

Love OT 361

Chapter 361 Room 608

Vania took the audio recorder from him and exchanged a look with Hanson.

“If you’re telling us the truth, I won’t come after you and your family anymore. As for Jones Enterprise, it’s already a mess internally. There’s no saving it,” Hanson declared.

Dylan lowered his head and sighed once he heard what Hanson said. He had long since realized that it was impossible for the company to recover from this.

It was already the best-case scenario if Hanson was willing to let him and his family go.

“I will leave Hammond forever. I won’t show up here ever again,” he promised Hanson with utmost sincerity.

Then, he turned to Vania and stared at her with eyes full of emotions. “Everything in the past was my mistake. I wish you and President Luke well.”

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He left at once without even waiting for a response from Vania.

Everything came to an end at last.

Vania was dazed for a moment. Her life had been ruined once before by Dylan and Melanie’s schemes.

When she came back, she was determined to make them suffer many times over for all the pain they had put her through.

However, in the end, Dylan chose to settle the score just like that and remove himself from her life.

Vania stared at the audio recorder with a mix of emotions. We’re even now, she murmured to herself.

Hanson saw the complicated look in her eyes and worried that she might dive too deeply into her thoughts. He held her hand to snap her back into reality before saying, “We should go home now.”

Vania nodded and followed Hanson out to the car. Then, she turned on the recorder and listened to the recording.

Chills ran down her spine as the recording reminded her of what had happened five years ago, and she broke out in cold sweat.

Noticing how distraught she was, Hanson pulled her into his arms and comforted her gently, “Don’t be scared. Such a thing will never happen to you ever again.”

Right now, Vania felt weak and helpless, and she looked pale.

After taking some time to regain her composure, she finally managed to speak again. “Five years ago, this was exactly what Melanie did to me. It was because of her that I ended up in that room in Hammond International Hotel and ended up spending the night with a man.”

Vania laughed bitterly. "I lied to you that day, at the hospital. I have no idea who the children's father is."

She had lied to him and said that their father was dead.

The moment Hanson heard the name Hammond International Hotel, his eyes widened. The truth was right on the tip of his tongue.

His grip on Vania's shoulder tightened unconsciously as he asked, "What was the room number?"

Was it the one he went to?

That room was where Vania's nightmare started, so she never forgot it.

"Room 608," she answered immediately.

Hanson blanked out for a moment before exhaling heavily. He did not know what to feel about this revelation.

This was why he found Vania's scent so familiar.

He pulled her into his embrace and said, "So this is why."

Vania was bewildered by what he said and did. "What's gotten into you?"

Hanson did not want to let her go. He squeezed her in his arms until he could sense that it was getting a little hard for her to breathe before he finally released her.

Then, he looked her in the eyes expectantly. "Have you ever thought about looking for the children's father?"

It was a tough question for Vania to answer. "I never thought I would get pregnant from that one time."

Hanson was certain that he was the man she slept with, so he felt proud about it.

It was only one time, but they ended up with so many children. No other man would have been able to do what he did.

Chapter 362 Hanson's Motives

Vania continued, "Melanie wanted to get rid of me completely, so when the children were born, she bribed the hospital's nurses and had the children sold all over the entire country. To this day, I'm still trying to find them."

Her eyes began to mist over.

Her daughter was still lost somewhere out there.

When Hanson heard this, it felt like his heart was stabbed a million times. It hurt so much that he cried out painfully, "Vania!"

When Vania heard his voice, she sniffed and pushed away the bitterness in her heart.

She pretended that everything was fine as she said to Hanson, "I never thought about finding the children's father."

Throughout everything, she never thought about looking for him.

Her children were her blessing, and she was grateful that she had them. "Everything's good the way it is right now."

Hanson never knew that Vania went through so much in the past.

He was especially shocked that the four children had gone through so much at such a young age, but still turned out to be such excellent children.

There were no words that could describe what Hanson was feeling right now. He declared emphatically, "Vania, you've suffered so much in the past. You deserve the best of everything life offers."

From now on, he would dedicate every minute and every second to giving her all the best things in life.

Vania chuckled, and in a move that was quite unlike her, she began to express her love. "I think my life is great right now. I have my wise and sensible children, and I have you."

Ever since she met Hanson, she began to have all sorts of unusual feelings.

She never felt such feelings around the children before. Her heart would skip a beat, she would feel expectant for no reason at all, and she had an inexplicable sense of security now.

Hanson was moved by her sudden display of affection for him.

Vania was also the greatest blessing in his life. "You're right. The children and I are the best things in life for you."

As soon as he said that, he could not stop himself from moving in to kiss her.

Vania wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him back to show him how much she loved him.

Hanson's hazy eyes darkened. He was afraid that he might lose control, so he had to stop their kiss.

They stared at each other and chuckled lightly before turning their thoughts back to the matter at hand.

Hanson took the audio recorder and said, "There's actually another reason why I'm still keeping Melanie around."

When Vania saw the serious look in his eyes, she grew solemn herself and asked, "What's the reason?"

"It involves Luke Corporation."

Once she heard him mentioning the company's name, she could tell that it was something monumental, so she paid close attention to what he said.

Hanson gave her a summary of the changes happening within the company, as well as what Eddie was doing.

Melanie was thunderstruck. She never would have thought that Melanie had gotten herself involved in the power struggle within Luke Corporation. "Are you suspecting that Eddie was the one who arranged for Melanie to come to you?"

Hanson nodded. "Yes, so that's why I kept giving her a chance to stick around. It's not just because of Morales and Morgan."

The power struggle within the wealthy and influential families often included such underhanded tactics. Vania sighed. "It seems like we're in the same predicament after all. What do you plan on doing next?"

Hanson raised the audio recorder. "We'll pretend nothing happened."

"Alright. I'll do whatever you say." Vania nodded before adding a warning, "However, you're not allowed to keep things from me."

Chapter 363 Can You Teach Us?

"We're family, so why would I keep anything from you?" Hanson stroked Vania's hair and said, "A lot has happened today. You must be exhausted. Let's go home."

"Okay." Vania settled back into her seat and closed her eyes.

Hanson had always enjoyed the thrill of high speeds, but this time, he slowed down without even noticing.

A grand Rolls-Royce began crawling down the road at a snail's pace.

An elderly man riding a bicycle sped past the car and stared disdainfully at the car. Hah, it's not even as fast as me on the bicycle, he thought to himself before picking up speed and vanishing from Hanson's sight.

However, Hanson did not notice it at all. He continued to inch his way home.

After one whole hour, the car finally pulled into Haling Villa.

As soon as the car came to a stop, Vania was startled awake and saw the familiar house outside. "We're home."

"Mmhmm."

Vania stretched and commented, "That was fast." She thought they had only taken a little over ten minutes.

Hanson would not be the one who told her that he had caused a traffic jam with how slow he had been driving.

He got out and opened the door for her, and he even wanted to carry her into the house.

Vania laughed and swatted his hand away. "Watch it. Behave yourself in front of the kids."

Hanson muttered grumpily, "Fine."

He began to fantasize about finding a way to send the six cumbersome children into outer space.

At the same time, the four children were tapping away on their devices to fill Morales and Morgan in about the conflict between Vania and Melanie.

The two boys listened carefully, but they were filled with even more uncertainty.

James glanced at his watch and started clearing the screen. "This is just a basic summary. There are still a lot of things to tell you guys, but we'll save it for another time."

Morales and Morgan nodded. They felt closer to the other four children now. "Thank you, everyone."

Seeing how obedient they were, the four children's hearts softened. "What do you want to do? We'll keep you company."

"Can you teach us to do what you did on the laptop?" Morales asked. He wanted to be like them so that he could find the information that he wanted to know.

Jack waved his hand offhandedly. "Of course." There was nothing to it.

It was James who turned serious. "You have to promise that you won't let your daddy find out about this though."

They did not want Hanson to know about this skill of theirs just yet.

Morales and Morgan's hands flew up into the air. "We won't tell anyone!"

James nodded. "Okay then."

Jacob piped up to remind them, "Mommy should be home soon."

She had been gone for nearly two hours, so regardless of how finicky a situation it was, it was more than enough time for her to settle it by now.

Jack checked the time and said, "We'll teach you tomorrow."

"Okay."

True enough, as soon as they spoke, Vania and Hanson came in through the door.

All six children swarmed over at once. When they saw the pleasant expressions on the grownups' faces, they could tell that everything turned out alright.

However, they spotted the exhaustion in Vania's eyes, so they began to push her upstairs. "Mommy, hurry up and go to bed."

Morales and Morgan also added, "You should rest, Miss Vania."

Vania blinked in confusion as she had no idea why the children were urging her to rest.

Hanson explained with a smile, "The word "tired" is written across your forehead."

"Ahh..." Vania chuckled and rubbed her face.

"In that case, darlings, you'll have to entertain yourselves for a bit while Mommy rests, okay?"

Chapter 364 A Strand of Hair

The six children nodded at once. "We'll be alright on our own."

Hanson praised them, "Since you're such good children, I'll grant each of you a wish. You can give it some thought and let me know during breakfast tomorrow."

"Yay! You're awesome, Daddy!" Morales and Morgan cheered.

However, the other four children were a little more standoffish with him. Though their minds were running wild with possibilities, they kept silent.

The more Hanson spent time with them, the fonder he was of them. He did not try to call their bluff.

"You guys go ahead and play."

"Okay." The six children left together.

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Vania headed back to her room once she saw them leave.

As soon as she closed the door, Hanson said with a wide smile, "Your hand is injured, so I'll help you shower."

What? Hanson wants to help me shower?

Vania was tempted to throw him over her shoulder.

"What's going on in that head of yours?" Vania asked.

Hanson did not think that there was anything wrong with his idea. "It's been a long day, so wouldn't it be good to take a shower and nap comfortably?"

It was a good idea, but Vania felt that if Hanson helped her with the shower, she would not be napping anytime soon.

Therefore, she rejected his offer with every fiber of her being. "No thanks."

That did not stop Hanson. "We'll shower together then."

The audacity! Does he have no shame? Vania thought to herself. She raised her fists and punched the air. "Would you like to try your luck and see if I'll kick you out of the room?"

Hanson thought about Vania's over-the-shoulder move and asked curiously, "When did you learn to fight?"

She had done it with great ease which meant that she received a lot of training.

"The past five years." She learned to fight so that she could protect herself. For the sake of the children, she had to become a jack of all trades.

"You're amazing," Hanson said as he stroked her hair gently. She was the most remarkable woman he had ever met.

"If I'm not amazing, how would I be able to keep up with the illustrious President Luke?" Vania commented teasingly.

"I'm pretty amazing indeed." Hanson laughed. This was especially true when it came to certain things. The children were proof of that.

Vania did not know that her words had taken on a different meaning in Hanson's mind. She said, "I'm really tired. I need to rest."

Hanson graciously let her off the hook this time. "Okay, I'll stay here with you and get some work done."

Vania knew that Hanson was a man of his word, so she fell asleep peacefully.

When he saw that she was sound asleep, he plucked a strand of her hair and tucked it away carefully.

Then, he continued reading his documents as if nothing happened.

Meanwhile, Melanie's plan was all set. Everything was in place, so now all she needed to do was inform Dylan to carry out his part of the plan.

However, even after calling him for a whole hour, he still did not pick up the phone. Soon after that, Melanie's phone battery died, and she slammed her phone down on the table.

"What now?" Josie asked.

"Dylan's not picking up his phone," Melanie fumed.

"And here I thought it was something serious. Can't you just wait and call him a little later?" Josie thought nothing of it. It was normal for someone to miss a call every now and then. Dylan might just be busy with something right now.

"I've been calling him for an entire hour now. What could he possibly be busy with?"

Josie frowned. "I'll get someone to look into it."

Melanie continued to dial Dylan's number, but all she heard was the robotic voice saying, "The number you have dialed cannot be reached at the moment."

Chapter 365 A New Identity

Melanie's eyes were blazing as she stared at the phone.

Soon, Josie got a reply.

When she saw the message, she exclaimed, "What?!"

Melanie immediately snatched the phone to see the message for herself, and her eyes widened in shock once she read it. "Jones Enterprise declares bankruptcy, and the entire Jones Family has left Hammond?!"

"How is it possible for him to leave Hammond? Why would Hanson let him get away?" Melanie was doubtful.

Suddenly, a thought struck her, and she turned to Josie. "Mom, look up who Dylan has met in the past few days."

A short while later, Josie handed the information she received to Melanie.

They were both in an uproar as Melanie slammed her hand on the table. "That b\*stard! He betrayed me!"

Josie was in disbelief. "I can't believe he chose to give up on the family company. He's a lot more hard-hearted than I thought."

She clasped Melanie's hand and said, "Looks like we'll have to continue using that woman, Bella Godwin."

Melanie's eyes were flashing as she formulated a new plan.

For the next few days, Melanie kept a low profile, so all was well with the world.

It was finally the grand finale of 'The Voice'.

The top ten contestants all rejoined the competition. Two among them were chosen as representatives to battle it out with the finalists, and the battle would lead to a new set of finalists competing for the ultimate victory.

Bella, who had been blacklisted from the entertainment industry, did not rank among the returning contestants.

Even so, she still showed up in Melanie's dressing room. If anyone observed her carefully, they would notice that her features looked significantly different now. Enough time had elapsed since she went under the knife, and there were no obvious signs of her getting work done.

Melanie had a cold expression on her face as she instructed Bella, "I won't allow any mistakes this time."

"I've already changed my name and appearance so that I can resume working in entertainment once I'm done with this. Why would I make a mistake now?" Bella gritted her teeth.

She had an all-new identity now—Esther Godwin.



As long as she followed today's plan, Melanie would arrange for her to return to the entertainment industry once more, so she was determined to ensure that the plan succeeded.

Melanie glanced at Bella's stiff expression and said, "You need to be able to recite the information I gave you like it's the back of your hand, and you must improvise when necessary, understood?"

Bella's grip tightened around the papers as her gaze hardened. "I've practiced countless times. As long as your part of the plan succeeds, I won't fail."

Melanie stared at her imperiously. "That better be true."

She walked out of the dressing room and headed to the live broadcast venue to prepare for the competition that was about to begin.

Meanwhile, Melanie had dressed to the nines for this recording. She chose an outfit that made her seem powerful and commanding like a queen. This was worlds apart from her previous style, and she carried herself proudly as if she had already been crowned champion.

Her eyes were filled with jealousy as she stared off into the distance.

Somewhere further away, Kiki had been discharged from the hospital following a full recovery. The moment she spotted Vania, she came forward at once.

"Ms. Greyson, thank you for visiting me at the hospital. I've been discharged with a full bill of health."

Vania glanced at her polite stance and nodded. "Not at all. Good luck with the competition."

"I will definitely do my best!" Kiki was full of smiles as she said that. She then turned to Hanson and addressed him respectfully, "Thank you for the concern you've shown me, President Luke."

expression seemed shy and nervous. It was the same look that every single one of Hanson's admirers would show in front of him.

"Mm," Hanson hummed in acknowledgment without even looking at her.

Vania chuckled helplessly to herself. Yet another girl who's mesmerized by Hanson's looks, huh?

#### Chapter 366 A Woman Like You

Vania's thoughts led her to subconsciously gaze at Hanson's face. What's so special about him? Why do so many women fall at his feet?

When he sensed Vania's gaze, Hanson turned to look her in the eye, but all he saw was her bemused expression.

Hanson grew a little exasperated since he could tell what she was thinking. He commented in a gentle voice, "It seems like you're not too happy about the way your man looks."

His voice was alluring enough to make anyone who heard him turn scarlet.

On the other hand, Vania glanced at Kiki instinctively before giving Hanson a warning look. "The program is about to start. Let's go over there now."

Doesn't he know where we are right now? How can he just say such things?

Hanson smirked and nodded agreeably. "Okay."

However, his brilliant smile only served to send an arrow straight through Kiki's heart. She had already been blushing hard from his words earlier, and she could not even lift her head to look at him now.

Her eyes were dazed as she stared after their retreating backs.

Meanwhile, Melanie saw everything that happened and scoffed derisively. Her expression was stormy as she derided, How can an unknown little tryhard even think about Hanson like that? How shameless.

She then strutted over to Kiki.

Kiki was startled to see Melanie staring at her with such a fearsome expression. However, she quickly regained her composure and greeted Melanie with a smile, "Do you need something from me?"

Melanie sneered. "You don't need to put on an act in front of me."

They were all sly foxes here, so there was no point in pretending to be innocent.

Kiki's smile stiffened as she laughed a little unnaturally. "I don't know what you're talking about."

Melanie's expression became even more scornful as she said, "I've seen a ton of fake b\*tches like you before, so don't bother trying to act innocent. Whose pity are you trying to get, huh? President Luke's?"

Kiki's eyes widened in alarm as she frantically shook her head. "I'm not, though."

"Do you think I'm blind? Everyone can see the look in your eyes when you stare at Hanson."

Melanie's words cut like a knife, and every word was laced with her utter loathing for Kiki.

Kiki rushed to defend herself. "That's not true! I just came over to thank Ms. Greyson and President Luke."

Melanie scoffed and stared at Kiki derisively. "Hanson has probably grown sick and tired of hearing words like that from women like you."

She stepped forward and glared at Kiki. "You should think before you speak. Remember Bella Godwin? She's the best example."

Kiki frowned. "What do you mean?"

"I'm just telling you to stay away from Hanson. Countless women have tried to use the same excuse as you about a twisted ankle, and Bella was one of them. Are you hoping to end up the same way she did?"

Melanie's eyes were fixed on Kiki, who was dressed plainly and had fairly average looks. Hanson was not someone that an unfashionable woman like her could get her claws on.

"I'm not! You're wrong about me." Kiki's insistence made her look like an innocent child.

Melanie despised the act that Kiki put on. She felt the same way whenever she looked at Vania, and it made her nauseous.

She wanted to continue rebuking her, but a thought occurred to her before she changed her tune. "Why are you so anxious? I'm just telling you like it is."

This time, Melanie's tone was a complete one-eighty from her previous manner of speaking. Now, she sounded like a kindly older sister.

Kiki was taken aback by the sudden change in Melanie's attitude toward her. She fluttered her eyelashes in confusion, not knowing what to say.

#### Chapter 367 Finale Begins

Melanie's smile did not reach her eyes. "President Luke is a very distinguished man, and such a man would have countless women desperately trying to get close to him. None of them have ever succeeded, though. My words might have been a bit harsh earlier, but I'm only saying it for your own good."

There was no doubt in her mind that Hanson would not be interested in Kiki. In fact, she could tell from the way he barely paid any attention to her.

Hanson's eyes seemed to sparkle whenever he looked at Vania, but he looked at Kiki the way he looked at Melanie. It was like he saw right through them and was not at all keen to stay in their presence any longer than necessary.

Therefore, Melanie came up with a new idea. Rather than wasting her breath and trying to duke it out with Kiki who had no hope of getting close to Hanson in any way, why not find a way to get Kiki on her side as an ally against Vania?

"Do you understand what I'm trying to say?" Melanie asked sweetly when she saw that Kiki was still staring at her in confusion.

Kiki looked at her apologetically. "I think you've gotten the wrong idea. President Luke is indeed an incredible man, but I don't have such thoughts about him."

Melanie figured that Kiki was just too stubborn to admit it since she had spotted the admiration in Kiki's eyes when she looked at Hanson earlier.

She chuckled and said, "You don't have to be shy about it. It's not embarrassing to carry a torch for President Luke. Any woman who sees him would naturally develop an attraction toward him. In fact, it'd be weird if she didn't."

Melanie leaned in and advised, "It's fine if you like President Luke, but you should be careful around Vania."

Kiki's expression froze once more as she glanced at Melanie.

The latter continued, "If Vania does anything to you in the future, remember to come and look for me."

She made sound like it was an absolute certainty that it would happen. After patting Kiki on the shoulder, she walked away with a smile, looking like a cat that caught the canary.

Meanwhile, Kiki did not say a word. She looked over at Vania and Hanson, who were engaged in cheerful conversation, and turned to leave with a neutral expression on her face.

Soon, the stage was set for recording to begin.

The host stood on stage as the lights all came on at once, and the venue fell silent.

It was time to start the live broadcast.

Once again, the host introduced the contestants, judges, and guests present at the venue before announcing the theme of today's competition.

The host announced excitedly, "Tonight is the night of 'The Voice's grand finale, and the contestant who is crowned the champion will have the honor of singing the latest creation of the songwriting genius, Lunastella!"

"Whoa! Good luck, everyone!" The audience beneath the stage began to holler and scream their support.

The audience watching the live stream eagerly looked up Lunastella's credentials.

She had shot into fame five years ago.

At first, Lunastella started with a few songs that were published online and sung by small-time singers. While her songs did go viral, she continued to be relatively unknown in the music industry.

However, within the last two years, Lunastella began popping up on the list of several highly-acclaimed music awards, and her list of trophies began to pile up considerably.

Many artists were eager to work with her, but she insisted on continuing to publish her creations online, and few were able to get their hands on her work.

If the winner of 'The Voice' was able to sing a song of hers, it would be an incredible honor.

One could say that the person would be shooting straight to the top the moment they debuted.

The host continued to explain, "During the final judging round at the end of today's competition, Lunastella's assistant will be coming in person to deliver the most important vote."

Needless to say, Lunastella's vote was the deciding factor.

"Lunastella! Lunastella!" The crowd began to chant her name in anticipation.

At the same time, comments from online viewers were also flooding in.

'Ah, it's unbelievable that the producers managed to get such amazing people involved.'

Chapter 368 Not a Professional Singer

'Even though we can't see Lunastella herself, it's so thrilling that we're going to hear her new song soon!'

'Hurry up and start the finale.'

Amidst the roaring crowd, the host announced, "The grand finale of 'The Voice' begins now! Good luck to all the contestants."

The competition ran smoothly as the contestants sang one after another nervously.

Every precaution possible had been taken to ensure the validity of the votes.

Finally, the first round of the finale came to an end. Melanie was in fifth place, while Kiki maintained her position at the top.

Melanie's eyes darkened as her hatred for Kiki intensified.

The host announced, "Coming up next is the moment that we've all been waiting for!"

"Lunastella! Lunastella..."

It was time for her assistant to come on stage and deliver the most important vote from her.

The host grinned from ear to ear. "That's right! Let us welcome Lunastella's assistant onto the stage right now!"

Bella calmly went up on stage as the crowd cheered in frenzy.

Her gaze was proud as she basked in the thrill of having all eyes on her. She waved at everyone before disguising her voice to say, "Nice to meet you, everyone. I am Lunastella's assistant, Esther Godwin."

The moment Vania spotted the person who went on stage, she shifted in her seat and stared at the stage with an indiscernible expression.

While both the studio audience and the online viewers cheered as well, they were also a little mystified.

Somehow, this assistant looked rather familiar, but they could not identify who it was. There was something odd about her features too.

'Did she get some work done on her face?'

'Why does Lunastella's assistant look so weird? Is this why Lunastella doesn't ever show herself?'

'Why does this person look like the one who got blacklisted, Bella Godwin? Her face is so odd.'

The host was in close proximity to her, so he could naturally spot some traces of the surgery she had gotten done on her face. He was puzzled too, but since he was a professional, he kept a straight face and said, "Welcome, Esther. Thank you for joining us here today, and greetings to Lunastella who is joining us from afar as well."

"Thank you for the love that you have for Lunastella, everyone. Before I came here, she reminded me to thank all of you for the love you have shown to her." Bella sounded completely natural, which proved how much she had practiced this bit.

Excitement was at an all-time high at the venue thanks to her arrival. They were in eager anticipation for the vote she brought with her.

The host asked, "Shall we announce the contestant who has received Lunastella's vote?"

Bella nodded. "Lunastella has followed the competition closely. Before she gives her vote, she would like to ask all the contestants a question."

"Oh? What is the question?" the host queried.

Bella faced the contestants and asked solemnly, "Who among you is not a professional singer?"

Her expression was dead serious, but the question sounded like a joke. Everyone was bewildered and no one understood what was being asked.

Even the contestants and judges were at a loss.

Vania was the only one who looked up on stage in amusement, curious to know what other theatrical questions would be coming up.

'What does this question have to do with who gets the vote?'

'Does this mean that Lunastella won't be voting for anyone who's not a professional singer?'

All the contestants stood in place, too nervous to move at all as if the slightest error would disqualify them from the competition.

When she saw how no one reacted to the question, Bella spoke once again. "Anyone who is not a professional singer, please step forward."

Would... those contestants... be chosen or not?

All the other contestants faltered and hesitated, but Melanie stepped forward bravely.

Chapter 369 The Champion

The other contestants were stunned by Melanie's action. They could not wait to find out what would happen to those who stepped forward.

No one could have predicted the words that came out of Bella's mouth the moment this happened. Their jaws dropped when they heard her announce, "Lunastella's vote will go to Melanie Greyson."

The audience was dumbstruck.

'What just happened? The vote was placed just like that?'

'Is this some kind of a joke? The vote went to the one who isn't a professional singer.'

'Did the producers plan this segment to lighten the mood?'

'You can see the shock in all the other contestants' eyes too, and even the host is frozen with the microphone half-raised. He probably doesn't know what to say to this either.'

'Hah! I want to know why the vote went to her. What's the logic behind this?'

The crowd was slowly stirring from their shock. Some of the contestants were regretting that they had not stepped forward, while some were indignant about the results, and some were envious of Melanie.

Amidst everyone's uproar, the smile on Vania's face deepened. It seems like it's Melanie's lucky day today.

Melanie had made it a point to choose an outfit befitting a queen today. Now that she stood under the spotlight, she looked every bit like a deserving champion. The only thing missing was her crown.

The host maintained his cool as he continued to interview Bella. "Can you tell us the reason behind Lunastella's vote? I think a lot of the contestants and audience are keen to find out as well."

"Of course." Bella spoke convincingly. "The style of Lunastella's newest song is very different from her past creations, so she wants to find a naturally-gifted singer who has never been molded in any particular way before to sing her song," she said.

As if she were afraid that the others would not get her explanation, she added, "Lunastella believes that it's easier to create a masterpiece on a blank canvas."

The contestants all nodded in agreement as they cursed themselves for not stepping forward earlier. They had let such a wonderful opportunity slip through their hands.

This time, the host turned to Melanie. "Please share your thoughts with us, Melanie."

Melanie accepted the microphone with a smug smile. "I'm very surprised, but also very thrilled. It's an honor to be selected by Lunastella, and I won't let anyone down."

Her words were gracious and very suitable for such an occasion.

Melanie was certain that victory was hers, and she was as proud as a peacock as she carried herself with an air of superiority.

The host went to the center of the stage. His voice trembled slightly in his excitement as he announced, "I will now announce..."

"The winner! Who's the winner?!" The audience was impatient to find out what the results were going to be.

Even though there was a ninety-nine percent chance that the winner would be Melanie, the audience was still waiting to see if there could be an unexpected twist.

"Today's champion is Melanie Greyson!"

As soon as the host announced her name, Melanie surged over to the award stage and began to wave at everyone. She was smug and full of pride.

Petals rained down onto the stage as the air filled with colorful bubbles, and the music turned festive. The crowd began to cheer, and the atmosphere at the venue was lively and energetic once more.

This was in stark contrast to the comments in the live stream.

'After so many rounds of competing, the champion is the one who came in fifth place?'

'What's the point of competing, then?'

'Is the competition rigged? Why does the champion feel like the weakest singer among all of them?'

'Is that person on stage really Lunastella's assistant? This result is nothing like the Lunastella I know about.'

'These types of competitions are all a show. The winner would have been decided right from the get-go. Lunastella probably didn't have a choice either.'

All in all, there was barely any support for the fact that Melanie was crowned the champion. Instead, everyone reacted with incredulity.

Chapter 370 Fake

The soundtrack for the awards ceremony began to play and the host announced, "Let us now welcome our four judges on stage, along with Miss Godwin, to present the award to tonight's champion, Melanie Greyson!"

As for the live broadcast online, it was now showing the advertisements for the various program sponsors, which came just before the end of the episode. 'The Voice' would soon be coming to a close.

However, as soon as the judges began to move, Vania picked up a microphone and said, "Stop the music and resume the live broadcast, director. Today's competition will need a little overtime."

Everyone was dumbstruck when they heard what she said. This was even more shocking than the announcement earlier about Melanie winning.

'I don't understand what's going on. Is Vania Greyson trying to protest the results?'

'There's always a twist whenever Melanie Greyson's involved. Let's see what it is this time.'

'Here we go again! This is even more entertaining than the competition itself.'

'What's up with the sound engineers? Too shocked to do their jobs?'

'I wish I could see Melanie Greyson's expression right now.'

Melanie's face was indeed frozen stiff. Her fingers dug into the palm of her hand as she gripped the microphone and held back the urge to hit someone. She had been wondering why Vania stayed silent all this while today. So, you're going to cause a scene at the end, huh? A b\*tch will always be a b\*tch.

Melanie's blood was boiling as her face contorted into a menacing expression.

On the contrary, Vania seemed perfectly calm and even Hanson looked unaffected by it all. He had absolute faith in Vania, as the woman he loved was no ordinary person.



The host sounded rather awkward. "Was there something you'd like to add, Ms. Greyson?"

"She's a fake. The results are invalid," Vania announced coolly as she gestured toward Bella.

A fake? Everyone's jaws dropped.

Melanie's anger instantly turned to shock and bewilderment.

What did Vania know about this? She was completely certain that no one else knew about her plan.

Everyone had heard about the production team inviting Lunastella's assistant to the competition. All Melanie did was locate the real assistant before sending people to stop her from coming to the filming location, then asked Bella to replace the real assistant. She relied completely on people she trusted to carry this plan out, so where had it gone wrong?

The host gaped for a moment, and when he regained his composure, he looked at Vania and said, "Could you please tell us what you mean?"

No one understood what was happening at all. Vania's words made no sense to them.

Vania threw Bella a derisive look before announcing into the microphone with absolute certainty, "She's a fake."

Bella lashed out in fury, "How can you call me a fake just like that? I have documents that prove my identity."

Those documents had been taken from the real assistant, so they were real.

Vania snorted. "The documents are real, but you're still a fake."

Bella never saw this coming at all, so she was at a loss for words. All she could do was remain rooted on the center of the stage as she clenched her jaw and glared at Vania.

Melanie cut in at once. "Since you say she's a fake, Ms. Greyson, why didn't you point it out the moment she came on stage? Why are you saying this now? The competition's nearly over. Aren't you just trying to single me out?"

In Melanie's eyes, Vania's actions now were merely a last-minute resort to stop her from becoming the champion. It was just an attempt to twist the truth.

Vania glanced at Melanie before shaking her head. "You're not worth the effort."

Those words made the audience gasp.

There were all kinds of rumors going around online about Vania and Melanie, but it was the first time that Vania had ever addressed the elephant in the room, and during a live broadcast too.