In A Flash 121

Chapter 121

"I'm the boss's assistant. I came to inform you that the meeting is about to start," Daniel said, resuming his professional mannerisms,

The employee who had been scolded by Kimberly just now scoffed, "You don't know who our boss is, so you're throwing yourself at every man?"

They were trying to be subtle, but everyone was clearly mocking Kimberly for being cheap, since she didn't even know who she was seducing,

Kimberly was livid. Her face turned pale with anger.

Zachary was also embarrassed. He turned his head away, not daring to say a single word. He didn't want to be associated with Kimberly.

She had claimed to know the founder of One Technology, but it turned out that she had the wrong person all along. It was so embarrassing!

Kimberly gritted her teeth and suddenly remembered the proposal. Her dark expression relaxed a little.

Her proposal was guaranteed to be a success, so she had nothing to fear.

"It's all a misunderstanding. I just thought that Mr. Xenos looked familiar and wanted to chat with him. Of course, we came prepared to discuss the collaboration. The meeting is about to start, right? Mr. Zeller, let's go."

Hearing that, Zachary seemed to recall something. He exchanged a look with Kimberly and nodded.

"That's right. Kimberly is one of our best planners. She knows what she's doing. She will surely impress everyone."

The others were taken aback. How could someone who resorted to flattery and seduction actually be capable at work?

If she was truly capable, the embarrassing incident earlier wouldn't have taken place.

Daniel was experienced enough to sense that something was amiss. He looked at the two and asked, "Doesn't Young Advertising have another top planner? Why hasn't she arrived yet?"

Thinking of Aurelia, Zachary pursed his lips with a somewhat unnatural expression.

Kimberly, on the other hand, wore a cold smile. After pouring her coffee on Aurelia earlier, Aurelia wouldn't dare to show up again.

She said unscrupulously, "Her? We've been looking for her all morning, but she's nowhere to be found. She probably went to reconcile with her ex-boyfriend after their recent breakup.

"But work is work. Her attitude is simply disrespectful. She obviously doesn't take this collaboration seriously. Mr. Zeller is just too kind to tell the truth."

Zachary sighed. "Forget it. Let's not mention it."

With that statement, everyone's impression of Aurelia changed to that of someone who would neglect work for the sake of love.

Aurelia, who was standing outside the crowd, frowned.

Jason asked solemnly, "Ms. Simmons, do

you need my help?"

Aurelia shook her head. "You're from One Technology. If you stand up for me, it might make everyone misunderstand me more. Don't worry. I can handle it."

"Alright."

Jason looked at Aurelia with admiration, feeling that she and Leslie were quite compatible.

Aurelia pushed through the crowd and walked in.

At this moment, Kimberly was saying, "Mr. Xenos, Aurelia isn't coming. Let's start the meeting."

"Who said I wasn't coming?"

Aurelia walked past everyone and stood in front of Kimberly.

Kimberly was shocked when she saw the beautiful woman before her.

Aurelia was so fair and beautiful that it was impossible for others to take their eyes off her.

Aurelia was wearing a long beige dress, looking gentle and elegant. At a glance, Kimberly could tell that the dress was quite expensive.

"You... Why are you dressed like this?"

"What?" Aurelia thought Kimberly would ask why she was there, so her question left her momentarily stunned.

Zachary's voice brought her back to her senses. "Aurelia, why are you here?"

Aurelia turned to look at Zachary and calmly asked, "Shouldn't I be here, Mr. Zeller? Didn't you inform me that the meeting would be on Monday morning? Also, didn't you just say that you'd been looking for me all morning? Did I get the time wrong, or did you tell me the wrong time on purpose?"

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Zachary's face turned red as he was rendered speechless. In the end, he couldn't say anything. He simply glared at Aurelia with anger in his eyes.

Sensing the tension, Daniel interrupted, "Alright, everyone. Since we're all here, let's move to the conference room. The boss is waiting for you."

At the mention of the boss of One Technology, Kimberly's joy was rekindled.

Before Aurelia could say anything, Kimberly stood in front of her and said, "Mr. Xenos, please lead the way."

"Let's go."

Daniel walked toward the door.

As soon as Aurelia turned around to follow, she was blocked by Kimberly and Zachary. The two of them looked at her with strange expressions.

When they entered the conference room, they saw that it was already filled with One Technology's senior executives.

Upon entering, both Kimberly and Zachary immediately began searching for the boss of One Technology.

Aurelia did the same.

She was genuinely curious about what Ian looked like.

After all, he was someone who had caused a huge stir in the entire business district of

Seacester.

To her disappointment, there was only a small robot standing on the table at the head, its camera facing a large screen.

Aurelia didn't expect that the meeting would be so advanced, where a robot would actually be used instead of a human representative.

Once seated, the robot's voice echoed through the microphone.

"Let's begin."

There wasn't any small talk. The robot's tone was mechanical yet profound.

Even though they were facing a small robot that was only about 15 inches tall, the atmosphere it exuded was oppressively commanding.

Aurelia couldn't help but straighten her back upon hearing its voice. Its tone was strangely familiar to her, but she had no time to dwell on it.

She felt rather nervous to be in a meeting with so many people.

It was no wonder that the founder of One Technology had such high requirements for professionalism. Looking at the people in front of her, she noticed that they were all experts in their fields.

Just then, the mechanical voice sounded again. "Which one of you will start first?"

Taking a deep breath, Aurelia prepared to stand up.

However, Kimberly, who was seated beside her, maliciously tugged at her dress. She did so with such force that it seemed as if she was trying to rip the dress off her.

As a result, Aurelia was slightly slower than Kimberly.

Kimberly stood up and said, "I will."

With that, she confidently stepped onto the stage and smiled at the small robot.

"Hello, I'll be representing Young Advertising to present to you our carefully prepared plan. I hope you like it."

Aurelia frowned and glanced at Zachary.

He lowered his voice and warned, "Aurelia, don't act recklessly, or you'll suffer."

She stared at him. "Mr. Zeller, do you really think Kimberly can handle this?"

He chuckled. "Aurelia, I understand that you're upset, but you should know your place. You don't have a good background or backing like Kimberly does.

"No matter how good your proposal may be, someone else will always take the credit for it. Just relax and follow our lead. I'll make sure that you are compensated well." "Mr. Zeller, do you expect me to do Kimberly's work for the rest of my life? I won't do it."

Aurelia found his words ridiculous.

"You won't do it? Aurelia, you still don't see the situation clearly. The boss of One Technology isn't here right now. What can a stupid robot see? You've already lost to Kimberly."

Aurelia stared at him in shock, surprised by how short-sighted he was. Not wanting to argue, she nodded.

"Fine. Let's see what this robot is capable of. I hope you won't regret your choice, Mr. Zeller." How could they succeed with her proposal when they didn't even have faith in the client's product?

She wasn't a fool, nor was the founder of One Technology.

They would just have to wait and see.

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Aurelia quietly watched as Kimberly read the presentation slides. She wasn't even familiar with the script and needed to glance at it every now and then.

"Stop." The robot spoke up. "Did you write this?"

"Yes, I did," Kimberly said firmly.

"Alright. Then, don't read from the slides anymore. Otherwise, why would we need

It's not like we can't read."

you here?

"W–What?" Kimberly was obviously panicked.

Although she had seen Aurelia's proposal, she hated Aurelia too much to actually read it. After all, she could just read from the script when the time came.

Without looking at the slides, she couldn't even remember what she was supposed to say next. "What's wrong? Is there a problem?" The robot turned its head and stared at Kimberly.

She froze.

It was just a small robot, but she felt as if there were a pair of cold eyes staring at her through it.

She pursed her lips. "No. Next is... is..."

She lost her composure under the robot's gaze. Her mind went blank, so she turned to Zachary for help.

Zachary was livid. Frustration filled his eyes.

The perfect answer was already in Kimberly's hands, but she still couldn't do it!

If her uncle wasn't so influential, he would have gone up and dragged her back to her seat himself.

Zachary could only gesture with his mouth silently, but he was soon discovered.

The robot said, "Mr. Zeller, isn't this her proposal? Why are you giving her hints?"

Zachary immediately smiled and tried to smooth things over.

"Kimberly values this collaboration very highly, so she's very nervous. I hope you can forgive her. Maybe we should let her continue with the presentation according to the slides."

The robot remained silent, and the others looked serious.

At this moment, Jason stood up and said, "It's alright. Ms. Watson's proposal is quite interesting. We don't mind waiting for her to remember her lines. But don't take too long, or we might start doubting whether she really wrote the proposal."

"I wrote it! It's definitely written by me!" Kimberly said angrily. She glared at Jason and continued, "Mr. Lynch, what exactly are you suggesting?"

"Ms. Watson, I wouldn't dare to question you. Since you insist that you wrote it, you should be able to recall it in no time, right?" Jason looked at Kimberly with a sly smile.

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Only then did Kimberly realize that Jason had set her up. She clenched her fists in anger.

Jason had to be trying to help Aurelia!

The angrier she got, the harder it was for her to remember her lines. Her head became emptier under everyone's gaze.

Some people even started whispering.

"Isn't this her proposal? Why can't she remember even after thinking for so long?"

"A proposal is something you must repeatedly check. If she was the one who wrote it, she couldn't possibly forget."

"The presentation slides contain the essential information. After completing it, she should have an impression of the whole process. But she doesn't seem familiar with it at all."

Hearing this, Zachary's face tensed. The boss had emphasized how important this collaboration was.

If Kimberly messed up, he would be affected too.

Thinking about it, Zachary could only turn to Aurelia beside him, hoping that she would stand up and salvage the situation.

"Aurelia, Aurelia..." Zachary whispered.

Aurelia pretended not to hear him and turned her head to look at Kimberly. She simply waited quietly for Kimberly to continue speaking.

However, Kimberly merely stood there like a lifeless puppet, a dazed look on her face.

The robot said coldly, "It's been three minutes. Someone who can't even remember their own proposal doesn't seem to value our company much. Why should I agree to a collaboration with you?"

Chapter 124

"Daniel, see the guests out," the robot said.

Kimberly and Zachary couldn't stand it any longer. They exchanged glances filled with resentment toward each other.

At this moment, Aurelia finally stood up. "Please wait. How about I continue?"

"Why should I believe you?" the robot asked.

Aurelia looked directly at the robot and said slowly, "Because you're interested in the proposal. Why else would you waste three minutes letting Kimberly come up with something to say? Since we want to collaborate and you're interested, why not listen to the whole thing before making your decision?"

"I am indeed very interested. Even so, that's just a plan. I won't entrust such an important plan to an incompetent person."

"Then, you can entrust it to me," Aurelia boldly volunteered. "I'll definitely meet your expectations."

"You?" the robot questioned.

"Yes, just give me two minutes. That's all I need. If you're not satisfied with my presentation, we won't bother One Technology again," Aurelia said firmly.

The conference room fell silent.

After a moment, the robot slowly spoke. "Set up a timer."

"Thank you."

Aurelia smiled and immediately stepped past Kimberly to stand in front of everyone.

"The proposal emphasizes professionalism. The banquet shouldn't be extravagant but innovative and filled with elements of technology. Those present can..."

Ten, nine, eight... three, two, one.

With the final seconds of the countdown, Aurelia finished explaining about the opening banquet that would be rich in futuristic elements concisely.

She had covered the key points, the process, and the arrangements for it. She had even explained each professional term in detail.

Everyone present could tell that Aurelia had conducted thorough research for the proposal.

As for Kimberly, she had barely even scratched the surface.

Everyone in the conference room were intelligent people.

Combined with Kimberly and Zachary's act in the lounge earlier, it became clear who had really made the proposal.

But Kimberly was still just an employee. Hence, Zachary had to have played a part in helping her steal someone else's work.

Zachary felt the contempt of the crowd, and his confidence faded.

Kimberly stood to the side with her face flushed.

Although they were only looking at her, she felt exposed.

Aurelia! It was all Aurelia's fault!

Aurelia ignored Kimberly's gaze and looked at the robot calmly. "What do you think?"

The robot remained silent, but it turned its head. It was just a small movement, but Aurelia's heart was in her throat.

She had bet everything on this. If she failed, she would definitely be fired from the company.

"Very good. I look forward to working with you."

"Likewise!" Aurelia breathed a sigh of relief and smiled.

Daniel walked over and handed Aurelia some documents. "Ms. Simmons, please sign the contract."

She nodded and was about to pick up the pen when Zachary snatched the documents away and handed it to Kimberly.

With a smile, he said, "You must be mistaken, Mr. Xenos. Kimberly wrote this proposal, so she should be the one signing the contract."

"Yeah, Aurelia isn't qualified to sign the contract at all. I'm the one who wrote the proposal," Kimberly said, grabbing the pen from Aurelia's hand.

"Is that so?" The robot's voice sounded again, its tone even colder than before. "Do you need me to remind you of the consequences of fooling your client?"

Both Zachary and Kimberly froze.

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Inside the conference room, the tension continued to rise.

Daniel repeated, "Ms. Simmons, please sign the contract."

"Alright"

Aurelia walked up to Kimberly and reached for the documents and the pen in her hands. However, Kimberly refused to let go and held onto them tightly.

She glared at Aurelia the whole time, looking as if she wished to swallow her whole.

Ignoring her, Aurelia forcefully took the documents and the pen, then signed her name under Kimberly's hostile gaze.

Daniel collected the documents and stated solemnly, "Our company's opening banquet is on the first day of next month. The remaining matters will be entrusted to you."

Aurelia nodded. "Certainly, we won't let you down. Mr. Xenos, please thank your boss for trusting us."

"Sure, I'll convey your gratitude," Daniel replied.

During the conversation, Aurelia involuntarily glanced at the small robot on the table. She felt as if its mechanical eyes had been fixed on her the whole time.

As she was lost in thought, the overhead speakers suddenly played the original voice of the small robot.

"Currently opening the last webpage for you. Searching for content: How to cook without getting hot? How to install a household shower, installation video, installation diagram..."

With a click, the sound was cut off.

It seemed like the boss of One Technology had accidentally connected to the robot's external speaker while opening a webpage.

Instantly, everyone in the conference room looked as if they had discovered something incredible.

Aurelia paused, feeling that these search terms sounded strangely familiar. However, before she could contemplate further, a cold mechanical voice echoed through the microphone.

"Meeting adjourned."

Immediately, the small robot fell silent again.

To protect the boss's reputation, Daniel quickly stepped forward and changed the subject.

"Mr. Zeller, Ms. Watson, Ms. Simmons, let me escort you out."

"No, thanks. We'll see ourselves out," Zachary said with an unpleasant expression. He turned and walked out.

Kimberly, who had embarrassed herself today, quickly followed Zachary out of the conference

room.

Aurelia felt a little awkward, but she couldn't complain publicly in another company. She

certainly couldn't allow the client to think that there was internal discord within her team.

So, she remained polite and exchanged pleasantries with the others.

Outside the conference room, Kimberly couldn't catch up to Zachary and could only watch as he took the elevator and left.

She stamped her foot in frustration.

Coincidentally, several employees of One Technology were waiting for the elevator. The undisguised disdain in their eyes when they saw Kimberly made her wish she could disappear into the ground.

Running out of options, she hid in the restroom.

She thought she could escape from everyone by doing so, but she heard two men talking outside the door.

Initially, there were no female employees in the office, so the smoking area was located in the corridor outside the restroom.

When the two receptionists were hired, the other men started minimizing their smoking sessions so that they wouldn't scare them away.

Still, they would forget about the ladies sometimes, especially when they were busy. So, they would occasionally stand outside the restroom to smoke and chat.

"That woman from Young Advertising today is quite pretty. I think her name is..."

Men always liked to talk about women, especially those who were beautiful.

Kimberly felt slightly better after hearing this, assuming that they were talking about her.

"Kimberly?"

"What? Are you crazy? I don't like women like her who throw herself at guys. I'm talking about the other one."

"Oh, Aurelia Simmons!"

"Yeah. She's fair and beautiful. A goddess, really."

Kimberly's face twisted with anger.

It was Aurelia again!

What was so good about her?

The conversation outside the door continued.

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"Keep dreaming. She might break your nose with a single punch."

"I don't mind. She's pretty and capable. Even the boss approves of her. Who wouldn't like a woman like her?"

"Now that you mention it, Ian was acting a little strange today. He hates being late to

meetings, but he actually delayed today's meeting. I heard from Mr. Xenos that he did it for a woman.' 11

"Are you messing with me? Ian doing something for a woman? We've been working for him since we were abroad. We've seen all sorts of women. Who on earth has that kind of charm?"

"Could it be Ms. Simmons?"

"Who knows?"

The two finished their cigarettes and left.

Just then, Kimberly stepped outside, feeling both envious and stunned.

Ian was a familiar name. After searching her memories, she realized that she had once heard his name from Aurelia.

At the time, Kimberly had been showing off to others that she knew the founder of One Technology and didn't think much of it.

It seemed that Aurelia had known that Kimberly got the wrong person all along, but she hadn't bothered to say anything. Aurelia had simply watched as she embarrassed herself.

Kimberly wouldn't forget this. She would make Aurelia pay.

She hurried off to find Zachary.

He was the only one who could help her now.

When Aurelia stepped out of the conference room, Kimberly and Zachary were long gone. They clearly had no intention of waiting for her. She didn't mind and turned to look at Daniel and Jason.

"Mr. Xenos, Mr. Lynch, thank you for today."

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"You don't have to thank us. It's what we should do. Our boss is a nice person," Daniel said, chuckling.

"Yes, our boss has always emphasized fairness and justice. Today's outcome is what you deserve," Jason replied, also smiling.

For some reason, Aurelia found their smiles peculiar. Why were they constantly praising their boss in front of her? It had nothing to do with her.

Aurelia didn't dwell on it and was eager to share the good news with Leslie. If it weren't for his help, she wouldn't have made it to the meeting.

Aurelia waved goodbye and said, "I'll be taking my leave now. If you have any questions, feel

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free to contact me."

"Alright," Daniel and Jason said, nodding.

After leaving the conference room, Aurelia turned and walked to the front desk instead of immediately heading downstairs.

"Um... Excuse me." She hesitated.

She glanced around the office, but she couldn't find Leslie.

"Hello, Ms. Simmons. Is there anything we can help you with?"

The receptionist was adorable and her lively smile reminded Aurelia of Millie.

Unfortunately, she could barely recognize Millie these days.

Regaining her focus, Aurelia cautiously asked, "Excuse me, has Leslie from your company returned?"

"Him? Are you also attracted to his face? I advise you not to waste your time. He's immune to women. All the girls in the entire building have been lining up to ask him out for meals, but he doesn't even care."

The receptionist sighed, frustrated that Daniel had claimed that their company was full of handsome guys. In truth, the only good–looking one wasn't even interested in women at all. Hearing this, Aurelia suppressed a laugh. That did indeed sound like Leslie.

"You've misunderstood. I have something to discuss with him."

Aurelia didn't explicitly state her relationship with Leslie, as he hadn't acknowledged it either. However, she still needed to thank him in person.

"He hasn't returned since he went out. Would you like to wait for him?" the receptionist asked. Aurelia checked the time. Since Kimberly and Zachary weren't waiting for her, it wouldn't hurt for her to stay a little longer.

"Alright."

With that, she sat on the couch opposite the front desk and waited for Leslie.

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In the lobby downstairs, Leslie terminated the remote control of the robot. He then closed the laptop and stood up slowly.

For a tech company, having such equipment was nothing extraordinary.

He walked to the elevator. Just as the doors opened, a figure rushed out in frustration.

It was Kimberly.

To avoid unnecessary trouble, Leslie turned to sidestep her. Unexpectedly, Kimberly suddenly turned around and reached out to stop him.

"It's you?" Kimberly's angry expression transformed into one of pleasant surprise. Wasn't he the handsome guy who had become the talk of the entire building?

Observing him up close, he looked charming at every angle. With his exceptionally handsome face and profound eyes, he was captivating from every perspective.

To divert attention from Aurelia, Kimberly had fabricated stories about Leslie pursuing her, painting him as a wealthy and handsome man trying to gain experiences.

She thought people in the building would gradually forget about the stories over time. To her bewilderment, the gossip had only intensified, and everyone had started asking when she

would introduce her boyfriend to them.

Kimberly was taken aback to see him here.

Looking at his refined suit and sophisticated demeanor, combined with his free access throughout the building, it was clear that he wasn't an ordinary person.

It seemed that she had hit the jackpot.

Kimberly's mouth curved into a delighted smile as she grabbed Leslie's wrist. "Oh, I'm sorry, handsome. It seems like I've twisted my foot. Could you please take me to the couch to rest?" She tilted her head and gazed up at Leslie at a calculated angle. This perspective made a lady's neck and cheeks appear unusually delicate, inviting men to want to protect her.

She had used this technique repeatedly, and it had never failed.

She refused to believe that her charm wouldn't conquer him.

Once Leslie escorted her to the sofa, she planned to use the opportunity to inquire about his identity. She would then pretend to be grateful and invite him to dinner. In the end, they would grow closer.

Men valued their ego, and it was impossible for them to refuse a woman's invitation.

When the time was right, she would invite him to have a meal with the people in the office, securing her position as the subject of envy.

Kimberly slowly raised her hand and signaled Leslie to assist her.

To her surprise, Leslie pulled his arm away with a cold expression. "What does it have to do with me?"

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Kimberly's hand stilled in midair, and she froze in embarrassment.

Leslie walked past her and got into the elevator, leaving her behind.

Kimberly watched as the elevator stopped at a certain floor. This man was crucial to her pride. She refused to give up.

The elevator stopped on the 31st floor, a floor above One Technology.

She glanced at the directory to search for the office.

Sunlit Legal Agency.

He was actually a lawyer.

Thrilled, she did an online search and was pleasantly surprised by what she found.

It was a famous legal firm filled with lawyers who make hundreds of thousands each year.

She smiled and turned to call Jackson.

"Why are you calling me so frequently these days?" he asked.

"Jackson, can you help me search for a young, handsome lawyer in Sunlit Legal Agency?"

Jackson was from a wealthy background with no actual talent. He was also a womanizer with very specific tastes.

He didn't like noble ladies and preferred frail women. He would toss them aside once he was done with them and wouldn't care if they lived or died.

Kimberly had gotten to know him from a certain gathering and had aimed for him at first. However, she gave up after seeing what he did to the women around him.

In the end, she decided to change her strategy.

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She occasionally tried to set Jackson up with girls, so he regarded her as a friend.

Jackson clicked his tongue and said, "Can't you give me a name? This description isn't enough.

Kimberly laughed and said, "Why would I need your help if I knew his name? I think he must be the most handsome man in the entire law firm."

Jackson paused for a moment, then suddenly gasped.

"What's wrong?" Kimberly was startled.

"I suddenly remembered my dad mentioning this law firm. The boss's son had just returned from abroad and joined the firm. To avoid special treatment, he had taken on an internship.

"He even drives a shabby car every day to pretend to be poor. My dad even used him as an example to criticize me, constantly praising how handsome and capable he was." "Really?" She realized that Jackson had to be talking about the man she had encountered.

The embarrassment on Kimberly's face vanished. She started imagining the day she would appear in front of everyone with such an extraordinary man and receive their envious stares.

"I know just that much," Jackson said impatiently, "By the way, can you ask Millie not to message me every minute? It's so annoying! I thought it would be fun to play with her, but now it's not fun at all."

Hearing this, Kimberly's smile faded and was replaced by resentment.

When she thought of Millie, she thought of Aurelia.

Today, Aurelia had signed a contract with One Technology, so the boss would definitely take notice of her.

The plagiarism incident wouldn't stay hidden.

Kimberly considered for a moment and immediately stopped Jackson, who was about to hang up. "Jackson, you didn't say anything to Millie, right?"

"I ignored her. You know I can't stand women who don't know their place," he said.

Kimberly breathed a sigh of relief. "Jackson, Millie is an innocent girl who has never been in a relationship before."

"Oh? Really?" he said. Innocent women were his weakness. Moreover, Millie was exactly his typesimple, delicate, and easy to control.

"Of course. Why else would I introduce her to you?" she said.

After some thought, Jackson said impatiently, "But she's really annoying. We haven't even done anything, but she already thinks she's my girlfriend. She sent me eighty messages this morning, and I don't even feel like replying."

Kimberly smiled and said, "I'll talk to her about this. Just ignore her for now until I tell you otherwise. I guarantee she'll listen to you later. How about that?"

Jackson didn't have a date at the moment, so he couldn't possibly turn down such a good deal. "Sure."

"I need to take care of something. Bye for now."

After hanging up, a plan started to form in her mind and she smirked viciously.

After getting into the car, she stepped on the accelerator to find Zachary,

Leslie was no fool. He knew that Kimberly would check which floor he would go to, so he had gone to the floor above.

When he returned to One Technology, he found Aurelia still waiting at the reception.

"Why are you still here?" he asked.

"I wanted to thank you. The presentation went well," Aurelia said with a smile.

"That's good."

"I won't keep you from your work then."

"You waited this long just to thank me?" he asked.

"What else can there be?" Aurelia gave him a confused look.

"Nothing." He frowned, then turned to head into the office.

Just then, Aurelia caught up to him.

"Mr. Synder, please wait. Can I... treat you to a meal at a proper restaurant? But it's fine if you're not free."

She looked at him nervously, not knowing why she was so nervous about a simple meal.

Would he say yes?

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"Sure." Leslie's response came so fast that the receptionist was stunned.

When they had asked him out for a meal on the first day at work, he had ignored them and left. But now that a beautiful woman was asking him out for a meal, he had agreed almost immediately.

Sensing the receptionist's gaze, Leslie cleared his throat. "I'll get back to work now."

Aurelia waved her hand. "Alright. Bye."

She turned and headed into the elevator and waved goodbye to the receptionist.

Once she was gone, he shot the receptionist a look. "Martha, don't run your mouth."

"My name is Maria."

"Sure, Mary," he said and left without looking back.

"I'm going to quit next month. Who would want to work here?" Maria thought.

After leaving One Technology, Aurelia dialed Linda's number on her way back.

"Aurelia, you and your mom must be connected. You called just as she came out of the operation room," Linda said with a smile.

"My mother, how..." Aurelia was so nervous that she couldn't finish her sentence.

"Don't worry. The doctor said that the surgery was a success. The caretaker and I will stick around, so just take care of your own affairs."

"Thank you." Aurelia could finally relax.

"Alright, go ahead with your things. Your mom is still under the effect of the anesthetic, so there's no point for you to come here now. Just focus on your own work," Linda said.

"Alright."

After hanging up the phone, Aurelia relaxed completely.

Without any worries now, she had to think about what to do next.

She first needed to consider what she wanted to do with the plagiarism issue.

Having secured the contract, she couldn't possibly swallow her pride and let this slide.

Fortunately, she had a complete set of plans and notes on her computer. Even if Zachary and

Kimberly joined forces, it would be futile.

With that thought, Aurelia finally felt at ease.

In the company's parking lot, Kimberly intercepted Zachary, who looked infuriated.

"Mr. Zeller, wait."

"Why should I? Kimberly, I trusted you and arranged everything for you. Is this how you repay me? If Aurelia comes back with the contract and complains to the boss, we're both done for."

Zachary looked at Kimberly with disappointment. If Kimberly hadn't claimed to have everything under control and if she hadn't promised that her uncle would speak up for him to the boss after the success, their jobs wouldn't be at risk now.

Kimberly immediately grabbed Zachary's hand and said earnestly, "Mr. Zeller, trust me one more time. I have a way to resolve the crisis before us.",

Zachary didn't want to hear another word from her.

He needed to figure out how to explain this situation to the boss.

Seeing him unmoved, Kimberly decisively pulled him to a hidden corner.

"Mr. Zeller, we're on the same boat now. Even if you explain things to the boss, do you think he'll still trust you as much as he did before? Once Aurelia becomes the vice director, who do you think he'll

trust more—you or Aurelia?"

Zachary fell silent, frowning.

What Kimberly said made sense. Even if he apologized or shifted all the blame to Kimberly, the boss wouldn't trust him as much as he did before.

Chapter 130

Once Aurelia became vice director, the boss would surely train her to take his place.

He was middle-aged now, so getting fired would be extremely terrible.

He sighed. "Go ahead and tell me what you're planning."

Kimberly leaned closer to him. "I just need you to stall for time until I get off work..."

Zachary nodded. "Alright. Make sure you make no mistakes this time."

"Don't worry, Mr. Zeller. I have a secret weapon." Kimberly smirked slyly.

"Let's go." He nodded and led her upstairs.

As soon as Aurelia stepped into the office, she found everyone staring at her like she was a stranger.

"Aurelia... Is that you?" the receptionist asked.

"Yes. What's wrong?" she asked in confusion.

"It's nothing." The receptionist shook her head.

Aurelia didn't pay much mind to it. She assumed that they were just surprised because she rarely dressed like this.

"Is the boss in his office?" she asked.

"He's meeting with an important client, so he has said that no one should disturb him," the receptionist said, her gaze fixed on Aurelia.

Aurelia frowned, realizing that she had to wait a while longer.

She turned and walked toward the office, overhearing the hushed conversation behind her.

"Did you see Aurelia? She's actually really pretty. Why did she dress herself so poorly before?"

"Oh my goodness, I almost thought I was seeing things just now! With her looks and figure, she's even more attractive than Kimberly. But she usually dresses like she's 35!"

Aurelia paused, feeling like they were being overly dramatic.

What she used to wear were just normal work clothes, right?

Nevertheless, hearing others complimenting her was rather pleasing.

When she entered the office, she saw that there were people from other departments inside.

They surrounded Millie, praising her beauty. Millie had a radiant smile on her face.

She had mentioned in the group chat that morning that the clothes and bag she had on were gifts from a pursuer. Within half a day, said pursuer had become her boyfriend.

Watching her revel in her self-satisfaction, Aurelia felt at a loss,

Initially, she didn't want to get involved in these matters. However, Kimberly suddenly stood up and clapped her hands.

"Oh, Aurelia is back."

At the sound of Kimberly's voice, the people who were originally focused on Millie turned around and looked at Aurelia in shock.

This was the first time that Aurelia was the focus of so many people, and she got goosebumps.

One of them said, "A-Aurelia?"

"That's me." Aurelia smiled awkwardly.

She had just changed her clothes, so why did it seem like she had changed her whole identity?

"Aurelia, you look... so beautiful. You seem like a completely different person now," someone exclaimed.

"Thank you," Aurelia replied politely.

"Yeah, why didn't I notice that you have such a great figure before?"

"I really don't," Aurelia denied uncomfortably.

"Aurelia, you're so fair. How do you maintain such a nice complexion? Your skin practically looks like vanilla ice–cream."

"No, the dress just compliments my skin. Anyone would look fair in it," Aurelia said modestly.

"Aurelia, you've always had your hair up in a bun. This is the first time I've seen you with your hair down. What shampoo do you use? Your hair is so silky. Where did you get it permed? It looks so naturally fluffy."

"My hair has always been naturally curly, ever since I was a child." Aurelia helplessly moved her hair

behind her back.

Unexpectedly, a few of them moved from Millie's side to hers. They casually touched her skin and hair without giving her a chance to escape.

One sharp–eyed colleague glanced at Aurelia's dress and exclaimed, "Wow! Aurelia, did you hit the jackpot or something? You're actually wearing Mulan's embroidered dress!"

Aurelia instantly fell silent.