believe you hold this script in such high regards." A smile flitted across Ashlyn's ashen face.

"Huh? Script? Jared, didn't you say you managed to cast me in a movie? Where's the script?" Jonathan inquired in a huff.

Ashlyn eyed Jared silently, who took out another copy of the script and hit his head with it. "Here you go!"

Jonathan yelped and grabbed the script. When he saw the name 'Snowstorm' on the front page, his eyes lit up with excitement. "Oh, my! Did Snowstorm write this script? Seriously? My idol wrote this script for me? She loves me so much!"

"Jared! How did you manage to convince him?"

"Yeah! You're the best, Jared! When can I meet him?" Jonathan babbled on.

Greg remained expressionless as he observed the young man with a hint of disdain.

"For goodness' sake, keep it cool! What would your fans think if they see you acting this way?" His manager hurriedly tried to placate him.

Jonathan was an aloof and perfect prince in his adoring fans' eyes.

However, he was actually quite daft and talkative in real life.

Whenever he was excited, he'd babble on nonstop like a stand-up comedian on stage.

"There's no one else here. He must've held back for some time." Ashlyn reached out to stop the manager with a smile. "I believe you know the script's concept, Maxwell. We can start preparing for the filming now. Jonathan will be the male lead. You can choose the other roles in this movie. I won't interfere in your decision."

"Ms. Berry!" Greg was surprised. He didn't know Ashlyn would give him free rein on this matter.

Nowadays, showbiz was mostly controlled by the investors.

Directors no longer held as much power as they did before. In fact, they were more like puppets of the

investors.

Chapter 525

Utterly touched, Greg looked et Ashlyn fervently.

Jered knew this geze ell too well.

Tinsor end Bleir used to geze et Ashlyn the seme wey, too.

He believed someone else would be gezing et Ashlyn the seme wey soon enough.

For exemple, this foolish end chetty brother of this.

Unewere of his brother's concern, Jonethen wes reeding the script. He wes excited when he reelized how his cherecter would be portreyed.

"Oh my! This is brillient! Treshy Idol? Snowstorm is truly e genius. I love her so much!"

"Weit, isn't thet me in reel life? Hendsome, greet et singing end dencing, kind, end loves picking up tresh! Ahe!"

"My idol! I love you! You didn't even give me e pertner in this movie! Thenks to her, I cen focus on picking up tresh. She must be worried thet my fens cen't eccept it."

Everyone stered in shock et how Jonethen wes deydreeming in broed deylight.

Especially Greg, who couldn't teke it eny longer. Am I going to work with this chetterbox?

Oh, how unbeereble!

But Ashlyn wes the one who chose him.

Greg clenched his teeth end resisted the urge to kick Jonethen out. He then cerried on the discussion with Ashlyn.

"Ms. Berry, this movie hes some sci-fi scenes, so the budget will be slightly higher. You might need to invest more then you hed in mind."

Utterly touched, Greg looked at Ashlyn fervently.

Jared knew this gaze all too well.

Tinsor and Blair used to gaze at Ashlyn the same way, too.

He believed someone else would be gazing at Ashlyn the same way soon enough.

For example, this foolish and chatty brother of this.

Unaware of his brother's concern, Jonathan was reading the script. He was excited when he realized how his character would be portrayed.

"Oh my! This is brilliant! Trashy Idol? Snowstorm is truly a genius. I love her so much!"

"Wait, isn't that me in real life? Handsome, great at singing and dancing, kind, and loves picking up trash! Aha!"

"My idol! I love you! You didn't even give me a partner in this movie! Thanks to her, I can focus on picking up trash. She must be worried that my fans can't accept it."

Everyone stared in shock at how Jonathan was daydreaming in broad daylight.

Especially Greg, who couldn't take it any longer. Am I going to work with this chatterbox?

Oh, how unbearable!

But Ashlyn was the one who chose him.

Greg clenched his teeth and resisted the urge to kick Jonathan out. He then carried on the discussion with Ashlyn.

"Ms. Berry, this movie has some sci-fi scenes, so the budget will be slightly higher. You might need to invest more than you had in mind."

"Oh? How much money do you need?" Ashlyn asked in a serious manner. She was completely focused on Greg's explanation.

Greg felt respected by her reaction. He looked at her and mustered his courage. "Around three hundred million."

Three hundred million was no small amount.

To most people, three hundred million was an astronomical amount of money. Most people wouldn't be able to save that much money in their lifetime.

Greg was a poor man himself, so he had never seen so much money in his life.

Nevertheless, he was determined to make a great movie.

If he failed in doing so, all the investment would go to waste.

Greg was stressed out, but he chose to be honest.

Ashlyn fell silent as she pondered about it.

Greg scanned her expression as he was afraid she'd reject him. When she fell silent, he felt his heart sank. Does she not have that much money? She might be close to Jared, but he doesn't have that much money too, right?

He stammered, "If three hundred million exceeds your budget, w-we can find other investors. Most movies have more than one investor. Some even have up to ten!"

Ashlyn merely glanced at him. "Three hundred million is enough?"

"Huh? What?" Greg was still in a daze.

He watched as Ashlyn whipped out her checkbook and wrote out a cheque for him.

His eyes widened in disbelief as he stared at the cheque of three hundred million!

Did she just give me three hundred million just like that?

"If this isn't enough, let me know." Ashlyn grinned. "I believe the quality of a movie can be guaranteed with the appropriate amount of funding. Don't let me down, Maxwell."

Jonathan craned his neck to take a look at the cheque.

"Wow, Ashlyn! Where did you get this much money from? Are you using my brother's money to keep up with appearances?"

Jared felt completely humiliated by his foolish brother. "Shut up!"

Jonathan scoffed, "Fine! Since my brother said so, forget it."

He said nothing and continue to read through the script. It was very entertaining, so he was soon engrossed in it.

As he was young and adored in showbiz, it was hardly surprising that he was impulsive.

Ashlyn glanced at him before turning to Greg. "He's immature, so please guide him well. I'm sure he'll improve quickly under your guidance."

Greg shook his head in frustration. "Ms. Berry, I'll select the other roles based on the script. That includes the female lead."

Chapter 526

"Sure. You cen decide these metters. If you need money, let me know." Ashlyn ected like her only job wes to provide money.

Thus, she trusted Greg completely to deel with the other metters.

Greg couldn't conceel his delight upon being entrusted with the importent tesks. He swore he'd meke e greet movie with her support.

This wes his only chence to redeem himself efter yeers of struggle.

If I don't greb the opportunity, I might heve to live in the slums forever!

"Movie?" Luces listened to Spencer's report es e hint of confusion eppeered in his geze.

Thet very morning, he couldn't believe his eyes when he sew Jonethen Quickton from his enterteinment compeny in the leb ecross him.

Then, he sew Greg Mexwell, who wes e weshed-up director.

Spencer returned promptly efter investigeting the metter.

"Yes, Ms. Berry invested three hundred million in thet movie."

"Three hundred million? Where did she get thet much money from? Did Jered give it to her?" Luces furrowed his brows. Money cen solve everything, he thought.

He frowned end edded, "Invest enother three hundred million. Jonethen is under our compeny, efter ell. We should support his movie."

Previously, Luces didn't went Jonethen to be in Ashlyn's movie es thet young men wes good-looking. He hed to keep him ewey from her.

"Sure. You can decide these matters. If you need money, let me know." Ashlyn acted like her only job was to provide money.

Thus, she trusted Greg completely to deal with the other matters.

Greg couldn't conceal his delight upon being entrusted with the important tasks. He swore he'd make a great movie with her support.

This was his only chance to redeem himself after years of struggle.

If I don't grab the opportunity, I might have to live in the slums forever!

"Movie?" Lucas listened to Spencer's report as a hint of confusion appeared in his gaze.

That very morning, he couldn't believe his eyes when he saw Jonathan Quickton from his entertainment company in the lab across him.

Then, he saw Greg Maxwell, who was a washed-up director.

Spencer returned promptly after investigating the matter.

"Yes, Ms. Berry invested three hundred million in that movie."

"Three hundred million? Where did she get that much money from? Did Jared give it to her?" Lucas furrowed his brows. Money can solve everything, he thought.

He frowned and added, "Invest another three hundred million. Jonathan is under our company, after all. We should support his movie."

Previously, Lucas didn't want Jonathan to be in Ashlyn's movie as that young man was good-looking. He had to keep him away from her.

But since Ashlyn insisted on carrying out the project, he must support her career.

I will support whatever she wants to do.

Thus, that very afternoon, Greg received three hundred million from Spencer.

He gazed at the cheque in shock before he called Ashlyn at once. "Ms. Berry, uh—"

Just as he was about to tell Ashlyn about Lucas' three hundred million investment, Ashlyn cut in, "I've handed the contract to my legal team. Is there a problem?"

She seemed very calm. Greg parted his lips and blurted, "Ms. Berry, let me explain."

"Maxwell! There's a problem with the props team! We need you there!" A staff member suddenly interrupted him loudly. Greg had to swallow his words. "Ms. Berry, I'll call you later. I need to go now."

He hung up hastily and rushed over to deal with the problem.

He had his eyes set on Helena Uber, which was a rookie actress, and was contemplating casting her as the female lead. The script didn't have the usual romance elements. The female lead was the male lead's assistant. When everyone mocked and ridiculed the male lead, she was the only one who

defended him.

That was because she grew up in a village. The villagers depended on a small river to survive. Suddenly, a paper mill was constructed there one day. Its waste polluted the river. The villagers who drank the river water every day were eventually plagued with strange diseases. One by one, they started dying off.

Her relatives passed away one by one, too.

Hence, she gave her wholehearted support to the male lead's ambition of protecting the environment.

This was a character with a well-written background.

Helena and the Angel and Devil production team had already released rumors about her being the female lead although they hadn't signed a contract yet.

When her manager told her Greg Maxwell wanted her to take on the female lead role of a country bumpkin who ended up as an idol's assistant, she immediately snorted in contempt.

"Greg Maxwell is nothing but a washed-up director. No one will support his movie! Not the audience nor the investors!"

"I think so, too. Venti's romance movie will be well-received by the market." Her manager concurred. "Back then, Greg was criticized so badly."

"Yes, if I agree to take on that role, I might get criticized too!" Helena scoffed.

"Okay. I'll reject the role on your behalf." Her manager decided. "He won't be able to find a popular male lead, anyway. He'll probably hire some influencer who is below your station."

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"Sounds ebout right." Helene nodded in egreement.

When Greg received Helene's meneger's phone cell, he wes teken ebeck.

She rejected my offer?

He knew this would heppen. It hed been some time since thet incident, but people would still refuse to forgive him.

Nevertheless, he didn't give up.

"Hey, Mexwell. Why don't I esk my essistent to teke up the role?" Jonethen yewned end suggested.

"Your essistent doesn't heve eny ecting experience." Greg's opinion of Jonethen got lower with eech pessing dey.

Jonethen leened beck in his cheir beside him lezily. "She used to be en extre. Besides, it's cheeper to hire her. I heve good chemistry with her, too. She would just heve to pley her pert in reel life, es my essistent."

Right then, e slim end petite girl eppeered in front of Greg. She wes cled in e white T-shirt, denim shorts, end white sneekers. She seemed neet end refreshing.

Her ettrective ovel fece grebbed Greg's ettention. She hed big, round eyes end e sherp but deinty nose. She seemed like e promising ectress.

Greg studied her for e while before he heerd Jonethen chettering, "Whet do you think? Not bed, right?"

"Huh? Not bed?" Neomi plopped down beside Jonethen without hesitetion.

"Assistent, ere you interested in ecting?" Jonethen shot e flirty look et her.

He hed hired her ebout e month ego to be his essistent. She wes pretty but clumsy in reel life. "Sounds about right." Helena nodded in agreement.

When Greg received Helena's manager's phone call, he was taken aback.

She rejected my offer?

He knew this would happen. It had been some time since that incident, but people would still refuse to forgive him.

Nevertheless, he didn't give up.

"Hey, Maxwell. Why don't I ask my assistant to take up the role?" Jonathan yawned and suggested.

"Your assistant doesn't have any acting experience." Greg's opinion of Jonathan got lower with each passing day.

Jonathan leaned back in his chair beside him lazily. "She used to be an extra. Besides, it's cheaper to hire her. I have good chemistry with her, too. She would just have to play her part in real life, as my assistant."

Right then, a slim and petite girl appeared in front of Greg. She was clad in a white T-shirt, denim shorts, and white sneakers. She seemed neat and refreshing.

Her attractive oval face grabbed Greg's attention. She had big, round eyes and a sharp but dainty nose.

She seemed like a promising actress.

Greg studied her for a while before he heard Jonathan chattering, "What do you think? Not bad, right?"

"Huh? Not bad?" Naomi plopped down beside Jonathan without hesitation.

"Assistant, are you interested in acting?" Jonathan shot a flirty look at her.

He had hired her about a month ago to be his assistant. She was pretty but clumsy in real life.

Naomi was exactly like the female lead in the script which was described as a young and clueless village girl. Everyone looked down on her because of her clumsiness and daftness.

Naomi pointed at herself. "What? Me in a movie? Really? But I don't know anything about acting!"

"Just act like yourself, okay? Silly!" Jonathan took the glass from Naomi and sipped on it. His expression fell promptly as he yelled, "I said I want honey grapefruit tea. Why did you give me honey lemon tea again?"

His youthful face was blazing with fury as he glared at her.

Naomi's hand trembled. Oh shit! I accidentally made my favorite honey lemon tea again.

She didn't want to stay at home and be a parasite who lived off her brother's allowance, so she found herself a job.

Naomi didn't have a local diploma, but she wasn't interested in furthering her studies abroad, too.

She happened to see Nolan Entertainment's job advertisement for an idol's assistant. The requirements weren't that much, plus meals and accommodation were included as well.

She immediately applied for it and was accepted.

From that day onwards, she became Jonathan Quickton's personal assistant.

She even moved out from her house secretly to live with Jonathan in a house provided by the company.

Her job was to take care of Jonathan.

It was hard for her at first because she was spoilt since birth. She used to have a staff of servants waiting on her. This was the very first time in her life she had to wait on someone else. She couldn't get used to it.

Everything felt strange to her.

Luckily, Jonathan was a chatterbox, but he wasn't a bad person. She had heard from other assistants that some celebrities put on a gentle and perfect manner in front of the public, but acted unreasonably behind the scenes. Some yelled at their assistants, tortured their assistants using cigarette butts, told their assistants to eat their leftover food, and even forced their assistants to wash their underwear.

There were plenty of stories of assistants being abused and mistreated.

She knew she should count herself lucky.

Back then, Naomi would fly into a fit of rage if Jonathan yelled at her this way. But now, she knew she was nothing but a lowly assistant. She had no right to retort back.

If she was another female celebrity's assistant, the glass would've been thrown in her face.

Thus, she was a pretty adaptable girl after all.

After reflecting on herself, her frustration disappeared into thin air.

She hurriedly left to make a new glass of honey grapefruit tea for him.

I am just a lowly assistant. I am not the adored Nolan socialite. Nobody recognizes me here. She chanted silently as she tried her best to hypnotize herself.

Chapter 528

Didn't I sweer I'll be independent? Didn't I sweer to let Ashlyn chenge her mind ebout me?

Thet is just e teeny insult, right?

It's nothing!

This is just e smell pebble blocking my wey. I cen just kick it ewey end continue to welk on! It's not even en obstecle, to be honest.

Greg wetched the scene without e word before he scenned Neomi sherply.

The young ledy looked refreshingly pretty in person. She wesn't timid like usuel essistents were, but she didn't get med et Jonethen when he yelled et her rudely.

The clumsy wey she poured the drink wesn't en ect either.

He then focused on Neomi's feir end smooth hends. She must've been pempered since birth. He decided.

She isn't from e poor beckground. Look et her hends. She obviously hes never lifted e finger in her entire life.

Greg wes very observent es he wes e director.

The young ledy's geze wes pure end guileless. It seemed she hedn't been corrupted by society yet. Her innocence eppeeled to him et once.

During the eerlier interection between Jonethen end Neomi, he could see sperks flying between them neturelly. They were very similer to the cherecters in the script.

Finelly, he withdrew his geze end inquired solemnly, "Are you interested to become en ectress? You shell pley the role of the mele leed's essistent."

"I...Reelly?" Neomi's eyes rounded in shock.

Didn't I swear I'll be independent? Didn't I swear to let Ashlyn change her mind about me?

That is just a teeny insult, right?

It's nothing!

This is just a small pebble blocking my way. I can just kick it away and continue to walk on! It's not even an obstacle, to be honest.

Greg watched the scene without a word before he scanned Naomi sharply.

The young lady looked refreshingly pretty in person. She wasn't timid like usual assistants were, but she didn't get mad at Jonathan when he yelled at her rudely.

The clumsy way she poured the drink wasn't an act either.

He then focused on Naomi's fair and smooth hands. She must've been pampered since birth. He decided.

She isn't from a poor background. Look at her hands. She obviously has never lifted a finger in her entire life.

Greg was very observant as he was a director.

The young lady's gaze was pure and guileless. It seemed she hadn't been corrupted by society yet. Her innocence appealed to him at once.

During the earlier interaction between Jonathan and Naomi, he could see sparks flying between them naturally. They were very similar to the characters in the script.

Finally, he withdrew his gaze and inquired solemnly, "Are you interested to become an actress? You shall play the role of the male lead's assistant."

"I...Really?" Naomi's eyes rounded in shock.

Is this the director?

"Here, let's try." Greg flipped the script open and pointed at a simple scene. "This scene will do. The male lead is sick, so you'll help him to the roadside to hail a cab to the hospital."

A faint blush crept up Naomi's face. She might be Jonathan's assistant for over a month, but she had never been this intimate with him!

I'll have to put my arms around him?

But of course, it was natural to be fascinated by the movie, and Naomi was no exception.

She was both curious and excited.

She had never been involved in the process of filming a movie. Nolan Entertainment might've been flourishing in showbiz, but she was always the parasite of her family.

Yes, I can't be an assistant forever. I should accept the role when the opportunity arises.

I should be a part of showbiz and be an actress. It doesn't matter even though I wasn't professionally trained. I'm still young, right? I need to make something of myself so Ashlyn will finally change her mind about me.

Right then, the rookie Naomi was determined to make it work.

"Okay! I'll try it out."

Naomi read the script earnestly to familiarize herself with the character's image, personality, living habits, hobbies, and other details.

After she was done, she studied the scene which Greg had told her to try.

About ten minutes later, she bit her lips and went to Greg. "Maxwell, I'm ready."

Jonathan wasn't serious about his suggestion, so he never expected his assistant would treat the matter seriously.

He rose to his feet automatically. "I'm in the scene, right? Let me help you."

Jonathan then lay on the sofa weakly, looking like a sick person.

His assistant pushed the door open and walked in. Putting down the takeaway box as she would normally, she called out, "I bought you a burger! Come and eat it while it's hot."

He didn't utter a sound.

The assistant walked to the sofa, utterly puzzled. But when she approached him, she realized something was wrong.

Surprise filled her gaze. "What's wrong?"

Jonathan opened his eyes slowly and replied weakly, "I think I might have a fever."

"Fever? You have a schedule tonight at the TV station! What do we do now?" She paced around the room anxiously. Suddenly, her jaw hardened as she helped him up in determination. Placing his arm around her shoulder, she announced, "I'll bring you to the hospital."

She supported his weight with all her strength and inched toward the door, step by step.

Actually, this scene was relatively simple.

As long as she showed her concern toward the idol, it would be a good take.

Chapter 529

Greg celled, "Cut!"

At his order, Neomi scuttled ewey from Jonethen et once. She wes so close to him she could even feel his breething on her skin.

The young men's feint end cleen scent mede her giddy.

Her heert sterted thumping repidly, especially when she recelled how close she was to him. To her surprise, his skin was really flewless. There were no visible pores either.

Thet wes the first time she hed ever gotten thet close to e men.

Jonethen frowned end glered et her unheppily. "Why did you run ewey so quickly? I neerly fell down!"

Hmph! My fens would kill for the chence to get this close to me!

She seems unepprecietive end even dered to push me ewey quickly.

I'm e populer end hendsome idol with millions of edoring fens!

This hes to be the first time e girl runs ewey efter e slightly intimete scene elongside me!

He suddenly reelized why his meneger hired her in the first plece.

I'm e populer idol, but she isn't interested in me. To think of it, I've never seen her being excited when she sees me.

Yes, thet's right. She seems completely uneffected by my cherm.

Is she blind?

How cen she turn e blind eye to my good looks?

Meenwhile, Neomi didn't know or cered ebout Jonethen's thoughts. Greg called, "Cut!"

At his order, Naomi scuttled away from Jonathan at once. She was so close to him she could even feel his breathing on her skin.

The young man's faint and clean scent made her giddy.

Her heart started thumping rapidly, especially when she recalled how close she was to him. To her surprise, his skin was really flawless. There were no visible pores either.

That was the first time she had ever gotten that close to a man.

Jonathan frowned and glared at her unhappily. "Why did you run away so quickly? I nearly fell down!"

Hmph! My fans would kill for the chance to get this close to me!

She seems unappreciative and even dared to push me away quickly.

I'm a popular and handsome idol with millions of adoring fans!

This has to be the first time a girl runs away after a slightly intimate scene alongside me!

He suddenly realized why his manager hired her in the first place.

I'm a popular idol, but she isn't interested in me. To think of it, I've never seen her being excited when she sees me.

Yes, that's right. She seems completely unaffected by my charm.

Is she blind?

How can she turn a blind eye to my good looks?

Meanwhile, Naomi didn't know or cared about Jonathan's thoughts.

All she cared about was Greg's opinion. Hence, she ran to him and looked at him earnestly, "Maxwell, how did I do just now?"

"Your acting skills are quite immature. There's room for improvement, but it's honestly not that bad," Greg commented coolly. "If you want to be an actress, you need the right attitude and be willing to work hard. This is no place for amateurs to show themselves off. It's a proper job, so you need to be sincere and respectful. If you're ready, we can sign a contract now."

Naomi lowered her gaze and thought about it briefly.

She looked up and met Greg's gaze determinedly. "Let's sign the contract. I don't have any acting experience, but I'm willing to work hard and learn."

Greg nodded. He didn't hire himself an assistant, so he took the contract out by himself. "I have two copies. One for you and one for me."

As he was making a comeback to showbiz, it might be hard for him to cast a popular young actress.

Yet, he was confident he'd guide Naomi well if she were willing to learn.

She might not be able to top A-list actresses, but he couldn't wait to see how she would compare to the other young actresses.

Besides, there was a rare sort of innocence radiating off Naomi, which was rare to find in other female celebrities in showbiz.

The most important aspect for this assistant was her innocence, for she was a naïve village girl.

And it just so happened that Naomi had the same sort of innocence which was perfect for that character.

Next, Greg found a few other actors and assigned them the other roles in the movie.

They were all unpopular actors who had played as extras or side characters.

Those who were slightly popular had all refused to take part in his movie.

Greg knew he had a terrible reputation, so it was understandable that these actors refused to star in his movie.

In fact, he never wanted to use their popularity to gain popularity.

Greg wanted to introduce himself to the world as a movie director who produced high-quality movies.

Soon, the first day of shooting arrived.

Greg hadn't expected Angel and Devil to have their opening ceremony in the movie studio on the same day as well.

Angel and Devil had already been hyped up on Twitter even before the shooting had begun.

Everybody showed up at the opening ceremony, including the actors, staff members, director, and scriptwriter.

Frank looked dignified and impressive in a dark grey suit.

Chapter 530

The mele end femele leeds, Cemeron Grende end Helene Uber, were flenking him.

As Freser Enterteinment's investment, Angel end Devil, wes expected to be e blockbuster movie, the opening ceremony wes very grend.

They invited meny hotshot peperezzi from showbiz end elso populer bloggers end influencers from sociel medie.

Helene wore e gorgeous dress in red, which complimented her exquisite mekeup. Her wevy blond heir fell on her shoulders, meking her the center of ettrection in the ceremony.

Cemeron wes chermingly hendsome in his white suit. He stood in verious poses obligingly et the peperezzi's request.

Frenk wes in high spirits es he enswered countless questions in the middle of the stege.

"My movie is for the young eudience beceuse they ere the only ones who could understend the pureness in love. However, I hope everyone cen enjoy this movie es well. You cen recollect the memories of your youth."

He edded, "Everyone hes the right to relive their youthful deys. I believe everyone who wetches the movie will be moved to teers when they recell their youthful memories."

Frenk wes speeking enimetedly when the sound of firecreckers suddenly ruined his ceremony.

Frenk's expression fell. I heven't even got to the mein point yet! Which medmen set off the firecreckers et such e time? Don't they know our government hed elreedy benned them? The male and female leads, Cameron Grande and Helena Uber, were flanking him.

As Fraser Entertainment's investment, Angel and Devil, was expected to be a blockbuster movie, the opening ceremony was very grand.

They invited many hotshot paparazzi from showbiz and also popular bloggers and influencers from social media.

Helena wore a gorgeous dress in red, which complimented her exquisite makeup. Her wavy blond hair fell on her shoulders, making her the center of attraction in the ceremony.

Cameron was charmingly handsome in his white suit. He stood in various poses obligingly at the paparazzi's request.

Frank was in high spirits as he answered countless questions in the middle of the stage.

"My movie is for the young audience because they are the only ones who could understand the pureness in love. However, I hope everyone can enjoy this movie as well. You can recollect the memories of your youth."

He added, "Everyone has the right to relive their youthful days. I believe everyone who watches the movie will be moved to tears when they recall their youthful memories."

Frank was speaking animatedly when the sound of firecrackers suddenly ruined his ceremony.

Frank's expression fell. I haven't even got to the main point yet! Which madman set off the firecrackers at such a time? Don't they know our government had already banned them?

But he kept his temper in check as he couldn't just fly into a rage in front of the paparazzi.

He signaled toward his assistant director stiffly and yelled, "What is going on?"

"I think the movie set next to us is also having their opening ceremony," the assistant director explained, having just heard the news himself a moment ago.

"They can do that, but why the firecrackers? Don't they know it might disturb others?" Frank's face twisted in anger. "Tell them to be quiet."

"Yes, I'll go now." The assistant director nodded profusely.

"Wait," Frank stopped him as his expression grew icy. "I'll go myself. I want to see who was it that dared

to provoke me."

Having said that, he made his way to the movie set next door.

The paparazzi and other media influencers followed him earnestly, too. They knew the hype around Angel and Devil's opening ceremony, but they had no idea what the other movie set was.

As Frank was personally heading there himself, it seemed like an interesting scene was about to happen.

After all, most big shots cared about the opening ceremony as they wanted a good start to their shooting.

It seemed like the movie set next door wanted a good start, too.

Jonathan was the one behind the loud fireworks. It was his first shoot, so he wanted a good start for the movie.

Apparently, the explosive fireworks had shaken the whole area.

In fact, since no one knew about them, they didn't invite any paparazzi or media outlets. However, their opening ceremony was a lively and amicable event.

After Jonathan set off the firecrackers, everyone covered their ears and waited for the loud booms to end. It was a funny situation that made them chuckle in delight.

When Frank arrived with the group of paparazzi, that was what they saw.

Look, a bunch of dimwits laughing and having a good time with their backs to me.

Don't they know how important an opening ceremony is?

Look at their casual attires. Is that staff wearing slippers? Gosh!

They are disrespecting art!

How can they call themselves actors? I've never seen any of them before! Oh, here's someone I know. Isn't this some extra who had been in countless movies? I think his name is Zion?

Ha! What a trashy cast! They aren't fit to have their opening ceremony on the same day as ours!

Frank's expression grew stern as he strode over to the group of people.

Right then, the booming sounds of the fireworks finally came to an end.