

**Mr. Scott 201**

Chapter 201

The management staff was fast. In just ten minutes, the elevator door was opened.

“I’m sorry. This elevator was supposed to be serviced this afternoon. Please forgive us for the inconvenience caused due to our mistake...” The management staff apologized sincerely.

Melanie nodded in response and quickly got out of the elevator.

The place she had agreed to meet Zander was at a barbecue restaurant. Melanie was 20 minutes late when she arrived. Embarrassed, she said, “I’m sorry for being late. Something unexpected happened on my way here,”

Xander was still dressed in a simple white shirt and suit pants. He looked clean and smart.

He nodded. “Let’s go in. They’re waiting for us in the private room.”

Melanie always felt that she could get along with Xander well because he was natural and sincere instead of fake and pretentious.

Her knitted brows loosened as she followed Xander into the private room. Just as she entered, she heard Reny’s cheerful voice. “Melanie, long time no see. Happy weekend. We brought a gift for you bought by the boss.”

Melanie lifted her eyebrow in surprise. The boss Reny mentioned was naturally Xander.

She looked at Xander, and Xander calmly

Hearth City, and I paid for it in the end,aid, “They insisted on visiting the tourist area in

His explanation cleared Melanie's doubt.

Smiling, she quipped along with Reny, "Thanks, Boss."

Xander was taken aback by her calling him that. He, too, lifted his eyebrow.

Xander's workshop had a good working environment. Everyone was outgoing and carefree. Melanie was quite familiar with them after getting along for some time.

They were initially talking about what they would visit in Jepton, and the conversation gradually diverted to work and the planning of the exhibition.

Some of the professional terms were something Melanie had never heard of. Reny, sitting beside her, naturally explained them to her.

As the conversation ended, Reny couldn't help asking, "Melanie, aren't you working at LeapCo? Why are you suddenly interested in this field?"

Melanie answered calmly, "I want to try something else."

Reny was startled. Then, she took the glass of fruit juice on the table and toasted Melanie. Melanie, you're so cool! You deserve my admiration and respect!"

Xander, who had been talking to Oliver, heard their conversation and asked Melanie, "Are you planning to resign and enter this field?"

Melanie said, "I thought you knew."

Xander chuckled and took away Melanie's wine, replacing it with a glass of fruit juice. He said,

"Do whatever you prefer."

It was a satisfying meal. Reny kept sharing the interesting things they saw in Hearth City with Melanie.

Only when Oliver dragged her away did she leave reluctantly.

“Where’s your house? I can send you home if it’s far.” Only Xander and Melanie were left after everyone headed back.

Melanie shook her head. “I drove here, and it isn’t far.”

She knew Xander was offering this out of politeness, so she explained.

“Are you serious about changing your job back?”

They happened to be walking under a streetlight, and Melanie looked at the music fountain as she nodded. “I want to challenge new things.”

“You’re brave.” That was Xander’s comment about her.

Melanie chuckled. “I can understand why you and Stephen are friends. The things you both say are so alike.”

She was pretty to begin with, but she had to be stern as the secretary of LeapCo. As a result, she rarely laughed.

Chapter 202

Melanie’s laughter was gentle and dazzling like the sun under the warm streetlight.

A glimpse of surprise flashed across Xander’s eyes. He gulped, making his Adam’s apple roll as he grunted in response.

The handsome man was staring at the brightly smiling woman. It was a beautiful sight to behold. The streetlights enhanced the atmosphere between them, enveloping them with warmth.

However, a woman's sudden exclamation broke the silence. "Xander? When did you return?"

Melanie and Xander were both startled. She looked at the direction of the voice and saw a young woman looking at them curiously.

Xander stared at the woman for a while. "Why are you here?"

Smiling, Yvonne said, "We have a family gathering here. I saw you but wasn't sure if it was you. But it really is you!"

Xander did not seem close to her. He nodded. "I have something to deal with here."

Then, he looked at Melanie. "I'll walk you there."

"Hmm? Is she your girlfriend?" Yvonne seized Melanie and blurted out, "Why do you look so familiar?"

Melanie disliked being observed like that. She said, "Maybe because I look ordinary."

Yvonne frowned, yet she continued to stare at Melanie's face. "I'm sure I've met you before." Just as she spoke, she heard a deep voice calling her name, "Miss Lowry."

Yvonne released her hold on Melanie and sounded cheerful upon turning around and seeing the man approaching them. "Mr. Scott, I bumped into my friend."

Melanie, who had her head lowered, lifted it upon hearing this. She saw Eugene standing before Yvonne, listening to her explanation.

Eugene's gaze happened to divert to Melanie when she looked at him.

When their eyes met, Melanie looked away in a fluster.

Then, she heard Eugene asking Yvonne, "Your friend?"

"Yeah. Xander is my childhood friend. We used to live in the same neighborhood," said Yvonne.

Melanie never expected to encounter Xander's friend and even Eugene.

However, recalling what Yvonne had told them about the family dinner, she could guess Yvonne must be the blind date Stella had arranged for Eugene.

Melanie whispered to Xarider, "I'll head to the parking lot first."

She wanted to walk away after saying that.

Unexpectedly, Eugene said, "Since he's your friend, why don't you invite him?"

Yvonne took a while to realize what Eugene meant. She was forced to have this meal by her parents. Although she felt that Eugene was not bad, she could see he was not interested in her and knew she had no chance to date him.

However, since Eugene had personally voiced out, she agreed. She looked at Xander. "It has been long since we last met. Why don't we grab a drink together?"

Yvonne and Xander lived in the same neighborhood and were of the same age. They were indeed acquaintances.

Melanie said, "You guys have fun. I'll excuse myself first."

“Mm. I’ll walk you there first.” Xander nodded.

However, Yvonne stopped them. “Why are you leaving? Since you’re Xander’s girlfriend, why don’t you join us? I haven’t seen Xander being so close to any women since I’ve known him.”

She rubbed her chin and said, “You might be the first woman he has a crush on.”

Chapter 203

Yvonne looked at Melanie curiously without a tint of hostility. She generously invited Melanie again, “Let’s go and grab a drink as friends?”

Melanie answered expressionlessly, “You’ve misunderstood. Xander and I are not in that kind of relationship.”

“That’s not important. Let’s get to know each other since we’ve met. It’s the weekend. Take it as a break from your busy life.” Yvonne was outgoing and did not care about Melanie’s explanation. She just took it as an excuse Melanie was using to reject them.

Yvonne had invited her repeatedly, and it would be inappropriate for Melanie to reject her again. Moreover, Yvonne was Xander’s friend, and according to Xander’s attitude, she guessed Yvonne might be his close friend.

She nodded.

Xander whispered, “You don’t have to agree if you don’t feel like going.”

“What are you talking about? Having a drink with us won’t kill her. Have you forgotten we went to school together when we were kids?” Yvonne had a sharp hearing and quipped.

Melanie said, “It’s alright. It’s the weekend, after all.”

There was no bar nearby, so Yvonne suggested going to GT.

Melanie said when they were in the parking lot, "I can drive there myself."

She did not want to be in the same car as Eugene.

However, Yvonne turned around and asked innocently as she approached Melanie, "Do you want to drive? Alright then."

She did not forget about Eugene. "Mr. Scott, Xander's friend drove here. Let's go there in her car. You can drink if you don't need to drive."

Melanie was startled. She did not mean that when she said she wanted to drive there.

However, Yvonne had opened the back seat door and entered the car. She had chosen to wear a pair of high heels to make her legs look good. Her legs were hurting badly now.

Melanie frowned and stood there. Someone suddenly approached her.

Eugene stood beside her and looked at her from above. Melanie pursed her lips, walked to the driver's seat, and opened the car door.

The door at the front passenger's seat was opened, and the minty scent of the man assailed her. Melanie looked beside her and noticed Eugene had sat casually in the front passenger's

seat.

Melanie's hand froze. She heard Eugene scoff. "What's wrong? Have you forgotten how to drive?"

"Why are you sitting in the front?" Yvonne's doubtful voice sounded before Melanie could ask him.

She looked at Eugene strangely.

Eugene calmly answered, "Didn't you say you haven't seen your friend for a long time? I thought you guys wanted to talk."

Yvonne felt something was off subconsciously and frowned as she muttered, "We don't have to talk now."

Compared to her encounter with Xander, she wanted to get to know Eugene more. Otherwise, she wouldn't be able to answer her father's questions later.

However, Eugene did not intend to change his seat. When Xander got into the back seat, Melanie drove them to GT.

It was silent in the car. At first, Yvonne tried to start up a topic, but she didn't get much response. Thus, she started scrolling through her phone.

GT was not far from the mall they were in. It was only a 15-minute drive. Melanie pulled over at the door, and Yvonne got out first. Her high heels were indeed uncomfortable because they were very high.

Subconsciously, she looked at Xander, who had also gotten out of the car. "Xander, help me." Melanie had not gotten out of the car. She looked at Yvonne and reminded Eugene, "She might need your help."

"What does it have to do with me? She called for Xander." Eugene wore a black suit that matched his cold and arrogant character.

He showed no emotion when she looked at her. Glancing at Melanie, he commented monotonously, "Your taste is as bad as always."

His words sounded sarcastic to Melanie.



Eugene wasn't wrong. Melanie did have a bad taste in men.

Melanie lifted her eyelids and tried her best to sound calm. "You're right. I've had bad taste from the very beginning."

Otherwise, she would not have stayed by his side for so long.

Eugene's gaze on her deepened. He stared at Melanie for a while before snorting and getting out of the car.

The car door was slammed, making a loud sound that snapped Melanie out of her daze.

Yvonne and Eugene had entered GT's building while Xander was waiting for her.

Xander asked Melanie when she got out of the car, "Are you alright?"

Melanie looked quite pale. She looked paler under the dazzling lights outside the bar.

She shook her head and asked, "Are you close friends with Miss Lowry?"

Yes. Yvonne is my neighbor, and she has always been outgoing and straightforward. If her

words make you uncomfortable, you can be frank about it."

This was the first time Melanie heard Xander praising someone. She was startled. "Looks like you're close friends."

Xander glanced at her and seemed to have thought of something. His forehead puckered as he explained, "I have many neighbors. It's not only her."

He added, "Yvonne and I have nothing much to do with each other. Please don't misunderstand."

When

Eugene booked a private room. Melanie and Xander entered, Yvonne was already ordering drinks.

She asked, "What do you want to drink?"

Melanie answered, "I'll have something else. I have to drive later."

Xander also rejected the offer, "I'm okay."

"Why did you come to a bar if you don't want to drink?" Eugene snapped coldly.

He was sitting in a dark corner, and Melanie could not see his expression, yet she could sense his gaze on her as if his words were for her.

Melanie drooped her eyes and insisted, "I drove here and can't drink."

Yvonne said, "You can call a chauffeur. I heard my friend say the new bartender in GT is good at making cocktails."

Just as Melanie wanted to reject, Xander stood before her and said in a deep voice, "I want Black Label."

Yvonne lifted her eyebrow and seemed to have seen through everything. "I didn't know you could be such a gentleman."

With that, she didn't force Melanie to drink anymore.

However, the four of them did not have much to talk about. Melanie did not want to speak, while Xander and Eugene were men of few words. Yvonne was the only one chattering away and soon became annoyed.

She placed the glass on the table with a frown. "Why are you guys so lame? You agreed to drink, but none of you are talking?"

Then, she rose and left the private room in her high heels. "It's boring talking to you three. I'll go and take a look at the bartender."

After Yvonne left, the private room fell into a dead silence. Melanie remained silent for a while, before saying, "I'll excuse myself first."

However, Eugene's cold voice came from behind her before she could even leave the room. "Why are you in a hurry to leave? Are you afraid of something?"

Melanie froze and looked at him.

However, Eugene did not care. He looked at Xander and continued, "Are you afraid he'll know he's just one of your many men?"

Chapter 205

Melanie was offended and snapped coldly, "Eugene!"

Eugene's expression was gloomy, yet his voice was still cold and sarcastic. "Are you afraid of others knowing what you've done?"

Melanie felt suffocated, like something was stuck in her throat. She stared at Eugene briefly before turning around and saying to Xander, "I'm sorry, but can you please give us a moment alone?"

Looking at the ground while hiding his emotions, Xander grunted before saying, "Call me if you need me."

Only when Xander left the private room did Melanie endure the humiliation and say, “Eugene, isn’t it enough for you to belittle me? Why do you have to involve others?”

“Belittle?” Eugene repeated her words and looked at her. “Is there anything about you worth my belittling?”

Melanie closed her eyes. “Please stop talking nonsense.”

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“You’re still afraid to bear the responsibility of what you’ve done. This is what you always do.” Eugene’s voice was deeper. He clicked his tongue and added, “Melanie, you never disappoint me in this regard.”

The smell of alcohol filled the air as Eugene sat on the sofa. Even without observing his face, Melanie could imagine the sarcastic look on his face.

She felt it was ridiculous that Eugene said she was fake, unscrupulous, money–minded, and a bad influence. She did not even know she could be so bad in Eugene’s eyes.

The helpless feeling surged through her. Taking a deep breath, she held back her tears and said, “Is that so?”

She wanted to leave after saying that, but the private room’s door was flung open. Yvonne returned in her high heels, and behind her was a group of familiar people.

Simon was among them. When he saw Eugene, he said, “Yvonne said you were here, and I didn’t believe it. What brought you here?”

However, he soon noticed Melanie standing there and lifted his eyebrow curiously. “Eugene, why did you bring your secretary with you when you’re on a blind date?”

He did not seem to be surprised about the blind date.

They were in the same social circle and had to get married one day. Not to mention Viola, all the women Eugene had been dating were just for fun.

Simon did not care about Viola at the moment. He looked at Melanie and mocked her, "Never did I know you could be so professional."

Yvonne knew something was off when she heard Simon's words. She asked, "Do they know each other?"

Simon paused before explaining, "Of course. Melanie was once Eugene's secretary."

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Tonne had already turned around and approached Melanie "et's not drink with your boss anymore I'll tell you some stories about Xander's childhood Xander had always fallen ill... yvonne "Before she could start, Vader walked in and interrupted her Then, he looked at Melanie "It's getting windy outside Let's get you back home"

Melanie intended to leave and stood up upon hearing Xander's words. However, Yvonne stopped her and took out her phone as she shook it. "Let's follow each other on social media and hang out sometime?"

After Melanie walled out with Xander, she heard Xander say, "Oliver called just now. Are you alright?"

Melanie knew he was concrmed about how she had been in the same room with Eugene alone earlier the shook her head and said, "I'm fine. I'm sorry for dragging you into this matter"

Kander did not mind. He looked at his phone and waited with Melanie for the valet to get her cat. He reminded Melanie out of concern, "It might rain later. Drive carefully"

"Okay"

Chapter 206

Xander nodded and paused before saying, "I'll be in Jepton for some time. You can call me if you need help."

Melanie was taken aback as she did not know what Xander meant, but she realized it after a while. It was about her change of career.

She smiled and thanked Xander before driving off.

Melanie had to admit Xander was a man of limits. He did not ask much, even though he realized something was off between Eugene and her.

It was still early when Melanie reached home. She took a bath and sat before her study table. After pondering, she took out the exhibition planning books she had bought.

It was midnight, and it was raining outside. Melanie had a good sleep that night.

When she went to work on Monday morning, she bumped into Yana and Cecilia.

Cecilia greeted her with a smile, "Melanie, good morning.

Melanie nodded. "Good morning.

They were a few minutes early, and a few

People were waiting for the elevator. Cecilia might

already know that she was about to get the job officially, so she seemed less restrained when she talked to Melanie.

She asked in a gossipy manner, "Melanie, I heard Viola got her job because she was recruited using the secretary's office's quota. Is that true?"

Melanie glanced at her. "She does work in the secretary's office."

Cecilia did not say what was on her mind. Viola did not look like she worked in the secretary's office. She was more like the CEO's pet.

She dared not say that. After all, she had heard rumors from the senior employees that Melanie had also had an affair with Eugene when she was his secretary.

Melanie did not know what was on Cecilia's mind. They had a weekly meeting in the morning, and she had to prepare for it. However, halfway through the meeting, Viola entered with a stack of documents.

Melanie looked at her coldly. "Don't you know how to knock on the door?"

Viola still smiled as she walked toward Melanie and said gently, "Melanie, I'm here for the handover."

She glanced at everyone in the conference room and said, "It's okay. Just ignore me and carry on with the meeting."

Her way of putting things made them feel uncomfortable.

Yana was pissed off and snapped, "Miss Shaw, this is the secretary office's meeting. If I'm not mistaken, it seems to have nothing to do with the CEO's office."

"It does have nothing to do with us." Viola did not seem to care. She was on cloud nine.

After all, Julie told her in the morning that Melanie had submitted her resignation letter to the HR department, and Eugene approved it.

Although she knew about it, she did not show it on her face. Looking surprised, she fixed her gaze on Melanie and asked, "Melanie, haven't you told them you've submitted your resignation letter?"

A momentary silence struck the conference room. Then, chatters were heard.

Yana asked, "Melanie, are you resigning?"

Melanie did not answer.

After pondering for a few seconds, Melanie threw the pen on the table and looked at Viola indifferently. "You want me to hand over my job to you?"

Viola smiled and nodded. "Yes."

Melanie paused before continuing, "Miss Shaw, I doubt Mr. Scott sent you to take over my job. I don't think someone who doesn't know simple manners and the company's rules could take over the secretary's office."

Chapter 207

Melanie was straightforward. She did not care about damaging Viola's reputation.



Viola stopped being pretentious and said, “Melanie, you can’t put it this way. Moreover, you are leaving LeapCo.”

Melanie looked at Viola indifferently. Although she knew what was on Viola’s mind, she had decided to turn a blind eye.

However, Viola had stepped on her tail. She pondered as she looked at the ground.

In just a few seconds, she looked at Viola sharply and coldly. “Miss Shaw, you must be mistaken. I chose to leave LeapCo. I wasn’t fired.”

Viola knew she had pissed Melanie off. She was a little afraid and stuttered upon looking at Melanie’s sharp gaze.

However, many people were in the conference room looking at her. Viola could only hide her guilt and say, “It makes no difference, after all.”

Melanie remained silent for a while before lowering her eyelids again.

She felt she must have lost her mind trying to argue with Viola.

“Let’s end the meeting here. Look for me in my office if you have any doubts.” Melanie did

not plan to waste her time arguing with Viola and left the conference room.

Yana followed closely behind. She had a serious expression on her face. Melanie knew she had something to say. She broke the silence by saying, “Ask whatever you want.”

“Are you really resigning?” asked Yana doubtfully.

Melanie nodded and said, “I’m leaving the company next month.”

“Why?” The frown on Yana’s face deepened.

Melanie froze. It seemed everyone who knew she was resigning from LeapCo did not understand her choice and would ask her why.

Her eyelashes fluttered before she answered indifferently, “I got a new job offer and decided to accept it.”

Yana did not believe it and wanted to say something more.

However, Melanie stuffed her a contract and said, “Proofread this and hand it to the HR department.”

Melanie worked in her office all morning. Soon, it was noon, and she received a message from

Tina.

She reminded Melanie about the interview session in the afternoon.

Quite a number of interns were interested in the job, and they were going to be interviewed in groups of three.

Upon walking into the conference room, Tina greeted her, “Come over here. We’re going to have a tough afternoon today. I have a feeling this interview will only end in three hours.”

Melanie nodded and was about to take a seat when the conference room door was opened again. Eugene walked in expressionlessly.

Melanie was slightly taken aback to see him.

Tina stood up and asked, "Mr. Scott, why are you here?"

Before Eugene could say anything, Viola rushed in.

With a bright smile, she strode toward Eugene and stopped by his side as she whispered, "I'm sorry, I went to pick up a call."

Melanie understood upon seeing this that Eugene had brought Viola to 'learn'.

She looked away and said nothing.

Only Melanie, Tina, and another staff member interviewed the interns.

Melanie's seat was by the door.

However, with Eugene and Viola's arrival, she was forced to sit in the middle of everyone.

Melanie and Eugene were sitting close by, and her arm would bump into his if she moved.

She felt uncomfortable and suggested, "I don't think it's appropriate for me to sit in the middle with you around, Mr. Scott. You should be the one sitting here."

Chapter 208

However, just as she suggested, Eugene rejected lazily, "No need. I'm just here to watch."

"Melanie, you said I wasn't a capable secretary this morning. So, Mr. Scott brought me here to learn from you. Don't worry. Mr. Scott won't blame you for it."

No one knew if that was a response to the seat arrangements or Melanie's reprimand from this morning. The meaning of her words was vague.

Melanie pursed her lips without reacting.

Tina was good at mocking. She tugged on Melanie's shirt and smiled as she said, "The interview is starting soon. Show them your capability as the head secretary of the company and interview those newbies."

Since Melanie left the CEO's office, Eugene had not promoted anyone to that position.

Viola could not help herself from glancing at Melanie upon hearing this.

She had mentioned this to Eugene, but Eugene did not give her an answer.

As a result, everyone in LeapCo still took Melanie as the head secretary.

Viola and Julie had gone to the finance department once and learned by chance that Melanie's salary was paid according to the head secretary's position.

Just as Viola was letting her thoughts run wild, the interview began.

Melanie got into her work mode and read through the interns' resumes.

However, none of them fit her requirements.

Only when they were interviewing the last two groups did she put down her pen and exhale tiredly.

Viola had left ten minutes ago because she had something to deal with, but Eugene was still here.

Her movement was big when she put down her pen. She accidentally elbowed Eugene's elbow. Melanie froze. "I'm sorry. It was an accident."

The new group of interns had not entered. Tina and the other staff had gone to the restroom. Eugene glanced at her. "You're indeed quite picky at times like this."

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Melanie knew he was being sarcastic again and said, after pondering, "If there's any intern you're satisfied with, we can call them back for a second interview."

Eugene tapped on the table and asked Melanie, "Do you still remember when you first worked in LeapCo?"

When Melanie started working at LeapCo, she was only a second-year university student. Eugene gave her the job and trained her from the basics.

"You were worse than them back then," said Eugene with a scoff, snapping her out of her thoughts.

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Melanie's grip on the document tightened. Her voice was calm. "What do you mean by this?"

Eugene showed no emotions when he said, "Since you despise Viola's ability, why don't you teach her so that she can take over your place?"

Melanie took a deep breath. "I can't teach her."

"That's your problem."

After calming herself down, Melanie said, "I don't want to teach her."

“Well, then. If you don’t want to teach her, find someone to take over your work.” Eugene scoffed as he looked at Melanie and knocked on the table.

Melanie said nothing. She was certain Eugene knew that her relationship with Viola was quite bad.

However, Eugene stood up and looked at her from above oppressively.

His voice was indifferent. “This is your last assignment in LeapCo. You can get lost after you hand over your job to someone capable.”

He left the conference room after ordering, leaving Melanie troubled.

Chapter 209

Melanie still looked annoyed when Tina and the other staff returned. She had her hand on her forehead and was frowning.

Tina did not see Eugene anywhere. She asked, “Where’s Mr. Scott? Did he leave already?”

Eugene’s words were still ringing in Melanie’s ears, making her ponder.

She did not know where she could find someone who could replace her.

Melanie was a little absent-minded when interviewing the other candidates. She looked at the resumes and did not find anyone who matched her requirements.

After the interview ended, Tina and the staff said the interns only knew how to beautify their resumes and had no actual ability.

Melanie sat for a while before taking her stuff to her office.

She had something in mind and looked troubled. When she bumped into Cecilia at the office, Cecilia was afraid of offending her.

She took a few steps back and looked at Melanie's expression. She then called out in hesitation, "Melanie."

Melanie stopped and asked, "Yes?"

She was in a bad mood, so she was direct with her words. "Speak."

Cecilia stuttered, "I—I have nothing to say. I just hope you won't overthink, Melanie."

Melanie looked at her.

"It's about the rumors in the company. The people in the secretary's office know things are not like in the rumor. So... So..."

Cecilia regretted being such a big mouth. She should not have told Melanie about this.

However, she had already mentioned it, and Melanie was watching. She couldn't take back her words.

She could only brace herself and continue, "The employees are spreading rumors about you resigning because Viola snatched your position. They're saying you're forced to leave."

Cecilia's voice softened as she spoke, yet Melanie seemed calm.

When Melanie returned to her office, Yana was reading through the documents. When she heard the footsteps, she looked at Melanie with a complicated expression.

Melanie lowered her head and asked calmly, "What are they saying about me?"

“What?”

“Are they saying I’m being forced to leave because Viola is replacing me or I’m getting kicked out of the company by Eugene?” Melanie repeated Cecilia’s words indifferently.

Yana’s forehead creased. “Melanie, they’re just spreading rumors.”

“I know they’re just spreading rumors.” Melanie looked as if she did not care. She arranged her things and took her handbag. “It’s time to get off work. Go back home early.”

Then, without waiting for Yana to answer, she walked away.

Yana had not snapped out of what Melanie had just said as she looked at Melanie walking away in a daze.

Melanie’s body figure was tall and fit. However, Yana felt Melanie had gotten skinnier than before. Her back looked fragile and vulnerable. She thought she could even see the bones on her shoulder if she looked closer.

Melanie walked out of the company building and bumped into many familiar faces. However, she was not in the mood to greet them.

She stood at the company’s entrance and did not know where to head.

She did not want to go back home or visit her grandfather.

Tiredness had enveloped her.

The haggard feeling rose deep down within her, gripping her like a thorn vine.



She was so fearless and frank before Yana just now, yet only she knew how much courage she had used to suppress the anger burning wildly in her.

Melanie's tensed shoulders loosened. She had been clenching her fists when she got to the lobby. The fingernails had dug into her palms, leaving visible marks on them. It hurt slightly. Huffing, she took out her phone to dial Stephen's number.

It was answered quickly, and Melanie asked, "Are you free tonight? Do you want to have dinner together?"

Stephen was startled by the invitation and looked at Xander as he nodded. "Sure. I happen to be with Xander."

After arranging the time for dinner, Stephen hung up the call. Xander looked at him. "Ist Melanie coming over?"

Chapter 210

"Yes." Stephen nodded as his brows knitted together. He asked Xander, "You don't have to be in a cold war with your dad. You are, after all, a part of the Solomon family."

A tint of annoyance flashed across Xander's charming face, yet he soon suppressed it. He said in a deep voice, "Let's not talk about this today."

Stephen sighed. He was indeed close friends with Xander, so he knew what had happened in his family. He just did not mention it.

Melanie soon arrived. She had already adjusted her emotions, so she looked fine.

Stephen smiled as usual when he saw her. "Mel, what do you want to eat tonight?"

Melanie said, "Anything will do."

Stephen looked at Xander, who gave a cold expression and stood up. "I'm not eating."

Melanie froze, thinking she had interrupted their dinner..

She pursed her lips and wanted to apologize. However, Xander stopped by her side and said, "If you aren't hungry, accompany me to a place."

Stephen looked at him with a frown. He was about to say something when his phone rang on the table.

He looked at the caller ID and pondered for a while before answering the call in a silent corner, avoiding Xander and Melanie.

Melanie followed Xander out. The sun set later in the summer, so the sky was still blue.

She stopped and asked Xander, "Are you alright?"

Xander looked at her carefreely. "I should be asking you this instead. Why are you putting on a long face?"

Melanie was taken aback. "I'm fine."

"Well, let's just say I'm in a bad mood." Xander did not mind and looked at the time on his

phone screen. It was a few minutes before six in the evening.

He asked Melanie, "Is there anywhere fun to go in Jepton?"

"Didn't you grow up in Jepton?" Melanie asked.

Xander's expression was calm. "I haven't been back for long. I've forgotten everything."

Although Melanie was born in Jepton, she seldom went to fun places.

She was a nerd who just studied. She only ever went back and forth from home to school.

After that, she followed Eugene to many places, but they were all classy venues.

Recalling the times she spent with Eugene, her expression turned gloomier.

Suddenly, the surrounding streetlights and the neon lights lit up.

The beautiful scene dumbfounded Melanie. Then, she lifted her head and saw the word LeapCo on the LED screen on the building by the square.

LeapCo was a new rising company, and with the help of the media, they advertised the company in many places.

Melanie would take a glance whenever she headed back home, yet she had never watched it as seriously as she did tonight.

Xander did not disturb her. After she adjusted her mood, she told Xander, "I'm sorry.

Something caught my attention just now."

Xander's tone was as calm as usual. "Have you thought it through?"

Melanie muttered, "There's nothing to think through."

Since she had thought of leaving, there was nothing else to consider.

As for why she was leaving and how her life would be without LeapCo, there was nothing she could comment on at the moment.

She had been enduring her emotions for something petty like this, which was indeed dumb. She looked at the LED screen again. The advertisement was showing a perfume.

Melanie pursed her lips, and the anger in her dispersed. She thought, 'Be it LeapCo or Eugene, they have nothing to do with me anymore.'