

In A Flash 291

Chapter 291

With that in mind, Leon strode toward the dance floor.

Upon seeing Leslie's expression, the others didn't dare to provoke him and hurriedly cleared the

dance floor

Only Aurelia and teste remains).

"As Simmons, would you do me the honor of dancing with me?" Leon interrupted the two and extended a hand to Aurelia with a subtle sucer playing on his lips.

Aurelia hesitated.

Amidst the cowl's fearful gazes, Leon's smile took on a more profound meaning as he completely disregarded Leslie.

Although Leon knew that Aurelia was married to Leslie, he had still openly challenged Leslie in public. This was not just retaliation against Leslie but also an attempt to humiliate One Technology

A mere programmer like Leslie could either openly disregard the heir of the Synder family at the company's opening banquet or swallow his pride and yield his wife to another man.

Either choice was fatal for Leslie.

Would he choose his career or his pride?

Tension rose as the music continued playing in the background.

Some well-intentioned individuals actually began talking to Leslie.

“Mr. Synder probably just wants to be friends with Ms. Simmons. You’ve gained another friend, so you should be happy about it.”

“Ms. Simmons is an event planner, so she must have danced with many guests before. Mr. Synder rarely extends such invitations. You should be glad.”

“Don’t just think about yourself. Consider the company as well.”

Aurelia paled, and her blood ran cold.

The same group that had just been indifferent now seemed to have changed their tune, appearing eager to please Leon.

Was it because she and Leslie were just ordinary people?

She glanced at Leslie’s tense expression and held his hand tightly.

Before Leslie could speak, she declined, “Thank you for your offer, Mr. Synder, but I’m not feeling

well and would like to rest for a bit.”

Aurelia didn’t want to cause trouble for One Technology and Leslie at this moment, so she could only

excuse herself by claiming to be unwell.

A hint of displeasure flashed across Leslie’s eyes. He hadn’t expected Aurelia to refuse him.

Did she really think that organizing such a grand ceremony for One Technology and having at husband who was just an employee there would gain her support from One Technology's boss?

He refused to believe that One Technology's boss would openly oppose him over a mere employee.

The next moment, Leon directly grabbed Aurelia's wrist and forcefully pulled her in front of him.

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"Ms. Simmons, you must be a particularly considerate woman for you to be here for your husband despite feeling unwell. You must care a lot about him, right?"

While it sounded like a compliment, it was actually a threat to Aurelia.

If she refused to dance with Leon, Leon would see to it that Leslie would become an outcast in

Seacester.

Aurelia paled, and her hand trembled. How could a commoner like her face up to Leon?

Leslie may be capable, but he was powerless when compared to Leon.

Leslie had a bright future ahead of him. She would never forgive herself if he lost his job because of her.

Leon felt her trembling and smirked smugly as he stared at her dangerously.

Aurelia tried her best to calm herself down. She told herself that she couldn't compromise or give into his demands. She couldn't give him what he wanted.

Others would view her as the woman who abandoned her own husband for vanity. No matter how hard she tried to explain afterward, they would only see what they preferred to see.

Leon was killing three birds with one stone. He was attacking her and Leslie while humiliating One Technology.

He was raised in a prestigious family, so the way he operated

was surely more complicated than a normal person.

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In addition to being well-informed, he knew how to manipulate people.

Under such circumstances, she knew that she couldn't give in.

As countless thoughts crossed her mind, she could sense the warmth from Leslie's palm.

She turned to look at him, and he simply nodded as if he was telling her that he would always be around.

She knew that he wasn't staying silent on purpose. He was giving her a chance to explain herself

This was a matter of her own virtue, and she had to be the one to defend herself. Anyone else who tried to defend her would be viewed as protecting her.

Leslie had her best interests in mind.

Aurelia pursed her lips so that her lips regained its crimson color before smiling at Leon.

“Mr. Synder, thank you for your compliment. Everyone knows that your father is the most charitable man in Seacester. He donates the most money each year, especially for the cause of providing education to women in rural areas.

“Since you were raised in a family with such respect for women, I’m sure that you’ve inherited such generosity as well. How else would you know that I care a lot for my husband? Thank you.

She enunciated each word, and Leslie added, “Indeed, they do respect women.”

He then forcefully withdrew Aurelia’s hand from Leon’s grip.

ab

This act was a blatant challenge to Leon, and his expression darkened.

Leon and Jackson were entirely different from each other.

Jackson was born into wealth. He had been doted on since childhood, and he knew everything about enjoying life. So, he would throw a tantrum if things didn’t go his way.

In contrast, Leon was an heir raised with strict upbringing. His every word and action reflected his elite education, forbidding him from acting unrestrained in public.

Hence, when Leon reached out to grab hold of Leslie’s collar, it shocked everyone present.

Even more surprising was Leslie’s agile response. He dodged Leon’s attempt, almost causing him to fall.

Fortunately, Leon’s assistant swiftly caught him.

Furiously, Leon pointed at Leslie. "I will show One Technology the consequences of offending me."

"Just because my wife refused to dance with you?" Leslie asked casually.

People looked at Leon in hesitation, seemingly surprised that the Synder family had raised such an heir.

Leon straightened his suit angrily and said, "Call your boss out. Don't play tricks with me."

Glancing at his watch, Leslie said coldly, "Mr. Synder, the timing is just right."

"What timing?" Leon couldn't comprehend the situation before him.

Suddenly, the screens went black, and the service robots around all stopped at the tables. Their large eyes blinked before turning black as well.

Aurelia became nervous.

Could it be a glitch in the program?

Leslie gave her a reassuring look, indicating that this was part of the plan.

The black screens and the robots' screens slowly lit up, revealing the silhouette of a man seated in the darkness.

"Welcome to One Technology's opening ceremony. I am Ian."

A mechanical voice echoed throughout the entire factory, exuding a futuristic and technological vibe in the spacious venue.

At this moment, all of Aurelia's designs and arrangements took the event to an unprecedented peak.

The guests were astonished as they looked around at everything, feeling like they had stepped into the future.

No one knew what the future held, but this event allowed room for imagination.

Aurelia's design of the future included seemingly cold high-tech elements, the vitality of plants, and the warmth of the combination of humans and technology.

The exposed and rusted machinery from the old era also gave guests a realistic outlook of how the times had changed.

People couldn't help but give their praises in hushed tones.

"I'm getting goosebumps. This voice combined with the venue's setup is simply perfect."

"This is the most unique design I've seen in all the banquets I've attended recently."

Meanwhile, Aurelia stared at the screen without blinking.

Why did the silhouette of this man look so familiar?

Aurelia was contemplating why the figure on-screen gave her such a familiar feeling when Jan started talking again.

“Today, we’ve invited you all here to our opening ceremony to witness the launch of our new product.

After he finished speaking, the screen changed again, revealing One Technology’s new product.

Aurelia didn’t quite understand all the special terms mentioned. However, judging by the expressions of the crowd and especially Leon’s, the new product seemed remarkable.

It had actually surprised the heir of the Synder family.

When the presentation concluded, a large line of text appeared on the screen: “Developer – Leslie Synder.”

It was Leslie! Aurelia looked at Leslie in astonishment.

She had always thought that Leslie was very intelligent, but she didn’t expect him to be this accomplished.

Before she could congratulate him, on the screen, Ian slowly approached the camera. The silhouette in the darkness made Aurelia’s heart race.

She finally understood why Ian seemed familiar to her. It was because he resembled Leslie.

However, Leslie was right beside her, so how could he appear on the screen simultaneously?

Ian’s lips parted slightly, and he said slowly, “The game has begun.”

With those words, the screen lit up. Applause filled the hall, and the atmosphere became lively. However, Leon turned his head with a fierce expression and glared at Leslie.

Unfazed, Leslie looked back at him and said coldly, "Sorry, Mr. Synder. I was one step ahead of you. I hope you like this gift.

"Why you..." Leon wanted to say something but was eventually stopped by his assistant.

He left with a dark expression.

Aurelia withdrew her gaze from the screen and looked at Leon's retreating figure. "Mr. Synder, why is he so angry?"

"The Synder family's new product development has been stagnant, and we just launched our new product ahead of them.

"Their monopoly now has a significant hole unless they can surpass us completely. Why would he be happy?" Leslie explained.

"So, your boss intentionally invited him to attend the ceremony just to deliver this fatal blow in

public

"Yes." Leslie nodded.

"He's impressive. With so many people watching, Leon wouldn't dare to act recklessly. It's also a great way to promote his company," Aurelia said, admiring him sincerely.

Leshe frowned with a conflicted look on his face.

Leslie didn't speak When Aurelia looked up, she found that he seemed a little displeased.

What was wrong? It couldn't be because she had praised him, right? He couldn't be that childish, right?

"Mr. Synder, I think you're even more amazing. When your product was revealed, everyone's eyes lit

I'll treat you to an extra meal tomorrow to celebrate the successful launch of your product,"

added

Leslie gave a hum and nodded contentedly.

Aurelia couldn't help but stifle a laugh. She hadn't expected the usually stern and majestic Leslie to have such a childish side.

Catching her in the act, Leslie asked, "What's so funny?"

Aurelia stifled her laughter and cleared her throat. "It's just... I didn't expect you to be so funny at

times."

Leslie instantly understood what Aurelia was referring to. With a serious look, he said,

overthink it."

This only made her want to laugh even more.

"Don't

She really wanted to capture a video of this side of Leslie. From her current perspective, she noticed that Leslie looked a lot like Ian.

Was she mistaken by any chance?

Her smile faded, and she asked gingerly, "Mr. Synder, have you noticed that you look similar to your boss?"

Leslie remained expressionless, but his gaze became probing. "No."

"Alright. I guess I was just overthinking." She shrugged.

Their features looked similar, and they had similar builds as well, so she found some resemblance between the two.

Leslie's gaze appeared conflicted as he stared at her skeptically. "You've always been curious about my boss, and you keep mentioning him in front of me. What are you trying to do?"

Aurelia was taken aback when she sensed the tension in the air.

"You're mistaken. I just think the two of you look alike. Well, I guess there's indeed something I want to do," she explained.

"What is it?" Leslie asked tensely through gritted teeth.

However, Aurelia was deep in thought and didn't notice the shift in his expression. Instead, she smiled mysteriously.

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"Mr. Synder, after your success in this event, you should be able to get a raise, right?"

Leslie was taken aback. Looking at Aurelia's expression, he knew that she was actually speaking her

mind.

When he didn't respond, she pouted.

"I knew you wouldn't say anything even if I asked you about it. We've been together for quite a while now, but you're still so wary of me."

Leslie froze, and a strange feeling rose within him.

Ever since the incident with his family, he had developed a skeptical nature. He couldn't trust anyone or feel any real joy from life.

He tried his best to fill his schedule with studies and work so that he wouldn't need anyone or anything.

After seeing all the pretenses and hypocrisy in the business world, Aurelia's sincerity seemed out of place.

Despite all the drama in her life, she still tried her best to enjoy it. She never tried to act perfect, and she didn't mind if her flaws were exposed.

Meanwhile, Leslie had to think twice before revealing any emotion.

He was indeed wary of Aurelia.

Looking at her, he said, "I did get quite a big raise."

Her eyes lit up, and she clapped her hands. "Congratulations. I thought I was doing great, but what I've done seems like nothing compared to your accomplishments. It seems that I still have to work

hard."

"You're doing fine."

"Huh? Mr. Synder, what did you just say?"

Leslie's voice was so soft that Aurelia didn't hear him clearly.

When she asked him to repeat his words, Leslie turned away to drink his champagne.

Aurelia didn't dare to ask further and focused on eating. During this time, she felt several eyes on her. Turning around, she noticed the employees of One Technology staring at her in shock.

"Mr. Synder, why are your colleagues looking at me like that?" she asked.

Leslie glanced in their direction, narrowing his eyes and frowning.

The crowd turned around and dispersed so hastily that Aurelia couldn't even get a clear look of what

they looked like.

"If they know that we are married, will it be a problem for you?" Aurella was worried that she would cause trouble for Leslie.

"Are you the one who's going to have a problem with it, or am I?" Leslie retorted.

"No, I thought that you.

She thought that he didn't want others to know.

"If they know, they know," Leslie said, calmly sipping his champagne.

Aurelia was taken aback, and she blushed.

A short distance away, several people approached Daniel and grabbed his arm. It caught him off guard, and they escorted him away.

"What are you doing?" Daniel withdrew his arm and straightened his suit.

"Mr. Xenos, be honest. How did Ms. Simmons become the boss' wife?" a colleague asked.

"Hush, don't talk nonsense!"

"Is it true?" The others were surprised.

"Don't blame me for not warning you. Don't expose the boss' identity in front of Ms. Simmons and the others. Remember, the boss is now just a programmer. Keep it to yourself, or else..." Daniel paused, then raised his hand to draw a line across his neck.

"Is the boss into roleplaying?"

“Well... You can think of it that way.” Daniel nodded.

He was roleplaying as a programmer after all.

“I didn’t expect the boss to be into such things.” As soon as that person finished speaking, he was hit.

on the head.

“You don’t want to live anymore?”

“I’m just kidding. So, is Ms. Simmons really our boss’ wife?”

“Probably, but the two of them look so awkward together. Why are they standing so far apart while chatting?”

“Maybe Ms. Simmons is shy?”

“For the sake of our boss’ happiness, we must do something.”

Having said that, the group headed toward Aurelia.

Daniel had no time to stop them. It was all over for them now.

Chapter 295

After eating, Aurelia felt a little thirsty, so she took a sip of water..

Just as she took a sip, her name appeared on the screen.

Shortly after, as the patterns on the screen changed, fireworks filled the entire screen.

In accordance with the event's technology theme, Aurelia had installed mosaic screens in various sizes throughout the venue and had even suspended large screens on the ceiling

As the fireworks unfolded, the trajectories of the falling fireworks extended along the surrounding screens before finally disappearing on the ground-level glass screens.

This created the illusion of a real fireworks display. Surprisingly, at the end, a signature read, "Gift from Leslie."

Aurelia was so surprised that she almost choked on her water. She covered her mouth and swallowed

hard, then turned to look at Leslie.

Leslie rubbed his forehead. He wished he were dead... No, he wished he could kill someone.

Aurelia smiled. "Thank you. Did you know it's my birthday today?"

Leslie was startled. "What?"

Aurelia took out her new ID card. "You must have seen it last time, right? Thank you. I haven't celebrated my birthday for a long time. But wouldn't your company be upset with you?"

Since her father's death, Aurelia had been afraid to celebrate her birthday. Her father used to buy her a cake every year, and her mother would prepare delicious food for her.

After her father passed away, her birthday only served as a reminder of her incomplete family.

Gradually, she got used to it. Still, she didn't expect Leslie to give her such a big surprise.

"It's not a big deal," Leslie assured.

He looked at the happy expression on Aurelia's face and didn't have the heart to burst her joy.

It was just a fake firework show, but she was this happy?

He found himself staring at her in a daze as tears formed in her sparkling eyes.

However, she hid it well, quickly smiling and narrowing her eyes to stop the tears from falling.

Leslie immediately turned away to give her some space.

After a moment, Aurelia regained her composure, and Leslie turned back to look at her.

She looked at him and said softly, "Thank you.

How could she not know that Leslie had turned away just now for her?

He glanced at her, then reached out to hold her hand and walked toward the exit.

"The banquet isn't over yet. Where are we going?" she asked in surprise.

"It's none of our concern anymore."

She fell silent.

Aurelia could only follow him.

Behind them, the employees of One Technology received a text message from Leslie notifying them of a salary increase.

“The boss has finally come to his senses!”

“See, I knew this would work. The boss couldn’t even sit still!”

AS SOOD

After leaving the banquet, Aurelia followed Leslie to the city center. as she got out of the car, she saw a huge cake shop in front of her.

She looked at Leslie in confusion.

“I saw it on the way. Since it’s your birthday, let’s get one,” he explained.

Aurelia pointed to the roads on both sides, none of which led to their home.

“This is hardly ‘on the way.

“Do you want it or not?” Leslie asked, feeling slightly embarrassed that he had been exposed.

“I want it.”

She turned around and entered the store. She knew that Leslie didn’t like cakes much, so she chose at

smaller six–inch cake.

After the staff prepared it, he said, “Sir, you can write a message on the cake yourself. Would you like to do it?”

Aurelia felt that Leslie would never do such a thing. Just when she thought he would refuse, Leslie took the piping bag from the staff.

He lowered his gaze and slowly wrote “Happy Birthday, the golden one” on the cake.

Aurelia looked at the words he had written and felt a lump in her throat

It had been so long since someone knew the meaning of her name.

She was abandoned as a child, so her adoptive parents had given her a name that meant “the golden one”, hoping that she would live a good life.

However, most people didn’t think much about her name, and some even thought that it was just a random name. #

She would explain the meaning of her name seriously whenever anyone asked, but the others would just dismiss it.

Only she herself knew how grateful she was to have been taken in after being abandoned as a child. She loved her name and held the meaning of it dear.

So, her heart raced when she saw what Leslie had written.

She sneakily took a photo of Leslie with the piping bag and saved it in an album.

When she looked up, Leslie was already standing in front of her. She lowered her head guiltily, hoping that he hadn't seen her taking the picture.

To her surprise, Leslie only handed her a tissue.

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"Why are you crying?"

Only then did Aurelia notice that she was crying.

She raised her hand to wipe her tears, but he stopped her and lifted her chin.

He asked, "Do you want to smudge your makeup?"

"I... forgot." There were tears streaming down her cheeks, but her expression was conflicted.

The next moment, Leslie carefully wiped her tears away with the tissue.

She clenched her fists to steady her breath, but she couldn't take her eyes off Leslie's face.

"Um... The cake has been packed," the staff said awkwardly.

"Thank you," Aurelia said, desperately wanting to hide herself. Not wanting Leslie to notice anything, she grabbed the cake and sat in the back seat of the car.

Leslie got into the car and glanced at her without saying anything.

On the way home, Aurelia felt extremely awkward and toyed with the ribbon on the box. Suddenly, she stepped on something when she moved her feet.

She lowered her gaze and saw an almond and a lipstick.

“Mr. Synder, this car...”

“It belongs to the company.” Leslie assumed that Aurelia was asking about the car because it different model from his usual car.

“No, I mean to ask why there’s lipstick and an almond in the car.”

She stretched out her arm and showed him the items.

Leslie tensed.

He recognized the lipstick. He had seen Cynthia use it when she was touching up her makeup.

was a

As for the nut, the driver cleaned the car daily according to his instructions, and it was impossible to miss such a big nut.

Moreover, he was the only one who used the car, and the driver wouldn’t dare to lend it to anyone else. Apart from Aurelia, only Cynthia had been in the car today.

No further explanation was needed for him to know what had happened.

However, Leslie didn't tell Aurelia what was on his mind and simply said, "Someone else must have dropped it. I'll ask the driver about it when I return the car tomorrow."

Aurelia nodded and placed the lipstick on the front passenger seat.

Upon reaching home, she noticed that it was almost time for dinner and got up to cook.

To her surprise, Leslie stood up and said, "I'll do it. Let's have pasta tonight."

slightly taken aback, she asked, "Can you cook?"

Leslie didn't say anything and walked directly into the kitchen, seeming a little upset.

Aurelia didn't dwell on it and comfortably sat on the couch.

Just then, Linda sent her a message.

"Aurelia, happy birthday."

The message was accompanied by a transaction of 1500 dollars.

"Mom, how did you know that it's my birthday? And why did you give me so much money?"

"Leslie reminded me just now. It's a good thing that he did, or I would've forgotten.

"He must have been worried that you'll feel sad about not being able to celebrate your birthday with your mother since she's in a coma, so he contacted me. Take this money and buy something you like."

"Thank you, Mom."

“Then, I won’t disturb you two lovebirds

you two lovebirds any more.”

Aurelia turned to look at Leslie in the kitchen, realizing that being with a man like him could truly

bring her happiness.

Wait. Why was she thinking about the future again?

She quickly patted her cheeks, dispelling these unrealistic thoughts.

Just then, Leslie’s phone on the table rang.

Aurelia walked over and glanced at the screen. An unsaved phone number was displayed on the screen.

Apparently, Leslie didn’t like saving numbers.

But she recognized the number. It was the woman who had called Leslie the last time.

Aurelia quickly took the phone to the kitchen.

Leslie was in the middle of washing vegetables.

Aurelia smiled and said, “Mr. Synder, there’s a call for you.”

Leslie was busy preparing their dinner. He glanced at the number and said nonchalantly, “Answer it – for me.”

Aurelia considered for a moment, then answered the phone.

She stood on her tiptoes so that she could put the phone closer to Leslie's ear. With their proximity, she could hear the woman's voice clearly.

"I seem to have come down with a fever, I'm not very familiar with the medical system here. Can you take me to the hospital?"

The woman's voice sounded weak, and it didn't sound like she was pretending

But why would she seek help from Leslie when there were so many other people in One Technology?

She was supposed to be a valued employee of One Technology, so wouldn't it be better for her to call Daniel instead?

Chapter 297

Aurelia felt weird when she thought about her husband leaving to take care of another woman on her birthday.

However, she was in no position to interfere with his decision. She sighed inwardly.

She could just make her own meal and indulge in the cake alone later.

Just then, Leslie said, "I'm not a doctor. Just call an ambulance."

The woman's breath hitched, and Aurelia fell silent.

As expected of Leslie. He had no mercy even toward women.

But somehow, Aurelia was somewhat pleased.

So, it was that simple for a man to turn down a woman after all.

In the past, Seth had a new female colleague who fawned over him. For a long time, Seth would keep bringing her up whenever he was with Aurelia, but she would only remind him not to cause misunderstandings at the time.

However, Seth would just say that Aurelia was jealous. He claimed that he wasn't helping his colleague just because she was a woman.

In the end, this colleague stole a big client from Seth, and Seth stopped talking about her after that. Hence, Aurelia didn't think much of it.

Thinking back on it, she assumed that it was Seth who had no sense of boundaries, which was why he ended up getting taken advantage of.

If he acted like Leslie, how could his colleague take advantage of him?

Just then, Aurelia noticed from the corner of her eyes that the pot was boiling and the water was almost overflowing.

Panicking, she said, "Mr. Synder, the water is boiling."

She reached out to take the lid of the pot, but Leslie slapped her hand away. "Do you want your hands to get burried?"

"Ouch... Be gentle. My hand isn't hurt from the heat, but it hurts now from your slap." Aurelia pulled her hand back and blew on it.

“Don’t exaggerate.” Leslie took off the lid of the pot. He held a plate of vegetables in one hand and the.. pasta in the other. After a moment’s hesitation, he asked, “Which one should I put in first?”

Aurelia chuckled. “How about I do it?”

“I can do it.”

“Let’s put in the pasta first. We can sauté the vegetables and add the sauce later.”

“What sauce?” Leslie frowned.

“That’s...”

Before Aurelia could finish speaking, she was interrupted by a cough on the other end of the phone.

Aurelia realized that the call was still connected. She quickly raised the phone and brought it close to

Leslie’s car.

Leslie’s voice was calm as he said, “Speak.”

The woman weakly said, “Am I disturbing you? Sorry-”

Her words were interrupted by her coughing. It sounded like she was about to cough her lungs out.

Aurelia squeezed the phone tightly and looked down at the bubbling pot.

Most men couldn’t stand seeing a damsel in distress. Even if Leslie had a heart of stone, he should be moved by this woman who was in such a frail state.

“I’m a little busy. You should call an ambulance as soon as possible and get that treated,” he said.

Aurelia stared at Leslie in shock.

Was he really a stone–hearted monster? No, a stone–hearted monster wouldn’t buy her a cake and cook for her.

Leslie put the pasta into the boiling water. Then, with his free hand, he took the phone and hung up the call.

She worriedly asked, “Will she be okay?”

Leslie said, “Have you watched too many TV dramas? When a woman is sick, why would she look for a man? When one is seriously ill, their first reaction would be to look for a doctor.

“What’s the use of her looking for me? So that I can find her a doctor? Or is she waiting for me to save her? Don’t you think it’s faster for her to just call an ambulance?”

“Uh... That’s true.”

But even so, that woman probably wanted to attract Leslie’s attention, right?

Yet, Leslie...

“I’m married and have no obligation to take care of other women,” Leslie stated bluntly.

“Oh.” Aurelia nervously rubbed her neck.

He had seen through her yet again.

She quickly changed the topic and said, “Hey, the pasta is becoming too soft.”

Under Aurelia’s guidance, Leslie finally managed to make pasta in a flurry of activity.

Finally, Aurelia sat at the table and lit a candle which was in the same flower shape as the ones she had when she was a child. After making a wish, she and Leslie ate the pasta.

Everything was great, except for the pasta, which was a bit lumpy and unpalatable.

After finishing the food and cleaning up, Aurelia and Leslie sat on the couch to rest.

When she turned on her phone, she saw that the internet was flooded with news about One

Technology’s opening ceremony and new product launch, gaining widespread acclaim.

There had been many doubts about One Technology before, but public opinion about the company had taken a positive turn since the new product was launched.

The comments section even had posts from people who weren’t particularly tech-savvy.

“Synder Corporation has talked about launching a new product for a while now, but they kept delaying it time and again. Now, even a new company can outshine them. These years have indeed. been wasted.”

“Synder Corporation hasn’t been doing well in recent years. The new products are always the same old stuff. I have more confidence in One Technology.”

“I thought that Leon Synder’s return would bring some new changes. I heard that his face turned green when he saw the new product at One Technology’s opening ceremony.”

Recalling Leon’s expression during the ceremony, Aurelia felt the urge to laugh.

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She glanced at Leslie, but her attention was instantly drawn away by a burst of music playing in the background.

“Mr. Synder, do you hear anything?”

“It’s coming from the table,” he said.

The two got up and walked over. They found the candle from earlier still playing the birthday song on repeat.

Confused, Aurelia said, “It’s been going on for over an hour now.

“Turn it off,” Leslie said.

“How?”

He shot her a baffled look. “Don’t you know? The staff said that people your age would like this kind of candle.”

"I don't know. When I was a kid, my mom always took care of everything after I blew out the candle. They never went on playing the music for this long. But it's been over a decade. Maybe things have changed."

"I see. Let's get o

"Okay. Good night."

rest.

Both of them assumed that the candle would run out of battery soon.

Later that night, in her sleep, Aurelia felt a headache coming on as she kept hearing a constant noise in the background.

She couldn't bear it anymore and forcefully opened her eyes, only to find that the chanting noise hadn't stopped.

She took a deep breath and sat up from the bed. Then, she carefully opened her door..

Suddenly a figure appeared in front of her, and she almost let out a scream.

"It's me."

As soon as the corridor lights came on, Aurelia saw Leslie next to her.

"Mr. Synder, did you hear some strange noises too?" Aurelia spoke softly and subconsciously moved closer to Leslie.

While she wasn't afraid of ghosts, she still felt a little jittery.

Even with the corridor lights on, there was still a chilling atmosphere.

Leslie looked at her with amusement.

She glanced at Leslie, but her attention was instantly drawn away by a burst of music playing in the background.

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"Okay. Good night."

rest.

Both of them assumed that the candle would run out of battery soon.

Later that night, in her sleep, Aurelia felt a headache coming on as she kept hearing a constant noise in the background.

She couldn't bear it anymore and forcefully opened her eyes, only to find that the chanting noise hadn't stopped.

She took a deep breath and sat up from the bed. Then, she carefully opened her door..

Suddenly a figure appeared in front of her, and she almost let out a scream.

"It's me."

As soon as the corridor lights came on, Aurelia saw Leslie next to her.

"Mr. Synder, did you hear some strange noises too?" Aurelia spoke softly and subconsciously moved closer to Leslie.

While she wasn't afraid of ghosts, she still felt a little jittery.

Even with the corridor lights on, there was still a chilling atmosphere.

Leslie looked at her with amusement.

Normally, people kept their distance when talking to him, but this was the first time someone had voluntarily moved closer to him.

“It’s the candle.” Leslie decided not to continue scaring her.

“Oh?”

A few seconds later, they stood next to the dining table and stared at the candle on the table.

“It’s been so many hours now. Why’s it still playing the song?”

“Let’s soak it in water.”

“Okay.”

Most machines would be damaged when soaked in water, but the candle was different. It continued to play the music even underwater.

Leslie frowned. “I’ll throw it away.

“I’ll come with you,” Aurelia said.

The two put on their coats and took out the trash with them too.

The summer night wasn’t as hot as the day, and the gentle breeze was quite comfortable. The moon and stars in the sky appeared exceptionally bright.

Aurelia looked up at the sky and couldn’t help but laugh when she thought about the fact that they were outside to throw away a singing candle in the middle of the night.

“What are you laughing at?” Leslie asked.

“It’s just... I always feel like you’re one of those high–ranking elites. You’d just have to wave of your hand and people would do everything for you.

“But now, you’re throwing away a candle with me in the middle of the night. It’s quite amusing.”

Aurelia thought that Leslie would feel embarrassed, but to her surprise, he smiled.

“It is indeed amusing.”

“Mr. Synder, you look really handsome when you smile. You should smile more in the future, and stop frowning so much. That’s what I wished for today, you know.”

After speaking, Aurelia realized that she had said too much.

She quickened her pace, but Leslie grabbed her wrist.

“Why?” He looked at her and waited for her answer.

Aurelia lowered her head, unsure of how to respond.

When she had made her birthday wishes, she had wished for her mother’s speedy recovery, for Linda to live a long and healthy life, and the third wish was for Leslie, hoping that he could find happiness.

As for herself, wishes were limited to three, wasn’t it?

Linda and Leslie had helped her through so many difficulties, so she felt indebted to them.

“Why?” Leslie asked again.

“Because... I feel like you’re unhappy and that you’re harboring a lot of sorrow in your heart.” Aurelia looked up at him as she slowly expressed her thoughts.

Leshe remained silent and took a step closer to her. Their eyes met, and the atmosphere between them became somewhat romantic.

Suddenly, curses came from behind them.

“Damn! Who is playing music in the trash bin in the middle of the night? That scared the hell out of me!”

Hearing this, Aurelia grabbed Leslie’s hand and whispered, “Run.”

With that, she pulled Leslie and ran toward the house.

Behind them, someone walked out of the garden and watched them with a malicious expression.

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Back at the house, Aurelia let go of Leslie’s hand and scratched her head in embarrassment.

“I’m going to sleep now.”

“Alright.”

The two returned to their respective rooms.

Aurelia sat on the bed and recalled how she and Leslie had looked into each other's eyes just now. She couldn't help but bury her face into her pillow.

Her thoughts were wandering again.

Just then, her phone vibrated. She glanced at it and saw that Leslie had transferred some money her account at the last minute of her birthday.

He had given her the same amount of money as Linda.

Worried that she wouldn't accept it, Leslie added another message. "I got a bonus today.

"Thank you," Aurelia replied.

She fell asleep that night with a big smile on her face while holding her phone.

Perhaps it was because of what had happened with the singing candle last night, but when Aurelia woke up in the morning, she had a feeling that something was about to happen.

She habitually opened her work schedule.

Today, she had a meeting with the director of a fashion magazine. They were planning to hold a charity banquet and needed to find a partner.

Because of the beautiful event she had done for One Technology, they hoped to collaborate with her company this time.

Aurelia wasn't a superstitious person, but she kept getting a bad feeling, which made her a little worried.

She quickly got up and prepared to go to the company early to make more preparations to ensure that the negotiations would be successful.

After she was done preparing breakfast, Leslie came out of his room. Aurelia handed him a lunch box.

"Thank you." Leslie took the lunch box and sat down to eat his breakfast.

Aurelia finished her breakfast quickly and stood up. "I'll be leaving now.

"Alright."

Aurelia took her bag and left, not noticing that someone was staring at her from a car parked nearby.

After a while, Leslie also left for work. After getting into the car, he realized that the person driving was Cynthia.

"Aren't you sick?"

"I called an ambulance last night. I was fine after getting an IV drip. You know that I'm not one to waste time, so I came over this morning." Cynthia turned around and smiled at Leslie.

"Alright."

Leslie didn't say much as he wasn't interested in the private lives of his employees.

Cynthia pursed her lips, remembering the conversation between Leslie and that woman over the phone yesterday.

He had seemed so relaxed and natural, as if they had been living together for a long time.

After hanging up the phone last night, she still couldn't bring herself to believe that Leslie would treat another woman so well. So, she had driven there.

She had been to this community before and had her name registered, so the security didn't stop her from entering.

She stood downstairs and watched the lights upstairs go out. However, she didn't see Aurelia leave the building, and her heart sank.

Leslie had actually allowed a woman to stay at his place.

She stood downstairs for a long time. When it was almost midnight, she saw Leslie and Aurelia coming outside, so she had hidden nearby and observed secretly.

She watched as the two spoke until Aurelia pulled Leslie and ran, with Leslie smiling the whole time.

This was the first time Cynthia had seen Leslie smile so freely.

Cynthia felt threatened by Aurelia, but she would never allow anyone to take away what belonged to her.

But first, she had to dispel Leslie's suspicions about her.

Cynthia started the car and said, "Yesterday's ceremony was very successful. It's a shame that I had an allergic reaction and couldn't attend.

“In order to find out how it had happened, I called the airline. I thought that they had made a mistake with my meal. It turned out that the coffee I drank when I was leaving the airport was mixed with hazelnut powder.

“Oh, by the way, did I drop my lipstick in the car? There should also be some nuts scattered around, right? Did I dirty your car?”

Leslie glanced at her. “No.”

Cynthia breathed a sigh of relief.

After returning home yesterday, she found that something had fallen out of her bag.

She was certain that it had fallen in Leslie’s car. She didn’t care about the lipstick, but she didn’t want to risk having Leslie discover the pack of nuts.

Chapter 300

That was the reason why she had brought it up today,

She continued, “The stewardess gave me a pack of nuts when I landed, I couldn’t refuse, so just threw it into my purse. It must have opened somehow and spilled inside there, since my purse was filled with nuts.”

Cynthia observed Leslie’s expression through the rearview mirror.

Leslie remained expressionless as he kept his eyes on his phone, “I didn’t expect you to become this talkative after returning to the country,”

Cynthia was taken aback but maintained her smile. “I didn’t want to cause you any trouble, so it’s better to explain everything.”

“It’s fine.”

“Alright.”

Cynthia was overjoyed. It seemed that Leslie wasn’t influenced by Aurelia’s words and still trusted her.

“This is your personal matter. It has nothing to do with work,” Leslie said nonchalantly.

Cynthia fell silent and tightened her grip on the steering wheel.

Leslie didn’t like people who talked too much, so it was already special for her to be able to stay by his side like a friend.

Once they arrived at the company, Cynthia followed Leslie into the meeting room and swiftly started working.

When the meeting concluded, everyone gave Cynthia a round of applause.

“Ms. Whitlock, you never disappoint. You resolved the issue as soon as you arrived.”

“You’re too kind. You guys did a perfect job in the preliminary work, which enabled me to come up with the perfect marketing strategy. It’s all thanks to you,” Cynthia said and turned to look at Leslie. Leslie nodded slightly, indicating that her proposal this time was excellent.

Cynthia couldn’t help but feel delighted. She knew that she was still important to Leslie.

She was mainly responsible for the company’s sales market. Over the years, she had secured 60% of the deals in Leslie’s overseas companies.

Leslie was a businessman, and he couldn't just abandon such an outstanding woman over a beautiful but ordinary woman.

She would definitely reclaim Leslie's attention.

Leaving the meeting room, Cynthia noticed that it was already past ten o'clock. She thought of inviting Leslie to a restaurant for a proper meal together.

However, she was surprised to see Leslie entering a regular office and sitting with many employees. He even took a seat at an inconspicuous workstation.

Surprised, she asked, "Why are you sitting here? What about the office inside?"

"Daniel is using it," Leslie said nonchalantly.

In truth, it didn't matter where he sat.

He had no specific requirements in this regard.

In fact, him sitting here had improved the work efficiency of the people around him by a lot. It wasn't that he enjoyed watching the others work, but when he encountered issues, he could just speak directly without all the unnecessary notifications and reports.

Hearing this, Cynthia froze for a moment.

She quickly came to her senses and asked, "Then, where should I sit?"

"Wherever there's an available seat," Leslie said calmly.

Cynthia consciously placed her files on the empty seat next to Leslie and then turned to face him.

“It’s been a long time since we had a meal together. I’ll treat you today, so why don’t we find a restaurant to have a nice chat?”

Leslie flipped through the documents and said casually, “It’s fine. I brought lunch.”

“Lunch?”

Cynthia momentarily didn’t understand the meaning of his statement and stared at him in confusion.

A considerate colleague explained, “Ms. Whitlock, you may not know this, but the boss has been getting lunch boxes made with love every day. They’re different each day, and the portions are much larger than meals outside.

“Haven’t you noticed that the boss has gained weight? He’s radiant and flourishing.”

After hearing this, Cynthia cautiously asked Leslie, “Who is it? Who’s taking such care to make lunch for you?”

The colleague became more excited as he spoke. “It’s that—Ah!”

His words cut off with a scream as a pack of tissues hit his forehead.

Daniel glared at him and clapped his hands. He said, “Sorry, my hand slipped. It’s the first day of business after the opening ceremony today, and the orders are endless. Hurry up and get back to work!”

The colleague instantly sobered up. Leslie had warned them not to mention anything about the marriage, and he had almost let it slip..

“Boss, I’ll get back to work now.” “Wait,” Leslie said to him.