

### **Never Say 331**

Confronted with the prospect of familial discipline, Minnie's countenance shifted and her earlier arrogance waned.

"I'm. I apologize, Miss Moore. Purchasing the paper was my error...

I only realized it too late, causing you undue inconvenience."

Tears welled up in Minnie's eyes as she convey her apologies to Hannah.

"I genuinely understand my mistake now and I pledge it won't be repeated. Please, Miss Moore, grant me your forgiveness this time."

Sensing the evolving atmosphere, the dean tactfully stepped forward, suggesting, "If Miss Moore remains dissatisfied, our institution could still issue a formal reprimand. How do you feel about that?"

"That won't be necessary," Hannah responded, mindful of Minnie's student status. She softened her stance.

"Given that she's still a student, a formal reprimand might not be in her best interest."

The dean breathed a sigh of relief, only to have Bryson's voice resound once more.

"As a senior faculty member within the institution, partaking in plagiarizing, I am curious about the institution's intended course of action in this matter."

### **Angela's Library**

The dean, attempting to deflect the situation, found himself taken aback by Bryson's unwavering resolve.

With deep respect, he assured Bryson, "Rest assured, our institution will address this issue with the utmost equity and gravity. You and Miss Moore shall receive a thoroughly satisfactory resolution."

As they exited the dean's office, Melina's tone held an uncharacteristic gentleness as she addressed Hannah.

"Miss Moore, I want to express my profound gratitude for your understanding in this matter. I had no inkling that Minnie would engage in such behavior at school. My words were somewhat rash."

Melina appeared remorseful.

"I owe you a heartfelt apology for this situation and I genuinely hope it won't strain our relationship."

Ultimately, Melina chose to maintain a low profile.

Hannah, not one to hold lasting grudges, responded, "It's quite alright. She is still young. It's just a matter of offering her guidance."

"I completely comprehend. When I return home, I'll be sure to clarify this to my parents," Melina promised.

Melina then turned her gaze to Bryson, who stood beside Hannah, and implored, "Bryson, I hope today's incident won't cast a shadow on the relationship between our two families. Miss Moore, as a gesture of my apology, may I extend an invitation to you and Bryson to dine at the Mellow Beehive?"

Hannah contemplated declining but Bryson spoke first.

"It's unnecessary and would be inconvenient."

With that, Bryson turned away, leading Hannah with him.

Melina lingered behind, her LV bag bearing the indentations of her clenched nails, her eyes growing noticeably colder.