

Kissed AOM 1951

Chapter 1951

Melody felt a little awkward as she recalled Lucas' curt words to Sherman. The inferiority that she felt around Sherman during high school only intensified.

"Why are you alone? Where's Lucas?" Sherman was a little surprised to see Melody by herself, but his graceful smile quickly returned.

Melody reciprocated with a smile and said, "Lucas is chatting with a friend, so I decided to go for a walk on my own."

"A friend... Are you referring to Stella?" Sherman asked pensively.

Melody's expression soured at the mention of Stella's name. It seemed all too clear that Stella was indeed Lucas' childhood sweetheart. Otherwise, those around him—say, his cousin Sherman—would not have made the association that it was Stella right off the bat.

"You met her already, I take it?" Sherman went forward. "She's a celebrity with plenty of fans."

Melody nodded. "I have. She's beautiful, but I didn't recognize her at first glance because I don't usually keep up with the entertainment news."

"If I remember correctly, you never kept up with such news even when you were in high school. Other girls crushed on celebrities, but you didn't seem interested at all. You're still the same even after all these years."

She used to be a loner in senior high and never seemed to fit in with the crowd.

"I was just focused on my studies, so I didn't have time for all that," she replied with a smile and omitted any mention of the stress she had to face. It was not like she ever had a good time, anyway. "Then..." Sherman hesitated before finally asking his question. "Then how did you and Lucas get together?"

Melody knew that question was going to come sooner or later. She and Lucas were miles apart from each other in terms of personality and social status. Anyone who saw them together would feel that it was odd, to say the least.

"We met by chance," she said vaguely in a bitter-tinged voice. "But it's not made public yet, so please don't go around telling anyone about it!"

A flicker of sadness flitted across Sherman's eyes, and he mustered a wry smile. "Of course," he assured. "I'm in no position to be talking about that."

He had been giving his all to catch up to Lucas in the past few years, but he started at a time when people were already nearing the finish line. Catching up to Lucas was not going to be that easy. Lucas was helming the Rivera Group, and even if Sherman's family was not reliant on the Riveras for their success, he still did not dare to offend Lucas for any reason whatsoever.

As they were speaking, Melody's phone rang as she received a message from Lucas. [Stella's drunk. I'm sending her home. Tell Edmund to give you a ride back.]

Melody sighed after reading the message. She felt as if she was expendable whenever and wherever.

"Sorry, but I need to go," Melody said, forcing a smile. "It's getting late. Let's catch up another time."

She bid Sherman farewell and left.

A wave of dejection washed over her as she walked away in her high heels. She did not call Edmund because she wanted to clear her mind by walking alone.

As beautiful as high heels were, they were absolutely torturous to wear. She grew frustrated and eventually took them off to walk barefoot. Glamorous things were simply anathema to her.

All of a sudden, a familiar white car pulled up and the window lowered to reveal Sherman. "Get in. I'll take you home."

Chapter 1952

Melody hesitated to enter the car. It was only when the car behind honked at Sherman that she hopped in. "Sorry," she mumbled.

"You don't need to apologize. It's not like you did anything wrong," Sherman reassured her as he continued to drive. "Let me send you home. Did you move in with Lucas, or are you staying at the Riveras' estate?"

Melody froze as she adjusted her skirt and said with a smile, "At the Riveras' estate. You should know where it is, right? You can just drop me there."

"Yeah," Sherman answered with a wry smile. The remaining journey was silent, up until they reached the destination.

Sherman parked the car and suggested, "Let's exchange numbers. It'd be great if we could grab coffee sometime in the future."

Melody nodded and exchanged numbers with him.

Sherman tucked his phone away and said with a smile. "It was good seeing you today, Melody. Take care."

Melody waved goodbye and went into the Riveras' estate.

Sherman felt a combination of bitterness and regret as he looked at her walk past the gates. He wondered if things would turn out differently if he had returned sooner.

Melody was unaware of his thoughts, however. She was exhausted after going through so much that day, especially since she had to wear a fancy dress and high heels. The emotional rollercoaster she just experienced weighed even heavier on her mind. She had previously made a firm decision to confess to Sherman if she ever had the good fortune of meeting him again. Unfortunately, her situation rendered that impossible, and she felt unworthy of someone like him.

"Melody! You're back!"

Melody looked up and saw Beatrice coming over to greet her. She quickly plastered on a sweet smile and asked, "Why are you still up, Grandma?"

"I was worried because you and Lucas haven't returned yet." Beatrice then held her hand and said, "You look lovely tonight! Did Lucas bring you to dinner?"

"Yes. We went to a banquet together," Melody said with a smile.

"Where's Lucas, though? Why isn't he with you?" Beatrice probed.

"Lucas...will be back later. Something came up." Melody glossed over the details since it would be out of the question for her to tell Beatrice that Lucas had to send another woman home. Seemingly sensing that something was amiss, Beatrice took her hand and led her to the sofa. "You can be frank with me, Melody. Did Lucas upset you? Why else would you come back on your own?" Melody was taken aback by the old woman's perceptiveness, but she had to keep up her facade. "No, not at all, Grandma. Don't worry. Mister Lucas had something important to attend to. I'm not upset at all." "That's good to know," Beatrice said. "Since Lucas is willing to let you stay by his side, I'm sure he views you in a special light. He might look cold on the outside, but he has a very warm heart. You'll know when the time comes."

Melody knew that Beatrice desperately wanted her to get along with Lucas, but the old woman had no idea that Lucas was perpetuating a lie. Their marriage was a sham. Romantic feelings never existed between, and nor would it ever arise in the future.

Chapter 1953

Lucas had to have a soft spot for Stella. They were childhood sweethearts after all, and his entire demeanor toward her was a stark contrast to his distant attitude with Melody. The thought of that left Melody feeling downcast. She viewed the Riveras' estate as a temporary place to stay, as she would end that marriage and leave Lucas forever after a year. "What's gotten you so lost in thought, Melody?" Beatrice's question snapped Melody back to reality.

Melody forced a smile. "Oh, umm... Nothing much, Grandma. I was just thinking about what I should cook for breakfast tomorrow."

"As much as I love your delightful cooking, you shouldn't trouble yourself with these duties. Lucas married you because he wants to give you a good life," Beatrice stated earnestly. Melody was a responsible young woman, but Beatrice could not bear to see her doing those duties at home. After all, the Riveras did hire servants to do all that.

Melody understood that Beatrice did not want her to toil at home, but she viewed the simple act of cooking some meals for the old lady as a way to ease her mounting guilt of living a lie. "Speaking of Lucas," Beatrice began worriedly. "Did he say what came up? I wonder what it is that needs his attention at such a late hour."

Melody froze. If Beatrice learned that Lucas sent Stella home, their sham marriage would be exposed.

Lowering her eyes, Melody avoided Beatrice's gaze and explained, "He told me it was an urgent company matter."

"But it's already after hours! Is it that urgent?" Beatrice grumbled. "Even if something needs his immediate attention, he should've sent you back first before heading over! The company isn't going to crumble just because of a short detour."

Melody frowned slightly. Lying was not her strong suit, especially not toward someone who was treating her with such kindness. Beatrice's warmth and concern for her only filled her with increasing guilt. "He did arrange for Edmund to send me back," Melody said.

Beatrice looked at Melody's frown and said with a heavy heart, "I didn't think you'd resort to dishonesty just to protect him. I saw the car that dropped you off. It wasn't Edmund's."

"You saw that..." Melody looked up in shock when she realized that Beatrice had seen Sherman dropping her off.

Beatrice knew that Melody was not the type to lie and was only doing so to alleviate her worries. She took Melody's hand and patted it gently. "Don't be nervous, Melody. I don't blame you. I just feel that you deserve better."

"Mister Lucas is treating me well. I understand his situation. Running a large company is demanding, so it's natural for him to be busy," Melody insisted earnestly. Beatrice sighed. "Okay. It's getting late. You should go get some rest."

Melody wanted to further explain things, but she feared that she might make things murkier than they already were. With a sigh, she took heed of Beatrice's suggestions and went to her room. As soon as she went in, she hurriedly gave Lucas a call.

Her frustration grew more and more when all her calls to him went unanswered. Since she was unable to reach him, she typed a message. [Grandma knows you didn't send me home. I told her you went to the company. You can double down on that when you return.]

Melody slumped back after sending the message. She was unsure if Lucas would see it before returning home, but she had already done all that she could.

Chapter 1954

Melody rubbed her temples as she sat on the sofa. She felt drained, and she was just about to close her eyes for a moment's rest when her phone buzzed with a message. Thinking it was a reply from Lucas, she opened her eyes slowly and picked up the phone.

[Hey, Melody. Have you slept?] The message was from Sherman, rather than Lucas.

She typed back in a neutral reply. [Not yet, but soon. Thanks for sending me back today.] [You're welcome. We should keep in touch. If you need anything, don't hesitate to ask.]

Melody stared at the phone for a while and sent a polite emoji in response before setting it aside.

She was not naive. Sherman's attitude toward her during their encounter felt like more than just friendly nostalgia. Alas, she was in no position to reciprocate.

All of a sudden, the sound of a car engine resonated through the silent night. Melody got up and walked toward the balcony.

Lucas had returned, and she wondered if he had seen her message. Beatrice was still waiting downstairs, and she already knew that the old lady was going to ask him some questions. Worried about exposing her lie, Melody considered going down. However, she hesitated and drew her hand back when she reached for the doorknob.

Perhaps it would be better for them to just wait and see.

Tired from the day's events, Lucas entered the house and headed upstairs after taking off his shoes.

"Lucas," Beatrice called out from the living room. "Why did you return so late?"

"There was an issue at the company. Why are you still up, Grandma?" Lucas asked and turned to look at the old lady.

As Beatrice approached, a whiff of unfamiliar perfume reached her nose. That scent certainly did not belong to Melody as she never used any perfumes.

"Come with me to the study. We need to talk," Beatrice said as she walked toward the study with a sullen expression.

Lucas frowned and thought over it for a moment before following her in.

"Sit down," Beatrice said firmly. "Melody is a good girl, Lucas."

Lucas raised his eyebrows. "Why are you telling me that all of a sudden?"

He wondered what it was that Melody did to be praised in such a manner.

"Where did you go after the banquet?" Beatrice pressed, seeing his intention to avoid the topic.

Lucas thought for a moment before answering, "Something came up at the company, so I had to go there. Why is that an issue, Grandma?"

Chapter 1955

"I don't usually meddle in other people's business, but you're now married, and Melody is my granddaughter-in-law. I have to speak up for her," Beatrice rarely spoke with such sternness toward Lucas. "Do you know how she returned home today?"

Lucas could not understand why she was asking that question. "Didn't Edmund send her back?"

Beatrice scoffed. "Edmund? Don't try to fool me! She returned in another man's car. One of our maids happened to see that and relayed that information to me! How could you let your wife take a ride home with someone else?"

Lucas frowned, wondering who it was that sent Melody back if it was not Edmund. It later struck him that it could have been Sherman. The thought made him incredibly unhappy. That woman had disregarded everything he said to her and continued to interact with Sherman!

"Melody is a woman. You married her, so you must respect her! Never let anyone else send her home again. She's your wife, which means she's your responsibility," Beatrice said.

Lucas did not show his displeasure in front of her and merely nodded in acquiescence. "I assure you that it won't happen again."

"Good," Beatrice said as she retrieved a brochure from her drawer. "And now that we're on the topic of making sure that Melody is treated right, you'll have to hold a proper wedding for her. I've consulted some wedding planners, so find a time to talk to Melody and see which ones she likes."

Lucas eyed the brochure but did not reach out to take it. "Melody and I aren't planning a wedding. She doesn't like grand things anyway, so a simple certificate will do just fine."

"Nonsense! You cannot deny a young woman her wedding after she willingly marries you! Did you really buy her excuse that she didn't want it? She's probably just a little shy. All women dream of walking down the aisle in their wedding dress!"

The reason he married Melody was to appease his grandparents, not turn the whole thing into a grand affair that would only complicate their one-year charade. However, Beatrice's insistence left him cornered, and he took the brochure for the sake of keeping up appearances. "You're right, Grandma. I'll discuss it with Melody."

Beatrice was finally satisfied. "You can go get some rest now. Show these to Melody before bed. Let me know later on which ones she prefers."

After Lucas helped Beatrice to her room, Lucas headed upstairs and opened the door to see Melody fast asleep on the bed.

He went over and mercilessly. "Wake up!" he barked.

Melody was not truly asleep, of course. She was just pretending to avoid that confrontation. They had nothing to say to each other, and she was thoroughly appalled that he would be so inconsiderate as to rouse her up like that.

He loomed over her and asked coldly, "I underestimated you, Melody. How dare you complain to Grandma about me?"

"Complain? When did I do that?" Melody did not understand what he was accusing her of, but she soon began to piece things together. "I didn't complain! Grandma saw Sherman sending me back and asked where you were. I just said you were at the company. Nothing else."

Melody felt unjustly accused and sat up. "Didn't you see my message?"

Lucas' suspicion waned slightly after checked his phone and saw the unread message. However, the thought of Sherman sending her home caused his expression to turn cold once more. "Why didn't you call Edmund? Why did you let Sherman send you instead?"

Chapter 1956

"Sherman is my senior in school. Can't an old schoolmate offer me a ride home? It's late, and Edmund has got off work. I'm not his boss, so I can't ask him to specially come and give me a ride." Melody found that Lucas' attitude was unreasonable, so she did not explain to him nicely.

Lucas scoffed and said, "Old schoolmate? Are you sure that he's only an old schoolmate? May I remind you, Melody, you're no longer single during the contract period, so you should be mindful of your actions and keep a distance from other men!"

Melody frowned. "Well, I didn't do anything inappropriate, and it's not like I cheated on you! On the other hand, Lucas, weren't you the one who left me behind to send another woman home? If anyone's being inappropriate here, it's you!"

Lucas could not argue with that.

A silence fell over them. Feeling awkward, Melody tried to smooth things out.

"Lucas, I don't want to argue with you. I just hope you could put yourself in my shoes, and be mindful of your actions since you're no longer single either. You ask me to cooperate, but you yourself are doing the opposite. Sometimes I don't even know how to explain to Grandpa and Grandma! Besides, if you can leave me behind to send Miss Stella home, why can't I ride in Sherman's car? Don't you think you're being unfair?" protested Melody aggrievedly.

Lucas was the one who sent someone to bring her to him, but he left her alone for Stella instead.

'I didn't want to bring this up, but how dare he turn the table and accuse me of behaving inappropriately!' thought Melody while she glared at Lucas.

Lucas realized he was at fault, too. He should not have left her there alone, so he decided to let it go.

Lucas explained to her patiently, "You're right. I should be careful of my actions too. However, you should understand that the Rivera family isn't any ordinary family, Melody. It'll affect the company's stock price if there's a scandal. Now that you're Missus Rivera, you shouldn't be too close with other men, even if they're merely your friends. There are always people trying to stir up a scandal."

Since Lucas' tone was nicer, Melody calmed down a bit and answered, "I know. Don't worry, I'll be extra careful from now on! We'll look out for each other. You should try to keep a distance from other women too, so I don't need to explain to Grandpa and Grandma anymore."

"Will do."

As Lucas was about to go to his study, he remembered the pamphlet in his hand, so he tossed it on the bed and said, "Grandma asked me to pass this to you. Take a look when you're free." He then left the room.

Melody took the pamphlet and flipped through it. She was not interested in it, so she put it aside and went to bed.

The next morning, Melody heard that Lucas slept in the study the previous night.

Beatrice thought it was Melody who had kicked him out of the room. Not only was she not angry with her, but she even gave Melody a thumbs up and said, "That's the right thing to do! You should kick him out of the room again if he did anything wrong in the future. Let him know not to mess with you."

"Grandma, I didn't..." Melody smiled helplessly. She did not know how to explain to Beatrice, especially when she should not be telling her the details.

"You don't need to explain anything," said Beatrice with a sly smile.

Since she could not make it clear, Melody decided to let it go so she would not mess things up further. After all, everyone thought of her and Lucas as a married couple, so it explained why Beatrice would get the wrong idea.

Melody did not mind the misunderstanding, especially one that helped her gain a little prestige from the servants.

After having breakfast with Beatrice and Cedric, Melody returned to her room to check her email on the computer.

She had been sending out resumes lately. To pay off the three million dollars she borrowed from Lucas, she had to find a job and start earning money. She also needed to plan for her future.

After Melody graduated from college, she had been trapped at home by the Sanders, so she had no working experience. Although her educational background was good enough, it was still challenging for a college graduate with no work experience to get a good job.

Chapter 1957

Melody had been sending out many resumes, but no one responded to her applications.

"Why is it so hard to get a job?!" grumbled Melody as she looked at her empty inbox.

She laid down on the bed and scrolled through her friend list on the phone.

Thanks to Wendy, Melody did not have many friends during her student days. After she graduated, only a few of them kept in touch with her. The closest friend she had was a girl named Mabel Lowe who used to work on group projects with her in college. Both of them kept in touch with each other occasionally.

Melody tapped on Mabel's name in the chatbox. After a short hesitation, she sent a message to her.

[Are you there?]

[What's up, old friend?] Mabel replied shortly.

[Are you free to meet up?]

[Sure! I've got plenty of free time!]

They chatted for a while and decided to meet for lunch.

The thought of meeting a friend cheered Melody slightly. She decided to dress up a little for the occasion.

When she opened her closet, she found many brand-new clothes hanging in there. All of them were in her size. Puzzled, she asked the maid, "Whose clothes are these? What are they doing in my closet?"

"Old Missus Rivera got them for you, Ma'am," answered the maid respectfully.

'They're from Grandma?' thought Melody with surprise. She was deeply touched by Beatrice's thoughtfulness.

Since she did not have any nice clothes of her own, Melody picked a white dress from what Beatrice got her and put it on. She then took a bus to the place where she would be meeting with Mabel.

When she saw Mabel from a distance, she hurriedly walked up to her and held her hands. "It's been a while, Mabel!"

"Yeah, you sort of disappeared after you graduated! What have you been up to?" Mabel took a good look at Melody while she held her hands. "Wait a minute. Something's not right..."

"What's wrong? Is there something on me?" asked Melody uneasily as she checked her dress.

Mabel stared at her suspiciously. "You're wearing a designer dress! This should cost at least a few thousand dollars! Did you win a jackpot or something?"

Melody was dumbfounded. She lowered her head and looked at her dress. 'What? This dress costs a few thousand dollars?'

She knew Beatrice would not prepare something of poor quality, but she did not expect it to be something that expensive!

"Umm... It's not like that. This is actually a knockoff. You know me, I'm too broke to buy any designer clothes."

"I see, but the quality of this knockoff is absolutely amazing!" Mabel was amazed by the quality of her dress. She then looked at Melody with concern and asked, "Is your family still treating you badly, Melody?"

Chapter 1958

Mabel was aware of how Melody's mother abused her trust many times. Back at college, Mabel had tried to help Melody several times, but it was all for naught.

"Everything's fine. I've moved out from home. Sorry to say, but that's why I asked you out today. I was wondering if you could do me a favor..." said Melody embarrassedly.

Melody did not really have any freedom when she was staying with the Sanders, so she seldom contacted Mabel. However, when she needed help, the only person she could think of was this friend whom she rarely kept in touch with. As ashamed and awkward as she felt, she knew she had no choice.

"Nothing to be sorry about! What do you have in mind? I'll help if I can!" Mabel looped her arm with Melody and led her into the restaurant.

After they were seated in the restaurant, Melody passed the menu to Mabel and said, "Order whatever you like, Mabel. This meal is on me."

Mabel thus ordered a few dishes that she wanted. "So, what is it that you want me to do for you, Melody?"

Melody bit her lip lightly and said hesitantly, "Umm... I was wondering if you have any jobs for me. I need money now, so I really could use a job..."

"A job, huh?" Mabel pondered for a while, then thought of something. "As a matter of fact, I do have a job for you! One of the companies my company is collaborating with is hiring. It's an advertising agency. I think you can apply for it since your educational background fits their requirements."

Melody's eyes lit up. "Really? Do you really think so?"

"Of course! You're very talented, Melody. You should be more confident about yourself!" Mabel took out her phone and sent a picture to Melody. "There, I've just sent you the hiring details. Send your resume to them, and I'll give the person in charge a call. If they find you suitable, they'll contact you for sure!"

Melody glanced through the hiring details. Not only did she fulfill all their requirements, but the job also did not require any working experience. It seemed very promising indeed!

"Mabel, you're my lucky star! If I'm hired, I'll buy you another meal. A super expensive one!"

"Deal! I'll look forward to that super expensive meal! I bet you'll get hired by that company, then you'll become one of their most valued employees, and you're going to get rich! Don't you forget about me then, Melody."

Melody laughed. "I sure won't."

The two talked and laughed during their lunch. Then, they walked to the subway station together and bade each other goodbye before heading back to their respective homes.

When Melody arrived home, she turned on her computer and sent out her resume to the advertising agency. After sending the resume, she could not help but worry.

Even though she fit all the job requirements, her resume was nothing impressive. A big advertising agency like that must have received countless job applications. They probably would not call her for an interview if they had better candidates.

'Dear God, please let me have this job. I promise I'll work hard!' prayed Melody silently.

She needed a job so she could start paying off the three-million-dollar debt. Perhaps then she could save some money to start a new life after leaving Lucas.

Melody felt restless the whole afternoon as she waited for the company's reply.

That evening, Lucas did not come home again. Melody did not think much about it since she did not really care whether he came back or not. After all, he would be the one in trouble when Cedric and Beatrice found out about it, not her.

The next day, Melody turned on the computer without much expectation. To her surprise, she did receive a reply from the company!

Chapter 1959

Melody's application had been accepted, and she was invited to their interview!

She was extremely happy to see the interview request. Even though it was only an interview, at least she received an actual response this time.

This was a chance of a lifetime for Melody, so she had to make sure that she was physically and mentally ready for it. She took out what little savings she had to go shopping at the mall nearby. The clothes Beatrice prepared for her were too luxurious and glamorous, so she could not wear them for the interview. Not wasting any time, Melody said goodbye to Beatrice and went out alone. She walked around the mall and saw a decent suit. She tried it on and it was perfect. However, it was quite pricey, so she deliberated on whether to buy it.

Suddenly, she heard a familiar yet loathsome voice.

"Hey, isn't that my dear sister Melody?"

Melody frowned. She turned around and saw Wendy, who was surrounded by her group of girl friends.

Melody never heard from the Sanders ever since she gave them three million dollars. She thought they were out of her life for good, but alas, fate had other plans.

Judging from Wendy's appearance and the shopping bags in her hands, there was no doubt that she was enjoying a good life with that three million dollars.

Melody had no interest in knowing how the Sander family was doing, nor did she want to talk with Wendy, so she went into the dressing room to change back into her own clothes. She wanted to stay away from Wendy as much as possible. Out of sight, out of mind.

However, before she managed to leave, Wendy blocked her way. "Huh, I was right. You can't possibly afford the clothes here. You're just here to try them on for fun, aren't you? After all, a girl like you is only worthy to wear my hand-me-downs!"

Melody decided to buy the suit after all, so she ignored Wendy and walked up to a salesperson.

"Hi, please wrap up the suit in the fitting room. I'll pay by card."

"Sure, just a moment, please."

Melody handed her card to the salesperson to pay for the suit. Just as she was about to leave, Wendy blocked her way again. Wendy was not going to let her go so easily.

"I see you're living a good life as a mistress, Melody. You didn't even blink when spending the money of another woman's husband."

Wendy's friends started to make fun of Melody while they glanced at her with disgust.

Melody tried to ignore Wendy. However, the more she ignored her, the more Wendy insulted her.

She stared at Wendy coldly and said, "I'm sorry, miss, but do I know you? I'm going to sue you for defamation if you continue to spout nonsense like that!"

"What kind of attitude is that? I'm your sister! Is that the way to talk to your sister?" Irritated, Wendy raised her hand to slap Melody.

Melody grabbed Wendy's hand and scoffed. "And now you want to hit me? You better get something straight: I'm not the old Melody Sander anymore. From the moment that I've given you the money, I am done with the Sanders, including you! You're no longer my sister, so you have no right to judge me or point a finger at me, got it?"

Melody flung her hand and left before Wendy could react.

Wendy stood there dumbfoundedly. She had never thought that Melody would turn into such a tough character one day.

Chapter 1960

Wendy's friends began to snicker between themselves when they saw what happened.

Wendy finally realized that Melody had just embarrassed her. She stomped, swearing that she would teach that little b*tch a lesson next time.

The next morning, Melody woke up early to dress up for the interview. She then went downstairs in her new suit.

"You're early today, Melody. Going somewhere?" Beatrice looked at her dotingly and noticed her new suit. "Oh, you look smart today, dear. Are you meeting up with friends? Well, you young ladies should dress up more often!"

"Grandma, I actually have a job interview today," answered Melody bashfully. She then looked at the time and said, "It's almost time. I need to go now, Grandma. Can't be late for the interview! I'll talk to you again when I'm back!"

"An interview? Let the chauffeur drive you there then!" Beatrice did not stop Melody from going to an interview, but she insisted on getting the chauffeur to take her there.

Melody wanted to decline, but the Riveras' estate was quite far from the company that she was heading to, and it was difficult to get a cab at that hour. Thus, she decided to accept the offer. "Alright. Thank you, Grandma! Sorry for the trouble."

The chauffeur sent her to Parr Group. Melody was no doubt exhilarated as she stood at the building's entrance.

'Man, I hope everything goes well today. Then I can finally earn my own money,' thought Melody.

She took two deep breaths and entered the building. When the front desk learned that she was there for the interview, they instructed her to go to the third floor and wait in the waiting room. Melody saw many of Parr Group's employees along the way. All of them seemed to be frantically working at their jobs.

In a way, she envied their busy life. At least, they could work hard for their dreams and lives. She, on the other hand, never had a life of her own.

As Melody walked toward the waiting room, her mind went through the questions the interviewers might ask afterward. She had to make sure that she could answer all the questions perfectly. "Melody Sander."

Melody paused as she heard the voice that had been haunting her like nightmares. When she turned around, she saw the last person she wanted to see at that moment-Wendy.

'Is she a ghost or something? Why does she keep showing up around me?' thought Melody.

Melody decided to ignore Wendy and keep walking.

However, Wendy blocked her way and shouted, "Melody Sander! Are you deaf? Didn't you hear me calling you?"

Melody tried to walk past her, but Wendy kept blocking her way. Finally, Melody had enough.

"Wendy, I have something important to do today, so please leave me alone!" warned Melody.

Wendy glanced at her from head to toe before she grabbed the file that Melody was holding to her chest.

"Oh, a resume! So you're here for an interview? Hahaha! Aren't you thinking a bit too highly of yourself? Quit dreaming! This is Parr Group, for goodness' sake! You don't even have any working experience, so how can you possibly pass the interview?"

Melody took back her file. "This is none of your business, Wendy. Get out of my way!"

"Wendy, what are you doing? Time for shooting. Let's go!"

Wendy had loads more to say to Melody, but the staff urged her to hurry up after checking the time.

Wendy replied to the staff with a smile and left hurriedly, but not before shooting a death glare at Melody.

Melody sighed with relief. Frankly, Wendy did not faze. Nonetheless, the interview meant a lot to her, so the last thing she wanted was trouble.

After composing herself, she walked into the waiting room.