

Mr. Scott 441

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Xander retracted his hand after helping Melanie with the coat. His expression became serious again, and his sightly in the wind

flapped

All Melanie could smell was Xander's peppermint lemon scent. It was light and mild, but it was a comfy cologne.

She had wanted to return the coat to Xander, but before she could do so, a silver sports car stopped beside her.

It was followed by a black Maybach.

Melanie paused when she saw the Maybach's license plate..

The next second, the door of the sports car opened. Simon got out wearing a floral shirt. He casually took off his sunglasses and threw them into the car before turning to look at Melanie and her company.

He whistled and looked Xander up and down, his eyebrows raised high. "Xander Solomon?"

Xander's eyes were cold. "Simon Quinland,

"I've been close to your brother Xavier recently. I've heard a lot about you," Simon said flippantly. "You're very courageous. I'm impressed."

His words always had a hint of mockery in them that made the listener uncomfortable.

“But “Simon’s tone changed again. He glanced at Melanie and sneered. “You don’t have good taste in women. You should learn from your brother.”

Melanie and Simon did not get along. The moment she saw him, she never expected him to say anything nice.

She tugged at her coat and said calmly, “Simon, have you been missing your hospital appointments again recently?”

She said lightly, “I think your mental capacity seems to have worsened.”

Simon’s face hardened. “You little-”

Before he could finish, the door of the Maybach beside him opened. Eugene, dressed in a dark suit, got out of the car.

The well-tailored suit wrapped around his slender body. His broad shoulders and narrow waist made him look tall and sophisticated.

However, his eyes were cold and dark. He gazed evenly at Melanie, who did not flinch. She met his gaze squarely.

Their eyes met and collided with some unspeakable emotion. Their gazes were burning, and neither of them gave in to the other.

“Eugene.” Simon’s carefree drawl broke the silence. He said in a huff, “I should have left the house a few minutes later. Tsk, now my mood is all ruined.”

Melanie also retracted her gaze and said in a low voice, “Let’s go inside.”

Xander nodded and followed behind her.

With the way Latman Manor was structured, there were no street lamps on the much lediqu the main hall Although the sky still had a touch of sunlight, Melenie welted senty

She was wearing stilettos and holding up the hem of her dress carefully

However, just as they were about to turn a corner, Zander suddenly pulled her back, yanking her to his side. He protected her with one hand and said softly, "Watch out."

There was a small pothole not far ahead of Madanie. If it had not been for Zander, she would have tripped on it.

Xander's hand was still wrapped around her waist. Melanie's heart was beating a little faster. She took a moment to calm down before saying tersely, "Thank you"

Xander was silent for a moment before retracting his hand. "I'm sorry. I didn't call out to you just now because I was afraid that you would panic and trip. That's why I pulled you back"

As soon as he finished speaking, Oliver teased him from behind. "Poss, you're acting like the perfect boyfriend. Why didn't you catch me when I was about to fall?"

Xander shot him a cold look, and Oliver shut up.

Melanie tugged on her clothes and stood by the side. She lowered her eyes and did not say anything

Xander had caught her off-guard, so her tone was subconsciously wary.

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She wanted to apologize to Xander, but he suddenly reached out his slender hand to her.

His voice was low. "There are still no lights on the road ahead. You can hold onto my sleeve."

“Okay,” Melanie mumbled and tugged on his sleeve.

Reny tactfully shut her mouth and swallowed the words she was about to say.

“Heh, that punk is pretty considerate.” Simon leaned against his sports car. He lit a cigarette. in his hand and looked at the departing crowd mischievously.

He then turned to look at the expressionless Eugene beside him. His gaze moved down to Eugene’s hand, still wrapped in bandages. “After what happened to your hand, why are you still working with them?”

Eugene’s expression was cold, and there was an unreadable emotion in his eyes. “Blue Inc and Burning Star are both LeapCo’s best business partners at the moment.”

Simon raised his eyebrows. “Whatever, suit yourself. I could never understand your businesspeople anyway.”

Eugene’s hand was injured, and the bandage was faintly visible under his sleeve. Anyone with a keen eye could have spotted it.

He looked down at the back of his hand and pressed his lips into a line.

Blue Inc’s annual gala was very grand. They had invited many big shots in the industry.

As soon as Xander and the others entered the hall, other quests approached them to chat. They talked about work, so Melanie could not interrupt.

She decided to look for Cameron instead.

Cameron was also in charge of the project under Blue Inc. When she found him, Cameron was chatting with a middle-aged man.

Melanie adjusted her expression and stepped forward. "Good evening, Mr. Crane."

Cameron smiled back. "Melanie! I was worried you weren't coming."

After they exchanged pleasantries, Melanie looked at the middle-aged man next to Cameron. "And this is?"

"This is a manager at Blue Inc, Wagner. He's in charge of publicity." Cameron added, "Wagner has been liaising with LeapCo recently. Speaking of which, the two of you should have had a chance to work together."

Melanie smiled. "We'll have a chance to cooperate in the future."

Wagner frowned. "You used to work at LeapCo?"

Melanie nodded.

Wagner looked at her meaningfully and said, "That's good. Your boss is here too, so you can catch up with him."

Melanie's expression froze as she heard Wagner say, "Mr. Scott, pardon me for not coming

out to meet you."

Eugene's cold and slightly deep voice held no emotion. "Did you mention me just now, Mr. Wagner?"

Wagner said, "I was just talking to a former LeapCo employee, so your name came to mind." Melanie did not look up, but she could feel Eugene's slightly mocking gaze on her head.

She pursed her lips and slowly raised her eyes.

Why should she hide? She used to work for LeapCo. It was a fact.

Eugene raised his chin slightly. The bright light above his head added a cold and distant feeling to his already outstanding facial features.

A moment later, he snorted coldly. "By LeapCo's former employee, do you mean the one we fired?"

Melanie had to force herself to keep her expression level. The corners of her lips curled up, and she mimicked Eugene's cold mockery. "After all I did for LeapCo, is that all you can say about me, Mr. Scott?"

She looked at Eugene and said in a steady voice, "You're as ruthless as they say."

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Melanie's face was calm, but her eyes were cold. Anyone could tell that there was bad blood between her and Eugene.

Cameron studied both of their faces. "Come on, we're all friends. What are you saying?"

Melanie's lips curled up slightly as she said naturally, "I'm just praising Mr. Scott. Everyone in Jepton's finance industry knows how influential LeapCo has been in recent years. Isn't this all thanks to Mr. Scott's ruthless and decisive leadership?"

After saying that, she took a cocktail from the waiter's tray and took a sip. No matter how they looked at her, her expression looked very sincere.

Cameron laughed and tried to change the topic. His eyes fell on the back of Eugene's bandaged hand. "What happened to your hand, Mr. Scott?"

The look of nonchalance on Melanie's face wavered. She glanced subtly at Eugene's hand too.

She had seen the wound that day and knew how deep it was.

As Melanie pursed her lips slightly, Eugene said emotionlessly, "I was injured when I went to the construction site."

"That's terrible! Any site that can't even guarantee the people's safety is surely doomed to fail," Wagner chipped in.

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Melanie's eyebrows moved slightly. She paused for a moment and raised her eyelashes, but she was caught off guard when she met Eugene's gaze.

There was a layer of mist in Eugene's dark eyes, and his thin lips were pressed thin. He looked down at Melanie and did not hold back his majestic aura.

Melanie's heart skipped a beat.

Eugene's injury at the construction site could be a big deal or a minor one. It would be fine if he did not pursue the matter, but if he did, Blue Inc would probably be the first to withdraw from the deal.

Therefore, that was why Melanie's first reaction on the day of the incident was to lower her head and promise Eugene that she would give him any reasonable compensation.

After a moment of silence, Eugene laughed mockingly. "You're right. That site is-"

Before he could finish his sentence, his phone suddenly rang.

Eugene picked up the phone expressionlessly and then frowned slightly. The next second, he said lightly, "Ask Simon to bring you over."

He hung up the phone. His expression was the same as before, but Melanie saw a coldness in his eyes.

Fortunately, they did not continue the previous topic. Eugene lowered his gaze and looked at his phone. Cameron changed the topic, discussing a new project series that had recently been released instead.

Melanie would add a few sentences from time to time, relaxing and enjoying herself.

When Simon arrived with Viola, Melanie realized why Eugene's face had gone cold.

He was probably worried that Viola would see her with him and get upset.

Melanie knew when she was not wanted. She said goodbye to Cameron and walked to the other side.

Viola saw Melanie's back as she approached Eugene.

Melanie was tall, beautiful, and capable, so she stood out wherever she went. She even managed to pull off her purple outfit, making it look smart and professional.

Viola looked at Simon. "Why is Melanie here?"

"She's here with Xander. Their crappy little studio has a deal with LeapCo and Blue Inc, don't they?"

Although Simon was not involved in business, he was more well-informed than anyone else in the industry.

Viola nodded, her fringe falling over her eyes.

Simon led her to Eugene's side and patted Eugene's arm casually. "Viola specially came from the north to see you. Come on, what's wrong with you? Shouldn't you have picked her up?" Eugene said, "I'm too busy for that."

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Viola did not say anything. At first, she had no idea that Eugene would be coming to the dinner party today. She only heard about it by accident from Lee.

She did not understand what Eugene meant by this, so she had asked Simon tentatively. Simon had asked her to come straight over.

In truth, though, she felt a little embarrassed.

Eugene had not told her that he was attending the banquet, so she had to come over by herself.

However, when she thought about how indifferent Eugene usually was anyway, she could only swallow her displeasure.

Simon smirked and patted Eugene's arm. "I think you're just being lazy. You didn't have to bring a plus one, but you have a girlfriend, you know. Or have you forgotten?"

Eugene looked up at him and said in a low voice, "You seem to remember better than I did." Viola interrupted softly, "Eugene, don't blame Simon. I wanted to come here myself. If I'm getting in your way, I can go back now."

Simon clicked his tongue. "Eugene, what is the point of this? She's just a little girl. Are you going to chase her away? The poor thing!"

There was no emotion on Eugene's expressionless face. His voice was extremely calm. "I never said I was chasing her away."

Viola blinked. "Can I follow you tonight, then?"

"Sure."

Simon did not stay here for long. He probably had an ulterior motive for coming to a banquet

like this.

Viola followed Eugene obediently.

When he saw them, Cameron teased, "Your girlfriend is so considerate, Mr. Scott."

Viola smiled and said casually, "I'm not his girlfriend now. I'm his secretary. You can call me Viola."

Her tone was playfully miffed, as if she were hoping for Eugene to reassure her.

Cameron laughed. "Mr. Scott, your little secretary is mad at you. It's your fault for not bringing her along!"

Eugene paused for a moment and glanced at Viola with his dark eyes. Then he looked away and asked Cameron casually, "I heard that Blue Inc has been reaching out to Fount City's financial scene lately. Is it true?"

Cameron paused. "You're a little too well-informed, "Mr. Scott. Unfortunately, I'm not in charge of this matter. You'll have to ask Wagner."

Wagner was also tactful, saying carefully, "In business, it's normal to have a few more friends. I think you can see where I'm coming from, right, "Mr. Scott?"

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Eugene lowered his gaze. "Naturally."

Unexpectedly, as soon as he said that, Viola frowned and intervened. "Are you talking about making friends or looking for new partners, Mr. Wagner?"

She had just graduated and still looked like a little girl. When she pretended to be innocent, she could easily catch people off guard.

Viola thought about Melanie's back when she had left. Melanie looked aloof and self-assured, as if victory were in her hands already.

If Melanie could do it, why couldn't she?

She raised her face and imitated Melanie's calm expression. Looking at Wagner, she asked, "Isn't integrity the most important thing in a business deal? You can't blame us for having doubts when you've been reaching out to our Fount City competitors behind LeapCo's back." She thought Wagner would be flustered and embarrassed. However, he simply looked cross. Viola opened her mouth to say more, but then Wagner interrupted her in his cold, deep voice. "If you want to know more about Blue Inc's relationship with Fount City, why didn't you ask me yourself? Why is your secretary interrogating me instead?"

He snorted coldly and said, "LeapCo and Blue Inc are working together for now, but that doesn't mean we can't find another partner. I was hesitant at first, but it seems you already doubt me, Mr. Scott. In that case, I think Blue Inc will have to reconsider any future collaborations very carefully. After all, mutual trust is the foundation of any cooperative

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With that, Wagner stormed off.

Cameron wanted to smooth things over, but he did not know what to say as he watched

Wagner leave. He could only rush off after a few hasty apologies.

Viola was a little dumbfounded by the sudden turn of events, then her confusion was replaced with panic. She subconsciously looked up at Eugene and said, her tone hurt, "Pugme, did I say something wrong just now?"

Eugene did not show much emotion. Wagner's reaction was not too surprising

He had probably reached out to Fount City behind their backs long ago. After Viola directly exposed him just now, he stormed off in anger and humiliation.

Viola's eyes began to redden. Eugene had not answered her, so she was even more afraid of his reaction. She could not help but reach out and grab the hem of Eugene's shirt.

She muttered softly, "I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said that just now. I—I just thought

However, she could not finish that sentence.

What did she think?

She thought she could do whatever Melanie could do. She thought she could even do better

Eugene looked up and said in a low voice, "There's dessert over there. Get some cakes and best for a while."

Viola's eyes lit up. "Eugene, you're not mad at me?"

Eugene paused. "I'm not."

Viola laughed. She stood on her tiptoes to kiss Eugene, but Eugene happened to turn his head away, so her lips brushed against his chin.

Eugene's expression did not change. "Go and rest."

Viola was in a much better mood when she turned to leave. Instinctively, she scanned the room for Melanie.

However, she accidentally bumped into someone before she could find Melanie

The strong scent of cologne wafted from the man's body. Taken aback, Viola started to apologize. "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to bump into you."

Mason Gray adjusted his glasses. He studied the girl in front of him with the air of a gentleman. "No, I'm the one who should've looked where I was going. I didn't hurt you, did

The voice was warm and kind. Viola looked up and saw a handsome and refined face

Mason's eyes lit up the moment he saw Viola's pretty face. He cleared his throat, and his voice grew gentler. "Are you all right? Did I hurt you?"

Viola covered her arm and took two steps away from Mason, eyeing him warily "Tutune

"My name is Mason Gray. I'm the general manager of Rockwater" Mason handed her a

business card and said gently, "If you find any lasting damage or side effects in the future, you can reach out to me anytime."

He was clearly chatting her up. Hesitantly, Viola accepted the business card.

She vaguely recalled hearing the name Rockwater before. It was also a financial company.

Mason stood there and watched Viola leave. He took his time taking off his glasses and playing with them for a moment before putting them back on.

Immediately, his expression became refined and elegant again.

When Melanie found Xander and the others, they were chatting with a big shot in the industry.

Xander listened to the big shot's advice patiently and humbly.

Melanie did not disturb them. She found a place to sit by the side.

Xander was an interesting person. He was a creative wonder with extraordinary insight, but his talent never went to his head. Instead, he was always humble and willing to learn.

Melanie had seen him on the phone with his teacher before. His tone was filled with humility, and sincerity.

Moreover, he always worked very hard.

Melanie had mentioned to Yvonne in private that people like Xander were the most dangerous as rivals. He never grew arrogant or rested on his laurels. His mentality was always the same.

Xander quickly noticed Melanie by the side. After bidding goodbye to the big shot, he approached her. "Why are you sitting here?"

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The corner was a little isolated, and the lighting was dim.

Melanie said, "I stood for a bit too long just now. I'll just take a break and wait for you here." Xander nodded. "We'll head back after a while."

Melanie smiled and agreed, but when Xander went back to the crowd, Melanie felt as if someone was watching her. She frowned and glanced back.

There was no one there.

Twenty minutes later, Xander and the others ended their conversation with the big shot. Now, they were doing a lucky draw on stage. Before entering the venue, every guest had each drawn a number at the entrance.

A few lots later, Oliver was the only one in their group who won anything. He had won third-tier prize, a collection of award-winning essays.

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Rainie's eyes burned at the sight of the book. "You don't like these things anyway. Why don't you give them to me?"

Oliver smiled slyly. "Are you sure you can even read?"

"Boss, Melanie! Did you hear that? Oliver said I'm illiterate!"

Melanie and Xander watched the two of them bicker. They were smart enough not to say anything and slowly walked towards the exit.

"Miss Smith." A figure suddenly appeared in front of them. Mason stood in front of Melanie, dressed in a fancy suit and leather shoes. He gave her a friendly smile. "I heard that you're no longer working at LeapCo?"

"That's right." Melanie's attitude was polite but distant.

Mason leaned over. "Then have you considered coming to Rockwater? Everyone in our company would be delighted to have you.

Melanie did not even want to look at him now. She walked past him and left. "No, thank you." A few steps away from her, Reny was curious. She rarely saw Melanie give anyone such an attitude. The last one had been Quentin Emerson from Vanke.

She asked Melanie, “Who was that person just now?”

Melanie said, “A despicable man. You should stay away from him.”

Mason was the general manager of Rockwater, LeapCo’s former adversary. In the beginning, when Rockwater had been on the rise, they had laid quite a few traps for LeapCo to try and trip them up.

Even Melanie had suffered quite a bit at Rockwater’s hands.

The company used underhanded methods, sneaking around like rats in the gutter.

Business was all about strategy and tactics, but no one wanted to work with lowlife schemers. Melanie would never be able to work with people like them again.

She would not touch them with a ten-foot pole, even for a collaboration.

Reny had wanted to hear more tea, but she did not press the matter when she saw that Melanie was not keen to continue the subject.

She looked back again just in time to see Viola walking toward Mason.

Viola hesitated for a second. She had just seen Mason and Melanie talking.

Mason noticed her first and smiled. “What’s wrong? Are you feeling unwell?”

Viola said, “You know Melanie? I just saw you talking to her. She and I are friends, so I came by to ask.”

A glint flashed across Mason’s eyes, but he quickly concealed it.

He put on a look of loneliness and heartbreak. "Do you know Melanie? She and I used to work together. I heard that she's no longer at LeapCo, so I wanted to invite her to join my company.

"However, she turned me down. And-".

Mason sighed. "She said she looked down on a small company like mine. She said we had no future."

Viola was surprised. "No way!"

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Melanie did not think much of the brief encounter with Mason.

She had just taken over Burning Star's business department and was swamped with work every day.

Burning Star was already quite famous overseas. Coupled with the fact that they had worked with the department and Blue Inc as soon as they returned to Jepton, many people wanted to work with the studio. Melanie had been busy dealing with their various proposals.

Eugene still had not made LeapCo's stance clear. Xander took Terence off the job and put Oliver in charge of the location instead.

When the project officially started, Melanie went to the site with Oliver because she needed to take some photos as well.

Oliver sighed along the way. "Boss said that Terence will probably be fired this time. A safety incident is no joke."

They had installed surveillance cameras at the construction site to watch out for theft, and the cameras caught Eugene's accident clear as day. It was undeniably Terence's fault.

Melanie was not particularly perturbed by the news. Burning Star was a design company, after all. No one would work with them if they could not guarantee the safety of the construction site.

Moreover, she still remembered how dangerous it was that day.

If it were not for Eugene, the collapsed plaster strips would have all fallen on her. She would have suffered much more grievous injuries than the wound on Eugene's hand-

Xander acted quickly. After Melanie finished taking photos and returned to the office, she saw that Terence had already packed up his things and left.

Melanie frowned. "Have you fired him already? What about the company's designs that he's in charge of? Won't there be a problem?"

Design leaks were the worst possible thing that could happen to a creative company. Melanie was not familiar with Terence and did not know what his personality was like. She had only heard Oliver mention that Terence had been recruited. However, he was usually quite boring and did not like to hang out with the others. He preferred to go to the construction site whenever possible instead.

Xander said, "Our initial contract with him covered the issues with safety. He was the one who broke the terms first."

Since Xander said so, Melanie felt a little more assured. She nodded. "As long as it's taken care of, I wouldn't want anything untoward to come out of this."

Xander's eyebrows relaxed. He looked down at Melanie's tense face and suddenly said, "Why do I feel like keeping you here is a waste of your talent?"

Melanie raised her gaze and said seriously, "I should be the one thanking you guys for being willing to accept me even though I don't know anything. You taught me a lot."

Xander was slightly taken aback when he heard Melanie's serious tone. After a while, he could

not hide the smile in his eyes. He suppressed a low laugh in his throat. "Alright, then I'll live up to your expectations, my strongest recruit. I will work hard to expand the studio so that you won't be poached by others."

Originally, Melanie had only wanted to warn Xander of the consequences of firing Terence so quickly, but she did not expect her worries to come true.

On Wednesday morning, not long after Oliver left the office, he called Xander. His tone was troubled. "Boss, some people from LeapCo are here. They said that we broke the terms of agreement. They're making a fuss about terminating the contract and asking us to compensate them."

At that moment, Melanie and Xander were discussing something. When she heard Oliver's words, she frowned. "Why would LeapCo say that at a time like this

Xander's expression darkened. "Let's go take a look first."

It would not be good for Burning Star if LeapCo asked to dissolve the partnership at this point.

It might even cause the other companies that were interested in cooperating withdraw.

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Melanie did not say anything on the way over. She kept thinking about how to talk to Eugene. However, when they arrived at the scene, they realized that Eugene was not there at all. It was Viola.

Terence was beside her. His usually dull expression looked even more wooden than usual. When he saw Xander approaching him, he subconsciously avoided Xander's gaze.

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Oliver walked over and said in a low voice, "She won't let us start the construction. She said. that the problem with our safety standards hasn't been resolved yet. We have to give her an explanation."

Melanie raised her eyes to Viola, who happened to be looking back at her. There was a smile on Viola's lips as if she was pleased with herself.

Melanie thought for a moment and then looked at Terence, who was behind Viola. "You sought her out?"

Terence's face was ashen. "I just wanted to go to LeapCo and apologize to Mr. Scott. I was hoping he'd forgive me, then I wouldn't have to leave Burning Star."

"Melanie, listen to yourself. It's a fact that Eugene was injured here. You can't just pretend that nothing happened, right?"

Viola raised her voice at the end of her question. She lifted her chin and made a shoddy imitation of Eugene's superior attitude.

Viola was feeling a little smug right now. After all, if Melanie wanted to go through with the collaboration now, she would have to bow down to her.

A hint of mockery flashed across Viola's eyes. She recalled what Mason had said the other day. In her mind, Melanie was just pretending to be capable and aloof, but she was actually doing all sorts of nasty things behind his back.

No wonder Eugene had dumped her.

Viola pursed her lips and said, "When you were at LeapCo, you used to say that anyone who can't even take responsibility for their mistakes has no right to work here."

She curled her lips and looked at Melanie gloatingly. "Do you remember, Melanie?"

Melanie understood. Viola was not holding a grudge against Burning Star. She was targeting

her.

Her expression did not change. “We said we’d take responsibility for what happened to Mr. Scott. We’ll agree to any reasonable compensation.”

“In that case, I think that canceling the cooperation is the most reasonable course of action. After all, you can’t even guarantee our safety. What will you mess up next?”

Viola’s tone was full of disdain. Melanie and Xander looked at each other.

Xander said calmly, “I can terminate the contract, but I don’t think you can make the final decision on this matter, can you? Maybe I should contact Mr. Scott now and we can discuss this problem together.”

Viola’s expression shifted slightly. Eugene had no idea that she was here. She had swapped her role with Lee’s today completely on her own accord.

Xander knew what was going on just by looking at her expression. He smirked, and his cold, black eyes were filled with contempt. His voice was very calm as he said, “Although Burning Star is just a small studio, we won’t let an incompetent secretary singlehandedly terminate our contracts. I’m amazed at LeapCo’s business practices.”

“You”

Viola had not expected Xander to interrupt. She had only wanted to take the opportunity to humiliate Melanie.

Melanie watched Viola storm away and looked thoughtfully at Xander. “I didn’t know you had such a sharp tongue.”

“I was just telling the truth,” Xander said casually.

After saying that, he looked at Terence, who was still standing there in a daze, and said, indifferently, “Are you unhappy with my decision?”

Terence's face was pale as a sheet. "No, I just thought it would be nice if I could apologize to Mr. Scott. I didn't expect to meet her instead."

'But you still told her everything," Oliver pointed out coldly. "You knew that Viola had a grudge against Melanie. Were you using this opportunity to get your revenge on us?"

As soon as Oliver finished speaking, something flickered in Melanie's eyes.

Even Oliver knew that Viola was targeting her. Now that she had finally seized the opportunity, would she let it go so easily?

Melanie looked up and said, "I'm going to go to LeapCo."

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Melanie frowned and said, "It wasn't easy for Viola to get some leverage over on me. She won't give up so easily. Instead of letting her cause trouble for no reason, why don't we lay the situation out for ourselves and talk to Eugene first?"

Oliver agreed. "We should seize the initiative from her before she stabs us in the back again." Xander did not say anything. His eyes were lowered as if he was thinking about something. Melanie thought for a moment and said softly, "If we can't reach an agreement, I'll come back.

Xander looked up and said in a low voice, "Call me if you need anything."

Xander had an appointment with someone today. He did not stay long before he was called away. Meanwhile, Melanie told Oliver to take care of things and took a taxi to LeapCo.

She knew in her heart that no matter what the outcome was, they needed Eugene to put his foot down and come to a conclusion. Otherwise, the incident with Viola today would probably happen again.

When Melanie arrived at LeapCo, she bumped into Yana in the elevator. Yana was surprised to see her. "Melanie, why are you here?"

It was obvious that something was up. Melanie asked, "What's wrong?"

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"Mr. Scott's mother is at the office. For some reason, Viola is late today. She just caught her and now she's berating her upstairs. Mr. Scott has something on, so he's not at the office right now. No one dares to go upstairs."

Yana sounded pleased when she said that. Melanie's eyebrows twitched. It seemed that Viola's visit to Burning Star really was her own idea.

If Stella was there, though, there was no need for her to go up. After all, she never had a pleasant time whenever she met up with Stella.

Unfortunately for her, Melanie bumped into Stella and Viola the moment the elevator door opened.

Stella's makeup was majestic as usual, but there was an obvious dark cloud in her expression. Viola stood behind her, looking defeated and timid.

Stella did not expect the elevator to open so suddenly. She frowned and looked over. When she saw Melanie, the anger on her face intensified.

Her voice was sharp as she asked, "What are you doing at LeapCo again?"

Yana tugged at Melanie's clothes awkwardly. Then, she took her documents and slipped away. Melanie was unfazed by Stella's anger. She had seen Stella like this too many times.

Her voice was cold. "I'm here to talk about work."

“What work do you have to talk about?” Stella sneered and raised her eyebrows, her face full of contempt. “I heard that you’re working with Xander Solomon and setting up a small studio now! Are you begging people everywhere for business every day?”

“Melanie, look carefully. This is your natural place in life. Don’t get ideas above your station. A peasant like you will never reach our level!”

Melanie looked at Stella in silence. Stella was always insulting her like that, calling a peasant or a broke bumpkin. In a way, she was not very creative with her insults.

Melanie said nothing. Arguing with Stella was a very unwise thing to do. It would only be a waste of time.

Viola’s face was pale when she saw how calm Melanie was. She had this burning urge to trip her up. “Melanie, if I remember correctly, you don’t have an appointment, right? Not everyone can enter Mr. Scott’s office at will.”

She had thought that Stella would be on her side at this point. Stella detested Melanie, after all.

However, Stella turned around coldly when she heard her words. “And what are you pretending for? Not everyone can enter Eugene’s office, huh? Are you saying I have to report to you when I visit my son?”

Melanie frowned and said, “It wasn’t easy for Viola to get some leverage over on me. She won’t give up so easily. Instead of letting her cause trouble for no reason, why don’t we lay the situation out for ourselves and talk to Eugene first?”

Oliver agreed. “We should seize the initiative from her before she stabs us in the back again.” Xander did not say anything. His eyes were lowered as if he was thinking about something. Melanie thought for a moment and said softly, “If we can’t reach an agreement, I’ll come back.

Xander looked up and said in a low voice, “Call me if you need anything.”

Xander had an appointment with someone today. He did not stay long before he was called away. Meanwhile, Melanie told Oliver to take care of things and took a taxi to LeapCo.

She knew in her heart that no matter what the outcome was, they needed Eugene to put his foot down and come to a conclusion. Otherwise, the incident with Viola today would probably happen again.

When Melanie arrived at LeapCo, she bumped into Yana in the elevator. Yana was surprised to see her. "Melanie, why are you here?"

It was obvious that something was up. Melanie asked, "What's wrong?"

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"Mr. Scott's mother is at the office. For some reason, Viola is late today. She just caught her and now she's berating her upstairs. Mr. Scott has something on, so he's not at the office right now. No one dares to go upstairs."

Yana sounded pleased when she said that. Melanie's eyebrows twitched. It seemed that Viola's visit to Burning Star really was her own idea.

If Stella was there, though, there was no need for her to go up. After all, she never had a pleasant time whenever she met up with Stella.

Unfortunately for her, Melanie bumped into Stella and Viola the moment the elevator door opened.

Stella's makeup was majestic as usual, but there was an obvious dark cloud in her expression. Viola stood behind her, looking defeated and timid.

Stella did not expect the elevator to open so suddenly. She frowned and looked over. When she saw Melanie, the anger on her face intensified.

Her voice was sharp as she asked, "What are you doing at LeapCo again?"

Yana tugged at Melanie's clothes awkwardly. Then, she took her documents and slipped away. Melanie was unfazed by Stella's anger. She had seen Stella like this too many times.

Her voice was cold. "I'm here to talk about work."

"What work do you have to talk about?" Stella sneered and raised her eyebrows, her face full of contempt. "I heard that you're working with Xander Solomon and setting up a small studio now! Are you begging people everywhere for business every day?"

"Melanie, look carefully. This is your natural place in life. Don't get ideas above your station. A peasant like you will never reach our level!"

Melanie looked at Stella in silence. Stella was always insulting her like that, calling a peasant or a broke bumpkin. In a way, she was not very creative with her insults.

Melanie said nothing. Arguing with Stella was a very unwise thing to do. It would only be a waste of time.

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