

Mr. Scott 301

Chapter 301

“The patient experienced convulsions this morning. Please come over to the hospital.”

Dr. Wells’s words snapped Melanie out of her slightly drowsy state.

She quickly asked further about Albert’s condition. After ensuring her grandfather had been rescued, she quickly washed up and headed to the hospital.

It rained all night yesterday, and the weather outside was slightly cold.

Melanie was rushed to the hospital. Dr. Wells was on duty that day and was still in Albert’s ward.

Melanie looked at the old man who had dozed off in his bed with pursed lips. She looked worried.

After Dr. Wells examined Albert, he beckoned Melanie and the caretaker to follow him. “The patient suddenly experienced convulsions because he was agitated, and he had choked on something. This is dangerous, and you must ensure this is the last time it happens.”

The caretaker was afraid Melanie would blame her and quickly explained, “Dr. Wells told me we could feed the patient some normal food. That’s why I changed his diet and was careful when feeding him. He was fine last night.”

“Why did this happen?” Melanie sounded displeased. She was worried sick upon hearing that something had happened to her grandfather. She had yet to calm herself down.

She had paid for the caretaker to care for Albert, not to let her worsen Albert’s condition.

The caretaker was flustered upon hearing Melanie’s serious tone. If something happened to the patient under a caretaker’s care, they had to pay compensation and might even be sued.

Few caretakers were willing to take this job as Albert's condition was bad. After all, if something happened and the family members were not reasonable enough, they would not be able to defend themselves.

However, the pay Melanie offered was sky-high and irresistible.

"Albert woke up this morning at 5:00 am, and he said he was hungry. I thought of giving him his nutrition drink, but he refused and wanted cereal.

"Then, the caretaker next door came to borrow some things. When I was handing her the things, he started experiencing convulsions."

Melanie sensed something and looked at the caretaker calmly. "What were you two chatting about just now?"

"She asked me where Albert's children were and why they hadn't visited. I told her his child was busy."

Melanie knew what caused her grandfather's convulsions. The caretaker's unintentional conversation reminded Albert of Dylan and agitated him.

Before Dr. Wells left, he frowned and said, "Dr. Zepto received a sudden notice at the place where his academic conference is being held about a volcano phenomenon. He has to delay his trip for about a week."

Melanie looked at him.

"If you know any other doctor, you can try contacting them just in case."

Dr. Wells left after saying that.

Melanie's heart sank. She could contact no other expert in neurology in Jepton other than Howard.

However, she had to look for Eugene to help her contact Howard.

Melanie pursed her lips, and her eyelashes blocked her eyes.

Before she left, she reminded the caretaker what to be aware of.

She wanted to fire the caretaker, but Albert was already used to the caretaker looking after him. Moreover, Albert was sensitive, and changing the caretaker might remind him of Dylan.

Melanie arranged everything needed before leaving.

She called Yana, telling her she would be at the office to pick up some of her things.

When she arrived at LeapCo, it was not after working hours yet. Melanie waited at the car park for Yana.

However, after waiting for a long time, Yana called. "Melanie, we have an important meeting out of the blue, and I can't leave. All your things are on your desk. Is it possible for you to come to the office and get them yourself?"

The secretary's office was busy, and Yana had to work overtime. Melanie knew it well.

LeapCo's employees could enter the building using a face recognition system, and the technical department might not have deleted her information just yet. Melanie entered the building without any obstruction.

Not many people were in the secretary's office, and a box was placed on her table. "Melanie?" Viola's surprised voice sounded from behind her. Melanie turned around.

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Viola seized Melanie, shocked. She seemed to be puzzled to see Melanie in the office. “Melanie, haven’t you resigned? Why are you here again?”

Melanie looked at her expressionlessly. “I came back to take some things.”

With a frown, Melanie thought, ‘Didn’t Yana say they have to attend a meeting? Why didn’t Viola go?’

She didn’t have much interest in Viola’s pretentious act and did not want to waste time on her.

When Melanie was about to leave after taking her stuff, Viola followed her. She glanced at the box Melanie was holding and grinned innocently.

“So, these are yours, Melanie? I saw Miss Yana packing all that stuff this morning, and I thought it was hers.

“After all, the company gave us some gifts. Melanie, I’m sure you know the company provides many things for us. I haven’t even taken all my things back home yet.”

Melanie glanced at Viola coldly. Viola was saying as though Melanie had returned to take back LeapCo’s stuff.

She was annoyed.

Coldly, she said, “When you were dating Eugene, didn’t he bring you to enough places? Look at you boasting about LeapCo’s seasonal benefits.”

She was taller than Viola, and how she looked at Viola from above as she mocked her embarrassed Viola.

Her face turned pale. She was about to refute when Melanie said, “Stop being so pretentious. You won’t get any award for putting on an act before me. You might not feel tired of doing this, but it annoys me.

Viola looked at Melanie's departing back as her frozen smile faded.

She did not like Melanie the first time she saw her, and she could not force herself to like

Melanie even now.

Meanwhile, Melanie carried the box out of the office and put it in the car.

She looked at LeapCo's building for a while before calling someone.

However, the person on the other end of the call did not pick it up.

Melanie did not give up and dialed again.

After ringing for a few seconds, the call went through.

Melanie held her breath. The nails of her right hand dug deep into her palm as she said in her hoarse voice, "Eugene, I want to have a word with you."

The man on the other end of the call remained silent.

After a while, Eugene's lazy voice sounded. He said sarcastically, "Melanie, who do you think you are?"

Melanie sat in the driver's seat and stared at the advertisement board. She lowered her voice and said, "Does your request before this still count?"

"You told me if I... satisfied your needs, you'd help me."

Melanie couldn't say the phrase 'please him'. She said every word slowly, as if she was debating with her dignity deep down.

However, Eugene showed no response upon hearing her words. He scoffed and asked, "Did you misunderstand yourself or me? Why do you think I should give you another chance?"

Melanie's grip on the phone tightened.

She lowered her head and leaned against the steering wheel. Her voice was hoarse as she was holding back her tears. "Can... you tell me what I can do to make you help me, then?"

"I can do anything as long as you help me, Eugene."

Melanie's voice was soft, and she sounded exhausted.

The stress she was facing was suffocating her.

Chapter 303

Dylan's matter, her grandfather's health, her job, Eugene, and Viola had almost broken Melanie down mentally and physically.

However, she did not have the time to be devastated.

She had to face this by herself. No one could save her if she let herself fall into the abyss of despair.

No one!

No one would help her!

She only had herself.

Melanie clenched the steering wheel with her slender fingers as she listened to the man's indifferent voice from the other end of the call. "Melanie, don't you think you're making a joke out of yourself now?"

She felt as if she had been suffocated by seawater, making her lungs swell up.

However, Melanie heard that cold voice again. "Come upstairs in five minutes."

After giving this order, he ended the call. Only the sound of the phone beeping could be heard.

Melanie looked at the box beside her. The charm Albert gave her was on top of it.

Her grandfather's carving of her nickname 'Mel' was on it.

Albert gave her the name Melanie, saying it was a nice and melodious name.

However, her grandmother disagreed because the meaning of Melanie was dark in Greek. She did not want Melanie to live a dark life.

When Melanie headed upstairs, she bumped into those employees getting off work. Some greeted her.

Viola was among them, and she looked at her hesitantly.

Melanie ignored Viola and headed straight to Eugene's office.

When she walked out of the elevator, she heard Viola blurt out, "I think the security personnel should be strengthened. It seems like just anyone can enter the office."

Melanie's footstep froze for a moment.

Just as she entered the president's office, she bumped into Lee walking out with the documents. He wasn't surprised to see Melanie and greeted her with a nod before leaving.

Melanie looked at the ground and waited for a while before entering. Eugene was making a call inside while standing before the French windows. His face was cold as ever.

Upon hearing Melanie opening the door, he glanced at her and looked away immediately.

Melanie stood there, not knowing why she was here. She could only lower her eyes and look at the documents on Eugene's table as she let her mind drift away.

Those were the documents she organized for the Blue Inc project.

When she left, they were handed over to Viola.

"Since you're here to beg for my help, aren't you going to prove your sincerity?" Eugene casually placed the phone on the table as he looked at Melanie deeply.

Melanie bit her lip. "I told you I can do anything you want me to do as long as you're willing to help me."

Eugene sneered. He lifted his chin slightly. "Am I the one begging for your help?"

Melanie froze. She looked at Eugene's straight face, and his eyes that were staring at her were cold.

However, she did not know what she could do.

She had always been ordered around and had never taken the lead when she was with Eugene.

She had always been obedient and good.

After not getting any response from her for some time, Eugene lowered his gaze and said calmly, "If you can't give up on holding onto your useless dignity, don't put on a look as if you're making a big sacrifice. Melanie, don't push it."

He wanted to leave after saying that. However, when he walked past Melanie, his wrist was suddenly grabbed.

Melanie's hand was shuddering, yet she pretended to be calm and pulled Eugene.

Her fingers ran through his palm and moved toward his fingers.

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Melanie's flawless and soft fingers interlocked with Eugene's as she muttered, "Eugene, please help me."

She showed no expression when she said this.

However, it reminded her of when she needed Eugene's help long ago. She only needed to lower her position and speak coquettishly as she hooked his fingers to get him to agree. Melanie was standing with her back facing Eugene, so she could not see his expression. Getting no response from him left her with no choice but to probe again by tugging his fingers. "Eugene, please?"

Eugene still said nothing. Just as she thought he would agree, he shoved her hand off.

He sneered. "Melanie, you're getting pretentious now."

Melanie froze. The words she was about to say were stuck in her throat.

Eugene glanced at her and left expressionlessly.

Melanie's expression was gloomy when she headed downstairs. She bumped into Yana, who had just left the meeting, in the elevator.

Yana looked at Melanie getting into the elevator from the top floor. She was surprised but did not ask anything.

She just said, "Melanie, look! You just left, and we're already being forced to work until late. We even have to work overtime during lunch hours."

Melanie looked at the documents in her hands and forced herself to smile. She asked, "Did the company start a new project?"

"It's Blue Inc." Yana felt helpless. "It was announced today that Blue Inc's project was handed to Julie. She has always been efficient. That's why she organized all the meetings to complete this project."

It reminded Melanie of Viola, whom she had just met in the office. According to what happened at the celebration dinner, she thought Viola would be responsible for Blue Inc.'s project.

After all, Eugene had protected Viola throughout the incident.

She asked Yana, "Is Julie going to teach Viola?"

However, Yana pursed her lips. "Miss Shaw doesn't need to work so hard like us. She just has to sit in the office and pass her time to get paid just like us.

Yana was displeased upon mentioning Viola. Melanie knew it was not nice to talk bad about others behind their backs, so she stopped the topic.

She had to go to the northern part of the city. The repair man she had made an appointment with contacted her yesterday.

Melanie had decided to clean up her house quickly. She felt Albert might want to stay there after being discharged.

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Yana wanted to have a meal with Melanie, but Melanie rejected it.

She drove back to the North district and cleaned the house.

While she was busy, she received a call from Dylan. Melanie was cleaning up the house and did not hear the ringtone. She ignored it even when she saw the missed call notification.

Her mind was in a mess. Even when she did nothing, lots of things were running wildly in her mind.

That was why she tried to get herself busy.

Only when the sun set did Melanie leave. When she left the house, she noticed it was drizzling outside.

Melanie looked at the hazy sky. She felt nothing upon seeing the gloomy weather.

Like an emotionless robot, she stepped on the accelerator and headed to the hospital.

However, just as she left the residential area, she received a call from Dr. Wells.

Melanie's heart would hammer involuntarily whenever Dr. Wells' call came in. Flustered, she answered the call as her breathing grew faster.

Just as she answered it, Dr. Wells' anxious voice sounded through the phone. "Come over to the hospital, quick!"

Melanie's heart sank, and she almost dropped the phone.

She forced herself to calm down. "What happened?"

"It's about the patient's surgery. You have to be around. Please come to the hospital."

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Melanie rushed to the hospital. Dr. Wells and the other doctors of the same department were also waiting for her there.

"Here you are. It's about your grandfather's surgery. We want to ask you a few things," said Dr. Wells.

Melanie noticed Dr. Wells' serious expression. Even after preparing herself, she could not help worrying. She looked thoughtfully at Dr. Wells and said, "Please don't hesitate to say whatever you want."

"Well... the hospital has a research study plan, and the patient we had arranged before can no longer participate. After the authorities read through the documents, they think your grandfather's illness is suitable for the study.

"I was thinking of asking your permission."

Melanie's forehead creased. "What kind of research study plan is it?"

"We have to record the surgery process of the patient for study purposes."

Dr. Wells explained further, "Of course, we'll only record the surgical site and will never expose the patient's face or private parts. However, we still need the consent of the patient and his family members."

Every doctor in the room looked at Melanie, waiting for her answer.

She noticed the point of the conversation. “Does this mean my grandfather can undergo the surgery?”

Dr. Wells nodded slightly before saying, “This depends on whether you and the patient agree to this condition.”

After all, many patients and their family members were uncomfortable at the idea of the surgery being recorded and would reject the offer.

The patient the hospital had negotiated with also suddenly rejected because of this reason.

Surprise flashed across Melanie’s face, yet she quickly suppressed the surging joy. “Can I ask the surgeon what we need to cooperate with during the surgery?”

“The surgeon is Dr. Hel. He came to Jepton because of the research study and doesn’t require the patient to cooperate in anything else. Everything is done according to the normal surgical process. The only difference is that we’ll be recording the surgery process.”

Melanie headed straight to the restroom after leaving the office.

She still could not believe her ears. Howard rejected her even after she looked for him many times, yet he was willing to carry out the surgery now.

Moreover, the surgical process would be recorded, and the surgeon would be careful

throughout the surgery.

That meant the success percentage of the surgery would increase.

The water flowed out from the tap. Suddenly, Melanie’s hands froze as she was washing them.

Meanwhile, Simon was at Butterfly Club.

In his arms was a young model. He walked casually from the dance floor to the seat.

Looking at the people playing a game of poker, he asked impatiently, "Have you called Eugene? Why isn't he here yet?"

Someone tried to brush Simon off. "He might be stuck in traffic."

Simon lifted his eyebrow. The person behind him asked, "Eugene might be busy lately. My dad told me Melanie resigned. LeapCo has lost an important employee. It must be a difficult time for LeapCo."

Disdainfully, Simon retorted, "Would LeapCo be doomed without her?"

"We can't be sure, but Eugene's mood might be bad these few days."

Simon ignored him and kissed the model's cheek. Just as he was about to call Eugene outside, he saw the man walking in.

Eugene's expression was cold, and he looked like he did not belong in this chaotic environment.

Before Eugene approached them, Simon could see he was in a bad mood.

He let go of the woman in his arms and whistled. "Who annoyed you?"

Eugene glanced at him indifferently. "I was dealing with something."

"Was it about work?"

Eugene did not answer, and Simon clicked his tongue. "What were you dealing with, then?"

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Eugene still said nothing about it. He beckoned the waiter and ordered a bottle of wine.

Just as the wine was served, his phone on the table lit up. A call came in.

Simon was beside him and happened to see the caller ID. He exclaimed, "When did Theodore become so close?"

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Eugene showed no expression as he answered the call.

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The man on the other end of the call seemed to have said something. Eugene frowned, yet his knitted brows loosened the next second.

In the end, he tapped the wine glass and said in a low and cold voice, "Keep an eye on it and let me know when they arrive in Jepton."

"Who's coming to Jepton? Is it Theodore?" Simon asked immediately after Eugene hung up the call.

Eugene said, "Not him."

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"I thought you were close with the Cain family? You even visited Theodore's father in Hearth City."

“His father won’t retreat for now.”

Simon understood what Eugene meant by that.

He nodded and toasted Eugene’s glass. “That’s why they say you businessmen always go for the benefits.”

Eugene did not deny his words and took a sip of his wine.

However, he had other things he came for today and asked Simon, “Do you know about the new emerging company called Vanke Group?”

“Isn’t Vanke Group cooperating with Dreamcatchers on the exhibition?” Simon said after pondering. “Didn’t I say they seemed to be picking up the unwanted rubbish LeapCo throws away? They want even the person you fired.

“The guy with the last name Emerson seems to be working as a manager there.”

Although Simon had always been idle, his family was in the business field and was successful in it. His family wanted to make him a successful heir, so he knew many things and had many

connections.

It was just that Simon was not interested in learning.

There was a lot of gossip among the rich. Moreover, they were always real.

Eugene did not react much. After chatting with Simon for a while, he decided to leave.

Just as he got up, someone asked, “Eugene, is your uncle in Jepton? Can I ask for a favor from him?”

Simon stopped and heard that person say, "My aunt might need to undergo surgery, and I want to ask if your uncle could be her surgeon? I can pay any price."

Howard was a famous doctor in his field of expertise. Those who had heard of Howard and Eugene would know of their relationship.

"He'll be in Paramount Hospital during this period. You can ask him."

That person stopped asking. Howard was a specialist, and many wanted to get him to do their surgeries. He asked Eugene because he wanted to save the hassle of looking for Howard and get Eugene to help him directly.

Eugene wanted to leave, and Simon sent him to the door.

It was hot now that it was summer. Simon walked casually by his side and asked, "Are you on bad terms with Viola lately?"

Eugene did not see that question coming and paused for a moment before answering, "No."

"Why haven't I seen you bringing her around anymore?"

After a while, Eugene lowered his eyes and said, "I'm busy."

Simon chuckled.

"Don't forget about her even when you're busy. Otherwise, you might have to coax her again."

Simon had always been on friendly terms with Viola, and Eugene frowned upon thinking about it. He did not reply to Simon's quip.

His phone happened to ring just then. He looked at the caller ID, and his right brow lifted slightly in surprise.

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Simon stopped the topic and returned to the club upon hearing the ringtone.

Eugene answered the call after Simon left.

It was quiet on the other end of the call. After a while, Melanie's voice sounded. She asked, "Where are you?"

Eugene scoffed. "What does that have to do with you?"

Melanie was still at the hospital. She had visited her grandfather and talked to him about the surgery. He agreed as well.

After that, she went out to make this call.

Melanie did not believe such a coincidence. She would never think they got this chance

because they were lucky. She seemed to come to a realization.

Howard was not a doctor at Paramount Hospital. Even if they needed to record the surgery, they would not invite Howard personally to do the surgery.

After all, Paramount Hospital was also a famous hospital in Jepton, and they had many professional doctors.

The only possibility she could think of was Eugene.

Moreover, she had looked for him that noon, and the surgery was arranged in the evening...

Melanie said, "I want to talk to you about my grandfather's surgery."

Eugene squinted his eyes. "What's there to talk about that?"

"I've promised to do anything to repay your help."

Melanie did not want to owe Eugene anything. She looked at the ground when she said that.

Eugene's voice was always cold and indifferent. He said, "Okay."

Melanie was quick. She pulled over her car in front of Eugene in just half an hour.

Eugene looked at her. "Drive me back home."

He had drunk some wine while chatting with Simon and could not drive.

Melanie said nothing and parked her car. After getting out, she took the keys from Eugene to drive his car.

He had said once before that Melanie's car was small and uncomfortable to sit in.

They drove back to Eugene's place silently. Only when they got out of the car did Melanie return the car keys to him.

Eugene took them, and his gaze fell on Melanie as he said lazily, "I haven't eaten dinner."

Melanie froze. "What would you like for dinner?"

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Eugene said nothing and headed toward the elevator.

Melanie pondered and decided to get Eugene some stewed beef from the restaurant nearby.

Whenever Eugene got drunk after business dinners, Melanie would always get stewed beef from a particular restaurant.

It became a habit after so long.

She gradually forgot about this habit throughout the years.

The owner of the restaurant recognized her and smiled as he asked, "I haven't seen you for so long. Do you want me to pack the stew just like last time?"

Melanie nodded as she returned with the stew to the residential area.

She needed an access card to get to the floor.

Melanie wanted to call Eugene, but she thought of the residential card she still had. She forgot to return it to Eugene when she moved out.

However, she was not sure if she could still use it.

Melanie swiped the card on the sensor and saw the button blinking. The elevator door opened after it took her to her floor.

Just as she made a turn, she saw the unit she used to live in. Its door was wide open. It

reminded her of the day she moved and the movers telling her a new tenant would be moving in.

“It has only been a few days, and you’ve forgotten your way here?” Eugene stood behind the door as he looked at Melanie expressionlessly.

Melanie froze and hid her expression as she handed him the stew. “Here. Take your dinner.”

Eugene looked at her from above as he was taller.

He mocked, “Do I have to invite you in?”

Melanie pursed her lips and said nothing.

The interior of the house was no different from when she moved out.

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She took the stew to the kitchen and poured it into a bowl before serving it on the table.

Then, she reminded Eugene. “You can have your dinner now.”

Eugene, who had been scrolling his phone on the sofa, lifted his head upon hearing Melanie’s words. He headed toward the dining area.

Melanie looked at him and pondered before saying, “You were the one who helped me with my grandfather’s surgery, weren’t you?”

Eugene stopped scooping his stew and looked at Melanie as he mocked, “Don’t you have other things to say?”

Melanie moved her fingers and heard herself saying, “No matter what, I have to thank you.’

Eugene threw his spoon back into the bowl and stared at Melanie with his head lifted. “Your words of gratitude aren’t even worth the help.”

He was apparently looking down on her. Melanie’s eyelashes fluttered, and she did not know what to say.

Eugene’s emotions changed drastically, and she did not know what was on his mind.

“Melanie.” Eugene broke the silence.

He looked at Melanie indifferently. No one could guess his emotions when he said the next words calmly, “You’re now untrustworthy.

“Talk to me when you can really do anything I request. Only then will your words of agreement be trustworthy.

“You can scram now.”

Eugene stopped looking at Melanie. His phone on the coffee table happened to ring.

Melanie was nearby. Silently, she took the phone and handed it over to Eugene.

She was a little startled when she looked at the numbers on the screen.

It was not a saved number, and the area code was from Hearth City.

Moreover, Melanie felt that the string of numbers looked familiar.

Even so, she did not think much and merely handed the phone to Eugene.

Eugene's gaze fell on the screen, and he casually placed the phone on the table.

Melanie asked, "Aren't you going to answer it?"

"It's a random call from some stranger."

Melanie nodded. "I'll excuse myself, then."

Eugene was right. Melanie took a breath as she felt Eugene was right about her.

She was indeed useless.

She could not accept Eugene's help carefreely or even repay his help readily by giving up on her dignity.

It was indeed pretentious and fake.

Melanie could not help mocking herself deep down.

She was pathetic and ridiculous.

She was ridiculous because she knew her actions were stupid and cheap.

However, that was the only thing she could do, which was pathetic.

She could only be entangled in this endless spider web, unable to free herself. She was always helpless and falling into a dilemma.

She placed the access card on the table and pushed it toward Eugene. "I forgot to return this to you."

Eugene looked at the access card and sneered. However, his sneer soon faded.

Then, his cold voice sounded. "Are you giving me the things you've used before?"

He said coldly, "Throw it away if you don't want it."

Melanie did not stay there long. However, it was almost midnight when she left.

She did not throw the access card and kept it in her handbag instead.

Melanie did not return to Butterfly Club to get her car. Instead, she took a taxi back to her place.

The house in the North district was almost renovated, and Albert was going to get his surgery.

Melanie looked at the neon lights on the street and felt better.

All she hoped for at the moment was for everything to go on smoothly.

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In the next few days, Melanie was only ever in the hospital, the house in the North district, and the villa.

Xander and the others had been busy. Oliver told Melanie the negotiation attempt with Dreamcatchers was unsuccessful, especially since Dreamcatchers was also looking for cooperation partners.

Melanie wanted to help, but Xander disagreed because he knew she had been busy with Albert's surgery preparations.

Reny comforted her, saying, "Melanie, don't worry. It's just a small matter. The boss can deal with it."

Melanie knew she could not help much, so she stopped insisting on helping.

When Dr. Wells asked her to go to the hospital, Melanie had just instructed the repairman to fix the water pipe in the house.

It was an old residential area, and the infrastructure there was shabby. Moreover, not many people lived there, and the streetlights in Melanie's place happened to be malfunctioning. The path was dim.

Melanie went to the relevant department to get the contact number of the person in charge of the area before heading to the hospital.

She went to discuss the details of her grandfather's surgery. After they agreed on the surgery details, Dr. Wells contacted Howard, and they arranged the meeting on Friday.

When Melanie arrived, Howard was already waiting in the office, and other doctors were also around. Among them were also two of Howard's students, who flew to Jepton from other

cities.

She adjusted her expression and strode in. "I'm sorry for being late. I was caught in the jam."

Howard glanced at Melanie coldly. Although he was annoyed, he did not show it.

He said coldly, "The patient's medical report is out. He's old, and the blood clot in his brain is blurry..."

Melanie listened quietly. She understood that Howard could not guarantee he could cure

Albert.

He was taking the precautions he could.

With a straight face, she asked, "I know. I just hope you can do your best to cure him."

"Do I need you to remind me of this?" Howard snapped. "I'll do whatever I can, but I hope you won't expect too much. Each surgery has a chance of success, but no one can guarantee the full result of the surgery."

Actually, it was also a reminder for Melanie to be prepared for the worst.

After all, neurological surgeries were risky, and her grandfather's condition was complicated.

Besides, he was already old.

Melanie pursed her lips and looked at Howard sincerely. "Thanks a lot, Dr. Hel."

Howard was startled and said nothing. He beckoned Dr. Wells to have a word with him and told him some of the safety precautions.

When Melanie returned to Albert's ward, his hospital bed had been raised, and he was sitting up with a pillow behind him. He was listening to an ebook.

Melanie listened in and realized it was a history book.

Melanie was reminded of what Howard had told her. She hid her emotions, covered Albert with a blanket, and talked to him just like usual.

After leaving the hospital, she headed straight to the villa.

She was back early and saw Xander and others in the living room. However, they seemed serious and were discussing something.

Melanie put down her things and asked, "What's wrong?"

Yvonne was an idle wealthy lady and liked to follow Reny and the others around her.

She heard Melanie's voice and said, "Hey, don't we have a suitable candidate here?"

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Xander rejected expressionlessly upon hearing her suggestion. "No, she can't take this over."

Yvonne said, "Why not? Do any of you have experience in the business field? Mel is a former employee of LeapCo."

Puzzled, Melanie asked, "Do you guys need my help?"

"Yes," Yvonne blurted out without thinking twice. She then explained to Melanie, "It's because of Mr. Emerson. It must be him. We heard Dreamcatchers is looking for business partners, and Mr. Emerson introduced many companies to them."

"The department contacted Xander to talk about the cooperation. They were trying to ask Xander to reconsider competing with Dreamcatchers."

Xander was still calm even after Yvonne said that.

Melanie pondered before saying, "They aren't doing this for the benefit of all. It's a trap to get us to sacrifice our benefits for theirs."

“What can we do about it?” Oliver looked serious. He knocked on the table with his knuckles and spoke in displeasure, “These people in Jepton are bullies. My family isn’t in Jepton. Otherwise, they wouldn’t be treating us like this.”

Yvonne lifted her eyebrow. “It’s pointless for your family to go against them. They have many companies.”

After the explanation, Melanie understood what they meant and asked, “Do you mean that if we have more business partners, our chance wouldn’t be snatched by others?”

She was also in the business field. She naturally knew a project linked with the government was a rare opportunity. It would benefit them a lot.

“Not totally. But at least, we wouldn’t be in such a passive state.”

Melanie pondered and wanted to speak, yet Xander said, “You don’t have to worry about this.”

“Don’t worry?” Yvonne muttered. “I think Emerson is up to no good by asking you to meet him tomorrow.”

Melanie caught the point. “Quentin wants to meet you tomorrow?”

Xander nodded.

A glimpse of untraceable emotion flashed across her eyes. She said, “I’ll go with you tomorrow.”

Quentin was an annoying person in all aspects.

He was despicable and always used dirty means to get what he wanted.

Moreover, from what Quentin told her during the conference, Melanie could not stop thinking Quentin might be doing this to Xander because he wanted to avenge her.

Xander still disagreed. "You're busy."

Melanie recalled she still had not told Xander about Albert's surgery. She was always out of the house recently and seldom bumped into him.

A comforting smile appeared on her face. "It's okay. My grandfather's surgery has been arranged for this Friday."

Xander's gaze turned gloomy before he hid his emotions and said, "That's great."

Since Quentin's meeting with them was settled, Melanie headed to her room.

However, just as she washed up, she received a call from a stranger.

Melanie answered the call, yet no one spoke. Instead, she heard a sharp shattering sound.

She called out a few times and looked at the area code of the phone number. It was from Hearth City.

Melanie immediately realized it was a call from George.

Without hesitating, Melanie hung up the call. Then, she blocked the number.

Meanwhile, the drunk man heard the call being hung up, and his expression turned ferocious before he kicked the little girl before him.