

Mr. Scott 291

Chapter 291

It was Reny.

Reny rarely called her, preferring to text instead. Besides, they all knew she was going to the hospital when she left this morning.

Since she had heard about the studio yesterday, Melanie had a bad feeling when she saw Reny's call.

She only answered the phone after Dylan had gotten out of the car.

The moment the call connected, Reny said solemnly, "Melanie, are you still at the hospital?"

"No, why?"

"The department is calling for a last-minute meeting about the deal. We came over in a hurry and forgot to bring some documents. If you have time, can you help send it over?"

Because of the financial exhibition, Melanie was registered with the studio. Although she was not an official employee yet, she was still considered a part of the team.

She nodded. "Send me the address. I'll bring it over later."

"You might want to hurry. The meeting starts at 1 p.m."

It was only eleven, but the rain made the traffic slow-going.

Melanie drove back to the villa to get her things. It was half-past twelve when she got back.

Dylan was not down yet, and Melanie did not care. She stepped on the gas and drove away.

When she heard Xander talking to Oliver last night, she overheard that the interfering studio was a well-established name in Jepton.

That was why they were able to get so many companies to work together.

After Melanie packed up the documents that Xander needed, she thought for a moment and searched for some data on the Internet. Then, she printed out the information and took the printouts with her.

No one would believe her if she told them, but Melanie was most relaxed when she was working nowadays.

There was no need to think too much when she was working. She just needed to focus on one thing. That way, she could at least catch her breath.

It was a few minutes to one when she finally handed over the documents.

Reny was waiting for her outside. "Melanie, you're finally here!"

Melanie was carrying the papers. "Are they already in the conference room?"

"Yeah." Reny led her over, but what Melanie did not expect was to see people she knew inside.

It was Lisa and Quintin.

Lisa used to be a secretary at LeapCo. She was friendly with Melanie and very capable. Later, she was fired by Eugene because she offended Viola. .

As for Quentin, he was Melanie's first boss at LeapCo.

He was also the one who had asked Melanie to go drink with him.

Melanie did not expect to see Lisa with Quentin now. She was not very pleased about in

Lisa was also a little surprised. She stood up and asked, "Melanie, why are you here?"

Melanie said, "I came by to deliver something."

After saying that, she walked toward Xander and handed him the documents. "Is this what you need?"

Xander took the documents and asked Melanie to sit down beside him. He flipped through them and nodded. "This is perfect."

"That's good to hear."

Chapter 292

"So what happened to your hand?" Xander put down the file and glanced at Melanie's wrist.

Melanie had twisted her wrist in the morning, and now it was red and swollen. It looked even worse after her tussle with Dylan and all that driving. It actually looked a little scary.

Melanie did not care much about it, though. "I accidentally sprained it, that's all. I should be fine after applying some medicine to it."

She had been in pain for so long that she was numb to it now. She just could not exert much strength with it.

Xander was about to say something else, but the others had already arrived.

The other studio was called Dreamcatchers. It was a well-established studio with more than ten years of history in Jepton. The department head was Ms. Sonders, a middle-aged woman in her forties,

On the other hand, Quentin and Lisa were representing one of Dreamcatchers' partners. They had specially come to support Dreamcatchers.

The department head wisely chose not to say anything. Instead, she let Xander and Coral do the talking first.

However, both sides were hiding some of their cards, so the conversation went nowhere.

Ms. Sonders could only sigh and say, "You all know how important this exhibition is. We have to do our very best. After all, Jepton's reputation is at stake too."

Coral was very calm. She sized up Zander and said, "Although Dreamcatchers is an established brand here in Jepton, we all know what you're capable of, Mr. Solomon, so we're all looking forward to working with you."

Xander scoffed, tapping his finger on the document Melanie had brought over. "We've already completed the proposal, and now you're talking about a collaboration?"

"We also have a proposal, and we think we can work together for the best possible results."

"So you're willing to be the secondary organizer?" Xander went along with her. He looked at Coral with some amusement. "If that's the case, we'd be happy to cooperate."

Coral did not say anything. Their studio had suddenly made a move this time because they wanted to make their studio famous again, so they would not settle for second place

"Wait, Mr. Solomon. We could still make this a win-win situation," Quentin, who had been silent all this while, suddenly spoke up.

Quintin was in his thirties and wore glasses, the type who always wanted to look refined.

He smiled at Xander and casually glanced at Melanie. “You’re young and talented, but everyone knows that the home-ground advantage is very real. Dreamcatchers’ status in Jepton is comparable to yours.

“In that case, why can’t we help each other?”

“Help each other?” Xander’s expression did not change. He tapped the table. “Excuse me if

I’m reluctant to take you up on that offer.”

As soon as he finished that sentence, Melanie pulled two data sheets from the pile she had printed just before leaving her house.

They clearly showed the number of people at Xander’s exhibition, as well as the number of people at Dreamcatchers’.

The contrast between the two was extremely stark.

Melanie narrowed her eyes and looked at Quentin. “Mr. Emerson, you really know how to play with your words. You said that you could help each other achieve a win-win situation, casually downplaying Dreamcatchers’ terrible results.

“Besides, I’m sure you know that the industry moves with the times. Although Dreamcatchers has a longer history, that doesn’t mean you are more capable.

“Useless people don’t become useful even with decades of experience. Wouldn’t you agree?”

Everyone present was a little surprised by Melanie’s words.

After all, the contempt in her words was obvious.

When the meeting adjourned, Quentin lingered around. Melanie did not move, either. She sat where she was, her face calm as she looked at Quentin.

Lisa wanted to come over and talk to Melanie. She hesitated, asking, "Melanie, are you working for Mr. Solomon now?"

She used to work at LeapCo, so she still had many acquaintances there. Naturally, she knew about Melanie's resignation.

"It seems that I was right at that time." Before Melanie could say anything, Quentin suddenly interrupted. He adjusted his glasses and looked at Melanie, his voice gentle, "I knew it was a matter of time before Mr. Scott dumped you."

Chapter 293

Despite his gentle demeanor, there was no mistaking the mockery in his voice.

Melanie looked at him. No matter how calm her expression was, she could not hide the disgust in her eyes.

However, Quentin acted as if he did not see it. Or rather, he was deliberately trying to repulse Melanie. He smiled and said, "If you have nowhere to go now, I may be able to take you in."

The people in charge of the department had long left. Now, only Xander, Lisa, and Quentin were left in the conference room.

Quentin glanced at Xander, his attitude arrogant, but his gaze went to Melanie. "You might want to think about it. My door is always open to you."

He paused for a moment before saying, "After all, you know that I've always admired you."

However, he deliberately emphasized the word “admired”, hinting at something more.

The coldness in Melanie’s eyes intensified. She scoffed. “Spare me the thought.”

To be honest, even Melanie felt a little annoyed to see Quentin here today.

Quentin was her first boss, back when she was a fresh-faced rookie. At the time, Quentin acted like a caring senior and even took her on a few business rounds.

At that time, Eugene was busy, and Melanie could not turn to him for everything. Since Quentin helped her, she naturally thought he was a good person. She had even praised him to Eugene.

Then, on a business trip, Quentin had snuck into her room in the middle of the night.

After that, Melanie realized that Quentin was only so welcoming to newbies because of his ulterior motives. From then on, every “unintentional” touch of his repulsed her.

However, he did not back off even after Melanie warned him. Instead, he became even more aggressive.

Fortunately, one day, Eugene bumped into him when he came to fetch her home. Only then did Quentin stop his advances.

However, he started to make things difficult for Melanie at work instead. He threw all kinds of difficult clients to her, saying that he was training her up.

Melanie had once overheard him say to a supervisor in the department, “So what if she’s sleeping with Mr. Scott? He’ll get tired of her once he’s had his fun. She’s just a slut. pretending to be oh-so-holy.”

Many times later, Melanie had inadvertently seen Quentin use the same method on other new interns. Some of the interns had left, while others stayed. No one knew the truth.

Later, Melanie was transferred to another department, and Quentin was fired because he messed up. She thought she would never see him again in her life.

“Melanie, you should be honored that I still think so highly of you.” Quentin adjusted his glasses, his gentlemanly mask slipping.

“Mr. Emerson, I don’t appreciate how you’re trying to poach my employee right in front of me,” Xander said before Melanie could speak. His handsome face was cold and authoritative.

Quentin sized up Xander, then looked at Melanie. A malicious smile appeared on his lips.

Melanie hated that look on his face. It made her feel sick to her stomach.

She stood up and asked Xander, “Do you have anything else to do later?”

Xander could tell that she did not want to stay here any longer, so he stood up as well. “I’m heading back to the office to go through the materials.”

He would not let go of this opportunity so easily. After all, this collaboration was also very important to him.

Xander’s eyes darkened. It was not until they were out of the conference room that he asked Melanie, “Do you have anything else to do later?”

Melanie still wanted to send Dylan away. The longer Dylan stayed in Jepton, the more trouble she might cause.

“T

She said, “I’m sending my mother to Hearth City later.” Xander nodded and reached out his hand to her. “Give me the car keys.”

Melanie was taken aback. Xander glanced at her wrist and said calmly, "You should rest that sprain if you want it to get better."

Melanie pulled her hand away uncomfortably. Xander had noticed her injured hand when she had first come over.

She lowered her lashes. Xander was the only one who had noticed she was hurt.

Xander wanted to help Melanie drive, so he handed his car keys to Oliver. Reny leaned over and looked at Melanie. She wanted to say something but hesitated.

Melanie paused. "Is something wrong?"

"Nothing. I just wanted to ask if you have a grudge against Mr. Emerson." She scratched her head. "I've never seen you be so actively hostile to someone before."

Melanie's expression became more distant. "Quentin used to be at LeapCo, too."

Reny blinked and was about to speak when Oliver called her away. They walked far away before Melanie heard Oliver huffing, "Why are you always so nosy?"

"I was just curious..."

Melanie knew that she had been quite harsh to Quentin, and Quentin's words left a lot to the imagination.

She had been waiting for Xander to ask, but he did not say anything until they reached Dylan's

hotel.

“What is it?” Xander asked as the car came to a stop. He turned suddenly and looked at

Melanie. “You keep staring at me. Is it something on my face?”

Xander suddenly leaned closer to Melanie, leaving her flustered. She moved back

imperceptibly. “No, it’s not that.”

“Then what’s on your mind?” Xander pressed.

“Aren’t you curious about me and Quentin?” Quentin’s words in the conference room today were so pointed that even Reny was intrigued.

Xander raised his eyebrows slightly. “What’s there to be curious about? He doesn’t look like a good guy.”

Melanie had not expected Xander to say that. “How can you tell?”

Xander did not say anything. He looked outside and said in a low voice, “I’m going to buy something.”

With that, he drove off.

The Jepton rain seemed to be back with a vengeance, determined to make up for lost time.

Melanie sat in the car for a while before getting out of the car and going to the hotel. She dragged Dylan out of the room, her expression stormy. “If you don’t go back to Hearth City now, I won’t give you a single cent.”

If Dylan could pester her, then Melanie could threaten her in return.

As expected, Dylan immediately cowed at the threat and looked at Melanie timidly.

Xander had already returned from his shopping trip. When he saw Dylan, he did not say anything. He just handed a box to Melanie, "I just bought some analgesic ointment. You can use this first."

Because of the rain, Melanie had no choice but to buy Dylan the next rail ticket to Hearth City, She even bought an extra ticket and went past the turnstiles herself so she could personally see Dylan boarding the train,

Xander was waiting for Melanie outside when she came out of the station.

Seeing the exhaustion on her face, he said softly, "Have you had lunch?"

He knew Melanie had rushed there from the hospital. She probably did not have the time.

He thought for a moment and said, "I'll take you somewhere to eat. I think you'll like it there," No sooner had he said that than Melanie's phone beeped with a text message notification.

Chapter 295

Melanie looked down, and her expression stiffened slightly.

She had received a significant sum of money via bank transfer, seemingly from LeapCo's account.

The next second, she received a call from Tina's call. Melanie stepped aside to answer it.

“Have you received the money? It’s your salary for this month, the bonuses from the previous projects that haven’t been paid, and some of the contracts you earned. Go through the numbers and tell me if you have any questions. I’m with the finance department now.”

Melanie said, “How come there’s so much money?”

She did have a few projects that had yet to be settled, but they did not add up to so much.

Tina said awkwardly, “It also includes your severance pay.

She could not understand it, either. Melanie’s resignation procedures would be completed in a few days, but Mr. Scott suddenly said that Melanie had been fired, so they had to pay her severance accordingly.

His exact words were, “LeapCo can’t afford a parasite like her.”

However, Tina and the others thought otherwise.

After all, her resignation would be confirmed in a few days, but he had suddenly decided to fire her instead. Melanie would receive additional compensation for it.

It felt more like he was deliberately giving Melanie money.

Still, Tina was not going to share any of this with Melanie. She had to be careful whenever Eugene was involved, after all.

Melanie was silent.

In the end, it still came to this.

She had been kicked out of the company like a stray dog.

“Melanie, is there a problem? If there is, I’ll solve it for you now.” Tina’s voice brought her back to her senses.

Melanie said slowly, “There’s nothing wrong.”

“If there’s anything else you want to take from the office, you can get Yana to help you pack it up for you.” Tina reminded her in a friendly tone. “When I went to look for Mr. Scott today, I heard Viola chatting with Julie chatting. I think it’ll be a little hard for you to come back to the office from now on.

Melanie had not expected Eugene to move so quickly. She did not know how to feel, so she just thanked Tina.

Tina sighed and knew that she must be feeling terrible. She hung up without saying anything else.

To be honest, it was quite a pity. In the past, the company had privately discussed which

employee was the most loyal to LeapCo. Everyone felt that it was Melanie.

None of them expected her to get fired like this.

Melanie stood on the spot for a while with her phone in her hand. Her chest heaved up and down rapidly before she slowly calmed down.

Melanie did not say a word as Xander drove. She leaned her head against the window. Her mind was blank.

It would be a lie to say that she had no feelings for LeapCo, but she was still unwilling to accept her new reality.

This was a pathetic way to wrap up a career there, even for her.

How pitiful.

She was chased out, just like that.

Melanie could not help but smile self-deprecatingly.

Still, this was probably a good thing.

Melanie looked at the transfer notification on her phone. LeapCo had great employee benefits, so Melanie's compensation was generous too.

She would not have to worry about her grandfather's medical expenses for the time being.

As far as that went, Melanie thought she had probably profited from this whole affair, too.

Perhaps... Eugene was just taking pity on her.

After all, this much money was nothing to him.

The car stopped in another alley, and Xander looked at Melanie. "We're here."

Melanie suppressed the emotions in her heart and looked up at the alley in front of her.

It had black tiles and white walls in a style that was rarely ever seen in Jepton. Melanie did not even know where she was right now.

Chapter 296

She looked around. "Where are we?"

"This is where I grew up." Xander frowned slightly. He took an umbrella from his car and sheltered Melanie with it. "Let's go."

Xander led Melanie a few hundred yards into the alley, then stopped in front of a door.

A chubby middle-aged woman came out with a basin of water.

Xander saw her and called out, "Aunt Fiona."

Fiona was taken aback for a moment before she saw Xander clearly. She immediately beamed with surprise and said, "Xander! When did you get back?"

She pulled Xander and Melanie into the door, and Melanie realized that it was actually a

restaurant. There were a few tables and customers scattered around.

Xander said, "Aunt Fiona's cooking is amazing."

Melanie nodded. "It does smell good."

Fiona then looked at Melanie. "Did you bring your girlfriend here, Xander?"

Xander said softly, "She's not my girlfriend. Just a friend."

Fiona raised her eyebrows slightly as she led them to a table and sat them down. "Anyway, any friend of Xander's is a friend of mine! This meal is on the house."

She was very friendly and passionate, hurrying to the kitchen as she spoke.

Melanie asked Xander, "Did you just say you grew up around here?"

"Yes, my grandfather's house is nearby. My mother used to bring me here when I was young."

Melanie vaguely remembered Stephen saying that Xander's mother was overseas.

She asked, "Is your mother still overseas?"

"Yes, she's abroad for treatment."

"She's sick? What illness is it?"

Melanie had just been trying to find a topic of conversation, but Xander suddenly fell silent. After a moment, he said, "She's in a psychiatric hospital. She's not quite stable mentally."

Melanie paused. "I'm sorry. I didn't know."

Xander was always silent when his mother was mentioned. Melanie did not know what to say, so she just quieted down.

It was only when Fiona came to serve the dishes that the two of them exchanged a few more words.

Fiona was definitely a good cook. Xander filled Melanie's bowl with some soup. "Her cream of wild mushroom is a bestseller."

Melanie thanked him. Then, she heard Xander say slowly, "Is this meal not enough to cheer you up?"

Melanie stopped and looked at Xander. "No, I'm feeling alright."

"Then why aren't you eating too much? Is it because your hand hurts?" Xander's brows slowly furrowed, as if he was conflicted. "This is my first time bringing a girl out to eat alone, so I should have thought it through more. I guess I should have brought you to the hospital first."

He had a solemn and conflicted look. Melanie was stunned for a moment before she suddenly

chuckled.

She asked Xander, "Are you doing this on purpose?"

"Doing what?" Xander shot back.

Melanie shook her head. Her appetite was much better now, and she ate much more enthusiastically.

Xander, on the other hand, did not eat much. He only glanced at Melanie from time to time.

Once they were done eating, Fiona refused to accept any money. She said it was her treat.

She looked at Xander and sighed. "Xander, how has your mother been all these years?"

Xander nodded. "Better than before."

"Your grandfather was sick some time ago. You know he's very stubborn. We all asked him to contact you, but he wouldn't do it. If you have time, go back and visit him."

She even added, "Bring your girlfriend along. I'm sure he'll be happy to see that you're doing well."

Since Xander had mentioned his childhood here, Melanie thought he must have been close with his grandfather.

Unexpectedly, he said, "No, I'm too busy for that."

Chapter 297

When they came out of the restaurant, the rain had eased off slightly.

"Does your hand still hurt?" Xander asked Melanie, "If it does, we can go to the hospital,"

Melanie moved her wrist slightly. "It doesn't hurt anymore."

On the way back, Xander did not say anything, Melanie guessed that it was because Fiona mentioned his grandfather.

Still, it was Xander's business, and Melanie could not just ach

To her surprise, though, Zander drove the car to a nearby hospital. He stopped the car and looked at Melanie's wrist. "You're injured in your right hand. It would be safer to get it checked again."

He was kind, and Melanie could not refuse. Fortunately, the results of the checkup were fine. It was just a slight sprain. She just had to rest.

It was evening by the time Melanie finished her checkup and got the results. Dylan would probably be arriving in Hearth City soon.

Actually, Melanie wanted to go to the Jepton Hotel to look for Howard, but Xander was still there, so she did not say anything. She planned to return to the villa first before coming out by herself.

In the meantime, she could figure out what to say to Howard,

When Lisa called, Zander had just parked his car. Melanie looked at the time. Lisa must have just gotten off from work.

She excused herself from Zander and picked up Lisa's call as she walked out of the garage. "Melanie?" Lisa said after a moment of silence. "I heard you resigned from LeapCo. Why?"

Melanie's resignation was not exactly a secret.

Melanie pretended not to hear the probing tone in her words and replied calmly, "Isn't it normal for people to resign? But why were you with Quentin?"

The last time she saw Lisa, she was still working with Frank Yates.

Lisa laughed bitterly. "Why else? The salary here is higher."

"Is that so?" Melanie walked out of the parking lot. Instead of going back into the house, she went around to the outside, under the half-covered open balcony.

She looked at the falling raindrops outside. "Why are you calling me all of a sudden?"

"Did you leave LeapCo because you had somewhere better to go? If so..."

Before Lisa could finish, Melanie understood. She lowered her lashes and said, "No, I'm going to take a break for a while."

"Is that so...?" Lisa still did not sound convinced, but Melanie did not want to say anymore. She was in a bad mood after running into Quentin today.

Besides, Lisa was working with him now.

However, when she remembered her experiences with Quentin, Melanie reminded Lisa, "Quentin is not a good person. Be on your guard."

A complicated smile flashed across Lisa's lips. She took a deep breath. "We were from the same company after all. Of course, I know what he's like."

"But when I left LeapCo, Mr. Scott told the other companies not to hire me, so I can't find anything better." Lisa's tone was much bleaker now.

If it were not for Eugene, she would not have gone to work for Frank after leaving LeapCo and now, she was working for Quentin.

Neither of them were good people.

Lisa would be lying if she said that she did not resent Eugene.

Melanie could hear the resentment in her voice, too. She made an excuse and hung up.

—

She had too much on her plate now. She was not in the mood to listen to others' complaints.

Besides, she still could not accept the fact that Lisa was working for Quentin now.

One thing caught her attention, though. Lisa said Eugene had told the other companies not to hire her when she left.

Melanie lowered her gaze slightly. No one knew what she was thinking, but her expression was solemn.

She did not stay in the villa for long. After informing Reny and the others, she was about to set out for the hospital again.

However, Xander stopped her. He tossed the car keys to her and said, "Take my car. I'll call the mechanic over later. Your car was in an accident, so it's safer to get it fixed."

Melanie took him up on his offer and left.

Her grandfather had just finished dinner when she arrived. The caregiver showed Melanie the results of yesterday's examination. There were still no changes.

She asked the caregiver, "Did Dr. Wells say anything when he came over today?"

"No."

Melanie put the test results away. She needed to talk to Dr. Wells again.

If Howard really could not help, she would have to change doctors.

Melanie had something on her mind, so she was not paying attention when she walked around the corner. As a result, she accidentally bumped into someone.

She apologized profusely, only to hear a familiar voice. "Melanie?"

Melanie paused. She looked up and saw that it was Lee.

Instinctively, she glanced behind Lee, expecting to see Eugene there.

Lee also noticed her reaction. He smiled. "Mr. Scott is still talking to someone. I just came out to take a call."

Melanie asked, "Is he meeting someone here?"

"LeapCo is organizing a public health checkup soon. Mr. Scott came over to discuss the project.

Nodding, she walked past Lee and headed for Dr. Wells' office.

There was a conversation going on inside. As soon as Melanie pushed open the door, she saw Eugene talking to Dr. Wells.

The conversation stopped abruptly when they heard the door open. Eugene glanced over.

When he saw Melanie, his face was expressionless, and there was a cold look in his eyes.

Dr. Wells was taken aback. "Aren't you Mr. Lancaster's family member? You came at the right time. Mr. Scott was just saying"

He was halfway through his sentence when Eugene interrupted him in his cool, businesslike voice. "Dr. Wells, LeapCo will accept all of your earlier suggestions. I look forward to working with you."

Dr. Wells was a little flattered. "No, I really admire your foresight and willingness to

contribute to the good of our society, Mr. Scott. Our hospital is honored to be working with you."

"That's good to know." Eugene nodded, his expression unchanged.

Chapter 299

Dr. Wells looked at him, then at Melanie, as if he wanted to say something.

His lips twitched. In the end, he just turned to Melanie and asked, "What can I do for you?"

Melanie had been hinting that she did not want to acknowledge Eugene's existence. She cleared her throat. "I just wanted to ask... If Dr. Hel can't do it, is there another doctor who can perform this surgery? Preferably someone with a lower level of risk."

"There are many doctors who can perform this surgery, but as I said, Dr. Hel is an expert in this field. His success rate is very high." Dr. Wells reminded Melanie, "Every year, there are many people who want Dr. Hel as their chief surgeon. If you ask me..."

At this point, he suddenly thought of something and turned to look at Eugene. Then, he said to Melanie, "It's normal for an expert like Dr. Hel to have his own principles, but perhaps you can ask Mr. Scott for help? Dr. Hel is his uncle."

Dr. Wells did not know that Melanie and Eugene knew each other.

Melanie could see herself reflected in Eugene's unperturbed eyes. He looked at her with that cold, mocking expression on his face that only she could see.

His tone was flat. "You need my help?"

Melanie paused. Her encounters with Eugene had not been pleasant, and he had just fired her this morning.

She pursed her lips and resisted the urge to run.

Dr. Wells did not notice the tension between them. When he heard his phone ring, he took it and said, "If you still want Dr. Hel to help you, you can try asking Mr. Scott. If you want someone else, I can recommend other options."

"You're under no obligation to help, of course, Mr. Scott. It's just that this young lady has been busy with her grandfather's affairs, so I just thought I'd mention it. I hope you don't mind."

With that, Dr. Wells went outside to answer the phone.

Melanie and Eugene were suddenly the only ones left in the office.

Melanie lowered her eyes, but she could feel Eugene's gaze on her.

There was nothing much for her to say. After all, there was a high chance that Eugene would not agree to help. Why should she embarrass herself again?

Moreover, when she thought of Eugene's previous request, there was an indescribable feeling in her heart.

She took a deep breath and turned to leave.

However, before she could even take half a step, Eugene said, quietly and coldly, "It seems that your grandfather's health is not that important to you, after all.

"Melanie, that ridiculous ego of yours always comes up at the wrong time."

Melanie stopped in her tracks and turned back to Eugene. She tried to straighten her back and look directly at him. "Is it my ego, or your sadistic need to mock me at all times? Eugene, I really don't have time to play these meaningless games with you right now."

"Meaningless games?" Eugene's dark eyes were devoid of emotion. He studied Melanie condescendingly. "You're the one who didn't seize the opportunity."

Melanie looked at him.

For the first time, she felt that Eugene was shameless.

What opportunity was he talking about? Yet another opportunity to let him humiliate her?

Melanie closed her eyes and said quietly, "I don't know what you want me to do, but can you stop pestering me at a time like this?"

"If you want me to move out, I'll do it. If you want me to leave LeapCo, I'll leave. If you still have a bone to pick with me, can you wait until my grandfather recovers?"

She really did not have the energy to deal with him right now. She was already hanging on by a thread.

Melanie was afraid that at some point she would not be able to hold on, and that thread would

snap.

372

There were many nights where she just could not sleep. Her mind was so frayed by now that she could stare at the ceiling in a daze.

"You think I have a bone to pick with you?" Eugene narrowed his eyes and repeated Melanie's words slowly. He snorted and stared at Melanie in an unreadable tone. "Do you think you're even worthy of my attention like that?"

Melanie slowly clenched her fists. She looked at Eugene with a dark expression for a moment, then she turned around and left.

"Howard Hel will be staying at Jepton for the next few days." Eugene's tone was as calm as usual, carrying his usual resolve.

He stared at Melanie's frail back, a strange emotion flashing in his eyes.

Eugene tapped his finger twice and said lightly, "Melanie, you know I'm not very patient."

Melanie remained where she was standing now, her body trembling slightly. Eugene sounded like he was certain she would go back and beg him.

She returned to the ward in frustration. As usual, she chatted with her grandfather for a while before preparing to leave.

Before she left, she saw the nurse bring in a plate of fruits.

The nurse seemed to be afraid that she would misunderstand and said, "Dr. Wells said that the patient can eat some solid food now. He even had a small bowl of oats last night, so I prepared some fruit for him."

Chapter 300

He showed Melanie the plate of fruits. "Don't worry. I cut the fruits into tiny pieces, and they're all fresh and clean."

Melanie looked at it. They did seem perfectly fine.

As she went downstairs, she passed Dr. Wells's office. Eugene was no longer inside.

The rain was much lighter now. When she arrived at the villa, Reny and the others were still playing games in the living room.

Xander was nowhere to be seen. Oliver said that he was working on the design drafts in the study.

Melanie was busy all day and did not stay downstairs for long before returning upstairs to rest.

She had been sleeping poorly for the past few days. She was worried about disturbing Reny, so she had tidied up a small room and moved there instead.

When she returned to her room, she took out her phone and looked at the large sum of money in her account.

After a while, she searched the profiles of several of Jepton's most prolific neurosurgeons online. Although they were not as famous, their resumes were promising.

Melanie took screenshots of the doctors' profiles and sent them to Dr. Wells, who responded quickly.

Of the four doctors Melanie had proposed, two were out of town attending academic conferences, and one was now focused on academic work, only going to the hospital on Wednesdays.

The last one was also the director of Paramount Hospital. He had gone overseas to a learning trip some time ago and might only be back in a few days.

"If the patient's condition is stable, we can wait for Dr. Zepto to come back. That's if there are no emergencies," Dr. Wells said.

Her grandfather's condition had been very stable for the past few days, and Melanie's heart finally calmed down a little.

She paused for a moment and subconsciously reached under her pillow, looking for the good luck charm that her grandfather had given her in the past.

When Melanie was young, she was prone to falling sick. Every year, her grandfather would get her a new good luck charm and hide it under her pillow. He said that this way, she would feel better soon.

After all those years, she had also developed a habit of keeping a charm under her pillow.

However, she could not find anything now.

Melanie's heart skipped a beat. She suddenly remembered that her grandfather replaced her good luck charm every year, because he said it would only work for a year at a time.

When her grandfather gave her the good luck charm this year, she had been busy with work at

Cha

the office. After she received it, she had been so swamped that she forgot to bring it home.

Melanie's eyes darkened.

However, she had no choice but to call Yana and briefly explain the whole chain of events. She asked Yana to help her find the good luck charm when she went to the office tomorrow,

However, Yana said helplessly, "I'll help you look for it now. I'm still at the office."

"Why are you still at the office this late at night?"

Yana took the opportunity to complain. "Melanie, you don't know this, but Viola has returned to the secretariat again. She was in the CEO's office for the past few days, right? But in the end, she came back today.

"As soon as she came back, she made a mistake in a very important document. Now, we're all busy cleaning up her mess."

Melanie was not very interested in what Viola was doing. She only asked Yana to help find her charm before ending the call.

Melanie woke up a few more times in a daze that night until she was completely woken up by the phone ringing in the morning.

She fumbled for her phone and saw that the caller was Dr. Wells. Melanie sat up immediately.