

In A Flash 251

Chapter 251

Aurelia and Leslie worked tirelessly to complete all the necessary examinations for Mr. Parker,

Since it was an emergency room report, it came out faster than regular reports.

The doctor received the report, narrowed his eyes, and shook his head solemnly.

He spoke slowly, using many professional terms,

He mentioned arterial narrowing, angina, and even stents and coronary artery bypass grafting

Aurelia listened and frowned.

She didn't really understand what the doctor was saying.

"The doctor means that Millie's father needs surgery. The choice between a stent and bypass surgery depends on the family's decision. One is cheaper, and the other is more expensive," Leslie explained as he approached her.

"How much?" she asked.

"There are domestic and imported stents, but they usually only cost a few thousand. As for coronary artery bypass surgery, it should be in the tens of thousands."

The doctor glanced at Leslie and nodded.

"Yes, he's correct. The patient's blood vessels are relatively narrow. However, there are many blockages, which is very dangerous. I hope the family can make a decision as soon as possible."

Aurelia scratched her head in distress.

She couldn't bear to see Mr. Parker in this condition, especially considering her own experience with her mother's critical illness.

Aurelia hesitated to speak. She was thinking of Millie's recent changes.

"Doctor, we're not the patient's direct relatives. We can't make such a big decision. Let's wait for his wife and daughter to come before deciding."

The doctor glanced at the report, then at the patient with a frown.

"Contact his immediate family as soon as possible. The patient's condition might get dangerous at any given moment."

Aurelia nodded and watched the doctor leave.

As she turned around, Leslie was standing straight at the foot of the bed, looking at her..

"Mr. Synder, do you think I'm heartless? It's a matter of life and death, and I'm still hesitating."

Leslie slowly walked to her side, raised his hand, and petted her head.

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“you’ve already done well. This isn’t your duty or responsibility,”

His movements were gentle, and his palm was warm.

Its warmth spread all the way to Aurella’s heart.

She felt a lump in her throat,

Ever since her father passed away, Seth showed his true face.

During that period of the relationship, she frequently doubted herself.

She didn’t tell her mother as she didn’t want her to worry.

Hence, she always just kept it all to herself.

Leslie was the only one who saw through her pretenses and helped her whenever she needed.

Leslie was different, but she couldn’t quite explain how.

Still, this wasn’t the time for these thoughts.

She glanced at Leslie.

“I’ll try giving Millie another call.”

“Sure.”

Leslie felt that Mrs. Parker couldn’t make the decision so Millie had to make the call.

Millie couldn't be reached. So Aurelia had to call her colleague and asked them to pass on the message to Millie.

The colleague she called knew the urgency of the situation and promised to call Millie right away.

Even so, they ended up waiting for another hour before Millie finally showed up.

Before she arrived, the machine connected to Mr. Parker started ringing again.

Startled, Aurelia felt a little helpless. Luckily, she had Leslie by her side.

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The doctor rushed into the room.

He tried rescuing Mr. Parker but after a while, he spoke up.

"It's too late, take him to the operation room."

Mr. Parker had just wheeled into the operation room when Millie arrived carrying a large LV shopping bag.

Aurelia stood frozen in place and glared angrily at Millie.

Only after inquiring about the situation with a nurse, did Millie finally believe the severity of her

father's condition.

Upon hearing that her father was being rushed into the operating room, she rushed over with the shopping bag in hand.

Just as she noticed Aurelia staring at her dumbfounded, Millie angrily approached and delivered a resounding slap.

Aurelia's head tilted, and the sound of the slap echoed in the corridor.

She was utterly stunned.

Even those who were just passing by were shocked.

No one expected Millie to resort to violence.

"Aurelia! Why didn't you send my dad into surgery? You made him critically ill! You just can't stand seeing me do well, can you? You wretched woman!"

Millie raised her hand for another slap.

But this time, she wasn't as fortunate.

Before her slap could land, Leslie grabbed her wrist and twisted it.

The shopping bag in Millie's hand fell to the ground and a new purse rolled out.

"What are you doing? Let go of me! If my purse gets dirty, you'll be in trouble!" Millie protested.

“Your dad is critically ill because you upset him. Yet you’re going around buying purses. Who’s the one really harming your dad?” Leslie said coldly.

Hearing that, the crowd around them began pointing and whispering insults at Millie.

Unable to stand the scrutiny, Millie shouted loudly.

“Nonsense! The nurse said that my dad needed surgery right away, but she didn’t agree to it. She lost her dad, so she wants me to lose mine as well! She’s a vicious woman!”

“She isn’t your father’s daughter. She has no responsibility nor right to decide if your father gets surgery,” Leslie said coldly.

The people around nodded in agreement.

“Huh? I thought they were sisters. Turns out, she isn’t even a part of her family? How on earth is she supposed to make such a call?”

“This lady was the one who rushed the patient to the hospital. I was right next to her. I think they said that the dad had a cardiac arrest because of a fight with his daughter. The dad was in critical condition while his daughter was out shopping. He sure raised an ungrateful daughter.”

“Young lady, you can’t talk to your friend like that. She and her husband have been working so hard to save your father. You’re asking her to make the call for your father’s surgery now. But what are you going to do if something happens to your father?”

Seeing everyone was siding with Aurelia, Millie bit her lip and glared at Aurella with seething hatred.

“Don’t be fooled by her. She just doesn’t want to spend the money. Why else would she deny the surgery after learning how much it cost? She claims to be my best friend, yet backstabs me at chance. Now, she’s trying to harm my dad. I’ll teach you a lesson for that!”

But Millie couldn't move with Leslie grabbing her arm, so she started throwing a tantrum.

At this, the crowd couldn't tell who was in the wrong.

Aurelia's cheek hurt as she listened to Millie's tantrum.

She stared at Millie coldly.

"Mr. Synder, let her go. We don't need to stoop down to her level."

It wasn't like the person who cried the loudest was the correct one.

Leslie pushed Millie away and looked at Aurelia.

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"I'll go

wash my hands. She's filthy"

Upon hearing that, Millie's face paled and stopped crying.

She glared at Aurelia from across the corridor.

Once Leslie was gone, Aurelia didn't bother to speak to Millie.

She watched as Millie picked up her purse and carefully checked on it, before trying it on.

She could not understand why Millie was willing to put up this facade.

Millie even seemed unfazed despite the fact that her father was still in operation.

She wasn't like this in the past.

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As things settled down, Millie sensed Aurelia's gaze and looked up with a smile.

"Aurelia, let's be honest. Despite everything you've done, you're just jealous of me, right? After all, your husband can't compare with Jackson at all," Millie said smugly.

Aurelia didn't bother responding

However, Millie believed she had hit a nerve and continued.

"Jackson's family owns a company, while your husband is just an ordinary worker. You're just trying to stop me from marrying Jackson, right? Well, sorry to break it to you but Jackson and I will always be together."

Aurelia found her tone peculiar, but couldn't quite decipher her intentions at the moment.

Just then, Aurelia felt a chilling sensation on her swollen cheek.

She flinched, only to realize there was something on her face.

It was an ice pack.

Seeing Leslie holding up an ice pack, Aurelia exclaimed, "Didn't you go to the restroom?"

"I passed by the nurse's station and got this. Otherwise, your face might still be swollen tomorrow," he said nonchalantly.

Blushing, Aurelia reached out to take the ice pack.

"I can do it myself."

"Can you see where it's swollen?" Leslie asked.

"Alright, fine. You do it."

Aurelia could only stand in front of Leslie, allowing him to apply the ice.

But, she stood too far away, so he reached out and pulled her closer.

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"Do I have poison on me again?"

"What do you mean by 'again'?" she retorted.

"With how far you're standing away from me s

U

Leslie said with a straight face.

She tilted her face upward. "Is this okay?"

might think that I'm venomous or something,

"Yeah, at least I don't have to keep looking at the top of your head."

Aurelia raised an eyebrow and gave him a stare.

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Across them, Millie tightly clenched her new purse.

The vanity and joy she felt when buying the purse had completely vanished.

She felt devastated watching how Leslie cared for Aurelia.

Why had Jackson never treated her like this?

She was the only one that considered herself his girlfriend.

Jackson never refused or acknowledged anything

Whenever he had urges, he would call her.

They'd have a nice dinner together, spend the night, and the next day he'd buy her a moderately expensive but not too pricey bag and clothes.

Initially, she felt like she was living in a dream.

But over time, she realized that she had unknowingly sold her body away.

She was afraid to cross Jackson and had to meet his needs even when she was feeling unwell.

She feared that he would abandon her and she would have to return to her ordinary life.

As Jackson grew more impatient with her, she became increasingly anxious.

In order to keep the spotlight on herself, she could only do so by directing attention toward her.

She bought gifts for Jackson and bought designer-brand products for herself.

At first, it only cost a little.

Eventually, it kept snowballing, and it ended with her getting online loans.

She knew that they were dangerous, but she didn't want to lose what she had.

She thought she could get Jackson to fall for her, but now he wouldn't even meet her.

This was all Aurelia's fault.

If Aurelia didn't compete with her and drew Jackson's attention, she would never end up in such a state.

Aurelia, on the other hand, got rid of her horrible ex-boyfriend and landed a handsome man who owned a house and a car.

Not only was her husband caring, but even her mother-in-law liked her to the point that she would lend expensive jewelry to Aurelia.

This brought back memories of her meeting Jackson's mother.

That day, Jackson was ignoring her. So, she went to wait for him outside his office.

To her surprise, she ran into his mother.

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She could never forget the contemptuous look on Mrs. Morrison's face when she introduced herself as Jackson's girlfriend.

"Girlfriend? Which one? You seem a little dim-witted, young lady," Mrs. Morrison said before leaving with her bodyguards.

Millie thought that she must've dressed too plainly.

So, she went to buy a set of designer brand clothing after that.

Looking at Aurelia now, she was just wearing a simple dress.

Why did she get the approval of her mother-in-law?

As Millie sank deep in thought, a doctor stepped out of the operation room.

"Are the patient's immediate family members here?"

Millie immediately snapped out of her thoughts. "I'm his daughter."

"He is out of the critical state now. This is the perfect timing for the surgery. You need to make a decision whether you want a stent and bypass surgery. We also need time to prepare."

"H... How much will it cost?" Millie asked hesitantly.

"Just prepare around 14 thousand for now." The doctor estimated a figure.

A conflicted look appeared on Millie's face.

Glancing at the expensive purse she was carrying, the doctor urged, "Well?"

Millie dug her nails into the purse and asked, "Doctor, since my dad is safe for now, can we just opt for minimal treatment?"

The doctor frowned.

He reminded her, "Your father has been in critical states twice since he was admitted. His

allow him to handle much more. You better consider this carefully."

"I... I think I will opt for the minimal treatment." Millie bowed her head.

Infuriated by what she heard, Aurelia rushed forward.

However, someone beat her to it and gave Millie a heavy slap across the face.

Millie stared at the person before her and spoke in a trembling voice, "Mom..."

“You’re not my daughter!”

age won’t

Mrs. Parker pushed her away and turned to the doctor. “Doctor, we’ll pay right away. Please save my husband.”

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“Don’t worry, a bitging surgery would be more appropriate for the current situation. Given the recent critical condition, inserting a stent may only provide a temporary solution.”

“Okay, okay. We’ll follow your advice, I’ll go pay now.” Mrs. Parker sald while sobbing.

The doctor called a nurse for assistance and then entered the operation room.

Mrs. Parker, who usually doted on Millie, turned and glared at her daughter.

“Millie, do you know what you just said?”

“Mom, you’ve already slapped me. If there’s anything you want to say, we can talk about it later. Don’t embarrass yourself in front of so many people.” Millie turned away.

Just then, her mother noticed the bag in Millie’s hand.

Her eyes reddened in anger and she exclaimed, “You bought another purse! Where did you get the money?”

Millie pressed her lips together and remained silent.

your

“These purses cost thousands each, and you bought a whole wardrobe of them. Yet, when dad needed surgery, you stood by and did nothing. Have you lost all sense of decency?” Mrs. Parker asked.

Millie was taken aback.

How did her mom know how much they cost?

Normally, she would make up prices whenever her mom asked.

She violently turned her head and looked at Aurelia.

“Was it you? It must be you who told my mom about this! Aurelia! Are you trying to kill me?”

Aurelia frowned.

But before she could say anything, Leslie stepped in front of her.

He gave Millie a disdainful look.

“Aren’t you the person who’s trying to kill yourself and your own father?”

“Who are you to lecture me? Do you even know who I am?” Millie shouted.

“I know. You’re the woman Jackson doesn’t want,” he said calmly.

“Nonsense! Shut up!” Millie’s eyes

reddened.

“Do you know how much it cost to book the entire Japanese restaurant we dined in?” Leslie asked calmly.

Millie was taken aback and looked at him in puzzlement.

“Based on the menu prices from yesterday, Jackson spent 17 thousand. Judging from the gifts he

bought for you, none of them cost over seven thousand. Do you not get it? To him, you aren’t even worth seven thousand. There’s no way that he would spend 17 thousand to please you.”

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17 thousand?

Aurelia looked at Leslie in disbelief.

Judging from his expression, he wasn’t lying.

Jackson had actually spent 17 thousand to book the entire restaurant.

Clearly, Millie hadn’t anticipated this either.

Her face turned pale, but she quickly regained composure.

She laughed coldly and said, "He didn't do it for Aurelia. Jackson booked the restaurant for me! Don't get ahead of yourselves! He loves me!"

"Enough!"

Mrs. Parker couldn't bear to watch Millie any longer.

"This has nothing to do with Aurelia. I've sold the items in your closet. Had I not done so, I wouldn't have known you were hiding nearly over a hundred thousand at home. You took out loans just to buy these things, yet you won't even spend money to save your dad's life!"

"Mom! What are you saying? You sold my things? Why? Those were gifts from Jackson! What right do you have ah!"

Before Millie could finish her sentence, she received a slap on the face.

This time, it wasn't from her mom. It was from Aurelia.

"Did that wake you up?" Aurelia asked.

"Aurelia! Ah!"

Aurelia delivered another slap.

"The first one is a payback for the slap you gave me. This one is from me personally!"

"Arev

you insane?" Millie was at a loss for words.

“Wake up! You haven’t married Jackson yet, and you’re already burdening your entire family with an enormous debt! What do you have left? Will Jackson help you? He’s leaving the country soon, you think he would help you then?” Aurelia asked.

“Who says he won’t help me? I’ll go with him in a few days.” Millie smiled.

‘Are you insane? Your dad needs you by his side right now, and you want to go abroad with Jackson? Do you know how much money that requires?’ she questioned.

Just because you’re broke doesn’t mean I can’t afford it.”

Millie turned to her mom, holding out her hand.

“Mom, you said you sold my things. Where’s the money?”

Mrs. Parker looked at Millie with despair.

“You... What are you saying?”

Millie frowned.

“Give me back my money. Don’t worry, Mom. Our good days are still ahead.”

Mrs. Parker stared at Millie, finally accepting that her once cheerful and considerate daughter is gone.

“Thanks to Mr. Synder’s help, I managed to sell them at a pretty good price. I used some of the money to pay off some of your loans, and the rest will be used for your dad’s treatment.”

“You’re lying! I don’t believe you!”

Millie took out her phone and tried logging into her parents' bank account to check the balance.

However, no matter how she tried, the login password was always wrong.

"I've already changed the password. Since you aren't reliable anymore, I have to start looking after my savings myself. Oh, I sold the ring you secretly kept in the drawer too."

Millie's eyes flashed with anger and she stormed up to her mother.

"You sold my ring? That was my engagement ring!"

"Engagement? With whom? The receipt in the box showed you bought it yourself. Did you propose to yourself?" Mrs. Parker said.

Millie cried. "Mom, why don't you understand me? I need to present myself in a certain way to gain recognition from Jackson's family!"

Mrs. Parker was sick of reprimanding Millie and frowned in silence.

Seeing as her mother wouldn't help her, Millie walked up to Aurelia.

"Aurelia, you were the one who told my mom to sell my things, right? Who do you think you are? Pay me back all my money! Hand it over!"

"What are you, a bandit? Do you really think I'm a pushover? You claim to be Jackson's soon-to-be wife, so all that money shouldn't mean much to you. Are the Morrisons actually really poor, or are they refusing to acknowledge you?"

Aurelia didn't mince her words.

Leslie raised an eyebrow and gave her an approving look.

From the beginning, Millie's words were contradictory and unreasonable.

The fact that she had to make a loan to look like she was living a luxurious life proved that her relationship with Jackson was coming to an end.

"Aurelia, my mom is easily influenced. Your husband was the one who told her to sell my stuff. If the two of you don't pay me back that money right now, you aren't stepping out of this hospital!" Millie shouted in frustration.

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Aurelia felt like she was dealing with a madwoman, someone impervious to reason or simply unwilling to listen.

She glanced at Mrs. Parker and said, "Mrs. Parker, it's already late. We'll head back first."

Mrs. Parker was tired but hesitant to impose on others further. "Aurelia, thank you so much today.

You head back first."

"Alright."

Aurelia looked at Leslie, and they turned to leave.

However, Millie immediately grabbed Aurelia.

“You can’t leave! Give me back the money! You have an emerald necklace worth over 200 thousand, that should be enough!”

Caught off guard, Aurelia nearly stumbled.

Leslie was prepared and had walked behind her.

He swiftly pulled her into his embrace.

Still shaken, Aurelia heard Leslie’s stern voice.

“Let go! I never mentioned that I wouldn’t hit a woman.”

Without warning, there was a snapping sound.

While Millie’s arm wasn’t broken, Leslie had clearly caused her considerable pain.

Jealous and resentful, Millie released her grip.

Simultaneously, Leslie let go of Millie.

Aurelia clenched her bag strap and glared at Millie.

“Millie, after all you’ve said, you’ve been plotting to take my emerald necklace all along. Let me make it clear—I don’t owe you anything!”

With that, Aurelia pulled Leslie out of the hospital.

Once outside, she sighed heavily.

She took out and set her phone aside repeatedly, unsure of what to do.

Walking beside her, Leslie asked, "Are you thinking of sending the Parkers some money?"

Startled, she mumbled, "You really don't miss anything. Millie said she wants to follow Jackson abroad. In the past, I'd thought of it as a joke. But after what she did today, I feel she's capable of doing it. If she really left, what will happen to Mr. and Mrs. Parker? We used to be close and her

parents treated me well.'

"Then do it," Leslie said calmly.

"You won't mock me, will you? This money was the one sent by you before. I've been tight on living expenses recently, so....

"Why would I mock you? They've treated you well. There's no need to resent them because of Millie. Besides, the money I gave you is yours now."

"Alright."

Aurelia sighed a breath of relief and observed him in secret.

She didn't want Leslie to think that she was a pushover and was wasting money.

But, observing him, he didn't seem bothered.

Confirming Leslie's opinion, Aurelia sent Mrs. Parker a few hundred bucks.

It wasn't much, but it was enough to show that she cared.

She suddenly realized that having someone mentally stable next to her makes everything so much more simpler.

"Mr. Synder, are you hungry? I'll treat you to a meal."

She ran some calculations in her head.

"We've exceeded our budget this month, so we can't go for anything expensive."

"You choose."

Leslie wasn't at all annoyed at how she calculated each penny spent.

She nodded and started looking around.

time.

Suddenly, a car darted out from the side and Leslie pulled her to his side in t

He grabbed her hand and led her forward.

"Let's go."

"Okay."

Aurelia followed behind him.

Not far away, Millie clenched her fists maliciously.

In her mind, Aurelia ruined her happiness.

She doesn't have any right to be happy!

Chapter 257

Aurella and Leslie had a simple meal at a small restaurant.

By the time they reached home, it was already half past eleven.

After a shower, Auella laid in bed, exhausted.

She soon drifted off to sleep and had an odd dream.

In her dream, she was dressed in a white wedding dress.

She took step after step on a long red carpet.

Observing the groom ahead of her, she picked up

The groom was a tall man.

her pace.

The only man she knew with that height would be Leslie.

Was it him?

She reached his side and looked up, only to be terrified by what she saw.

The groom didn't have a face.

The muscles on his face were moving as though he was trying to say something.

"Pay me back. Pay me back..."

She jolted awake and sat on her bed, panting.

Just then, someone knocked on her door.

"What's wrong?" Leslie asked.

"Nothing. I just had a bad dream," she said.

Taking a deep breath, she got up and changed.

When she stepped out of her room, she found Leslie waiting outside.

Taken aback, she asked hesitantly, "Mr. Synder, were you... waiting for me?"

He observed the look on her face and turned around.

"You're overthinking it. It's just a coincidence."

She scratched her head in embarrassment.

“Oh. I’ll go wash up and make us breakfast. Go have a seat first.”

“It’s fine. I’ve ordered us some food. It should arrive soon,” he said.

Upon hearing this, Aurelia paused and turned to look at Leslie.

Was he being considerate since she was still tired from yesterday?

Leslie sensed her gaze and said, “I was tired from yesterday too. I don’t want to do the dishes today.”

“Oh, I see.”

Aurelia nodded while studying Leslie.

He was tall, well-built, and good-looking.

She was quite surprised that he had such low stamina.

On second thought, it seemed to make sense.

He was a programmer who often stayed up late working.

“What are you looking at?” Leslie felt her piercing gaze.

“Huh? Nothing. I’ll go wash up.”

Aurelia didn’t want to tell Leslie what she thought, so she evaded the topic.

After Aurelia was done washing up, Leslie had already prepared the breakfast that had been delivered

“Come and eat breakfast.”

He took a sip of a cup of coffee.

“Alright.”

Aurelia looked at the table and salivated at the sight of hot soup, fresh-made bread, and pastries.

Leslie must have spent quite a bit on this.

She took a sip of the soup and wondered when she would get paid.

Should she try to help improve Leslie’s stamina?

“Mr. Synder, are there any ingredients you don’t like?” she asked gingerly.

“Such as?” Leslie casually asked.

“Such as... Codonopsis? Cordyceps? Pig liver? Red dates? Also, are there certain parts of beef you don’t like?”

Aurelia listed examples one by one.

It was summer now, so she couldn’t cook with overly rich ingredients.

A stew seemed perfect and all the ingredients she mentioned could be used to make stews.

Herbs were a bit expensive.

But since Leslie and Linda treated her well, she didn't mind spending money on them.

Leslie raised an eyebrow when he heard about Cordyceps, and his face darkened at the mention of certain beef parts.

He put down the coffee and asked seriously, "Am I pregnant?"

"No, who would eat bull testicles when they're pregnant?" Aurella blurted out without thinking.

He raised an eyebrow at her and restrained a laugh.

"Bull testicles? It seems like you are trying to boost my stamina."

Aurelia shrunk under his gaze.

"You said you were too tired, right? Bull testicles are good for replenishing energy, especially for someone who stays up late frequently like you."

"You seem to know quite a bit," Leslie said in amusement.

"Well, are you going to eat them?" Aurelia looked at him seriously.

"What do you think? I'm doing well, very well. I don't need them," Leslie emphasized.

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“Oh, then what about...”

“Aurelia, are you going to eat that?”

“No, it’s mine.”

She lowered her head and continued to eat.

It was fine if he didn’t want it. She could save money that way.

Still, she wondered if maybe he was just shy.

With that thought in mind, she lifted her gaze to steal a glance at him.

Leslie sighed and glanced at her.

“Do you need me to prove myself to you?”

Both of them were taken aback by his words.

Leslie had always been cold and distant, so he would never say something like that.

He was shocked himself.

Aurelia bowed her head, flushing to the point that even her ears were red.

“It’s fine. You don’t have to.’

How else could a man prove that he had good stamina?

After a few moments of silence, Leslie sensed the weird atmosphere and changed the subject.

“What kind of nightmare did you have? Why were you so frightened?”

“Well... I dreamt of someone asking me to pay them back.”

Aurelia paused before deciding to only tell him the latter half of the dreamt

If she told him that they were in a wedding together, Leslie might not be able to finish his coffee.

Confused, Leslie asked, “Pay them back?”

She pouted.

“I’ve never had this kind of dream before. I guess we talked about money so much yesterday that it got stuck in my mind.”

She decided to not think much of it.

Getting up, she said, “I need to go now. I won’t make lunchboxes today.”

He nodded. “Sure.”

With that, she took her purse and left home.

When Aurelia arrived at the company, she received a call from Mrs. Parker.

She stopped walking and answered her phone.

“Aurelia, have you reached your office? I wanted to meet you earlier, but I decided to wait until you started your day considering how exhausted you were yesterday.”

“Mrs. Parker, I just arrived at the company. Is everything okay with Mr. Parker?” Aurelia asked.

“The surgery was a success. He seems to be out of the woods for now. I’m truly grateful to you and Leslie for this.”

“You don’t have to thank us. I’m just glad Mr. Parker is fine.”

“Aurelia, you...

Aurelia sensed her concern and prompted, “Mrs. Parker, just tell me what y

you need.”

“Now that you’re at the company, can you check if Millie is there? She told me yesterday that she wants to go abroad. We had an argument and she left. I couldn’t reach her on the phone this morning.

Aurelia sighed softly as she heard Mrs. Parker sobbing and glanced into the office.

She spotted Millie fixing her makeup at her desk.

“Don’t worry, Mrs. Parker. Millie is already at the company.”

Relieved, Mr. Parker said, “Good. Thank you.

“No problem.” Aurelia talked with her a bit more before ending the call.

She then went to her own desk.

As soon as she sat down, she felt Millie’s gaze upon her.

A concerned colleague went up to Millie and asked, “Millie, is your father okay?”!

“He’s fine. How could anything happen to my dad with Jackson around? I’m just worried that some people might intentionally spread rumors and exaggerate things. They make a fuss about such trivial matters, almost as if everyone needs to know.”

Millie spoke highly of Jackson but mocked Aurelia.

Aurelia would have never contacted her colleague had Millie not blocked her number.

Another colleague noticed that Millie’s engagement ring was missing and asked, “Millie, where’s your ring?”

Millie covered her hand and discreetly glanced at Aurelia, afraid of what Aurelia might say.

“Jackson said it’s too small, so he won’t let me wear it. He’s planning to customize a new one for me when we’re abroad,” she said hastily.

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The colleague’s expressions revealed a mix of emotions.

They chuckled and walked back to their seat, no longer jealous of Millie.

Seeing the lack of cooperation from her colleagues, Millie continued, “Why is everyone so silent? Don’t you all have questions? What type of ring should I choose? How many carats?”

A gossip-loving colleague made a sly remark.

“Well, Kimberly lost her ring too. She’s not talking about her fiancé anymore. What a coincidence, Did Jackson break up with you as well?”

Laughter ensued.

Everyone could tell from the incident at the Japanese restaurant that Jackson had no intentions of marrying Millie.

They knew anything related to marriage was just fabricated.

Millie glared at her colleagues, then turned her gaze to Kimberly.

Kimberly’s expression darkened, and she feigned composure while rubbing her temples.

“My uncle said the guy was too old, so he’s planning to find me a new fiancé. Given my family’s conditions, it’s not like I have to settle for anything less. Don’t just compare anyone to me.”

Millie’s expression paled.

She hadn’t expected Kimberly to betray her as well.

Kimberly still remembered Millie mocking her at the Japanese restaurant, so she had no intention of

helping Millie now.

She overlooked Millie's rudeness because she was trying to help Jackson win Aurelia over.

Unexpectedly, the incident at the restaurant had alarmed Jackson's father, and now Jackson was being pressured to go abroad.

With that said, Millie was useless and Kimberly wasn't inclined to play along with her anymore.

People heard what Kimberly said, stifled their laughter, and started ignoring Millie.

Unable to bear it any longer, Millie ran out the office.

Aurelia sighed, not wanting to get involved in the disputes between Millie and Kimberly.

She lowered her head and continued working.

Ever since she secured the project with One Technology, her work has been exceptionally smooth and many companies sought her out.

Given the rapid development of her career, her salary would soon double and the Issues between Kimberly and Millie seemed insignificant in comparison.

At noon, everyone went downstairs for lunch.

Aurelia ordered takeout and went to the restroom after finishing.

When she returned and sat down, she felt something was wrong with her chair.

seemed to have been moved.

Her desk was close to the wall.

To avoid hitting the wall when standing up and making noise, she had developed a habit of getting up while holding the chair in place.

But now, the chair was almost touching the wall.

She rubbed her temples, thinking she might be too sensitive due to recent events.

Shortly after, her colleagues returned from lunch, and Aurelia didn't pay much attention to the chair incident.

Two days passed uneventfully.

Aurelia did a final check at the venue for One Technology's opening ceremony.

Looking at the futuristic tech-themed decor built through her hard work, she felt a surge of excitement.

She wanted to share it with someone.

In the past, she would have taken photos for her social media or made a video to Millie to document her hard work.

However, her current excitement was reserved for a certain someone.

She picked up her phone and hesitated for a moment, ultimately dialing the number.

“What’s wrong?” Leslie’s calming voice came out.

Her heart skipped a beat, but she quickly snapped out of it.

“Well... The venue is ready. Would you like to check?”

“Is that all?” he asked.

She pursed her lips.

“Am I bothering you? Forget it. I’ll hang up now.”

With that, she ended the call with a strange feeling within her.

She felt somewhat disappointed and there was also another feeling that she couldn’t describe.

Shaking her head, she dismissed those emotions and went back to work.

Meanwhile, in the meeting room in One Technology.

Everyone looked at Leslie in shock.

He was furious, yet his tone became extremely calm while talking on the phone.

They couldn’t help but wonder who called and how they managed to calm Leslie down so quickly.

“What are you looking at?” Leslie said. “Meeting adjourned.”

“Huh?” Daniel was shocked. “Adjourned? That’s it?”

Leslie got up and said, “I’m going to check on the event venue. You guys go on.”

As soon as he heard the mention of the event venue, Daniel instantly knew who called.

It had to be Aurelia.

He smiled and said, “Sure, of course.”

Once Leslie left, everyone else turned to Daniel curiously.

Chapter 260

“Who called the boss? Mr. Xenos?”

Daniel turned his head.

“I don’t know.”

“You know but you’re not telling us?” Everyone swarmed him.

“Wah!”

Just as Aurelia was wiping her sweat, someone handed her a glass of cold water.

She assumed it was from one of the staff.

“Thank you.

“This looks pretty good.”

It was Leslie.

She paused and turned around to look at him.

He had unbuttoned three buttons on his shirt and rolled up his sleeves.

The trousers he wore emphasized his slim, long legs.

“Mr. Sydner? I thought you weren’t coming.”

“Did you hear me say that?” Leslie asked.

“Well...”

“You want me to check the place, right? Aren’t you going to give me a tour?” he asked.

“Sure.”

Aurelia smiled and led him to the center of the venue, before signaling at the staff who were resting.

The staff gave her a thumbs-up and turned on the switch.

Aurelia initially wanted Leslie to assess the overall effect, but the staff turned on the spotlight above them instead.

The spotlights focused on them.

Then came a wave of dazzling lights, resembling a scene from a romantic novel where a proposal takes place.

Aurelia looked at Leslie in bewilderment.

Leslie observed the changing beams of light around them and said, "Did you call me here for this, Aurelia? You've got quite the personal agenda."

Flustered, she accidentally stepped on the edge of the platform and began to fall backward.

Leslie quickly reached out and pulled her back.

In that instant, a bright spotlight shone down on them.

Aurelia couldn't see Leslie's expression due to the blinding lights.

The surrounding crew members all applauded, but Aurelia was extremely embarrassed.

Leslie wouldn't think she brought him here just for this, would he?

"Ms. Simmons, you two look perfect together," the staff said with a smile.

Aurelia hastily straightened her back and pushed Leslie away.

"Mr. Synder, it's not like that. I just..."

“Just what?” Leslie asked.

“Just...”

Aurelia was about to come up with an excuse when she heard her phone ringing.

She assumed that Zachary was calling to ask about the on-site situation and quickly answered.

Unexpectedly, it was a colleague on the other end.

“Aurelia, hurry back to the office! Something big has happened. Your creditor has come to the company and is causing a scene.”

“Creditor? What do you mean?” Aurelia exclaimed.

“Why did you borrow so much from online loans? Are you out of your mind? How is this any different from a usurious loan? If you’re in trouble, just say so. You didn’t have to borrow money to buy a necklace just to compete with Millie.”

“Huh?” Aurelia asked.

“Come back now! Ah! Don’t break anything!”

The phone call ended amid the shocked exclamations of her colleague.

Aurelia felt her blood running cold.