Married in a Flash Embarking on the Journey to Wealth Chapter 361

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Aurelia had expected the ride to IN Magazine to be awkward. However, as so on as they got in the car, Leslie unexpectedly handed her a file.

"Will you be able to go through it within half an hour?" Leslie asked.

When she opened it, Aurelia discovered it was background information about Lucia

Lawson, the vice president of IN Magazine.

She was confident as she said, "Absolutely."

Before each planning session, she would always familiarize herself with the cli ents, so remembering these things wasn't a problem for her.

However, she was somewhat doubtful.

"Why do you need me to remember Lucia's information?" she asked.

Leslie explained, "Lucia is the person who resents Eva the most in IN Magazin e. It's because Eva only got her position as the fashion director at IN Magazin e through connections.

"Otherwise, given her history of frequent job changes, it would have been imp ossible for a domestic magazine to suddenly let her parachute directly into the position **of** a director.

After Leslie's explanation, Aurelia instantly understood Leslie's intention.

"Are you suggesting that I should use Lucia to deal with Eva?" Aurelia asked.

Leslie nodded. "Someone like Eva must be eliminated once and for all. Although Lucia is the perfect candidate to do this, she lacks the opportunity to do so. "We'll provide her with the opportunity, and she'll exercise her authority as the vice president of IN Magazine. After all, we should work together to achieve o ur goals."

Aurelia felt touched by the gesture. "I understand now. Thank you so much for your help, Mr. Synder. We usually spend a lot of time and money trying to fin d out about our client's preferences, but sometimes we can only get a superfic ial understanding.

"Such comprehensive information is probably only known by those close to Lucia. You must have asked a lot of people for help, r ight?"

Leslie shrugged. "I guess you could say that."

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In fact, he had only asked his mother for help with it.

"Don't worry, I'm confident that I won't lose today," assured Aurelia.

Aurelia gripped the documents tightly in her hand. If Leslie was willing to spen d so much. effort helping her, she couldn't afford to fail at the last moment.

On the way to the office, Aurelia quickly jotted down all of Lucia's preferences.

As they approached IN Magazine, she happened to notice a store **on** the side of the road and immediately asked Leslie to pull over.

Leslie looked puzzled as she quickly got out of the car and rushed into the sto re. After buying what she needed, she happily returned to the car.

"Let's go," she said.

Leslie glanced at the store name and said, "It seems like you're already puttin g it into practice right away."

Aurelia was incredibly bright. She just needed a little push to figure things out on her

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She smiled and said, "I've learned a lot from you. I'll show you what I can do I ater."

After ten minutes, they pulled up in front of IN Magazine. As soon as Aurelia g ot out of the car, she noticed that quite

a few people were staring at her. They were probably online influencers trying to piggyback on the buzz.

Aurelia ignored them and walked through the entrance with Leslie. When they saw that it was only the two of them, the onlookers' gaze was filled with uncon cealed contempt.

However, when they noticed Leslie, their gazes became somewhat complicate d. It was even to the extent that they openly coveted Leslie **in** front of Aurelia.

Didn't they know that Leslie was a married man? It was disrespectful of them t o ogle Leslie in front of Aurelia.

Despite Aurelia's glare, those people paid her no attention. They continued to stare at Leslie with undisguised desire.

Aurelia pursed her lips, turned around, and stood in front of Leslie.

"Mr. Synder, there's some dust on your sleeve. I'll get it for you," Aurelia said.

After saying that, she lifted Leslie's hand. She discreetly flaunted Leslie's gold ring on his

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ring finger, making sure everyone saw it.

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Leslie realized what Aurelia was trying to do and whispered, "Do you want me to hold up my hand?"

Aurelia was taken aback. Her hand stopped patting his sleeve as she realized how foolish

she had been.

Yet when she released her hand, Leslie promptly took hold of it and led her int o the meeting room.

"It's more obvious this way," he said.

Aurelia was taken aback once again. She felt her palm tingle with heat. Her he art was pounding so hard it felt like it would leap out of her chest.

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As soon as she entered the meeting room, she managed to calm her racing h eart and quickly assumed her usual professional demeanor.

Yet, when they stepped in, there was no one in the meeting room.

Aurelia sighed and said, "It seems they're trying to intimidate us.

Leslie found a seat and sat down. "Eva wants to break down your psychologic al defenses.

Aurelia smirked and glanced at the side cabinet nearby, saying, "I'm not going to give in so easily. I might as well do something else then."

As she spoke, she took out the items she had just bought from her bag and st arted to tinker with them on the side cabinet.

As soon as she was done preparing, Eva and her entourage entered the room.

When Eva saw Aurelia standing at the side cabinet making tea, she couldn't h elp but

sneer.

"Ms. Simmons, isn't it a bit late to try to curry favor now?" she mocked.

Aurelia ignored her tone and said, "Ms. Hanks, I'm not one to sit around. How about we sit down and have a chat? I've already made us some coffee."

Eva was slightly taken aback by Aurelia's calm tone. She didn't appear to be worried in

the slightest.

Aurelia had been subjected to a barrage of hateful insults from internet trolls. She didn't believe Aurelia could endure such relentless attacks.

Aurelia felt Eva's gaze and scoffed inwardly. It seemed that even Eva underst ood that an ordinary person would crumble under the weight of so many basel ess rumors.

Yet Eva still allowed those people to spread rumors and defame her. This sug gested that she was well aware of such tactics, rather than being clueless abo ut them.

Aurelia brought the brewed coffee to the meeting table across from her.

"Please have some, Ms. Hanks," offered Aurelia.

Eva sarcastically remarked, "Ms. Simmons seems to have a knack for this kind of thing. It

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seems like you're quite experienced."

Aurelia merely smiled at her remark.

Eva awkwardly motioned toward the woman beside her and said, "Allow me to introduce Lucia Lawson, Vice President of IN Magazine. Our president is curr ently overseas attending a major fashion show and is unable to attend to this t rivial matter personally.

She has entrusted Ms. Lawson to handle it.

Eva's tone came across as mildly offensive toward Lucia, especially when she emphasized "Vice President" and "trivial matter". It seemed as if she completely disregarded Lucia

Lucia was dressed in a white suit, accentuated by a leather belt around her w aist. She looked assertive and confident, just like her personality. Even with th e delicate touch of her pearl earrings, she still seemed unusually serious.

She brushed off Eva's sarcasm and nodded slightly toward Aurelia.

Aurelia set the cup down before Lucia, saying, "Please have some, Ms. Lawso n."

Lucia was somewhat intrigued by Aurelia's cordial demeanor. She then raised her gaze to glance at her.

Aurelia smiled and turned around to distribute the other coffees.

She finally walked over to Leslie and briefly introduced him to the people in the room.

"Leslie Synder, my husband. Now, let's get things underway, shall we?" she b egan.

As soon as she said that, Eva acted swiftly and tossed an agreement toward Aurelia and

Leslie.

"Here's our company's liability waiver agreement. We hope that Ms. Simmons will take the initiative and assume full responsibility for her actions," Eva said.

Aurelia picked up the agreement. It was a thick stack of papers, and it would t ake at least an hour to read through it all. However, she had barely gotten thro ugh two lines when Eva's impatience kicked in.

"You should stop wasting your time reading it. Do you even understand it? Do **you** s think our company is trying to take advantage of people like you?" she mocked.

Aurelia brushed off the remark and was about to resume reading, but Leslie st epped in

and took the agreement.

Leslie quickly skimmed through the agreement at an inhuman speed, even sur prising

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those seated nearby.

"Is this your company's liability waiver, or an admission of guilt?" he questione d.

"What are you trying to say?" Eva asked Leslie, frowning.

"So the agreement mandates my wife to assume full responsibility? And also c ompensate for your company's expenses?" he continued.

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Eva sneered, "**Of** course. She delayed our schedule and almost made us mis s the deadline for the next issue's cover. I've already kept it as low as possible . If you can't afford it, don't waste our time."

"Ms. Hanks, as far as I know, you were the one who arranged the meeting wit h my wife at 9:00 am," said Leslie.

Eva tried to deny it. "What are you talking about?" she asked.

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Aurelia took out her phone. "Here's a message from Ms. Hanks' assistant, Flo ra Lincoln. She

scheduled a meeting at the photoshoot location at 9:00 am. Do you think it's f ake? Let's verify that."

After saying that, Aurelia didn't give anyone on the other side a chance to resp ond and directly dialed the number.

Flora, standing behind Eva, panicked and tried to turn off her phone. However , she accidentally dropped it and the melodious ringtone rang through the mee ting room.

Lucia frowned and glanced at Eva.

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Eva turned around and glared at Flora. She snapped, "Aren't that **you** should t urn off your phone during meetings?"

Flora nervously responded, "I-I'm sorry."

Eva immediately pointed to the door and said, "Get out of here! Pack up your t hings and leave this instant."

Flora's eyes widened in disbelief as **she** looked at Eva.

Eva disregarded Flora and said, "You've seen it too– this is Flora's way of doing things. I've already let her go a long time ago. I only kept her around for the shoot out of pity.

"Although she messed up the scheduling, it doesn't mean it was our company's fault. At the end of the day, we're here to talk about the damaged jewelry, not the scheduling

issue."

Aurelia's fists clenched tightly. Despite everyone being present, Eva still had t he gall to

twist the facts.

Eva smiled at Aurelia's silence and said, "Ms. Simmons, it's no use fighting ag ainst us. We hope you'll sign the agreement soon to prevent this matter from e scalating. It won't be good for your reputation either."

"Is that so?" Aurelia raised an eyebrow and asked.

Aurelia turned her gaze to look at Flora, who was trembling at the side. "Ms. Li ncoln, since you were fired a long time ago, why are you still doing things for Ms. Hanks? And you even scheduled meetings for her. What's the meaning of this? Are you acting on your own?

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"If that's the case, I can't sign the agreement. How can I be sure that someone didn't purposely have you invite me to the photoshoot location to cause an ac cident?"

She continued, "Since Ms. Hanks has denied all responsibilities, then it's **all** o n you. What right do you have to personally schedule a meeting with us to dis cuss cooperation? In that case, even if you don't shoulder half the blame, you should at least bear one–fifth of it, right?"

Aurelia deliberately exaggeratedly turned toward Leslie and asked, "What's on e-

fifth of 50 million dollars? It seems like such an astronomical number that I can 't even calculate

it."

Leslie replied solemnly, "Ten million dollars."

When

she heard that, Flora's face went ashen, and she dropped the phone she had j ust picked up from the floor.

Besides losing her job, she suddenly had to carry the burden of paying back t en million dollars! She felt indignant about the situation.

Flora immediately came forward and testified against Eva.

"I'm innocent! Ms. Hanks was the one who asked me to arrange a meeting wit h Aurelia

at the hotel at 9:00 am. I still have the WhatsApp voice message she sent me! " Flora said.

no out.

She played the voice message, and Eva's arrogant voice rang

"Flora, please schedule a meeting with Ms. Simmons for tomorrow at 9:00 am at the hotel of the photoshoot location," said Eva.

After hearing that, Eva couldn't take it anymore. She stood up, pointed at Flor a, and yelled angrily, "Didn't I tell you to get out? Get out!"

Flora was so frightened that tears welled up in her eyes. After being yelled at li ke that, she telt mortified. She ran out while covering her mouth.

Aurelia and Leslie glanced at each other. It seemed like they had successfully rift between Flora and Eva.

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Although they had evidence that Kimberly had taken the wire, having Flora as a witness would leave Kimberly completely defenseless.

However, Floras was on Eva's side. If they wanted to get Flora to talk, they wo uld have to make Flora see Eva's true colors.

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Who would have thought that their bond wasn't that strong after all? It was de stroyed by **a** single WhatsApp message.

Leslie chucked the agreement to Eva and said, "It looks like we need to make some amendments. If that's truly what Ms. Hanks had said, then IN Magazine should be held accountable."

Eva was so enraged that her whole body was trembling. "Are you trying to den y

responsibility?"

Leslie remained silent as he cast a glance at Aurelia.

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Aurelia was quite intuitive. Although Leslie hadn't said anything, she could still understand what he was trying to convey.

At that moment, no one on the other side had spoken up except for Eva. Lucia , who was the most important person in the meeting room, had remained silen t.

Aurelia stood up with a smile and responded, "Ms. Hanks, how could you accu se us of denying responsibility? We're obviously trying to have a proper discus sion with you. Since we have differing opinions, let's enjoy a cup of coffee and calmly discuss this. We have plenty of time anyway."

Eva was genuinely enraged. She picked up the cup and drank half of the coffe e, but then. put it down with a grimace of disgust.

"Did you actually serve us instant coffee?" she asked.

"Sorry, I only saw instant coffee on the table," Aurelia explained as her gaze s ubtly shifted toward Lucia.

Lucia took a sip as well since her cup was still in her hand. She glanced aroun d at the people around her, all of whom were drinking coffee.

Unlike the others, she was holding a cup of tea instead.

Aurelia actually went all out on that tea, which cost 700 dollars per pound.

Lucia also realized something was amiss. She set her cup down and looked at Aurelia.

Aurelia smiled amiably. She was confident that Lucia understood her intention

Aurelia had learned about Lucia's preferences from the information Leslie sho wed her. When they happened to pass by a tea emporium on their way, she b ought some black tea that Lucia enjoyed.

She tailored her approach according to Lucia's preferences.

If Lucia realized her drink was different from everyone else's, she'd naturally become suspicious. After sipping the tea and realizing that it was her favorite kind, she should have realized that Aureli a was trying to get her attention.

After a brief moment of eye contact, Lucia forcefully set down her cup of tea a nd glared

al Eva. A

"Ms. Hanks, we expect you to address the problem without stirring up further i ssues here. You should also be aware that the necklace **was** borrowed in the name of IN Magazine. If

you can't handle this well, everyone will be held accountable," Lucia remarked

Lucia's remark immediately shifted all the responsibility onto Eva.

Eva was initially a bit frustrated, but she soon regained her composure.

"Rest assured, Ms. Lawson. I'll definitely take care of it," said Eva.

"Take care of it? In such a short time, the agreement you drafted has already become invalid. What else can you do to resolve this?" Lucia exclaimed angril y.

Everyone present nodded in

agreement, feeling that the situation had become more complicated than befor e.

Eva was furious. She remembered how Lucia had been against her ever since she joined the company. After all, Lucia thought her frequent job changes me ant she wasn't reliable, and promoting her to a director position right away felt like a huge risk.

Although she was already the fashion director, Lucia would find fault in all of h er decisions. As a result, she had long been displeased with Lucia.

Was Lucia trying to shift all the blame on her? Did she really think she would b e frightened by that?

Eva casually glanced at Lucia and said with certainty, "I can assure you that I'l I be able to **solve** it."

"Ms. Hanks, actions speak louder than words. What can you assure us of? Ar e you capable of ensuring IN Magazine's credibility in Carlino?" Lucia question ed.

Eva sensed

the disdain in Lucia's tone and stood up, stating, "If I can't help the company s olve this issue, I'm willing to step down as Fashion Director of IN Magazine."

Lucia arched a brow as she looked at her. "Alright. Since so many people are here as witne s, I hope you'll handle this matter properly for the company."

Eva responded with a grin, "Rest assured, Ms. Lawson. We have witnesses w ho can prove that Aurelia's actions led to the damage of the necklace."

Aurelia interjected, "Ms. Hanks, everyone present here is from your own team, testimony shouldn't be valid, right?"

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"Kimberly isn't considered part of our company, right? **She's** willing to testify t hat it **was** your retaliation that led to the necklace being dropped," she said.

Eva gazed at the meeting room door with a triumphant look and shouted, "Ple ase come in, Ms. Watson!"

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Aurelia and Leslie exchanged glances when they realized that Kimberly had a rrived. They knew that the main event was about to unfold.

In the next moment, Kimberly arrogantly strode into the meeting room.

She briefly glanced at Aurelia before approaching Lucia's side with a smile.

Kimberly said, "Nice to meet you, Ms. Lawson and Ms. Hanks. I'm Kimberly W atson from Young Advertising, and I used to be Aurelia's colleague.

"We went to the hotel together that day to discuss a collaboration with Ms. Ha nks. In fact, Ms. Hanks actually thought highly of Aurelia, so she wanted to as sess her by inviting her to participate in the photoshoot."

She continued, "At times when we reach out to clients, we also try to assist th em with whatever we can. If Ms. Hanks could think highly of me in the same m anner, I'd be overjoyed, and I wouldn't be as petty as Aurelia.

"Now that she has the support of a well-

known company like One Technology, she naturally feels invincible. It's not su rprising that she's become conceited, but I never imagined that she would go so far as to destroy such a valuable necklace to get back at

Ms. Hanks.

Kimberly sighed with a sense of regret as **she** spoke.

Aurelia, however, understood very clearly that Kimberly had portrayed her as someone. who was not only petty but **also** quite arrogant.

Before Aurelia could offer any rebuttal, Eva had already gotten up and deliver ed her

verdict.

"Ms. Lawson, I hope you understand the situation now. This whole thing is not hing more than Aurelia seeking revenge on me. She intentionally broke the ne cklace and she should be held accountable for it," she stated.

After hearing this, Lucia hesitated for a moment and silently gazed at Aurelia.

Aurelia stood up and looked at Kimberly, asking, "Are you certain that I deliber ately

broke the necklace?"

Kimberly looked at her in an extremely arrogant manner and said, "Of course! I've

already given my statement to the police as well! Aurelia, you're not going to **a rgue** that

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you were tripped by the wire, right?"

Eva chuckled. "We're not blind, Aurelia. If there was a wire, wouldn't we all not ice them? Aurelia, lying won't help you get away with this."

Aurelia began, "Actually-

As soon as Aurella began to speak, Eva raised her hand and interrupted her.

"Come on, Aurelial Stop wasting our time. While I'll let **this** slide considering w e

wrapped up the magazine cover shoot on schedule, you'll still have to compensate for the necklace," demande d Eva.

Aurelia tried again, saying, "I wanted to say

"I told you to sign the agreement!" Eva interrupted her again.

Kimberly crossed her arms and said with a sneer, "Sign it already! People have better things to do with their time. Do you even think you're worth y of their time?"

Aurelia had had enough. She raised her hand and forcefully slammed it **on** th e table.

A loud thud echoed as the agreement that **was** on the **table** shook for a mom ent. In the meeting room, Leslie was the only one who had the foresight to lift his laptop bag.

Naturally, Aurelia wouldn't give in that easily!

She shouted, "Kimberly Watson! Stop being such a bootlicker! Do you really t hink that the deal will fall into your hands once you get rid of me?

"Don't you think before you act? **If** you successfully framed me, do you think it' s possible for IN Magazine and Young Advertising to collaborate again in the f uture?

"Although you've been with the company for so long, what have you really dev eloped aside from your talent for seducing men over the years?"

Aurelia shot a glance at Kimberly's chest and said with a sneer, "Oh, wait! I gu ess you've developed in terms of your bust size.

Kimberly's visibly enlarged chest heaved with anger as she took a deep breath.

Despite her anger, she chose not to directly confront Aurelia. Instead, she dire cted her gaze toward the people from IN Magazine, particularly Lucia.

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Lucia remained silent, which seemed to indicate that she agreed with Aurelia.

Although Young Advertising and Aurelia were no longer associated with each other, the junior employee of Young Advertising was still acting unprofessional in front of them. Who would actually want to work with them in the future?

It would still be impossible for them to cooperate, even if a senior employee lik e Zachary

had come over instead.

Kimberly hesitated momentarily. In fact, she was about to hand in her resignat ion. She initially wanted to use IN Magazine's charity event to salvage her rep utation before leaving.

It appeared that all hope was lost. She turned to Eva, who had given her her word.

Eva, however, showed no signs of concern, clearly indicating that her previou s promises were all lies. Yet, Kimberly didn't dare to confront her.

Aurelia seized the opportunity to turn to Eva and spoke loudly, "What about yo u, Eva? Is this the behavior of a company director? You're constantly cutting o ff others and coercing others into signing something. I didn't know your compa ny was so unprofessional. You're all colluding with outsiders."

Eva immediately snapped, "Aurelia, who do you think you are **to** talk to me in such a manner? Someone like you will never reach my heights in this lifetime. You're in no position to argue with me! What I say goes."

Lucia reprimanded her. "Eva! Behave yourself!"

"Cut the crap! Did I say something wrong? If she's so sure of herself, let her pr ove it. Otherwise, I'll make her regret ever crossing me!" Eva fiercely declared.

Lucia frowned but didn't attempt to stop her. After all, the more Eva spoke, the easier it

would be to find fault in her.

After hearing what she needed to hear, Aurelia cast a glance at Leslie.

Leslie promptly took out

his laptop and opened the surveillance footage. "This is the surveillance foota ge of Kimberly getting off the elevator. She threw something into the

room service cart in front of her. She-"

Kimberly was shocked by this revelation, and even Eva was surprised. Howev er, the

surveillance footage didn't capture what was thrown.

Eva scoffed. "Do you think you can intimidate us by doing this? Does this foot age show what was thrown? What does this actually prove, Leslie?"

Leslie glared at Eva, and his cold, intimidating gaze immediately silenced her.

Aurelia took advantage of the situation to look at Lucia and said, "Lucia, the le vel of professionalism in your company is really quite dismal."

Lucia **had** had enough and exclaimed, "Eva! Stop this nonsense! **You** better s hut up and sit your ass down now!

Eva said through gritted teeth, "Fine! **I'm** interested to see how you'll talk your way out **of** this!"

Aurelia picked up where Leslie left off and continued, "Mr. Clark from the polic e station has

already located the wire through the surveillance footage, and the logo on the wire confirms that it belongs to IN Magazine. However, Kimberly's fingerprints were found

on the wire.

"Quite intriguing, isn't it? Ms. Hanks and Kimberly repeatedly assured us that t here were no extra wires at the scene. So how did it end up downstairs, and h ow did Kimberly's fingerprints end up on it?"

Kimberly blurted out in panic, "That's impossible! I never even set foot in the h otel kitchen. How could I have possibly thrown the wire so far away?"

"Oh, how intriguing. Did I ever mention that the server was associated with the kitchen? How can you be so certain he would dispose of the trash there?" Aur elia pointed out her mistake and questioned her in return.

Kimberly stuttered, "I-"

Aurelia cut her off and said, "I can answer that for you. That server was deliver ing food to Room 2705."

Aurelia glanced at Eva and continued, "Ms. Hanks, does this room number rin g a bell?"

Eva immediately fell silent.

"Weren't you quite talkative just now?" Aurelia mocked.

Lucia wasn't going to let this opportunity slip by, and she demanded, "Eva, fes s up! Remember, the company logs all equipment usage. A quick check will re veal what's missing."

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Eva's face fell, and she cast a disbelieving look at Lucia.

"Ms. Lawson, **y**–you're actually siding with Aurelia?" she asked.

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"What's **the** matter? Do you still want IN Magazine to cover up for you? Do yo u think you can do whatever you want here?" Lucia questioned.

"We're all on the same side! We should be supporting each other!" Eva insiste d.

"I'm sorry, but I can't side with you. After all, our priority is the truth!" Lucia qui ckly separated herself from Eva.

Eva was rendered speechless.

At that moment, Aurelia suddenly received a message.

She glanced at Eva and said, "Ms. Hanks, it seems like our discussions are for nothing since the police have already proven that I'm innocent."

"Impossible!" shouted Eva.

"Is that so?" Aurelia asked with a raised brow.

Aurelia smiled and glanced at the door of the meeting room.

At that moment, Dennis pushed open the door and strode up to Eva and Kimb erly.

"Excuse me, ladies. We need you two **to** come with us," he ordered.

Eva's face turned pale, but she quickly regained her composure.

She immediately backtracked, saying, "My apologies for making you come all this way. We've just reviewed the surveillance footage, and it turns out that I w as mistaken. I never expected Kimberly to do something like this to frame Aur elia."

Aurelia was taken aback. She gazed **at** Eva incredulously. How could she cha nge her tune

so quickly?

Kimberly was also taken aback momentarily before responding, "Eva, what ar e you talking about? It was clearly you-"

Eva cut her off, saying, "It's my fault. No wonder Kimberly turned up to the pho toshoot as well when our company specifically requested Aurelia. It turns out t hat Kimberly had already devised a plan **to** deal with Aurelia."

"Eva, didn't you claim that you didn't see the wire? Why are you backtracking now?"

Dennis asked.

"I genuinely didn't see it because Kimberly was blocking my line of sight. If you don't believe me,

ask the others who were present. None of us saw it," she insisted.

Eva knowingly shifted the blame. If she had seen the wire, it meant everyone on the scene would have seen the wire as well. As a result, those who had giv en their statement. to the police would be caught lying.

Therefore, everyone could only bite the bullet and insist that they didn't see th e wire.

As for Flora, she could only lie as well. After all, she didn't dare to help Kimber ly and get in trouble for it.

Kimberly finally realized that she had been double– crossed. She shouted, "Eva! Are you trying **to** shift the blame now? You were clearly the one scheming against Aurelia for the sake of your backer! That's w hy you approached me in the first place!"

Eva denied it, asking, "Who is this 'backer" you speak of? When did I ever app roach you? As far as I remember, it was you who approached me on the day of the incident.

"It looked like you came to scope out the place in advance. No wonder you we re the first to step up and accuse Aurelia when it happened."

"You're going to pay for this!" shouted Kimberly.

When Kimberly realized the severity of the situation, she immediately rushed up to attack Eva. However, Dennis quickly intervened and pulled her away.

Dennis asked again, "Why did you just happen to call for room service when K imberly went downstairs? At that time, you were supposed to come with us to the police station. There was no need to call room service."

Eva explained, "I called room service for the model. She hadn't eaten or drunk anything all morning, and the shoot was suspended. I couldn't just leave her waiting."

"Since that's the case, you still need to cooperate with the investigation," said Dennis.

"I'll definitely cooperate with the investigation. After all, I was also exploited by such a malicious person," Eva said while feigning innocence.

After saying that, Eva glanced at Aurelia with a smug expression. It was **as** if s he was taunting Aurelia for her lack of capability to bring her down.

Aurelia's heart sank. She honestly didn't expect Eva to actually escape scotfree using such devious methods.

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Kimberly snapped when she found out that everything had been placed squar ely on her shoulders.

"It wasn't me! I'm not the one at fault here! It's Eva! It's that bitch!" she screec hed.

"Now that the matter has been cleared up, we still need to proceed with our m eeting. Mr. Clark, is it possible to take Kimberly out first?" Aurelia asked.

Dennis promptly gestured to those behind him and said, "Take her away."

After that, he turned toward Eva and said, "Now that it has been proven that Ki mberly set up Aurelia, are you going to withdraw your report against Aurelia? After all, you were the one who reported the necklace incident to the police."

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Everyone assumed Eva would withdraw the report. However, she unexpectedly gave Aurelia a smug look and shook her head.

"I won't be withdrawing my report. After all, I'll still hold Aurelia accountable for dropping the necklace. If it weren't for the conflict between her and Kimberly, how could the necklace be broken? She still needs to bear responsibility for it, " she insisted.

As long as she could make Aurelia pay for it—even if it was just one—fifth of it it would still be enough to financially ruin Aurelia.

As long as she could do that, she would be able to achieve her goal.

Aurelia bit her lip, momentarily unsure how to counter Eva.

Although the situation had taken an unexpected turn, no one expected that Ev a seemed to have prepared a way out in advance.

Therefore, Eva still had the right to hold Aurelia accountable.

Although she wasn't directly responsible for the incident, she could still be held accountable for the damages.

In short, it was Aurelia's fault for being associated with the supposed main cul prit, Kimberly, and also being the one who personally dropped the necklace.

Besides, Aurelia was also the one who willingly accepted Eva's request to retri eve the box of jewelry.

Therefore, it would be difficult for her to extricate herself from the situation.

While she was at her wit's end, Leslie slowly stood up and walked toward her.

"We intended to hold IN Magazine and Eva accountable as well," he declared.

Eva sneered, "Are you out of your mind, Leslie? What right do you have to hol d us

accountable?"

"Although I don't have the right, Aurelia does. Please take a look at the docum ents I have before we proceed," he said simply.

After saying that, Leslie took out the documents and passed them to Lucia.

When she looked through them, Lucia's eyes widened in surprise and her exp ression

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quickly turned grave.

"Eva, you'd better give us a good explanation for this!" she demanded.

"Huh? Why should I have to explain anything?" Eva asked, confused.

Eva stepped forward, her eyes quickly scanning the documents before her ex pression turned incredulous. "No! This can't be true!"

Aurelia was puzzled. What could have caused such a reaction?

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Right as she was about to step forward, Eva snatched the documents from Lu cia's hands.

Eva frantically rifled through the documents. After going through them three ti mes, she suddenly lifted her gaze and glared fiercely at Aurelia.

She shouted, "There's no way this could be true! It must have been forged! I r efuse to believe it! Go get the lawyer right now! I'll definitely make her regret this!

"Aurelia, you've just made your situation much worse by attempting to forge s omething like this. I'll make sure you end up behind bars!"

Eva confidently shook the documents in her hand.

Before long, Eva's lawyer, Lewis Sandler, rushed into the room.

Eva handed the documents to Lewis. "Please examine these and prove to Ms. Simmons that I'm not that easily fooled!"

"Got it, Ms. Hanks," he said.

Lewis meticulously read through the documents, leaving no detail unchecked. He even grabbed his phone for a quick search, his face growing more worried with each result.

In the end, Lewis sneakily glanced at Aurelia before approaching Eva and whi spered, "Ms. Hanks, I've checked it-"

"Speak up, Mr. Sandler. We must make sure that Ms. Simmons understands the consequences of forging documents. We c an't have her accusing us of mistreating her later on," Eva said haughtily.

Lewis tentatively responded, "There's no problem with it."

Eva exclaimed in disbelief, "What did you just say? That's impossible!"

"Although thou're just confes all the necessary documentation is present "Lewi s **said.**

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Eva uttered through gritted teeth, "That's impossible-"

At that moment, Leslie interjected, "Since Ms. Hanks is still unconvinced about it, why don't we hear what our lawyer has to say?"

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Just as Leslie finished speaking, the meeting room door swung open. A seriou s-looking man walked in.

Aurelia instantly recognized the man. Wasn't he the lawyer who showed up to sort things. out after Leslie bumped into Jackson's car last time?

After that incident, Aurelia learned that this man, Allen Bart, was one of the to p lawyers in Seacester.

With such an impressive track record, Allen was in high demand. His schedul e was always full, leaving no room for those who sought his services.

As Allen entered, even Eva's lawyer showed respect, looking quite afraid of hi m..

Allen smiled faintly. "Hello, everyone. I'm Ms. Simmons' legal representative. I can assure you the documents are legally sound."

Eva glanced at Allen in surprise. She couldn't believe that Aurelia could afford such an expensive lawyer.

Eva clenched her fists tightly. With anger in her eyes, she grabbed the docum ents from the table and ripped them apart. "Ha! Do you think you can trick me ? That's not happening!"

"Eva Hanks! You're crossing the line!" Lucia scolded, looking displeased.

Eva snorted defiantly. "Do you think you can kick me out with this, Ms. Lawso n? Not a chance!

"Aurelia and Leslie probably emptied their pockets just to hire Mr. Bart, right? You're trying to scare me, huh? Well, I don't scare easily!"

Eva couldn't believe Aurelia could get those documents. She convinced hersel f that it was impossible when she thought about the contents of the document s,

Allen casually took out another document from his briefcase. "Ms. Hanks, this is the original document. If you still don't believe it, I can have my friend from t he notary office. provide another notarized original document"

Eva remained silent. Her face turned pale as she noticed the bright red seal o n the document held by Allen.

It was only at the moment that Aurelia finally saw the contents of the document. It was a jewelry transfer agreement.

As Aurelia continued reading, she could hardly believe what she was seeing. Her name was clearly written under the column of the necklace's owner.

Could this be what it feels like when money falls from the sky? Aurelia felt dizz y as she tried to count how many zeros were in 50 million.

Luckily, Leslie steadied her in time.

Aurelia gripped Leslie's arm tightly, looking up at him, questioning what was g oing on.

Leslie just looked at her calmly, nodding slightly to reassure her that everythin g was fine.

For some reason, Aurelia's unsettled emotions were instantly soothed by Lesli e. She always believed that Leslie wouldn't deceive her.

So when Aurelia glanced at Eva again, she felt much more composed.

Meanwhile, Eva appeared shocked and worried.

However, Leslie didn't give Eva a chance to speak. He pulled out another doc ument. "This **is** the agreement between Ms. Hanks and the necklace's owner.

"In Articles 10, 12, and 15, Ms. Hanks, you were repeatedly reminded not to le t the necklace out of your sight, not to entrust it to others, and definitely not to I et it pass through other hands."

He continued, "Ms. Hanks, it seems like you haven't taken any of those clause s seriously. Don't accuse us of forging agreements again. Your signature is th ere, along with the company's official seal."

"Now

that Aurelia owns the necklace, she has the right to hold both you and the

magazine publisher accountable," Leslie said as he lightly tapped the agreem ent on the table three times.

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Every tap felt like a death sentence to Eva. Her face turned pale even before s he grasped. the consequences.

Eva licked her lips, her once stylishly tousled short hair now just looked like **a** mess. She gritted her teeth and stared at Aurelia. "Aurelia, you can't..."

"I can. Just because I'm the one who owns the necklace now," Aurelia said col dly. "Ms. Hanks, don't forget, you and your colleagues confessed to Mr. Clark that you wanted to test me, so you let me handle the necklace. You've already broken the agreement."

Upon hearing this, sweat began to form **on** Eva's forehead.

But being familiar with the industry's challenges, Eva promptly came up with a n excuse for herself. "Even though I went against the agreement, how could I have known the necklace would be **so** fragile?

"Ultimately, it's on you for being careless. You're the main one to blame here. Since you. own the necklace now, you should deal with the consequences yourself."

"Ms. Hanks, you really surprised me. Is your magazine publisher all about twis ting the truth?" Aurelia sneered.

"Did I get it wrong? You're the one who dropped the necklace, right? I never e vent

touched it." Eva seemed to grasp the opportunity. Despite knowing she had br oken the agreement, she still acted superior.

"You didn't touch it, but what about Flora? She just happened to run into Mr. C lark outside, and I'm sure she spilled everything by now," Aurelia remarked.

"I'm not scared. What could Flora possibly say?" Eva frowned.

Aurelia pointed out, "Ms. Hanks, can you please explain why I dropped the bo x, but it was. the necklace that ended up on the ground?

"Don't tell me the bank's safe deposit box isn't secure. If you do, they'll come asking for answers tomorrow. With so many VIP clients, who would trust the b ank if their safe deposit box wasn't secure?" With Eva's pressure bearing down on her, Aurelia spoke each word with conviction and Lorce, leaving Eva at a loss for words.

Actually, Leslie had told her all of this.

When they reviewed the CCTV and saw Flora opening the safe deposit box, A urelia had a

lot of questions.

So Leslie explained the whole process of how the bank manages valuable ite ms.

Without Leslie's broad knowledge, Aurelia wouldn't have dared to imagine ho w wealthy people live, with their houses unable to accommodate all their jewel ry.

But upon closer reflection, she realized her ignorance was unsurprising. Her w hole family didn't even have a bank account with more than six figures. She di dn't even need to store items in a vault.

was **t**

Leslie also mentioned that whenever something from the vault, apart from the owner, there would always be professional security guards with the safe depo sit. box itself.

When needed, the safe deposit box could not only resist knives but also bullet s. Aurelia managed to break such a sturdy box with just a fall.

The security company must be cursing her out if that was the case.

"So, Ms. Hanks, are you brave enough to confront me at the bank?" asked Au relia.

"You..." Eva stared blankly at Aurelia as if she were a stranger.

Aurelia appeared to be an attractive but ordinary individual, lacking any remar kable

abilities.

But she displayed no fear when confronted with salacious rumors. Therefore, i t was not surprising that she wouldn't easily give up.

Eva realized she had underestimated Aurelia.

Before Eva could gather her thoughts, Lucia noticed the timing was about righ t and

promptly stood up to Simmons, first of all, I'd like to

put an end to the commotion. "Ms apologize on behalf of the magazine publis her.

"We'll definitely take full responsibility for any issues caused by our magazine publisher.

"However, Ms. Hanks is mainly responsible for the necklace this time. As for c ompensation, I think you'll have to pursue a claim from her directly."

"Ms. Lawson!" Eva exclaimed, clearly frustrated as she glanced at Lucia.

"Ms. Hanks, do you really think the president would let you bring down the ma gazine publisher?" Lucia warned Eva.

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Eva was left speechless.

But Aurelia raised her hand. "Wait a minute, Ms. Lawson, it doesn't seem right for the magazine publisher to just get out of responsibility like that, does it?"

Lucia frowned, her face showing displeasure. Everything was going Aurelia's way. What more did she want?