

Kissed AOM 2321

Chapter 2321

Thalia had just asked him to prescribe her two bottles of pain relief spray. How could the doctor be so foolish and miss out on earning money for nothing?

The doctor, despite being glared at, remained unruffled. He simply lowered his head to avoid Thalia's gaze and kept saying, "If you're not sick, there's no need to come to the hospital. Although you paid, it's still a waste of medical resources, isn't it? Miss Thalia, you can leave with Mister Lucas now."

Lucas lowered his gaze to hide his expression, but even Thalia could sense the icy chill emanating from him.

"Lucas, don't listen to this doctor's nonsense. My leg clearly hurts, but he insists there's no problem. He's an incompetent quack... Can we go to another hospital?" asked Thalia.

She reached out to grab Lucas' clothes to continue pleading. However, Lucas stepped back, leaving Thalia's hand grasping at thin air.

"Leave now if you're not sick. Don't waste the doctor's time. There are plenty of other people who need medical attention!"

He simply held Melody tightly and left the ward. He did not care whether his words had hurt Thalia.

He held Melody tightly in his arms until she could not help but gasp out in pain, then he realized what he was doing and relaxed his grip a little. "Sorry, I didn't mean to use so much force." Melody shook her head. "Are you angry?"

"Yeah, shouldn't I be?"

He was angry with Thalia and also with himself for being fooled by her. He knew very well that Thalia was the most sensitive, prone to fussing and jealousy. He would not have been so anxious about her if she had not been injured.

'Thalia was the one who caused all the drama today, yet she had the nerve to pretend to be injured and make me worried!' thought Lucas.

However, the unluckiest one in all of that was Melody, who was forced to follow them into the forest and get injured. Not to mention, Lucas had scolded her without giving her a chance to explain herself. Feeling sorry for Melody, Lucas hugged her even tighter.

"How are you going to punish Miss Thalia for her wrongdoings?" Melody's tone was calm but attentive, as she wanted to know whether Lucas would punish the woman who caused her to sprain her foot and disrupt the peace of the family.

Lucas was unsure how to respond to this question.

Thalia was an adult, an independent individual responsible for her actions. Besides, who was he to punish Thalia? He was not her boss or her parents, so how could he punish her?

"She did do something wrong, but the punishment is not mine to give."

Melody's heart skipped a beat. 'So even now, he's still unwilling to punish her, even though all of this is her fault... Seems like he truly cares about her...'

Since Lucas had said so, Melody did not want to stir up any more trouble for herself.

Quietly, he carried her into the car. When Lucas fastened her seatbelt and wanted to talk to her, she closed her eyes, pretending to rest.

Thinking that she had indeed been through a lot, Lucas decided not to bother her any further.

After getting into the car, he drove back steadily, maintaining a consistent speed along the way to ensure Melody could rest more comfortably. In this peaceful atmosphere, Melody fell asleep.

Chapter 2322

After getting out of the car, Lucas carried Melody back inside.

Surprisingly, Beatrice and Cedric had been waiting for them in the living room, even though they were both clearly nodding off with their eyes closed.

"You're back! What did the doctor say?" Beatrice greeted them and walked with them to the sofa.

Melody held Beatrice's hand and said disapprovingly, "Grandma, Grandpa, you should go to bed first. I'm fine, really."

Beatrice's forehead creased with persistent worry. "How could we sleep when you two hadn't returned from the hospital? Don't worry, we don't sleep much at night either, given our age." As Melody struggled to get down, she said, "Alright, now that I'm back, you and Grandpa can go to bed with peace of mind."

Beatrice nodded, instructing Lucas to take care of Melody before heading back to the room with Cedric.

"Are you hungry? Do you want me to fix you something to eat?" Lucas asked, but Melody shook her head. She did not have much of an appetite, even though she had skipped dinner. Lucas decided to prepare some hot oatmeal for her later, perhaps during their usual late-night snack time, to fill her stomach.

Shortly after they returned, Raymond also came back carrying Thalia. He looked resentful, just greeting them briefly before hurriedly leaving the living room.

There was a small building adjacent to the mansion specifically built for the security guards and kitchen staff to live in.

Thalia, seeing the two of them quietly sitting on the sofa, could not care less about Melody being nearby and smiled at Lucas, trying to placate him.

"Lucas, it's best if you don't bring Melody to that hospital next time. The first doctor I had was really incompetent. The new doctor I saw prescribed a lot of topical medications for me." Melody, upon hearing Thalia mention her, did not even raise her head.

'I wouldn't have sprained my ankle if it weren't for her today!' thought Melody.

She felt irritated at not being able to return to the set for a while. As for how Lucas would punish Thalia, or whether he would punish her at all, it had nothing to do with Melody anymore. She just wanted to finish dealing with this matter as soon as possible and return to her room.

Lucas did not respond to Thalia. He only asked Melody, "Didn't you just say you wanted to go back and rest? Shall I carry you back to the room first?"

Melody nodded.

Thalia watched resentfully as Lucas carried Melody back upstairs. When she found herself alone in the large room, she could not hold back any longer and threw all the pillows from the sofa onto the floor. 'Who does that Melody think she is? How dare she ignore me?' thought Thalia.

The thought of such a person becoming an actress filled Thalia with even more hatred. She immediately picked up her phone and opened the app 'Surf', which she had not used in a long time.

She had signed up on this app just to keep track of Lucas' activities in New Capital City. After all, he was a business tycoon, and any slightest movement of his had many people discussing it on this app.

It was through that app that she learned that Lucas had married an actress. She was utterly shocked that a family like the Riveras would allow an actress to marry into the family.

'If an actress can marry into the family, then so can I! After all, I'm so much better than Melody!' thought Thalia.

Chapter 2323

Thalia's favorite pastime was browsing through various online forums where people would hurl insults at Melody. Initially, she was startled by the venomous language spewed by those anonymous internet users. How much resentment must one hold toward Melody to speak so viciously of her?

However, as she noticed Lucas growing closer to Melody, she found solace in reading those comments. Whenever she felt mistreated by Melody, Thalia would turn to the comments to see how others condemned her, occasionally adding her own comments.

Thalia especially felt a sense of satisfaction when Melody's entire production team had been labeled as bullies. In her eyes, associating with someone with a questionable character like Melody would only lead to trouble.

Discussions about the production team were incessant, and with just a quick refresh, Thalia could see the latest posts insulting Melody.

[Is it really possible for a newcomer like Melody to join Director Shaun's movie on her own merit?]

This post sparked a wide array of discussions. Many were astonished that Melody, a relatively unknown actress, was shouldering the female lead role in Shaun's movie. They could not understand why, after so much preparation for the script, Shaun would entrust such a pivotal role to an actress who never appeared in the public eye before.

[The posts about this woman have been thoroughly dissected. I thought everyone was well aware of her background and connections.]

[Agreed. Melody may be attractive and have decent acting skills, but without the support of her influential family, how could she possibly have auditioned for Director Shaun?] Thalia seethed with hatred at such comments. What right did Melody have to be working for the most famous movie director in the industry? She just got lucky!

'Melody would never have everything she has now if it weren't for Lucas! Yet here she is, clamoring to go to the film set and acting as if she owns the place,' thought Thalia. [Some actresses better rein in their behavior. They shouldn't think they can do whatever they want in the film set just because they have the backing of an influential family.] Thalia smugly typed out the comment. Her tone was intentionally ambiguous, designed to confuse others' judgment.

As expected, many people replied to her comment, asking for more information.

[Sounds like you know something. I find it strange that Director Shaun's team has been labeled as a bully. His previous sets never had this issue. Seems like it's the actresses causing the problem!] This comment received a remarkably high number of likes, with many agreeing that there had never been such rumors about Shaun's previous film crews. However, since Melody joined, Shaun's film crew has been constantly on the trending topic list, indicating that she might be the root of the problem.

[In my opinion, if Director Shaun wants to save his movie, he should make a decisive move now and replace the lead actress. If he does, I'd still be eager to support the movie in theaters. It's been years since I've seen a movie by Director Shaun, and I'm still looking forward to it!]

Many others shared similar sentiments, many thought they were just wishful thinking.

[They all say that her family's influence is strong, so how could Melody be replaced? I reckon there'll be a clarification soon. Let's hope everyone keeps their eyes open and doesn't get led astray by public opinion.]

A group of people were reminding each other not to believe in Melody's whitewashing.

By the end, even Thalia found it somewhat boring. Many of these people were speculating about Melody's life without knowing anything about the Riveras. They were simply fabricating stories. However, they were also quite pitiful. They would never reach the Riveras' social class in their lifetime and could only rely on their imaginations.

Chapter 2324

Thalia put away her phone, feeling much better after reading others' criticisms of Melody. Recalling how angry Lucas was with her earlier, she started to plan how to change his opinion of her. Returning to her room, Thalia looked at the water bottle on the table for a long time. Then, she approached and poured a full cup of hot water. After some thought, she added half a cup of cold water. All she needed to do was to make her skin red.

To win over Lucas, Thalia had to be ruthless with herself. She rolled up her pants and poured the water onto her ankle.

"Ah!" she cried out, then bit her lip tightly. Even though she had mixed in cold water, it still hurt terribly when the water splashed onto her skin.

Seeing her skin immediately swell up, Thalia limped over to the sofa. She trembled with pain but kept biting her lip.

At that moment, Lucas went back downstairs. With his tall stature and confident stride, he exuded a certain aura. Despite not giving interviews to the media, discussions about him on the app were constant.

It was understandable. After all, he was the youngest, wealthiest company president in the country with good looks to boot. Who would not be drawn to him?

Thalia, feeling envious, was determined to keep Lucas firmly in her grasp. Emigrating to Molomia with her family had been a big mistake, but since she was back, she had no intention of leaving.

Lucas, seeing Thalia still seated on the sofa without any intention of getting up, assumed she was still pretending about her foot pain. He frowned slightly, wondering when Thalia had developed such a character, always seemingly lying.

He walked up to her and asked, "Why are you still here?"

He did not expect to see Thalia's forehead slicked with sweat after she lifted her head. His frown deepened with puzzlement since it was not that hot.

"What's wrong?" he inquired because he thought she looked genuinely unwell.

Thalia chuckled bitterly. "Lucas, I know you think I'm deliberately deceiving you, but how do you know my pain isn't real? Since Melody got injured, you haven't even looked at me properly. You took her to the hospital and brought her back. Did you ever consider that I might actually be hurt?"

Lucas could not fathom how Thalia became so shaky when he had carried her back earlier. He frowned, lowering his head to inspect her, but Thalia pushed his hand away.

"Forget it. I know you've given up on me. What do our years of friendship even matter? After tonight, I'll buy a plane ticket back to Molomia. I won't bother you or be a burden to you anymore."

Lucas could hear the strain in her voice, sensing that she was enduring immense pain.

'But she wasn't like this in the hospital, was she?' he thought.

"Exactly what's the matter with you? If you're injured, just say so. I can have someone take you to the hospital," said Lucas.

Thalia pushed away Lucas' hand, disappointment evident on her face as she stood up unsteadily, and staggered away.

"Lucas, I know what you're thinking. You think I'm just putting on an act again, causing trouble for you... But you have my word that from tonight onward, I'll recognize my place and I won't bother you anymore." Lucas, already in a bad mood, felt a surge of impatience at Thalia's behavior and decided not to deal with her anymore. However, he did not expect Thalia to stagger and suddenly collapse off the sofa.

"Ah!"

Thalia curled up in pain, her leg feeling like it was burning from the inside out.

Only then did Lucas notice the injury on her leg. Watching as Thalia rolled up her pants to examine it, he was shocked by the large, swollen area of redness that greeted his eyes.

Chapter 2325

"What's going on here? Everything was fine before, how did it get like this? We need to get you to the hospital right away!" Lucas, seeing the severity of the wound, could not afford any delay. "Huh!" Thalia brushed off his hand. "Lucas, you don't need to worry about me. I'm fine. Even if it hurts like hell, it's my business. You don't need to take care of me."

She attempted to push him away and head back to her room.

"What's gotten into you? Now that you're injured, you should go to the hospital. You weren't hurt before, so of course you were wasting medical resources. The doctor wasn't wrong to say that! Don't you realize what the problem is?" asked Lucas.

Lucas watched her gritting her teeth in pain, feeling both frustrated and compelled to act. Since she was not willing to listen to him, he decided he would take her to the hospital whether she liked it or not. Thus, he reached out and pulled Thalia up, ignoring her struggles, and dragged her toward the garage.

"Lucas, leave me alone! Let me suffer in my room! Let go of me, let go of me!" Thalia resisted, while Melody, hearing the commotion downstairs, came out of her room to see what was going on.

She did not expect to see Lucas gripping Thalia's hand. She gripped the railing tightly, her knuckles white with tension.

"Don't move. Grandpa and Grandma are resting. It wouldn't be good to wake them up," Lucas said. Only then did Thalia obediently follow him.

Melody watched them leave from upstairs. After they were out of sight, she took a sharp breath and staggered back a few steps. Her left foot, which should not have been bearing weight, accidentally touched the ground during her moment of distraction, causing a sharp pain in her ankle.

Physical pain often provided an outlet for emotional distress. Melody sighed and forced a bitter smile. Then, she quietly made her way back to her room alone by using the wall as support.

Melody knew that Lucas always held Thalia in his heart. Even though Thalia had caused so much trouble earlier, he still did not want to punish her.

As much as Melody was aware that Lucas and Thalia would not do anything inappropriate while they were out, the thought still bothered her, piercing her mind every time she closed her eyes.

Melody laid on the bed, which felt so large and empty. She did not mind it as much when she lived alone, but after spending so much time with Lucas in the same space, she found comfort in his presence. Yet, Lucas left her alone without a second thought.

Melody just wanted to leave the mansion. No matter what was going on between Lucas and Thalia, she did not want to dwell on it anymore, so she took out her phone and contacted Monica. [How's the crew doing lately? Have you all resumed filming?]

Monica seemed to have been waiting for her message all along. As soon as he saw Melody's message, she replied instantly.

[Not yet. What's the point of starting without the lead actress? Where are you coming back? Didn't you say you'll be discharged from the hospital yesterday? Why didn't you come visit us today?] Melody forced a smile and just said she had something to attend to.

[Are the accommodations that Mister Shaun has arranged for the cast still available?]

Shaun always arranged accommodations for the cast so that it would be easier for them to get into character.

Chapter 2326

Shaun was worried that some of the cast might find it difficult to get back into character after returning to their own home. However, Melody was different from others. Even if she stayed elsewhere for ten days or half a month, there was no worry about her not being able to get back into character.

Melody's outstanding performance on her first acting gig was truly remarkable. Thus, even though many investors advised him to replace Melody with another actress, Shaun was unwilling to do so. Monica was a bit puzzled. Melody was living comfortably in her own mansion, so why was she asking about these small two-bedroom apartments?

[Of course there are! Mister Shaun reserved several units when he made the initial arrangements. What's the matter? Do you want to stay there? But I don't think Mister Lucas would ever agree to that.] There was a hint of sarcasm on Melody's face.

[What does it matter whether he agrees or not? Anyway, can you help me tell Mister Shaun that I'll move in tomorrow? I'll move out after the filming ends.]

Even if Monica was usually oblivious, she could sense that something was off between Lucas and Melody. However, as soon as she heard that Melody wanted to move into the dormitory, she felt relieved to have a friend she could talk to.

[Sure, sure. I'll talk to Mister Shaun about it as soon as I get to the set tomorrow. Having you here will make our evening rehearsals more convenient too.]

Finally, there was a hint of smile on her lips as she replied, [Thanks! I appreciate it!]

After putting down her phone, she did not think about anything else and went straight to sleep.

It was not until the next morning that she noticed traces of someone having slept on the pillow next to her. She did not know when Lucas had returned, but it did not matter. She was moving to the dormitory anyway. Being away from Lucas and Thalia would help keep her mind clear.

Melody carefully got out of bed, not bothering to put on slippers yet, when she saw Lucas push open the door and walk in. He exuded a cold aura, indicating he had just returned from outside. "Good morning. I'll carry you down for breakfast," said Lucas.

Melody did not refuse his offer.

When she sat at the table and faced Beatrice and Cedric, she finally smiled.

"Grandpa, Grandma, did you two sleep well last night?"

"We slept fine. Why wouldn't we? Is your foot feeling any better today?"

After a while, Melody noticed Lucas helping Thalia out of the room. Her ankle was also wrapped in bandages; it looked like a serious injury.

This puzzled everyone, and Beatrice spoke up, "What happened to you, Miss Thalia? Weren't you fine last night?"

Thalia smiled awkwardly. "I accidentally spilled a glass of water on my foot yesterday, so it got burnt. Luckily, Lucas took me to the hospital right away, or the pain would've been unbearable." After being injured, it seemed like Thalia's temper had improved quite a bit.

Beatrice remarked meaningfully, "It seems that you don't have good luck here in the country. You've been injured repeatedly since coming here. It might be best for you to return to Molomia soon and continue your studies."

Upon hearing this, Thalia awkwardly smiled and said nothing. Meanwhile, Melody silently ate her cereal. When she saw that everyone was almost finished eating, she wiped her mouth and spoke up. "Grandpa, Grandma, I'm going to move to the dormitory so that it'll be easier for me to go to the set."

This statement stirred up a commotion. Before Beatrice could even speak, Lucas bluntly said, "No, you can't."

Melody lifted her head and locked eyes with him. "Why not?"

Lucas frowned. "Isn't it obvious?"

Chapter 2327

"You're injured. Who'll take care of you on set?" Lucas asked.

Melody was prepared for his question. "My injury isn't very serious. It's just that I can't put pressure on my left ankle. And besides, there's Penny and Monica on the set. They're both very kind and will take care of me."

Melody's tone was calm, and she did not seem inclined to argue with him excessively. In any case, she had decided to leave that day.

Beatrice looked worried. "Melody, don't you want to stay at home? Don't you want to keep me company? Your ankle isn't healed yet, and I'm really worried about you going to the set!" Melody only showed a hint of a smile to Beatrice and patted her hand reassuringly.

"Grandma, it's not that. How could I ever get tired of keeping you company? I just think that living on the set is more convenient. The dormitory is very close, and I'll be living with the other cast, so we can take care of each other. It'll be easier to rehearse with them after work too.

"There's nothing wrong with staying here, but it's just too far. Even with the chauffeur picking me up and dropping me off, it still wastes a lot of my time. It's better to just live in the dormitory and not trouble the driver anymore."

Beatrice also understood that Melody wanting to move out probably had a lot to do with Thalia. Since she had set her mind to it, there was nothing the elderly lady could do but nod. Only Lucas was adamant and refused to let her leave.

However, Melody did not take his objection seriously. She did not need anyone else's approval for her own affairs. Instead, it was Thalia who behaved out of character as she advised her to stay.

"Melody, you're still injured. It might be inconvenient to go to the set. Besides, no matter how close you are with the other cast, they're still just friends. How can they compare to Grandpa Cedric and Grandma Beatrice? Why not stay at home until your injury heals? If you still want to experience living in the dormitory, you can always go later."

Thalia's earnest suggestion surprised Melody a bit, but she just smiled and insisted on her choice.

"Didn't you hear what Thalia said? Do you have to make a fuss about this when you're injured?" Lucas' tone was very stiff, making Melody lose her appetite.

Even Cedric spoke up, "Speak nicely. We're all having breakfast. Why are you being so harsh on her?"

Lucas stared at Melody intently, seeing that she still refused to respond to him. In the end, he just slammed the bowl down and went upstairs.

Meanwhile, Thalia smiled at Beatrice and Cedric before limping upstairs herself. However, at the corner, she unexpectedly saw Lucas waiting there. Despite his unpleasant expression, he still picked up Melody and carried her upstairs.

After carefully placing Melody on the bed, Lucas squatted in front of her and looked into her eyes. "How can you stay in the dorm when you still need me to carry you upstairs? Who'll take care of you there?" Seeing his tender expression, Melody felt upset and looked away. "Do you think I can't take care of myself without you? Can't I buy a

pair of crutches? Don't be so cocky. I can still live well without you. Besides I have my own friends."

Lucas gently put his hand on top of her hand, causing Melody to recoil as if shocked.

"I've never doubted that you can live well without me. I'm just worried about you. I'm worried that you'll have a difficult time alone in the dormitory. Even if you have your friends, can they be with you all the time? If you fall down in the middle of the night, who will be there to help you up?"

Chapter 2328

Melody bit her lip as she looked at Lucas. "You must be joking, right? You make it sound as if you can be by my side all the time."

Lucas looked at Melody, and they locked eyes silently.

After a long while, Melody looked away first, knowing that it was all impossible. She did not want to insist. He was the president of a listed company, much busier than her, a minor actress.

"Are you only going to be happy if you go to the dormitory? If you stay at home, I can still see you and take care of you, but once you go to the dormitory, I—"

Melody turned back with a smile. "Don't worry. I've only injured my left foot. I'm not completely disabled. Besides, Thalia is also injured and needs you to take care of her. You'll be overwhelmed taking care of both of us. At least your burden will be reduced a little if I move to the dormitory."

"You're angry," stated Lucas simply. "Thalia and I grew up together. I can't just ignore her."

Melody sighed. 'He knows I'm angry, yet he still mentions Thalia in front of me. This man is truly hopeless when it comes to understanding women.'

"I know you've always been grateful to her father for saving you, and that's something between you two. There's no need to tell me again. Anyway, if you agree, please take me to the set tomorrow. Consider it my last inconvenience to you."

Lucas was annoyed by how determined Melody was. Since Melody was so insistent on making trouble for herself, he decided not to persuade her otherwise.

"Fine, it's your choice. Don't regret it."

"I never regret."

Melody did not look at Lucas. She only heard the door slam shut shortly after.

'Seems like he won't be coming back tonight,' she thought.

Despite their unpleasant argument the night before, Lucas appeared promptly at the breakfast table the next morning. After Melody calmly finished her cereal and exchanged greetings with Beatrice, Lucas stood up to accompany her to the set.

Melody noticed that he had not eaten much of his breakfast, not even touching his cereal.

After they got into the car, Melody asked, "You're going to get gastric again if you skip your breakfast."

Lucas merely grunted. "You don't need to worry about me anymore. After all, aren't you moving to the set?"

His tone was brusque, but Melody chose to remain silent, unwilling to provoke further trouble.

Monica had informed Shaun about Melody's decision early in the morning, and he was pleased that Melody would be moving to the dorms on the set.

Once Melody returned, it meant that Lucas would take care of the rumors circulating online. He would not allow his wife to be constantly attacked by anonymous social media users.

Thus, most of the important figures from the production crew gathered at the gate, waiting for Lucas to bring Melody.

Melody spotted Shaun and the others waiting in the chilly wind from afar. She was surprised by the grand reception. However, Lucas did not pay it much mind.

After getting out of the car, he went to Melody's side to open the door for her. He helped her out and waited until she was steady on her feet before retrieving the crutches he had prepared overnight from the back seat.

The crutches were just the right height for Melody, and she silently appreciated the gesture. She had not expected that Lucas would prepare the crutches for her.

"Thank you," Melody said softly, grabbing his sleeve in gratitude.

Lucas remained silent for a moment before leading her toward Shaun.

"Shaun. Mick," Lucas greeted them.

Monica, who was beside Shaun and Mick, the producer, eagerly approached and supported Melody.

Chapter 2329

"How are you, Melody? Is your ankle better?" asked Monica.

Melody smiled. Monica's enthusiasm was always contagious, and Melody could not help but feel uplifted by her positivity.

"I'm mostly recovered, but I still can't put weight on my left foot for the next few days. I might need you and Penny to help me," Melody replied with a smile. Monica nodded. "It's so good to have you back. Now we can discuss the script together every day."

With Lucas having many things to attend to, they did not engage with him much and would follow his lead on how to address the rumors.

Once Melody was settled in, and seeing her enjoying her conversation with Monica and the others, Lucas simply bade them farewell before leaving.

After Lucas left, Monica finally mustered the courage to ask Melody, "Why the sudden move to the set? Your foot injury seems serious. Wouldn't it be more convenient to stay at home for now?"

Melody sighed, not wanting to delve into the details. "I have my reasons. What's the matter? You don't want me to stay in the dorm with you?"

Monica shook her head. "Of course I do! The more people living on set, the better. It'll be lively, just like when I was in school."

Melody smiled.

Noticing her inadvertent display of fatigue, Penny quickly pulled Monica away, and they left. The dorm, which had just been bustling with activity moments ago, suddenly felt empty.

It was not as spacious as the room she shared with Lucas at home. When she was with Lucas, every corner of that space seemed filled with his presence. In contrast, living alone in the dorm felt desolate and chilly.

Still, this was her choice, and she had no regrets. Creating some distance between herself and Lucas could give them both clarity on what they truly wanted.

She would gracefully step aside if Lucas wanted to be with Thalia. That way, they could avoid unnecessary emotional entanglement between them. Even though giving up on her beloved man might cause her pain, she believed that enduring short-term pain was better than prolonging suffering.

It was better to cut ties if she was destined to fall in love with someone who did not belong to her. Being too close to him only made her more miserable.

After seeing Melody off, Lucas did not return home. Instead, he went back to the office, and sat down on his desk, staring blankly at the documents spread out in front of him. Knock, knock!

"Mister Lucas, have you signed the document you requested just now? The finance department is in a hurry for it."

It was not until Edmund knocked on his office door that Lucas snapped out of his trance.

"Sorry, I spaced out for a moment. Let me check, and come back in five minutes."

Edmund was surprised by this unusual behavior, but he kept a calm demeanor. "Yes, Mister Lucas."

In all the years Edmund had been working for Lucas, it was the first time he had seen him lose focus on business matters.

Lucas had always been the epitome of efficiency and focus, with the highest level of productivity in the entire company. No one in the company could rival him...yet he said he had lost focus.

It was simply absurd!

Lucas rubbed his forehead. His mind had been preoccupied with Melody. He was extremely worried about her getting injured in an unfamiliar environment. Just the thought of Melody made him forget about the document in front of him.

Chapter 2330

Melody refocused herself.

By that afternoon, Shaun came with the team to knock on her door. The main cast needed to discuss the challenges facing the production and how to handle them.

Previously, Lucas indicated that they would follow Melody's lead on this matter. It was essential to clarify the matter and ensure that the public saw their evidence. They did not want others to think they were guilty and were just fabricating evidence to deceive the public.

Once their evidence was ready, they would hand it over to Edmund, who would be responsible for coordinating with the entire production team.

Shaun felt reassured upon hearing that Lucas' assistant was handling the matter. Thus, even though the situation had not been solved yet, Shaun and Mick were all in high spirits. In fact, no one could tell that the entire production was still on hold.

"Shaun, Mick, Nathan, it's been a while," said Melody.

Nathan came up warmly and gave her a big hug.

"Yes, it's certainly been a while, Melody. I'm so glad to see you doing better."

Nathan was also very observant. When Lucas was around, he did not come forward to greet Melody, which made him seem a bit cold. It was because of the punch Lucas had given him last time, which left him with a bitter taste.

After Lucas left, Nathan could finally greet Melody properly.

Melody also patted his back happily. It had been a while since she saw the cast, and she did miss them a bit.

"It's great to see you again. Have you been doing well recently?"

"Except for not being able to act in our production, everything else is fine."

"Alright, now that we've all met, let's skip the formalities. It's time to sit and discuss how to clarify things with the public," said Shaun.

Nathan was somewhat puzzled. Although he grew up in the country, his mentality was more than that of a foreigner, so he spoke frankly, "Why don't we just post the evidence in our production's group chat for everyone to see?"

However, it was obvious everyone else did not think the same way.

"Since we've been wrongly accused for so long, this clarification must have its proper value," said Mick, rubbing his fingers. He had been very conscious of not smoking around Melody, but his subconscious movements betrayed his craving.

"What do you mean? How can we gain value from being misunderstood by everyone? You guys have been reminding me not to speak recklessly to the public, and it's been driving me crazy! Even my family has been warning me not to bully others," said Nathan with a frown, his face still showing a hint of innocence.

"Thank goodness we reminded you. Otherwise, knowing you, you would've offended everyone," Shaun said expressionlessly.

Nathan was an actor he had chosen himself. His personality matched well with the image of the group. Thus, if Nathan were to recklessly clarify things, it might have the opposite effect.

The people lurking online would not see him as being righteous. Instead, they would view him as bullying others and not taking it seriously at all.

"It's so annoying. I didn't expect Tracy to end up in prison herself, causing everyone to misunderstand us. Isn't her being in prison enough to prove that everything she said was false?" Monica grumbled. It had been a while since Melody had heard Tracy's name being brought up, so she asked, "What's her situation now?"

Monica shrugged. "What else could it be? The company is even talking about suing her. Brightstar Entertainment is really unlucky. They thought they were getting a future star, but it turned out to be a disaster. But the legal process hasn't been completed yet, so she hasn't been formally detained. I heard it could take several months before it's over."