

Love OT 251

Chapter 251 I Want to Be a Judge

Melanie furrowed her brows after hearing the name of the program.

She wasn't talented in music nor particularly interested in it. If it weren't for Hanson, she actually wouldn't even learn to play the piano.

The piece she played the other day took her forever to master as well. She probably didn't have an advantage over the other contestants if she participated in 'The Voice'.

"How confident are you in making me famous after participating in this show?" The end result was the only thing she was concerned with.

"None," Chris answered truthfully.

Are you f*cking messing with me?! Just as Melanie was about to snap, he continued, "You've never dabbled in the film and television industry, and I know nothing about you. So, my judgment at this point won't be accurate, but given your current situation, you just have to do as I plan. I believe it'll be a major success coupled with your ambitions."

Can things get any worse than it already has? Melanie nodded immediately, no longer hesitating. "Alright then, we'll do according to your plan."

Chris was pleased with her swiftness. "I'll send the contract to your email next, then we'll carry out a comprehensive rebranding on you. A fresh start when you reappear in front of the public, so to speak. As long as we work well together, you'll definitely be famous."

Melanie smiled upon hearing his words and agreed with his arrangements.

"Pleasure doing business with you." He took the initiative to proffer his hand.

However, she didn't return the pleasantries but instead said, "This meal's on me."

With that, she got up and left.

He smiled while looking at her retreating figure and left after that too.

And sure enough, Melanie received an email from him after returning home.

Seeing that his arrangements were rather professional, she followed his instructions as per requested.

Meanwhile, Vania had also received an invitation from the 'The Voice' crew, asking her to be a guest judge.

However, she wasn't interested in this kind of program.

It was just another publicity stunt with a pre-decided winner. So, she didn't reply, leaving it among her folders after taking a gander.

After returning home from work, she simply placed it along with other unimportant papers on the coffee table, and coincidentally, the invitation was right on top.

Hanson was never one to look through other people's belongings. However, the invitation was so loud that it instantly caught his attention. Invitation by 'The Voice'? Is Vania planning on becoming a judge?

His interest was piqued at once and he texted Larry about it, saying if Vania decided to join the judging panel, he would become a judge for the show too.

Larry sighed in response. Who'd have thought his boss, who never had any interest in showbiz, would one day do this? Alas, the man followed what his wife did. President Luke's principles were now all practically out the window.

Because Vania never replied, the 'The Voice' crew continued to send her invitations, never giving up.

The crew had always believed they were inviting Lunastella, but little did they know it was Vania who they were actually inviting.

So when they still didn't receive a reply from Vania after a long time, they made their one last attempt by sending her the entire rundown of the show and a list of contestants.

Through some strange luck, the first page Vania simply flipped to happened to be Melanie's profile with her photo attached, which instantly piqued her interest.

With that, she instructed Linda to contact the 'The Voice' crew and tell them she was interested in becoming their judge.

"Do whatever it takes. I want that spot," said Vania.

"Please, they're practically begging you to join," Linda commented.

Vania checked the time on her watch and announced, "I'll be going home now. Text me if anything."

Chapter 252 What It Feels Like to Have a Father

She still had a big baby to feed at home.

Hanson had been living at Vania's place in a low-key manner for two days, so he was able to have a good picture of their lifestyle.

He thought it was time for him to make a move and right now, he was at home, thinking of how to tackle his second biggest challenge—Jack.

Jack was an extrovert and a stuck-up until one was able to know him. He also dared to act as he spoke, so apart from being resourceful, Hanson still hadn't discovered a way to win him over—at least not now.

Who'd have thought he, the resolute and forceful CEO of Luke Corporation, was now racking his brain over a bunch of kids?

Alas, Jack was a tough nut to crack and James was even more aloof.

Hanson felt super pissed at this moment. Who knew just what kind of genetics that b*stard had that allowed him to have such quick-witted children?

Then again, they had won him over, which left him not knowing quite how to feel about it.

Jack happened to be reading and noticed Hanson was sitting across from him while being lost in his thoughts. He hadn't a clue what Hanson wanted to do next, but he had no interest in finding out and only took a gander at Hanson before returning to his book.

When Hanson returned to reality, he checked out the book that Jack was reading. What a feat it was for a child to like such advanced astronomical geography.

With that, he pointed to the text and asked, "Can you understand them?"

"Of course," answered Jack confidently.

He naturally understood what the book was about, and he could also understand the few complex parts after some research.

However, it was always just him and his brothers discussing the contents of the book. They really wished to have a teacher, for their kindergarten teachers had zero knowledge of this subject.

Hanson was super pleased as he looked at the confident boy. After taking the book from him, he beckoned to the other three boys. "Come here, let me tell you guys about this."

Jack sized Hanson up after hearing his words. He likes astronomical geography too? And he began looking forward to it, wanting to hear what Hanson would share with them.

The other three babies also had an appreciation for astronomical geography, so like Jack, they huddled around Hanson when they heard he wanted to talk about the subject.

It wasn't until the boys were all seated that Hanson flipped to the first page, starting from the very beginning.

However, what he told them wasn't in the book and instead the extension of it, along with explanations.

As it was the first time the boys were discovering such profound topics, they were all ears, from only wanting to see whether Hanson actually knew what he was talking about to acknowledging him and now gradually exchanging opinions.

"Can you talk about this?" Jack pulled out the book he had carefully kept away.

This was the most profound book to him, for he still couldn't understand it despite having read it many times.

"Of course." Hanson ruffled his hair. "I'll start then."

"Okay." The four boys sat in a row as they fixed their serious, studious gazes at him.

Like before, Hanson broke the topics down for them bit by bit and he would even gesture with both hands when he arrived at the exciting parts.

Fortunately for him, they were so engrossed that they didn't realize he could move his hand now.

At this moment, a feeling none of the boys ever experienced lingered around them.

This was their first experience of learning from their father. As much of a sc*mbag Hanson was, it still left a lasting impression on them.

Was this the feeling of a father their schoolmates had been talking about?

Hanson had been observing the boys' expressions while taking his time explaining to them, and he stopped when he discovered they looked a little sad. "What's wrong?"

Chapter 253 Closer to the Children

The four of them immediately collected themselves from their unnatural expressions.

Jack said, "I was thinking about what you've said before. I couldn't understand you before, but I get it now. Everyone has their problems."

James nodded with a frown. "Thank you."

As this was the first time they said a heartfelt thanks to another, they thought that they should try to understand the Devil before them.

Hanson laughed. "There's no need to be so polite with me. As long as you all are willing to learn, then I shall teach you anytime."

Instantly, their eyes lit up before they said expectantly, "Really?"

"Of course. Why would I lie to you?"

Because you've lied to Mommy before, they thought.

Despite his thoughts, James replied, "Because you have sons of your own too."

"You have a point." Hanson nodded. "Perhaps you all would be very good friends," he added as he had a strong feeling that they would be friends given time.

James nodded his head old fashionably. "I do hope so."

"So, have we come to an understanding?" Hanson asked in an attempt to change the topic.

Hence, James and Jack stopped the tit-for-tat with Hanson and nodded in acknowledgment. "Yes." Their answer proved that they had a newfound understanding of the book. They met Hanson's eyes with a new purpose and shine in their eyes.

Hanson was taken aback, as he hadn't expected the four of them to look at him with such a complicated gaze. Feeling an inexplicable sense of familiarity, he unconsciously asked, "Have we met before this?"

"Nope," they answered firmly without skipping a beat. After all, they were all sent away the moment they were born. Hanson couldn't have met them before this.

Looking at the children having such a big reaction even though they were fine mere moments ago, Hanson became suspicious. Perhaps there was something that happened between us. Something I don't know, he thought. Just as he was about to question the children, he heard the door opening. Taking one glance at his watch, he knew that it was Vania who had just returned. Seems like she's earlier today.

When they heard Vania's voice, the four of them rushed over and surrounded her. "Mommy, you're back," they all said with joy.

With his train of thought derailed, Hanson went over to Vania and followed the children's example by sweetly saying, "You're back." As though he was a husband waiting for his wife's return.

Embarrassed by his tender gaze, Vania only nodded at him before she turned her attention to her babies. "Did you guys get along today?" She had been worried sick for the past two days, as she was afraid the house would get torn down by Hanson and her little brats when she went to work.

"We're getting along great. We even studied together, didn't we?" Hanson answered of his own accord and turned his eyes to the children for confirmation.

In front of Vania, the four of them grumbled, albeit with pride, while ignoring Hanson's question, as they would never want to admit he was right.

Looking at how her babies reacted so proudly, Vania already knew the situation. To think they would study together, she thought. Thinking to reward them for this, she asked, "What do you all want to eat tonight? I have time to personally prepare dinner for you guys."

Upon Vania's question, all of their eyes lit up.

With how all of them reacted the same way, Vania thought she had gone senile for a moment.

Although it was only several times did Hanson partake in Vania's cooking, he had become accustomed to her cooking.

Chapter 254 The Children's Father

Hanson had become picky in his food, as he no longer had an appetite for dishes that were not made by Vania.

Then, Vania went to the kitchen with the other five people there following closely behind. With how her children were all grabbing her by the hems of her clothes, she was limited in what she could do. She facepalmed before she snapped at them. "I want all of you to wait in the living room. Otherwise, no one will be allowed to eat."

After they heard her words, the children made eye contact with Hanson as none of them was willing to leave the kitchen. However, they all lost their determination and walked out of the kitchen at a slow pace, as they saw Vania's serious expression. When the children passed Hanson by, he learned from their example earlier and grumbled at them.

Without them being in Vania's way, she handily made a hearty dinner.

Hanson and the four little ones immediately got up from the dining table to help Vania when they saw she was done cooking. With everyone's help, the dinner was set and ready in no time at all.

During the meal, Vania had to balance between personally giving food to her babies and Hanson due to how jealous one over the other would be. Although she lamented the situation, she considered it an opportunity to get used to being a mother of five instead.

After the superficially harmonious and jealousy-ridden meal, Vania told the four little ones a bedtime story before returning to her room. Unexpectedly, she found Hanson waiting for her on the sofa in her room. Curious, she asked, "What's wrong? Something on your mind?"

Hanson nodded before he gestured for Vania to sit by his side.

With her eyes on him, she sat beside him as an indication that he could tell her what was on his mind.

After a moment's hesitation, Hanson asked, "Uh... It's about your ex..." Feeling that he was somewhat inappropriate, he corrected himself. "It's about the children's father..." After he said that, he suddenly felt like laughing at himself as he caught himself actually caring about such a thing, especially when it involved some stranger.

However, since he had brought it up, he wanted to know about the children's situation and continued awkwardly, "What kind of person is he?"

Vania became flabbergasted and didn't know where to even begin explaining, as she hadn't expected Hanson would suddenly bring this up. After all, she had no idea what kind of person the children's father was since she didn't even know who their father was in the first place. Hanging her head slightly, she shook her head rather awkwardly. Suddenly, she was filled with worries that Hanson would be disgusted with her after finding out the truth about her, but she still put her answer into words. "I don't know."

Seeing the woman shaking her head, Hanson wanted to tell her that it was fine to drop it if she did not want to talk about it.

However, before he could say anything, she continued, "Actually, it was an accident. That's why I don't know who their father is. But, I decided to keep them since the children are innocent in all this. Don't you think I've made the right decision? They're all such good children, right?"

Hanson nodded as he never expected Vania to have such a past. "Would it be okay to tell me more? I might be able to help you with this."

With a gentle smile as though she had gotten over this matter, she said, "You should know that Melanie and I are half-siblings. When my family was arranging a marriage with the Jones Family, they wanted to marry me off to the Jones Family's son. However, I was framed by him and Melanie, and got disowned by my family later. But now, I don't mind all those things. It's fine the way things are now. Perhaps I should give my thanks to them as well since without them setting me up that way, I would never have had my lovely babies."

Chapter 255 The Accidents Five Years Ago

Vania laughed in relief after explaining her past.

Hanson knew there was more to this than what Vania had let on, but decided to drop the matter, as she was reluctant to share more with him. However, seeds of suspicion started to grow in him after he listened to Vania's explanation. For both Vania and Melanie to have unintended pregnancies at the same time five years ago, was it truly an accident, or was it part of a greater scheme? When memories of meeting Vania in the rain that day flashed through his mind, he asked, "That rainy day when I met you in the outskirts of the city, what were you doing there?"

"I was visiting my mother's grave."

So that's it. I guess I was jealous over nothing. "Sorry."

"It's nothing."

With Hanson becoming silent, Vania remembered he had once told her that the relationship between him and Melanie was also an accident. Out of curiosity, she asked, "What about you?"

With nothing to hide, Hanson replied, "Five years ago, I was drugged by a rival. I didn't know how Melanie got involved, but she was the reason why I've had such a ridiculous night." To him, it was that simple. Since that rival of his who had constantly targeted him back in the days was long gone, he chose not to elaborate on that.

So it was an accident as well, she thought. "Looks like we've experienced the same things." Without waiting for Hanson to speak up, she bit her lip and asked, "Then, did you have—"

"No. I have never had any sort of feelings for her. Besides her, I've never gotten in bed with any other woman. You are the first person who has captured my heart; you are the one I want to be closer to," said Hanson with sincerity in his eyes.

It was true Vania wanted to ask him if he had any feelings for Melanie, but she hadn't expected him to answer her so bluntly. Slightly embarrassed due to his straightforwardness, she lowered her head and chuckled.

Hanson reached his hand out and fixed the hair around her ears. "Vania, I'm serious about you. Indeed, I've never been in love, but as long as you wish for it, then I'll do my best to learn. As for the things you dislike, I will refrain from doing them as well."

However, Vania had never been in love either. Back when she was engaged to Dylan, she naturally thought she would be spending the rest of her life with him. She never once questioned what it was like to be in love, as the furthest she had gotten with Dylan was only holding hands even though she was with him for so long. Now, after hearing his words that could be construed as a confession, she felt her heart threatening to leap out of her chest. With anticipation and slight confusion in her eyes, she gazed at Hanson.

Hanson whispered in her ears, "Vania, close your eyes."

As though she was bewitched by Hanson, Vania obediently closed her eyes. However, before he could proceed any further after he leaned toward her, the sounds of someone clearing their throat broke the atmosphere of the room.

Where did these four brats come from? he thought. Their bright eyes were just like a surveillance camera that monitored Hanson's every move. He saw these four brats as crows that kept hindering his every move and was even speculating whether they had planted some sort of monitoring device on him. After all, they had always appeared whenever he came to an important juncture.

Surprised by their appearance, Vania hurriedly stood up and said, "Uh, weren't you all sleeping?"

"We want to sleep with you tonight, Mommy," said Jacob, with the others nodding in affirmation.

"You all are no longer children. You should learn how to sleep by yourselves," said Hanson.

"What are you doing in Mommy's room so late at night?" asked Jack with folded arms. He turned his attention to Hanson and sized him up. This Devil is definitely up to no good. If we hadn't come to Mommy's room, he definitely would have done something to her. Although Hanson had taught the children earlier today, they hadn't agreed to allow Hanson to do whatever he wanted.

Chapter 256 New House Rules

Studying and Mommy are two different matters, after all, they thought.

Under Jack's interrogation, Hanson patiently explained, "I'm just talking with your mommy."

Do you need to talk with your mouth so close to Mommy's? Obviously, the children didn't believe him.

Then, James said solemnly, "Looks like we have to make new house rules for you. First, you are not allowed to be in Mommy's room this late at night from now on."

They're even bringing out the house rules? Such creative children. But if they're talking about house rules, does that mean they've already seen me as a family? However, he thought otherwise upon noticing the angry expressions on the children's faces. He then shook his head helplessly, as he knew that these brats were still acting hostile against him.

Looking at the current situation, Hanson thought his efforts earlier today were all in vain. Nevertheless, it was not as though he wanted to stay in the children's good graces by teaching them and answering their questions. It was because he genuinely liked them. Otherwise, he wouldn't give them a second glance even if they were Vania's children. Looks like I have to find an opportunity to come to terms with them, or they'll just keep interrupting me at every step of the way. He knew he would grow weary if the situation kept up.

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Looking at the stalemate between them, Vania said dotingly to her babies, "Alright, Mommy will sleep with you all tonight."

“Yay, that’s great. We can sleep with Mommy tonight.” They immediately went into her arms with angelic smiles on their faces.

Hanson knew instantly just what Vania meant when she said they were lovely. Looking at the children acting like this, he truly thought these children were heaven’s gift to Vania. However, the four of them gave him a smug look with hints of provocation, as though they had won. The recipient of their looks became very upset, as they had interrupted the mood between him and Vania. Then, he gave Vania a sorrowful expression, as though asking, “What about me? Am I supposed to spend such a long night alone?”

With a pat on Hanson’s shoulder, Vania said in a tone similar to his moments before, “You’re already a grown man. I believe you’ll have no problems sleeping by yourself.” She threw what Hanson said earlier back at him.

Hanson wanted to argue that it would be problematic for him to sleep alone. He wanted very much to listen to her bedtime story, to be pampered by her, and to fall asleep by her side. However, looking at Vania overwhelmed by the children, he could only sigh and take his leave. I’ll definitely be back, he thought.

When Hanson had left the room, the four of them secretly reveled in their victory before they turned their attention to their mother and said innocently, “Mommy, can we sleep now?”

With the four of them in her arms, Vania left her worries behind as she looked at their innocent smiling faces. “Of course. Let’s sleep together. Mommy will tell you another story too.”

“Okay,” the four of them said in unison.

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The next morning, Melanie was notified by Chris that the program crew had started the rehearsal for the first phase of the program. After that, she waited backstage and went up to Chris upon seeing him. With a frown, she said, “Have you found out who the judges are? Don’t worry about the money. You just have to find a way to buy them out. I must become the winner in this program.” Perhaps she was used to being spoiled by the people around her, as she was acting just like a spoiled child when talking with Chris.

However, Chris only gave her a cold glance. “The program team is very good at keeping their secrets.”

Chapter 257 Chris’ Warning

“Furthermore, with the change of the sponsors of the program, there would be talks about changing the judges as well. Hence, it would be impossible for anyone to obtain any concrete information, even if it was someone from the inner circle.”

Melanie choked slightly. “Then what about me?” Since she lacked the foundation, Chris hired a teacher for her to study under, albeit for a few days. If she couldn’t buy the judges out, she knew she wouldn’t make it to the end with the number of talents in this competition. If I can’t be the winner here, what’s the point of me even entering in the first place?

Chris repeated the same instructions. "You just need to stick to the original plan."

Although Chris called it a plan, all Melanie had to do in that 'plan' was to ordinarily compete. How could this even be called a plan? Then, she sneered, "You can't even handle something as minor as this?"

Chris' expression grew chilly in an instant. "There are many things that can't be solved with money. According to my understanding, Greyson Realty isn't doing so well right now, right? I've seen my fair share of how things go in the entertainment industry. I know what I'm doing."

"You..." Listening to Chris hitting it on the nail regarding Greyson Realty with that chilly expression, Melanie felt it wasn't a good time to go against him and replied bluntly, "Fine."

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Chris remained stern in his expression. "There is something else I have to tell you, Miss Melanie Greyson."

Hearing Chris address her as such, Melanie was surprised and became suspicious, as he had never once addressed her like this ever since she signed up with the company. At first, she frowned at Chris, but immediately collected her expression when she assumed he was angry. "What is it?"

"You should know this is the entertainment industry and not your own home. It is a melting pot where all manner of men exist, including those who outrank even your family. I advise you to keep your temper in check, so you wouldn't offend the wrong people in the industry. Furthermore, you're just an amateur right now. You should be building your career step-by-step. With your attitude like this, you won't go far in the industry." Although Chris was speaking calmly, his tone exuded pressure.

Perhaps it was due to Melanie finding some truth in Chris' words that she managed to stop herself from bursting out in rage. "Fine. I get what you're saying," she said reluctantly.

However, Chris continued, "I don't think you do. Otherwise, you wouldn't have this attitude right now. I hope you will think about what I've said." Considering Melanie's temper, Chris knew if he pushed the issue any further, the only person who would be troubled would be himself. Hence, he decided that this was as far as he would go for now. Naturally, he hoped that she would change herself. Otherwise, he would need to consider terminating her contract, as he wouldn't allow her to be the reason for his downfall, especially when he had fought tooth and nail to be such a well-known manager. Without waiting for Melanie's reply, he left.

Just then, Melanie was called by the crew. And so, she left for the rehearsals.

On the other hand, as soon as Vania left, Hanson immediately instructed Larry, "I want you to thoroughly investigate the incidents five years ago."

Startled at his instructions, Larry asked, "President Luke, did you find out something new?"

With a harsh tone, Hanson replied, "I'm afraid that incident wasn't that simple, especially when that man is in the picture."

“Eddie Luke?” Larry cried out in surprise but immediately stopped himself. His eyes became as cold as Hanson’s. In the past, Hanson’s uncle launched a coup d’état but lost his life when he lost the battle. However, the whereabouts of Eddie Luke remained unknown to this day after he was sent abroad.

If what happened five years ago was a part of Eddie’s plan, then he must be waiting for the opportunity to take Hanson down. With the enemy in hiding while Hanson was out in the open, it was a disadvantaged situation for his president. “President Luke, should we start a new investigation on the little masters?”

Chapter 258 Boiling Frog

Hanson gave it a deep thought before he finally answered, “We should be discreet for now.”

“Understood. I will make the arrangements.”

Just as Larry was about to end the call, Hanson added, “Make arrangements for the Jones Enterprise as well.”

“Jones Enterprise? Which Jones are you referring to?” Larry asked. Although the company had dealt with many companies with similar names, he knew that Hanson’s company had not cooperated with any company with that name as of late.

Hanson gritted his teeth and recited with deep emotions, “Dylan Jones.”

He wanted that man to pay the price of framing the love of his life.

After thinking briefly about the name, Larry determined that the company had no dealings with someone by the name of Dylan Jones. My condolences to you for offending the president, he thought to himself.

After all, the days of that man would be numbered now. “Understood. I will make the arrangements, President Luke,” he answered. With how his president had given such orders to him, Larry assumed that it was to make arrangements to make the Jones Enterprise bankrupt since that was how he had handled all of his president’s previous orders.

Contrary to Larry’s assumption, Hanson continued, “No need to rush. You can take your time.” The tone in his voice grew cold and gradually filled with terror.

Larry shivered upon his president’s words as he knew that his president wanted a slow death for Jones Enterprise. Compared to directly causing a company to bankrupt, the method of boiling frog was much crueler as it would torture the recipient’s mental state before it was finally dealt the finishing blow at the most unexpected moment.

However, Larry sneered as well. “I know what to do.”

After his call with the president, he investigated just who Dylan Jones was and was surprised with what he found. No wonder the president is so furious, he thought after he found out that Dylan Jones had

been Vania's fiance. Oh wait, he later became Melanie's fiance. This man had literally made Hanson a cuckold, which led to Larry saying his condolence once more to the man known as Dylan Jones.

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Meanwhile, over at the president's office of Jones Enterprise.

"President, Vice President, there's bad news. Our project in the East River has suddenly been stopped and we can't stop the workers from leaving. There's only one more month until the deadline. What should we do?"

Coincidentally, Dylan was in his father's office as well. He went pale as soon as he heard the news and was about to ask further before someone else came in with another urgent report. "Vice President, we lost the new park project."

With how high Jones Enterprise had bid for the project of building a new park from scratch, any company that exceeded their bid would be doing the project at a loss. They couldn't fathom just who would want to end up in a net loss after months of working on this project. After all, if the project was not finished on time, the company responsible for the project would lose the trust of other businesses and would have a difficult future ahead, as they would have a hard time accepting new projects.

Instantly, Dylan stood up and pointed his finger at the messenger as he was about to question the man about the company that outbid them when another one of their employees came in. Both Dylan's and his father's expressions changed once more as they knew the employee had come with bad news, judging from how they had rushed into the office.

This time, Daniel stood up as well. With a frown, he asked anxiously, "Hurry up and tell me. What happened?"

The employee that rushed in hung his head low as he feared meeting his president's eyes while giving his report. "Zimmer Enterprise has been divested."

"Huh?" Daniel exclaimed and fell on his chair. Zimmer Enterprise had always been a strategic partner of Jones Enterprise with both corporations having an integral connection since Zimmer Enterprise had always been their strategic partner.

Chapter 259 Crisis Managed

This unannounced disinvestment was undoubtedly a major blow to the Jones Enterprise because Daniel knew that Zimmer Enterprise would have no benefit in doing so as well.

"Father, are you alright?" Though Dylan grew pale from this series of events, he went up to his father in a hurry after noticing his father was pale as well.

Daniel waved his hand. "I'm fine. I want you to immediately have a meeting with the upper-level management to see what we can do."

"Alright."

It wasn't a big deal if these contracts had some sort of problems or were even terminated. The problem was that it all happened at the same time abruptly. With Zimmer Enterprise's disinvestment, Jones Enterprise was facing an unprecedented crisis.

Now that Dylan was the vice president of the company, he was gradually taking over his father's job in managing the company. He had suspected that this series of events was orchestrated by someone else, as he was caught off guard by how abrupt it was.

After the meeting, Dylan came into his father's office and noticed his father seemed to have aged in this short amount of time. "Father, how are you doing?" he asked with concern.

Daniel shook his head. "You don't have to worry about me. I'm fine. We have to solve these problems as soon as possible. Otherwise, the company will have a crisis on its hands."

Dylan nodded. "We're now seeking for other companies to take over the East River project. If all goes well, we'll be signing with a new company tomorrow and we will be able to finish the project within the deadline. As for the new park project, we'll just lose the project, as we can consider the land in Whitborn, as it is better than the new park project. Lastly, I think it'd be best for you to discuss things with Zimmer Enterprise, Father."

Satisfied with his son's arrangement, Daniel nodded. "Good. You've indeed grown. I would be relieved to leave the company to you. As for Zimmer Enterprise, I'll need time to think about it," he said with a thoughtful expression.

Since Dylan thought the events today were rather strange, he asked his father, "Father, don't you think these incidents are just too strange? These incidents came so suddenly and to varying degrees. The report we heard together was considered huge news, but there have been many other incidents that were reported to me during the meeting. All these things adding up together would disrupt the company's operation."

When Daniel heard his son's report, he frowned as he recalled recent matters and determined that they wouldn't have offended someone, as they were not in a conflict with anyone at the moment. Although Jones Enterprise was not a powerful company in Hammond, it was still a legit family business. Who would come after us like this? Then, he said solemnly, "I want you to keep an ear to the ground for these two days and immediately report to me if you heard even the smallest movement."

"I understand. Please take some rest. Just leave the company to me, I will take good care of it."

"Alright."

When Hanson read the message Larry had sent him on the phone, he snorted as Jones Enterprise was already on the verge of collapsing when things had only started for them. He was fully anticipating how they would endure the upcoming onslaught ahead of them. This is the price of bully Vania. As for Dylan Jones, perhaps I'll allow him to get used to the new status quo, for now, he thought.

Then, Hanson kept his phone and turned to find the four little children standing before him. James wore a serious expression with a sheet of paper in his hand. Considering James' expression and the fact

Hanson couldn't see the contents of the paper well, his expression changed as he asked, "What are you all doing?"

He raised his hands and showed Hanson the sheet of paper he was holding.

Chapter 260 Hanson's Contract

Jack pointed his finger at Hanson and said, "Didn't we say that we'll be setting up house rules for you? Now that we've laid them down in a contract, you have to sign it." As soon as he finished his explanation, Jacob passed his pen to Hanson.

Hanson chuckled lightly with how the children cooperated and came at him fully prepared. Looks like I won't be able to get out of signing this document today, he thought. With a serious expression, he took the paper and read the content only to find a sentence written largely 'Stay away from Mommy.'

This is the house rule? Just this sentence alone? he chuckled. "What if I don't want to sign it?"

The four little ones were already prepared for such a reaction from Hanson as they knew he would refuse. Putting away the paper in his hand, James said, "Then, you can't stay here." It was because they were afraid that this Devil would run to Mommy again when they weren't paying attention.

Jack continued, "That's right. You'll have to sign it if you want to stay. Given your performance these past few days, we no longer believe in your promise."

"Just like what my brothers said," said Jacob while Jude nodded in affirmation.

A helpless Hanson shrugged. "Why do you all dislike me being with your mommy? I'm being serious here."

The four of them clicked their tongues, as they didn't believe the Devil's lies.

"You all don't believe me?"

"Obviously," the four of them said in unison.

Feeling strange about how determined the children were, Hanson couldn't help but consider if he had lost part of his memories. He assumed he had done something to them in the past given their reaction to him. He kept smiling as he said, "Isn't time for you all to tell me the reason for that?"

The four of them tensed up and showed no intention of answering Hanson's question.

Right now, Hanson could only bare his heart out, as he believed the children would understand. "Last night—"

Before he could continue, the four of them glared at him that somehow read, You still had the nerve to mention last night?

However, Hanson waved his hand to indicate to them that they were overthinking. “Last night, when I was talking with your mommy, I’d already told her about my past. She told me that we’ve experienced the same things. I think you all should be able to understand me with that.”

The four then frowned deeply. Although they knew what their mommy meant, their mommy didn’t know that the jerk Hanson was their father. That was why he could say such deplorable remarks. After James pondered for a moment, he asked, “Now, tell us what is going on with you and Melanie.”

As expected, it was about Melanie, he thought. “I’ve already explained to your mommy that it was an accident. It’s because I was injured that I had such an absurd night with her and ended up with Morales and Morgan, but I have no feelings for that woman.”

Suddenly, Jack was filled with doubts, as he felt something was strange with what he had just heard. “Where did the two of you meet?” After the four of them had learned how to use a computer, the first thing they did was investigate the identity of their father. After many efforts, they found out it was Hanson Luke who was with their mommy five years ago.

However, that was all they could find out. They didn’t know why Hanson had abandoned their mommy and had ended up with Melanie. All they knew was the man had cast aside their mommy after one night with her and no longer cared about her. Hence, the children determined that he was a jerk from then on.

But now, Jack was afraid that things weren’t as they seemed, as Hanson was unaware that he was their father.