

In A Flash 191

Chapter 191

With Seth's testimony, the police officer headed to Aurelia's company.

While at the police station, Aurelia learned from the group chat that Kimberly was taken away while she was still discussing Aurelia's alleged misconduct in the office.

"If Aurelia hadn't given Seth hints, why would he come here? Men who can't get what they want go crazy," Kimberly said.

Strangely, Kimberly was portraying Seth as a devoted man and Aurelia as a woman who toyed with his emotions.

Once the police officer came and explained their presence, Kimberly's face turned pale.

She claimed to be innocent and fell flat on her face in front of everyone out of panic.

Pictures of her disheveled state were promptly posted in the group chat.

Aurelia looked at the photos and couldn't help but smile.

Soon, Kimberly was brought to the police station as well.

Upon meeting, she and Seth immediately started blaming each other.

"Officer, she provoked me into looking for Aurelia. It's all her fault. This has nothing to do with me."

"Seth, speak with evidence. Why would I provoke you?"

Kimberly leisurely took out a mirror to touch up her makeup, showing no signs of panic in contrast to her behavior in the office.

Seth took out his phone and dialed back a certain number.

“Kimberly, just you wait. I’ll expose you right away!”

“Haha, expose me? Be careful or I’ll sue you for defamation.” Kimberly sneered.

He dialed the number three times, but there was no answer.

There was no ringtone or vibration from Kimberly’s side.

Seth widened his eyes,

“Impossible! She was the one who called me.”

The police officer glanced at Seth, then at Kimberly.

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In the end, he decided to investigate the phone number.

Sitting nearby, Aurelia could tell that there was more to the story.

As expected, the investigation revealed that the number belonged to a middle aged woman.

However, she had never registered this number and didn’t know Seth or Kimberly, so she was completely unaware of what had happened.

Kimberly slowly put down the powder in her hand with a triumphant look.

She wasn't foolish.

She wouldn't possibly use her own personal number to stir up trouble.

She had someone buy this number for her online, making it convenient for various purposes without any connection to her real identity.

She learned this trick from Jackson.

Kimberly feigned surprise and said, "Seth, could you have encountered a scam call by any chance? Scammers nowadays are very cunning. They can be really well -versed in your personal matters."

"Impossible! It was you!" Seth pointed at Kimberly.

Kimberly glanced at Aurelia and clicked her tongue.

"Aurelia, look at your ex-boyfriend. How can he blame others? It's no wonder you don't like him."

Aurelia paused.

Not only was Kimberly mocking her and Seth, but she was also instigating Seth

even more.

Seth was an egocentric man and he couldn't tolerate being questioned by a

woman.

He jumped from his seat in rage.

The police officer acted swiftly and pushed him back to his seat.

“Behave. Don’t move around!”

Seth was startled and didn’t dare to move.

Seeing that he couldn’t shift the blame to Kimberly, he turned to look at Aurelia.

“Aurelia, I was wrong. I just did that because I love you too much. You can’t do this to me.”

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Chacher

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Kimberly continued to tease, “Wow, Aurelia. Just look at how devoted Seth is to you. Why would you do this against a man who loves you so much?”

The mockery on her expression was so evident that it became clear she desperately wanted words about this drama to get to Aurelia’s husband.

If she couldn’t obtain that man, neither could Aurelia.

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When Kimberly looked back at Aurelia, she didn't see the panic she expected.

Instead, Aurelia remained exceptionally calm.

Aurelia unlocked her phone and retrieved the chat record of the office group chat.

"Officer, even if Kimberly wasn't the one who manipulated Seth, she spread rumors and slandered me. She even influenced over four hundred people into defaming me. I'm pretty sure I can sue her for defamation, right?"

"If I remember correctly, this could lead to three years in prison."

The smug look on Kimberly's face instantly vanished and her eyes widened.

"Aurelia, have you gone mad? What are you talking about?"

"Did you not say these things? You hinted that I cheated and that my husband has been cheated on. Don't say that this isn't your number. I will make a call right

now."

With that, Aurelia dialed the number in front of everyone.

Kimberly reached out to grab her phone, but was one step too late.

Her phone rang and her expression darkened.

The officer took out Kimberly's phone and checked the record on it, before giving her a stern look.

“Looks like you’re going to stay here.”

“I...” Kimberly was rendered speechless.

She was livid.

Aurelia raised an eyebrow at her.

In reality, she knew that Kimberly’s subtle defamation wouldn’t result in criminal charges.

She would only be reprimanded at most.

However, if the situation escalated any further, Kimberly would find it difficult to escape unscathed.

In addition to Howard’s case, she would face complete social isolation.

Just as Aurelia thought everything had settled, cries of despair echoed from outside the door.

Everyone stood up and a figure darted in almost as soon as they saw who it was. “My son! My poor son! Who dared to treat you like this?”

It was Seth’s mother.

Cupping Seth’s face, she displayed a mix of heartache and sorrow.

Then, she turned her head to glare at Aurelia with resentment.

"It's you again! Aurelia! My poor Seth must have had the worst luck to be in love with a woman like you."

"Sorry, Mrs. Martinez, we broke up a long time ago. Seth was the one bothering me persistently. He even came to my company and pressured me to divorce and get back together with him."

"I have evidence, and I've handed it over to the police. If you keep spreading baseless accusations, you'll be staying here with your precious son."

Unable to bear it any longer, Aurelia took a firm and assertive stance.

She scared Rosa into tears, and she didn't dare to say another word.

Seeing how Aurelia remained unaffected, Rosa sat on the ground and rolled around in tears.

"Release my son! Otherwise, I won't leave this place! If anyone dares touch me, I'll die right here. Release my son now!"

After her dramatic declaration, Rosa rolled on the ground until her skirt started rolling up to her thigh.

The surrounding officers didn't dare to not look or intervene.

Seth frowned and seemed surprisingly disgusted.

Aurelia, who initially didn't want to be involved with someone like Rosa, changed her mind when she saw Kimberly hiding in the distance.

It's time to let Kimberly have a taste of her own medicine.

"Mrs. Martinez, I am also a victim in this matter. If Seth hadn't believed Kimberly's words, he wouldn't have come to our company to cause such a commotion."

“Who?” Seth’s mother didn’t know Kimberly, so she asked loudly.

Aurelia didn’t say anything but glanced pointedly at Kimberly, who was hiding

behind a chair.

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“You bitch! Look at what you are wearing. You sure don’t look like a decent. woman. How dare you get my son in trouble? I’m going to teach you a lesson.” Rosa crawled up and darted toward Kimberly.

“Ah! Get away from me!” Kimberly screamed.

However, she couldn’t get far with those high heels.

Rosa grabbed her hair and dragged her backward.

When Rosa heard her voice, she was taken aback.

“It’s you! You were the one who called me and told me to harass Aurelia’s mother!

Aurelia glared at Kimberly and clenched her fists.

So it was Kimberly’s idea to send Rosa to harass her mother all along.

Kimberly recoiled in fear and had no time to defend herself. “Let go of me! Help!”

Chaos erupted and two officers hurried over to pull Rosa away.

Still, Rosa managed to tear a huge chunk of extension out of Kimberly's hair.

"Lunatics! You are all a bunch of lunatics!" Kimberly shouted.

Aurelia quietly moved toward the entrance and prepared to sign the documents before leaving.

Kimberly wanted to use a lunatic to pressure her, so it was Kimberly's turn now to experience their madness.

Spit flew as Kimberly and Rosa continued to throw accusations at one another.

Aurelia silently walked out of the police station.

The thought that Kimberly could have caused her mother's death filled Aurelia with anger.

Currently, there was no substantial evidence proving that Kimberly incited the chaos caused by Seth's family.

Even if her reputation suffered a bit, she was wealthy and had a powerful uncle.

This matter would soon be forgotten.

With that in mind, Aurelia immediately took out her phone, opened a web page, and searched for the contact of the Sunlit Legal Agency.

From the company's official website, she found Howard's business card and the consultation phone number.

Aurelia felt a pang of hesitation when she saw that there was a consultation fee of seventy dollars per hour, but still dialed the number regardless.

“Hello, this is the direct line of Howard Carn of Sunlit Legal Agency. Please state your question.”

Howard’s voice was pleasant and approachable.

Although he was angry with Kimberly’s actions in the restaurant, he didn’t explode on the spot or insult her.

He even tried to help when Kimberly fell.

Aurelia said, “Mr. Carn, I’m currently facing some trouble. My colleagues in the group are mocking and insinuating that I’m cheating and having affairs. Now, my ex-boyfriend is causing trouble and causes me significant distress. Can I sue her?”

“Do you have evidence? It can’t be clandestine photos. You need substantial, direct evidence,” Howard said.

“Can group messages be used? My ex-boyfriend said she contacted him, but the phone number isn’t hers. I don’t know what to do.”

“This is indeed a bit challenging. It seems she was well-prepared. Can you reveal who she is?”

“Kimberly Watson. She’s a planner from Young Advertising.”

“Kimberly Watson?”

“Yes. I’ve reported it to the police, and now they are shifting the blame at the police station. I had no other choice but to consult a lawyer.”

“This matter is indeed quite challenging. It would be best if you could ask your colleagues around to gather some evidence and prove that she said those things herself,” Howard continued.

“Okay, I understand. Thank you.”

After hanging up the phone, Aurelia felt reassured.

Howard was more formidable than Kimberly and her family.

With a whole team of lawyers behind him, he would undoubtedly retaliate using his expertise after how Kimberly humiliated him.

Aurelia didn’t need to worry about the remaining issues.

Returning to the company, everyone stared at her, but no one dared to approach her with questions.

She appreciated the peace and quiet.

At Leslie’s request, Daniel came to the apartment to pack up clothes.

It wasn’t his first time in the apartment. However, he was stunned when he opened the door.

Although the furnishings were the same as before, something seemed to have changed and he couldn’t quite describe it.

Even the atmosphere in the apartment took on a warmer tone.

When Daniel was about to change out of his shoes, he accidentally kicked a pair of small slippers.

“This is...a woman’s slippers, right? Is that for Ms. Miller?”

Daniel didn’t think much of it and went to the master bedroom to gather a few clothes for Leslie.

Once everything was packed, he walked past the kitchen and recalled Leslie saying about installing an air conditioner in the kitchen.

He went into the kitchen, intending to find out why.

As soon as he went in, he noticed that there were far more things inside than he remembered.

There were all sorts of plates, seasoning, and even two matching aprons.

“No, wait! A woman?” Daniel felt stricken and froze. “Mr. Synder has a woman living here.”

He finally realized why the apartment looked different. A woman had been living here.

He walked outside in excitement and accidentally stepped on a black plastic bag on his way out.

“It’s so challenging for Mr. Synder to get a woman, yet he doesn’t even help to take out the trash. Isn’t he worried that he may scare her off?”

Out of kindness, he picked up the plastic bag and stepped outside.

Then, he tossed it into the garbage disposal bin next to the lobby.

With that done, he returned to the office.

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Aurelia dragged her body back home wearily.

She collapsed onto the couch immediately.

Then, she remembered that she hadn't sent her heels for repair yet.

Thinking of putting the shoes in her bag to avoid forgetting them the next day, she headed to the hallway.

However, when she reached the entrance, the bag containing her heels was nowhere to be found.

Assuming she might have placed it inside the cabinet, she opened the shoe cabinet.

After searching for it, her high-heeled shoes were still missing.

Frustrated and sweating, she hurriedly rushed into the bedroom.

Perhaps she had forgotten to bring them back to the room yesterday.

Aurelia turned the room upside down and even swept under the bed twice.

Still, she couldn't find her heels.

It was at that moment that she thought of Leslie.

This was Leslie's home.

The only person besides Aurelia who had access was Leslie.

She hastily dialed Leslie's phone, but Leslie didn't answer.

She persistently kept calling until Leslie reluctantly answered on the fifth attempt.

"What's the matter?"

"Mr. Synder, have you seen my heels? The ones I left by the door. They were wrapped in a black plastic bag."

Aurelia tried to remain calm and continued, "Maybe you saw them and picked them up. Please, you must tell me. They are important to me."

"Important?" Leslie's mocking tone carried a hint of coldness. "Very important, indeed."

"Mr. Synder, what do you mean? Do you know about it? It..."

"I threw them away," he said indifferently.

"Mr. Synder! Why did you throw away my things?"

Hearing that her shoes had been thrown away, Aurelia questioned Leslie angrily. Leslie paused and remained emotionless. "My home isn't a place for garbage."

"That's my belongings!"

"My mother bought you with money. I have the right to decide what appears in my home. Don't treat everyone else like fools. Aren't you aware of your own position?"

“You...Is this how you think of me?”

“Am I wrong?” Leslie retorted.

Aurelia stayed silent.

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Aurelia didn't have any courage to keep listening to Leslie.

She forcefully hung up the phone and slumped onto the floor.

When she broke up with Seth, she was devastated as well but managed to recover shortly after.

However, Leslie's words made her feel suffocated.

It turned out that in Leslie's eyes, she was just an item bought by Linda.

That was why he would exchange a few words with her when he was happy and disappear when he was not.

Aurelia took a deep breath and ran outside.

If Leslie threw the heels away today, she might still be able to retrieve it.

When she reached downstairs, thunder rumbled in the sky. As soon as she approached the trash bin, a heavy rain poured.

Meanwhile, in One Technology.

Outside the window, the rain drummed against the windows.

There was a dead silence inside the meeting room and everyone wore an expression of despair.

Leslie seemed to have gone mad again. If the problem at hand wasn't solved today, no one would be allowed to leave the meeting room.

Just a few days ago, everything seemed fine with Leslie.

What pissed him off after answering a phone call?

Daniel looked at Leslie and recalled the belongings of a woman in his house.

After some contemplation, he felt something was wrong and decided to seek help.

An hour later, Linda entered the meeting room with food, and everyone stood up in respect.

"Ms. Miller."

"Alright, take a 30-minute break in the lounge. Have some food, and then we'll continue." Linda waved her hand.

No one dared to speak and they all turned to look at Leslie.

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Leslie wore a dark expression and waved his hand in dismissal.

Everyone stood up to take the food and leave.

Holding the food, Linda walked up to Leslie and said softly, "I heard you stayed at the company last night?"

Leslie frowned upon hearing this and shot a glare at Daniel, who shrunk his neck and exited the meeting room.

"Don't blame Daniel. He's just worried about you. Is something wrong?"

"No," Leslie replied, expressionless.

"You're my son. Don't you think I can tell when something is bothering you? Is it related to Aurelia? Didn't you two go on a date a few days ago?" Linda asked, puzzled.

"It wasn't a date."

"Leslie, you're not planning to abandon her, are you? You rogue!" As Linda spoke, she raised her hand and slapped him on the shoulder.

Leslie frowned.

Linda pointed at him. "Aurelia may have dated before, but her ex-boyfriend never treated her well..."

Leslie felt frustrated just from the mention of "ex-boyfriend" and interrupted her.

"I don't want to hear it. You delivered your things. It's raining out there, so you should go."

“Why you...Leslie, why exactly are you upset? I know you. You are a reasonable person. Just look at you now. You look like an angry little boy.”

Leslie stiffened at her words, but he soon regained his composure.

“You’re overthinking it.”

Linda fell into silence.

She was enraged by his attitude, but could not bring herself to argue with him.

Leslie had always been independent and never let others meddle with his affair.

It was already quite fortunate that she managed to get him married.

At the moment, she hadn’t a clue as to how she could get him to open up.

Outside, the employees were all having their meals while whining about working overtime.

Daniel took a sip of coffee and was mentally prepared to stay up all night alongside Leslie.

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Suddenly, an employee exclaimed, remembering something.

Daniel was startled and almost spat out his coffee.

“What’s going on?”

“Mr. Xenos, did you see Ms. Simmons’ drama when you accompanied the boss to sign the contract today?” the employee asked.

“What’s so interesting about it?”

Daniel recalled the scenes of Aurelia’s complicated relationship with her ex-boyfriend and felt sympathetic for her current husband.

He then shook his head.

Holding up a phone, the employee continued, “Ms. Simmons is indeed amazing. First, she dealt with a foreign pervert with brute force, and now she beats up her ex-boyfriend. She’s a role model for us.”

Hearing this, Daniel froze holding his coffee cup.

“What did you say? She beat up her ex-boyfriend?”

Daniel thought they were getting back together.

“Yeah, onlookers said that her ex-boyfriend threatened her with mother’s life to get her to reconcile with him. She pretended to agree, and when the police arrived, she punched him in the face.”

“She even used a megaphone to repeatedly play recordings of her ex-boyfriend’s threats. Didn’t you see it, Mr. Xenos? You really missed a billion-dollar show.” “It was incredible! It’s all over the local news. Even the police station issued a notice, stating that Ms. Simmons’ ex-boyfriend was dissatisfied with her marriage and had caused trouble.”

Another person burst into laughter while looking at his phone.

“It’s not just her ex-boyfriend who was arrested. One of her colleagues was arrested as well. According to a girl in the office, it’s because this woman spread rumors that Ms. Simmons cheated on her current husband before marriage and continues to have an affair with her ex-boyfriend after marriage.”

“Wait! How do you know a girl in Ms. Simmons’ company building?”

“Hehe, it was when the boss went for a business meeting. I added her as a friend.”

“How dare you keep pretty girls to yourself? Take this!”

Several people surrounded him, and the man quickly raised his phone as a shield.

“Wait! The girl said Ms. Simmons’ husband is unbelievably handsome and even posted a photo. Do you want to see it?”

“We don’t want to see it. Mr. Synder is dazzling enough. Why would we want to see someone else’s husband? He’s got a wife. It’s a wonder that you have the stomach to look at another handsome guy,” another employee jokingly said.

“I’m just curious. I want to see if there’s a man who can be more stunning than our boss ... Oh my God! Mr. Synder!”

The colleague enlarged the photo and nearly dropped his phone.

Others were frightened and sat upright.

“Where’s Mr. Synder? Where is he?”

“The picture! Mr. Synder is Ms. Simmons’ husband!”

The room exploded into chaos, and everyone was shaken to the core.

Daniel spat his coffee out and snatched the employee's phone.

He zoomed in on the photo and stared at it for a whole minute before finally believing that it was Leslie in the photo.

It was over. His life was completely over.

He said in front of Leslie that Aurelia's husband was a weak man.

Leslie witnessed how Seth begged Aurelia to get back together with him and Daniel pitied Aurelia's husband for a moment.

Trembling, he set the coffee aside before walking over to the meeting room.

"Mr. Xenos, your legs are trembling."

He didn't respond and merely thought, "Of course, I'm trembling! If you knew what I said, you wouldn't even be able to walk."

He instantly realized that Leslie misunderstood what happened between Aurelia and Seth today.

Out of consideration for his boss's lifelong happiness, he knocked on the door and walked straight in.

"Mr. Synder, it's all a misunderstanding! A misunderstanding!"

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Leslie and Linda were both startled when Daniel stormed in.

Confused, Linda asked, “Mr. Xenos, what are you talking about?”

Panting heavily, Daniel recounted the incident involving Aurelia and Seth.

Worried that Leslie and Linda might not believe him, he had to show them the local news to prove it.

“This matter has become widely known. The scene of Seth being beaten has even been turned into memes. There’s no way that this isn’t true.”

“Mr. Synder, I genuinely didn’t know that Ms. Simmons is your wife. Please don’t take my words to heart. The facts prove that Mrs. Simmons never intended to reconcile with her ex-boyfriend. She was just coerced by that scoundrel.”

Linda was infuriated.

“Seth is truly despicable! He has always plotted against Aurelia. I was hesitant to expose him before, but now he dares to use her mother’s life to threaten her. He deserves to be arrested. That female colleague of Aurelia, too. I knew she wasn’t a good person since the last time we met!”

Leslie took out his phone to check.

To his surprise, even Howard posted on social media to confirm that Kimberly had spread rumors about her colleague cheating and having an affair.

Being a lawyer, Howard wouldn’t make baseless statements, so Leslie immediately understood the whole situation.

Kimberly must have said something to Seth, prompting him to rush to Aurelia’s company and force her to get back together with him in public.

This ordinary love dispute had become so sensational, with Howard and his law firm fueling the fire.

Just then, a loud thunder sounded outside.

Recalling what he said to Aurelia on the phone, Leslie's expression darkened.

He turned to Daniel and asked, "When you went to the room to get things today, did you throw something away?"

Daniel thought for a moment.

"Just a garbage bag by the door. It's been hot lately, and I was afraid it would start smelling."

Leslie's gaze hardened, and his face tensed.

"Mr. Synder, did I throw something I wasn't supposed to? What was inside?" Daniel asked gingerly,

"Aurelia's high heels. They were a gift from her ex-boyfriend," Leslie replied with displeasure.

Next to them, Linda let out a bitter laugh.

"What a joke. How could he possibly buy heels for Aurelia? I've known Aurelia for so long that I know Seth would only take her to eat the cheapest set of meals. Even the flowers he buys are discounted. Buying her heels? Ha!"

With a sarcastic laugh, Linda suddenly paused and looked worriedly at Leslie." What kind of heels were they?"

"Black, a bit worn. Her colleague said she's been wearing them for three years. She and Seth were together for three years. I heard that she cherishes them a lot and never even allows a speck of dust to get on them..."

Leslie was immediately interrupted.

"It's over! Daniel, what have you done?" Linda pointed at Daniel.

"Mom, what's going on?" Leslie frowned.

"Who told you that those heels were from Seth?"

"Her colleague, Kimberly..."

Leslie clenched his fists and realized that he had made a stupid mistake.

Linda stared at him and sighed. "Those shoes were a gift from her parents when she passed probation. It was the last gift she received from her dad."

"Her dad fell ill and passed away quite suddenly. Her mom then also fell ill and those heels were the only things she had to remember her parents from."

"I wanted to buy her a new pair after I got to know her, but she turned me down. It's more than just a pair of heels. It represents her parents' expectations and love. Throwing them away would kill her."

By the time she finished talking, Leslie was already nowhere to be seen.

Daniel's figure wavered

"Ms. Miller, do you think I could be saved? I really didn't know that bag belonged to Ms. Simmons. I didn't see any woman's belongings in Mr. Synder's room so I thought that was just garbage..."

Linda's expression darkened and she looked at Daniel in surprise.

“What did you just say?”

“Uh, what sentence are you referring to?”

“Are you saying that they don’t sleep in the same room?” she asked.

“I think so.”

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There wasn’t a single piece of women’s clothing in Leslie’s wardrobe, after all.

Linda clicked her tongue disapprovingly and turned towards the door.

“It seems I have to step in.”

Daniel opened his mouth to say something, but Linda was gone before he could do so.

“Oh no, it seems like I’ve misspoken again,” he thought.

The rain was getting heavier, but Aurelia didn’t care.

Like a madwoman, she frantically searched through the trash cans.

This was already the third trash can she had searched, but she had found nothing apart from various kinds of foul-smelling household garbage.

Just then, she saw a trash bag at the bottom of the bin that looked exactly the same as the one in Leslie's house.

Without thinking, Aurelia reached for the trash bag.

However, as soon as her hand came into contact with it, a sharp object inside pierced her palm.

"Ah!" she screamed.

When she raised her hand, her palm was already cut with blood dripping down.

Her blood mixed with the rain before dripping onto the ground, diluting almost within an instant.

Holding her injured hand, she glanced inside the bag.

It was a shattered glass ornament.

These weren't her high heels.

The pain was making her feel numb.

She looked at the seemingly endless downpour of rain and felt helpless.

She didn't know what to do or what she should do.

Sitting on the ground surrounded by a foul smell, her face was pale and she suddenly recalled Leslie's words.

He said he didn't need trash at his home.

What was the difference between her and trash now?

Why did the whole world seem to reject her when she had done nothing wrong?

Lost in thought, Aurelia lowered her head, allowing the rain to fall along her hair.

After a while, the rain seemed to have stopped.

Stunned, she looked up and saw a lean and muscular man holding an umbrella above her.

“Get up.”

She wasn’t sure if she was hallucinating but it sounded like Leslie’s voice.

With her sight blurred by the rain, she squinted at the person who was slowly crouching down.

It really was Leslie.

Leslie glanced at her with a faint frown and then handed the umbrella to her uninjured hand.

He took out a handkerchief from his pocket and gently wiped the wound on her palm.

“I’m sorry,” Leslie whispered.

His tone was no longer cold and appeared rather ginger.

Aurelia stared dazedly at him.

He swiftly treated her wounds and helped her to the side, before wrapping her up with his jacket.

Wiping his hand, he stood back into the rain. "I'll look for them."

She snapped out of it and tried to grab him but failed.

He rolled up his sleeves and started going through the trash, checking each bag inside.

Once he confirmed Aurelia's heels were not inside, he placed the bags back inside without showing a hint of disgust.

Just then, two security guards came over in a car and walked over to them angrily.

"Hey, what are you doing?"

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Aurelia looked up at the tall and burly security guards in fear.

She was afraid but she decided to bravely confront them.

However, Leslie shielded her behind him before she could even lift her foot.

"It's my fault. I accidentally threw away my wife's belongings, so I came to help her find them."

Aurelia paused, not expecting Leslie to shoulder all the blame himself.

In the past, Seth would have found it embarrassing and left her to face the situation alone.

Noticing that Leslie looked rather formidable, the security guard softened his tone.

“Are you one of the homeowners here?”

“Yes,” Leslie nodded. “When is the garbage usually collected here? And where does it go?”

Aurelia looked at Leslie in surprise, finally believing that he was genuinely helping her solve the problem.

The security guard pondered the question for a moment.

“It’s collected at four in the afternoon. It’s past six now. However, the garbage in this area will be taken to the nearby garbage disposal station for sorting. But it’s been too long. You won’t be able to

retrieve it.”

The other security guard advised, “It’s dark now, and the rain is still heavy. If the items aren’t valuable, maybe it’s better to let it go.”

Aurelia clenched the handle of her umbrella and looked at Leslie, who was soaked from head to toe.

She reached out to tug at his clothes. “Forget it, there’s no need to look anymore.”

With that, she turned and walked away.

Back home, Aurelia went straight to the bathroom and locked the door behind her.

The disgusting stench, mixed with the smell of blood, made her look disheveled and pitiful.

She turned on the tap and rinsed her wounds with water, trying to numb herself.

But as she looked at herself in the mirror, tears rolled down her cheeks.

The only memory her parents left her had also disappeared, and she felt orphaned.

She bit her lip to suppress any cries, but she couldn't hold back and covered her mouth, sobbing quietly.

Though her sobs were very soft, Leslie, who had just entered the door, heard it.

Leslie paused in the midst of removing his shoes, his face tense.

He then bent down, picked up the umbrella on the floor, and left the apartment.

Aurelia cried in the bathroom for a long time.

She only stopped crying when she ran out of tears.

Eventually, she had to accept reality.

After taking a shower, she emerged to find the living room completely dark.

She was taken aback and checked the clock on the wall.

It was already past eight.

Where was Leslie?

Didn't he come home?

Feeling uneasy, Aurelia quickly found her phone in her bag and dialed Leslie's number.

Just as she did, the door behind her opened.

A foul-smelling odor filled the entire house.

However, Aurelia wasn't repulsed but stunned.

Turning around, she looked at the man entering.

Just this morning, he was impeccably dressed in a suit, standing tall and straight.

But now, his damp hair was disheveled, with wilted leaves of rotten vegetables sticking to it.

Even on his black shirt, there were visible stains and scratches.

The once crisply ironed dress pants now clung wrinkled to his legs, with droplets of water falling.

The water that dripped down was tainted in black.

Aurelia's eyes widened.

She simply couldn't imagine what Leslie had went through.

He lifted a black plastic bag, tired.

"I found them."

He set the heels onto the ground and frowned at the dirty water puddle on the floor.

“I’m sorry about that. I’ll clean it up later.”

Aurelia stood frozen in place, unable to regain her senses.

Did he actually find her heels?

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The guards already said that the trash had been taken away and her heels should have been gone good.

Did Leslie really go to the garbage disposal and search for over two hours?

“Mr. Synder!” She grabbed the towel on the couch and ran over.

He raised his hand to stop her.

“I’m filthy. Just check up on the heels.”

With that, he turned and headed into the bathroom.

Chapter 200

Aurelia watched Leslie’s retreating figure and noticed that his hands were trembling slightly.

There was even blood dripping from the tips of his fingers.

She immediately said, "Mr. Synder, thank you."

Leslie nodded and entered the room.

Aurelia walked to the entrance and opened the plastic bag.

Though they were slightly soaked, her heels weren't damaged.

At the same time, she also saw Leslie's shoes.

They were inexplicably cut with large slashes on the surface and sole.

Aurelia felt struck.

Leslie always gave her the impression of an aloof deity.

She couldn't imagine him bending over and seeking over garbage.

Aurelia didn't dwell on the thought.

She turned around and found a cloth to wipe Leslie's shoes.

Then, she placed them together with her own, ready to take them for repair.

She cleaned the entrance and corridor thoroughly and opened the windows for ventilation.

Soon the air was filled with a faint lemon fragrance.

Having finished cleaning up, she entered the kitchen to prepare some food.

When she finished cooking, she tried to plate the food.

However, her hands were still aching and lacked strength.

In the end, she had to put it down.

At this moment, a hand reached out from behind to take the plate from her.

“I’ll do it. You can stand here.”

“Alright.” Aurelia nodded and stood aside.

Leslie reached out and plated the food from a pot.

On his exposed forearm, there were numerous small cuts.

Although they weren’t bleeding, they still looked painful.

“Let’s eat,” he said and turned to exit the kitchen.

Aurelia took the utensils and followed suit.

Throughout the meal, the two of them remained silent.

Aurelia wanted to speak several times, but Leslie’s previous words would echo in her mind each time

she tried.

She was just a purchased item and had no right to express her opinions here.

Thinking of this, she lowered her head.

After a moment, Leslie put down his fork and stood up slowly.

Aurelia found it difficult to swallow the food in her mouth.

Although Leslie helped her find the heels, his attitude remained indifferent.

Just as she was preparing to tidy up the dishes, a medicine box appeared in front of her.

“Give me your hand,” Leslie said in a deep voice.

“Huh?” Aurelia was stunned.

Leslie took her hand and spread her palm.

There was a shallow cut on her palm, but it wasn’t too severe.

He frowned as he looked at the wound and took out the wound ointment he had bought at the pharmacy.

Applying a little on a cotton swab, he wiped her wound.

“It might sting a bit.”

“You...Ah!” Aurelia barely spoke when the cotton swab touched her cut, causing her to gasp sharply.

She couldn’t say anything due to the pain.

After a while, she felt a cool sensation in her palm.

She saw Leslie lowering his head and blowing gently on her wound and was instantly taken aback.

After that, she felt a warmth spreading throughout her entire body.

She tried to pull away, but he pulled her hand back toward him.

“Quit moving around. Don’t you want your wounds treated?”

“Okay.” She stared at him as he treated her wounds.

A strange feeling overwhelmed her.

She didn’t know the meaning behind his action and didn’t dare to think too much of it.

All she knew was that Leslie hated her and that hatred would only deepen if this relationship.

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continued.

“If that’s the case, I might as well...” she thought.

She slowly opened her mouth and Leslie spoke up almost at the same time.

“Let’s get a divorce.”

“I’m sorry about today.”