

Kissed AOM 1921

Chapter 1921

Chloe panicked at the mention of being hauled to the police station. "Mister Lucas, please! I'm innocent... Miss Melody is lying about me!" she pleaded. Lucas scoffed. "Why would she lie about you? If you're not guilty, why did you rush back to wipe the pot of your fingerprints?"

Tears welled up in Chloe's eyes as she struggled to find the right words. "I... I just..."

Lucas lost his patience with her. "Edmund, take her away!"

"Yes, sir!" Edmund stepped forward and dragged Chloe out.

Feeling her crime slowly being exposed, Chloe gritted her teeth and stared at Melody defiantly.

"Lucky you, Melody! Mister Lucas almost bought my story before you pulled this stunt. You're every bit of the scheming b*tch I know you are!"

She became slightly hysterical as tears flowed freely down her face. "You're a wicked woman! You don't deserve Mister Lucas!"

'If I'm going down, then I'm going to drag her down with me!' thought Chloe. She reached out to grab Melody.

Before Melody could react, Lucas swiftly pulled her away and sidestepped Chloe's attempt.

Melody regained her composure and met Lucas's gaze. With her heart pounding, she silently thanked Lucas for swooping in just in time. Otherwise, Chloe might have scratched her. "Thanks," Melody murmured before looking at Chloe.

Chloe, refusing to leave with Edmund, kept her tearful eyes fixed on Lucas.

"Mister Lucas, I've done my job diligently for years without a single mistake! Can't you give me another chance? Please don't send me to the police station. I promise I'll never do it again!"

Melody glanced at Lucas. She worried that he might consider sparing Chloe due to their years of history.

"Edmund, take care of the matter properly. Make sure we never have someone like her in the house again!" Lucas commanded without sparing a glance at Chloe or uttering a word to her. He turned away and left the kitchen.

"Yes, sir!" Edmund responded promptly. He then tried to drag Chloe away again.

Overwhelming fear gripped Chloe. She continued to plead, "Edmund, I've learned my lesson! Please spare me! Don't take me to the police station!"

Nonetheless, Edmund yanked Chloe from the floor, saying, "Miss Melody, I'll take her out now."

Melody gave a brief nod.

Soon after, the wailing of police sirens could be heard coming from the distance. Melody peered out the window to see Chloe being loaded into a police car, despite her futile struggles and resistance. It was evident that the Riveras held a strong view on dealing with matters fairly.

Melody turned around and found Lucas standing behind her.

"Don't tell me you pity her," said Lucas.

Melody shook her head. "No, I don't feel sorry for her at all. She brought this upon herself, so she should bear the consequences."

Lucas narrowed his eyes on her. "Well, Melody, you're brighter than I thought."

Melody pursed her lips. "If I didn't play along and trick her a bit, I wouldn't have been able to prove my innocence!"

Chapter 1922

"Luckily, Chloe's guilty conscience kicked in, or I'd be the one heading to the police station right now!" As she spoke, Melody met Lucas's gaze.

For some reason, Melody felt that there was something different from the way Lucas looked at her than before.

Feeling a bit uneasy under his intense stare, Melody swiftly changed the subject. "Well, Lucas, don't you think you owe me an apology for thinking I'm guilty?"

Lucas turned to look at Melody, who was indeed unique from the others. Apart from Corinne, no one had dared to ask for an apology from him. Nevertheless, he almost fell for Chloe's deceit and wronged Melody.

"Sorry," Lucas said impassively. He then turned and headed upstairs.

It was not the most formal apology, but it was already a significant gesture for Lucas. Honestly, Melody had not expected him to apologize at all. With a slightly changed view of him, she thought Lucas must be hungry after rushing home, so she decided to cook him something.

After Melody finished cooking, she made her way to the study upstairs. She gently knocked on the door and said, "Lucas, lunch is ready. Let's eat together."

A minute later, Lucas opened the door with a stern expression. He followed her downstairs silently.

Melody had already placed all the food on the table in the dining room.

"These are some of my go-to dishes. Give them a try. If they're not to your liking, feel free to share your preferences. I can tailor my cooking to your taste in the future."

"We have a maid. You don't need to do this," Lucas remarked indifferently as he picked up his fork and knife to eat his food.

Beatrice had said something similar to her before. It seemed everyone was telling her that everything in the Riveras' residence was already taken care of and that she was not needed.

However, what else could she do if not cooking? It would not be appropriate for her to be a freeloader in her husband's family.

"I find joy in cooking during my free time. It's a nice way to pass the time!" Melody shared as she began her meal.

Throughout lunch, Lucas remained mostly silent, but he did eat a fair amount.

'Seems like he likes my cooking,' Melody mused.

That afternoon, Melody prepared a meal and brought it to the hospital. During the visit, she shared the details of Chloe's misdeeds with Cedric and Beatrice.

When Beatrice learned that Chloe had concocted the scheme out of jealousy, Beatrice snorted disdainfully. "What was she thinking? Does she really believe just anyone can marry into the family?!" Melody's smile faltered slightly, and she lowered her gaze. Apart from her family name, she and Chloe were essentially the same. Perhaps, in Beatrice's heart, she was not the most suitable wife for Lucas either.

It was fine, though. This marriage would only last for a year. After that, she would have no connection with the Riveras anymore.

"Grandpa, Grandma, give it a try. Do you like them? I didn't leave the kitchen at all this time, so there shouldn't be any issues with the food." Melody handed the utensils to Cedric and Beatrice. She paid the utmost attention to them while they slowly ate the food she cooked.

Cedric and Beatrice both enjoyed the meal Melody had brought. They found them perfect to their taste.

Chapter 1923

From that day on, Melody made it a daily routine to bring meals to Cedric and Beatrice, trying to make up for her kitchen mishap.

As Cedric and Beatrice's health improved, the doctor eventually allowed them to leave the hospital.

Lucas took a break from his work to fetch Cedric and Beatrice from the hospital.

"Grandma, be careful!" Melody assisted Beatrice, helping her settle in the back seat before doing the same for Cedric.

There was no driver, and Lucas took the wheel himself. With Cedric and Beatrice in the back seat, Melody had no choice but to sit in the front passenger seat.

Beatrice observed Lucas and Melody's seemingly harmonious interaction and felt genuinely pleased.

"Have you both been enjoying your time at home these past few days?" she asked them.

She had worried a lot about Lucas's marriage before, but everything went seemingly smoothly. In fact, Melody had been alone at home for most of the time as Lucas had stayed out for most of the time. Lucas seemed uninterested in engaging in conversation, so Melody quickly took on the role of a dutiful wife, smiling as she replied, "We're doing well, Grandma. Don't worry."

Seeing her being so understanding, Beatrice's smile grew even more affectionate. "Melody, I can finally rest easy now that you're taking care of Lucas. Since you two are married, have you considered having children? Your grandpa and I can't wait to hold another great-grandchild in our arms!"

'Crap! How on earth am I supposed to respond to that?' Melody was stumped by the question. She shot a pleading look toward Lucas, silently hoping for some help.

"Grandma, having kids isn't in the immediate plans," Lucas replied calmly. His gaze remained fixed straight ahead as if discussing something as mundane as the weather.

Beatrice was far from pleased with his answer. "You're already thirty. When do you plan on having kids? Melody, don't listen to his nonsense. You should start getting ready for pregnancy."

"I understand, Grandma. We'll...do our best!" replied Melody with an awkward laugh. She blushed as she lowered her head.

Even though she knew there would not be anything intimate between her and Lucas, she still felt shy about this topic.

Beatrice was satisfied with Melody's response. She then turned to Cedric and took his hand. "See, I told you finding someone to manage this brat was a good idea. With Melody around, we can finally rest easy!"

Cedric nodded, agreeing with Beatrice.

Lucas drove smoothly throughout the journey, and they quickly arrived back home.

Melody thoughtfully helped Cedric and Beatrice back to their room, where the servants prepared tea and snacks.

After helping them settle, Melody adjusted the angle of their pillows and said, "Grandpa, Grandma, rest well. Let me know if you need anything."

Beatrice nodded with a warm smile. "Alright, Melody. You must be tired, too. Go and get some rest."

After making sure Cedric and Beatrice were comfortable, Melody went back to her room, but a sudden realization hit her when she reached the door. 'Oh, right... I can't stay here anymore.'

In the past few days when Cedric and Beatrice were away, Melody moved into a guest room for convenience.

However, if she continued to stay in the guest room, it might raise suspicions since Cedric and Beatrice had already returned.

Thus, she reluctantly moved her belongings back to Lucas' room. After letting out a sigh, she was just pulling her clothes off to change into something more comfortable when the bedroom door swung open unexpectedly.

Melody quickly turned her head.

She and Lucas were both stunned to see each other.

Chapter 1924

Melody immediately pulled the nearby blanket to cover herself. "You... Why did you come in without knocking?!"

"Ahem. As I remember, this is my room."

"Oh, I..." Melody just realized that she was in Lucas' room. "I'm sorry, I didn't realize! I thought that with Grandpa and Grandma back, they might get suspicious if we continue to sleep in separate bedrooms..." Melody felt the guilt bubbling in her chest as she rambled to explain herself.

Lucas closed the door and leaned against it. He narrowed his eyes on her and said, "I see you've thought it through. You're right. I'll knock in the future."

"And I'll lock the door when I'm changing," said Melody as she laid down the blanket, straightened her clothes, and stood up.

She looked at the large bed hesitantly. "I'll sleep on the sofa tonight. You can have the bed."

Lucas smiled faintly. "Why should we sleep separately? Didn't you just tell Grandma that you'll put in some effort to give her a great-grandchild?"

Blushing again at the mention of the earlier conversation, Melody stammered, "I... I was just saying that to get them off our case! Besides, we're not really planning to have children, right?"

Lucas found her blushing face to be particularly adorable. Suddenly in the mood to tease Melody, he narrowed his eyes mischievously, walked up to her slowly, and leaned over her.

"Who said we won't have kids? Are you doubting my abilities, or perhaps you think you can't have kids?"

Lucas' proximity made Melody's heart race. She could not help but recall the night they first met and, in particular, his so-called 'abilities'.

Shaking off those thoughts, Melody pushed him away and took a few deep breaths to regain her composure.

"Lucas, please, show some restraint! We're not really married, remember? This is all just a business arrangement."

Her reaction left Lucas unimpressed. He scoffed lightly, then turned and left.

Melody stared at his retreating figure with a frown. 'What the hell is wrong with this guy?' she thought to herself.

After locking the door, Melody finally felt comfortable enough to change her clothes. Just as she finished changing, her phone began to ring.

She went to grab her phone and saw it was her father calling. This was one of those calls she least wanted to answer, but he was her biological father, and she could not possibly ignore him. Melody went to the balcony to answer the call.

"Hey, Dad. What's up?"

"Melody, you're such an ingrate!" scolded Ethan immediately.

Melody's heart sank. As expected, there could be no good news whenever her family looked for her.

"Well, Dad, if you only call me to blabber at me... I'm just going to hang up," said Melody.

"Don't you dare! Do you know that Wendy lost a lot of resources because you've offended a big shot in the entertainment industry? It was her dream to be an actress, and you ruined it!"

Without a clear understanding of the cause and effect, Melody might genuinely believe that she was the one responsible for Wendy's troubles.

However, the truth of the matter was that Wendy was the one who plotted against her, so she deserved the consequences she got. Unfortunately, not only did everyone pity Wendy, but they also blamed Melody for her troubles.

Chapter 1925

"Dad, I'm clueless about the drama in the entertainment industry. Whoever Wendy may have offended, that's her own business! It has nothing to do with me."

Ethan never expected Melody to be so rebellious. "How dare you speak to your father like this! If you didn't want to help Wendy in the first place, why did you agree to go on a date with Mister William? I've had enough of this. Tomorrow, you're coming with us to visit Mister William. You better help Wendy clear up whatever misunderstanding happened that day!"

Melody felt an overwhelming sense of helplessness. It was a matter so easy to understand, yet no matter how she explained it, Ethan and Helen would always blindly believe Wendy.

From Ethan's tone, she could tell that Wendy wrangled herself out of blame by twisting the events of that day again.

Melody took a deep breath and slowly closed her eyes. She felt it was time to make a decisive break.

When Melody opened her eyes again, her gaze was remarkably firm. "Dad, Wendy's issues are hers to deal with. I never promised to go on a date with Mister William for her sake, so I won't be doing any explaining for her."

Without giving Ethan to say anything, she immediately hung up on him.

It was the first time she stood up to her father so bravely. Perhaps it was the assurance that she did not have to worry about being kicked out and finding a place to stay that gave her the confidence.

After that, she continued to organize her things. She had not moved much into the guest room before. After all, she knew that she would have to move back to Lucas' room once Cedric and Beatrice were discharged. Thus, there was not much for her to rearrange.

However, before she could finish organizing, Helen called again. Melody felt a headache when she saw the caller ID. She could tell that her family was really panicking.

She really got to hand it to them for their persistence. After all, it had not even been five minutes since she hung up on her father.

"Mom, if you're trying to push me into meeting Mister William with you guys, you can save your breath. I'm not going!" said Melody as soon as she answered the call. She certainly did not beat around the bush. Helen initially called Melody to lecture her. However, she changed her mind when she remembered the purpose of the call.

"Melody, I know I haven't been fair to you, and I overlook you sometimes..." said Helen in a softer tone.

Melody was taken aback by her unexpected admission, and her tone similarly softened in response. "Mom, what... What do you mean by that?"

"I understand that I've been taking care of Wendy more, and sometimes, it might've been tough on you. But... Melody, I had no other choice," Helen explained.

It was Helen's first time admitting her preference for Wendy, and Melody was unsure of how to respond for a moment.

Melody had been holding onto this grievance in her heart for a long time and never mentioned it to anyone. After a prolonged silence, Melody sighed deeply and asked, "Mom, what's really on your mind?"

"Your dad married me because I was a pushover and could take care of Wendy. If I fail to do that, he'll surely divorce me. Melody, he hasn't said a word to me in the past few days. I'm afraid if things continue like this, he might actually go through with the divorce," said Helen tearfully.

In fact, Melody also understood that her mother's marriage to Ethan had been far from easy.

Chapter 1926

Ethan never truly loved Helen. He married her simply to have a wife who could take care of the household. Of course, there were many capable women like Helen out there. Thus, Helen could not shake the nagging fear that Ethan might cast her aside one day. She chose to sacrifice Melody to solidify her position as Missus Sander.

"What do you want me to do?" Melody knew her mother would not bother her without a good reason. There had to be a purpose behind the phone call.

Helen sighed. "Could you please go with Wendy to meet Mister William? It's a brief meeting, just to clear things up. Once that's sorted, I promise I won't trouble you anymore." Melody was not at all surprised that this was about Wendy. Again.

"Fine, but this is the last time," Melody replied before hanging up. She knew Helen might be putting on a show, yet she chose to help one more time.

After all, this was Melody's final favor for Helen as her daughter. She would have nothing to do with her from then on.

That night, Wendy texted her the time and place for the next day. It was clear this matter had a big impact on her as she was eager to get it over with.

Instead of replying to the message, Melody went to deliver milk to Cedric and Beatrice. When she came out of their room, she happened to run into Lucas, who was about to return to his room.

"I... just delivered some milk to Grandpa and Grandma," she explained.

Lucas acknowledged with a nod and opened the door to their room. Melody followed him in.

She felt a bit awkward as they were in the same room. "I just took a shower, so I'm going to sleep on the sofa now."

"Get on the bed," said Lucas. Then, he laid down on the bed himself. "It's not like we haven't slept in the same bed before."

Melody could not help but feel awkward at the mention of their one-night stand.

"It's okay, really..."

"Grandma might do a room check tonight. Don't worry, I have no interest in doing the deed with you," Lucas reassured before closing his eyes.

Melody bit her lip speechlessly. She reluctantly approached the bed and laid down cautiously.

There was a noticeable distance between them. Melody closed her eyes and nestled closer to the edge to avoid any contact with Lucas.

She was not comfortable with sharing a bed with someone else. She was drunk the last time it happened, but this time, she was fully aware. Consequently, she spent the entire night tense and unable to find a peaceful sleep.

When she woke up the next day, she felt sore all over, and her mood was far from pleasant.

After freshening up and changing into a set of fresh clothes, she headed downstairs.

Seeing Cedric and Beatrice having breakfast in the dining room, she greeted them politely, "Good morning, Grandpa, Grandma."

Melody took a seat and joined them for breakfast. As she did that, she asked, "Is Lucas already at work?"

"Yes, my dear. He didn't allow us to wake you up after seeing how soundly you were sleeping," replied Beatrice with a smile, prompting the servant to pour Melody some milk. "Melody, did you get a good night's sleep?"

Melody smiled back, meeting Beatrice's meaningful gaze. She sensed that Beatrice might be hinting at something else. Blushing, she lowered her head and focused on her breakfast. "Uh, yeah, Grandma. I slept just fine."

Chapter 1927

"Really? That's good!" Beatrice chuckled gleefully. Somehow, her appetite got better.

After breakfast, Melody checked the time and said, "Grandpa, Grandma, I'm heading out with my sister to meet a friend today, so I'll be out for a bit."

"Do you want Grandma to arrange someone to go with you?" asked Beatrice worriedly.

Melody smiled and shook her head. "It's okay, Grandma. I'll be fine."

Beatrice did not insist either. She arranged for a car and spoke to Melody for a bit before letting her go.

Melody was hit with a mixed bag of emotions when she got into the car. It had been a while since she faced her family, and she was not sure what to expect from this reunion.

When she arrived at the agreed-upon location, Melody stepped out of the car and found that her family was nowhere to be seen at the club entrance. She thus called Helen.

"Mom, I'm here. Where are you guys?"

"We're stuck in traffic, Melody, so it might take a while. You should go in first!" said Helen, sounding hurried.

Melody gazed at the entrance of the club and shook her head. "Mom, I've never been to a place like this. I think I'll just wait for you guys at the entrance. I don't even know Mister William, and going in alone feels a bit awkward. I wouldn't know what to say."

"Melody, it's already past the agreed time. It'll seem pretty rude if none of us shows up. So you go ahead, and I promise we'll be there shortly. Remember when you said you'd help me out one more time? Let's stick to that!" Helen insisted.

Melody took a deep breath to calm herself. "Okay, Mom, but this really is the last time." She then hung up.

Melody felt unsettled as she gazed at the fancy-looking club. For some reason, she could not shake the feeling that something was off, and her anxiety grew.

'Okay, let's just deal with this. After this, I'm cutting ties with them,' thought Melody.

After entering the club, Melody located the VIP room number Helen had sent her, knocked on the door, and walked in.

The private room housed a portly middle-aged man. He was William Deloit, the person whom Wendy offended and the same guy she almost spent a night with due to Wendy's scheme.

"Hello. I'm Melody, Wendy's sister." Melody stood at the doorway cautiously while extending a polite greeting.

William smirked repulsively as he stood up and walked over to Melody. His eyes roamed her figure, somewhat impressed, and he chuckled. "I see. Well, you're even prettier than her!"

William's gaze shifted from Melody's face to her body, specifically her chest. "And your figure is quite impressive, too."

Melody had purposely chosen a loose outfit. She could not help but figure out how William could tell anything about her figure.

"Mister William, my family should be here soon. I'll wait for them outside, and we can all come in together," she said uneasily. Melody turned to leave.

However, William was not about to let her go that easily. He quickly stepped forward and blocked the door, saying, "Hey, now that you're here, why bother going back out? Don't worry, your family will be here shortly. Why don't you sit and have a few drinks with me?"

Melody, feeling uncomfortable, stepped to the side to create more distance between them. "Mister William, I don't really drink."

"Come on, have a seat first," William said with a smile as he returned to his spot, gesturing for Melody to sit.

Melody knew that leaving would not be that easy, so she picked a seat as far away from William as possible.

"Mister William, my parents mentioned that Wendy might have upset you. We're here to apologize. Whatever happened, Wendy didn't mean any harm, so I hope you can forgive her."

Chapter 1928

"Wendy? Well..." William sighed with a hint of regret. "She's got potential, good looks, and knows how to carry herself. Unfortunately, she's got a bit of bad luck."

Melody suppressed her discomfort and patiently waited for him to finish before responding, "Acting has always been Wendy's dream. She's put in a lot of effort, and I'm confident that given the right opportunity, she can truly shine as an actress."

Since she was here to smooth things over for Wendy, Melody decided to sprinkle in some positive words, even if she did stretch the truth a bit. As long as she just settled this matter, her family would not bother her anymore.

At least, that was what she thought.

William got up and approached her with a glass in his hand.

"There are plenty of talented and hardworking people in this industry, but the opportunities are scarce. It's all about who can grab those chances."

He placed a glass of wine in front of Melody and stood beside her, quietly watching her.

Melody understood that William wanted her to down that glass of wine to smooth things over for Wendy and possibly secure some opportunity.

Regret washed over her. Even if it meant breaking free from her family, she wished she had not found herself in this situation. After all, these problems were Wendy's, and Melody should not have to endure this kind of humiliation.

She glanced at her phone, but there were still no messages from her family. Maybe this was their plan all along.

"Will everything be settled if I drink this glass of wine?" asked Melody.

William smiled mysteriously and nodded. "Yes. Once you've finished that glass, I'll consider giving Wendy another chance."

"Alright."

Melody rose from her seat, took her glass and the bottle, and poured herself another drink. "Here's to you, Mister William. Please give Wendy more chances in the future."

She then downed the entire content in one go. After that, she placed the wine glass back on the table.

"Is this good enough for you, Mister William?"

William looked quite pleased as Melody downed the glass of wine. He raised his own glass and downed every last drop like she did.

"You're certainly very impressive, Miss Melody! Who would've thought that someone as delicate-looking as you could drink so much!"

After finishing his drink, William returned to his initial spot and signaled for Melody to sit. "Alright, all the misunderstandings have been cleared up! Miss Melody, would you

be willing to finish this meal with me?' Seeing William back in his seat, Melody let out a slight sigh of relief. 'He probably won't do anything inappropriate to me since it's broad daylight outside.'

"Absolutely. This meal is on us! Feel free to order whatever you'd like; no need to hold back," said Melody.

William smiled and began to eat.

"Wendy has mentioned you a few times, always praising your looks and how men find you charming. Now that I see you in person, I agree wholeheartedly with her."

As they continued dining, William lifted his glass again. "Miss Melody, let's have another drink!"

Meanwhile, in the same club...

Lucas had never been one to enjoy socializing, not even for a casual drink with friends. He might have stayed focused on work if it were not for Samuel Zable, his friend, persistently calling him.

"You're always so busy with work that you'll get dull, Lucas. More importantly, I've never seen you go out with a woman before! Who are you saving yourself for?"

Samuel's words nearly made Lucas choke on his drink. He quickly coughed once to cover it up.

Lucas's unusual reaction raised Samuel's suspicions. "Lucas, your response is a bit weird. Have you... You know?"

"Shut up." Lucas stood up, his face darkening, and headed outside. "You guys enjoy your drinks. I need a smoke."

Chapter 1929

As Lucas walked outside the private room, he pulled out a lighter and lit his cigarette.

Amid the smoke, Melody's image appeared faintly before him. He chuckled at himself, wondering if Samuel's words had somehow played tricks on his mind.

After smoking half of his cigarette, he turned to get some fresh air by the window. However, he suddenly felt that something was off, so he turned back for another look.

With no smoke clouding his vision, he clearly got a glimpse of Melody.

The door of the adjacent private room was slightly ajar, and through the crack, he saw Melody raising a glass in a toast with an older man. They were standing very close, their actions seemingly affectionate from Lucas's perspective.

'Heh. So she's no different than the other gold-diggers, then. I've overestimated her,' thought Lucas.

He scoffed, narrowed his eyes, and pulled out his phone to call Melody.

While Melody raised her glass toward William, she noticed Lucas' call. Setting down her glass, she excused herself and walked to the side to answer the phone. "Hello, Lucas."

"Where are you?"

Melody turned to look at William, who was looking at her lustfully.

A sudden wave of embarrassment hit her. She did not want Lucas to know about the messy situation her family had got her into.

"I... I'm having dinner with friends. I'll be home soon," said Melody.

"Friends? Really?" Lucas's gaze grew darker.

"Yes, I'll be back a bit later," replied Melody softly.

Lucas ended the call without saying anything further. He then crushed his cigarette before turning back to rejoin his friends in the private room.

Melody was a little taken aback by Lucas ending the call so sharply. Moreover, she found it odd that Lucas would call her at that time of the day. However, she did not have the luxury to wonder what that was all about; she needed to deal with William. She thus walked back to her seat.

Even though Melody had no desire to make another toast, it seemed William was not going to let her leave easily. Thus, she forced herself to go along with his plan.

"Mister William, let me offer you another toast," Melody said as their glasses clinked. Suppressing her discomfort, she forced down another glass of alcohol.

Her family was still a no-show, and it seemed they would not be arriving.

William looked especially pleased watching her finish the drink. He then reached out to hold Melody's hand. "Melody, with your looks, have you ever thought about joining the entertainment industry?" Melody immediately pulled her hand back, stepping back several paces uncomfortably. "Mister William, please stop! I'm only here to apologize on Wendy's behalf."

William showed no signs of backing off. "Melody, don't be so uptight! Come on, let me hug you. You look so slim, so you must be very light, right?"

Melody felt fear rising in her stomach. "Don't touch me. I'll call the police if you lay a finger on me."

William remained unfazed. Standing up, he approached her slowly. "Call the police? But your parents brought you here. If you call the police, they'd be the first ones to be arrested." "My parents?"

Melody understood. It was just as she suspected they never intended to come with her. They did not send her to apologize. Instead, they sent her to help Wendy continue what she failed to finish that day. Her biological parents had, for Wendy's sake, delivered her into the arms of this sinister older man.

William, dropping his act, began to molest her.

Chapter 1930

As Melody struggled against William's advances, thoughts of Lucas flooded her mind. She regretted the lie she told during that phone call. Maybe if she had been honest, Lucas would have come to her rescue. As she fought back, she felt her body heating up, and her vision blurred. She shook her head desperately. "This drink..."

William smiled triumphantly and slowly walked up to her. "How does it feel? Getting a little hot, aren't you? Don't worry; I'll make sure you enjoy yourself soon enough!"

'What should I do? Can anyone help me now?' Melody thought in despair while she forced herself to walk away from William.

Meanwhile, Lucas returned to his private room and downed a couple of glasses, but his mind was elsewhere. The image of Melody raising her glass to the older man irked him.

At that moment, a call from Edmund came in.

"Sir, I've looked into the incident from that day. Miss Melody was indeed telling the truth. Her sister arranged for her to spend a night with an investor in the entertainment industry. Melody ended up in the wrong room due to being intoxicated, and no one manipulated her to get close to you."

After hanging up, Lucas recalled the 200 dollars Melody gave him that day.

Suddenly, he stood up and walked out, much to his friends' surprise.

"Lucas! Where are you going?"

"To have a smoke," Lucas replied without turning his head.

His friends clicked their tongues. "Smoking again? Didn't you just smoke?"

Lucas strode quickly toward the private room he had just left, forcefully kicking open

the door.

Bang!

'Is that Lucas? Good god... It seems like I'm so desperate that I'm having hallucinations. How could Lucas be here? He doesn't even know I'm here,' thought Melody just before losing consciousness.

"No! Don't touch me!"

Melody jolted awake, her voice echoing in the room. Startled, she sat up and found herself in a bright and spacious place.

Glancing around, she realized she was in a hotel room. The bathroom light was on, and the sound of running water indicated someone was taking a shower inside.

Melody could not help but think of William, who had evil intentions toward her. After drinking last night, she felt a flush of warmth throughout her body. When William attempted to pounce on her, she had no strength left to resist.

"Did I end up sleeping with that gross old man?" wondered Melody with disgust.

She knew she had to get out. She could not bear to face the awful William.

Wrapping herself in a blanket, Melody got out of bed. She searched for her clothes but could not find them anywhere, not even a scrap of fabric.

'Where are my clothes? Did that gross man really have such good taste in clothing? And isn't this size totally not his?' thought Melody when she saw a neatly arranged set of men's clothes on the nearby cabinet.

However, she did not have time to dwell on it. Without much thought, she grabbed a shirt and put it on. After all, it was better than being completely naked.

She then quickly got ready to leave with her bag and phone in her hands.

