

Love OT 81

Chapter 81 An Unwanted Coincidence

When he heard that, Hanson was lost in his musing. After a while, he finally asked, “Do you think I need that?”

Oops, wrong guess. He immediately said his good words, “President Luke, you’re an outstanding person with overflowing talents and a mind untrammelled by conventions. Not only are you handsome—”

“Get out,” Hanson cut him off before he was able to finish his words. “Bring these clothes with you as well.”

“Understood.”

Now that he was alone in the office, Hanson stood in front of the mirror and was absorbed in his thoughts. Does Vania really fancy this kind of outfit?

On second thought, he questioned himself for caring about what she liked. Why should I be concerned? We’re meeting for business purposes only. That’s it.

At a private restaurant.

Moments after Hanson arrived, and before he could even take a seat, Vania had also arrived. She smiled as soon as she noticed him. “You’re early.”

“I have just arrived,” he replied while pulling out the chair for her. “I have ordered the dishes beforehand according to your taste. Take a look and order more as you like.”

She reciprocated with a smile. Since when did he know about her taste? All they had was a meal together once.

As she looked through the menu, she heard him questioning, “Are you all better now? If there’s anything you need, feel free to tell me.”

“I’m much better now. The doctor said all I need is rest.”

Hanson nodded, but he felt her unwillingness to continue the topic with him. It might be because of Melanie, he presumed.

With that in mind, he veered into a different topic, saying, “I’ve seen your designs. One is for the cooperation between Galaxy Corporation and us, and the other one is Master Mia’s work. Any ideas regarding the promotion?”

Vania already came up with a plan for this. “I suggest holding an audition to select an endorser before proceeding with the shooting for advertisements. I believe that advertising is your zone, so it’s just a suggestion. If you have a better proposal, that would be the best.”

He nodded in response. "Sure. It's your call. Please have your assistant send me the materials by then."

She nodded. "Okay. As for the advertisement designs this time, I've already asked someone to get in contact with Mr. Wright."

Mr. Wright was a renowned advertising designer in the country who suddenly emerged in the industry five years ago. He did graphic designing for advertisements in various fields, and every single work of his could break the records in marketing. However, he rarely worked on anything for the past two years.

To have Vania associated with such a figure was beyond Hanson's projection. More so, she sounded confident.

She gave a slight bow. "Excuse me, I need to use the restroom."

"Alright."

She rose from her seat. Before she could even make her way to the restroom, a surprised voice came from behind her. "Vania?"

The voice couldn't be more familiar. She could guess who it was without the need of turning her head around.

What a fate to bump into you here.

Vania had no intention to stop. At the same time, as Melanie and her family were enjoying their meal there, Josie came over and blocked Vania's way as soon as she saw Vania.

"Look who's here. It is you, Vania. Here I thought I was mistaken. What a coincidence; I'm having a meal with your father and your sister. Come and join us."

Vania felt her stomach twisting in disgust when she saw Josie's pretentious smile and glared at Josie sarcastically. "Since when did I have a sister? Move, don't block my way."

However, Josie would never leave without achieving her motive. Therefore, she feigned innocence. "Vania, how could you speak to me like that? I'm your mother after all. Besides, I'm just inviting you to join us for a meal. What's with the hostility?"

Chapter 82 The Argument

Josie deliberately said it out loud. Firstly, she needed to make sure that George heard Vania being unreasonable, and secondly, she wanted to embarrass Vania in front of everyone.

Sure enough, after hearing her words, many people cast their eyes on them as if waiting for them to put on a show.

At that moment, Vania only felt that it would be demeaning for her to argue with a shrew like Josie in public. So, she raised her piercing eyes lazily and said coldly, "Get out of my way."

But Josie didn't plan to give in at all as she continued, "Vania, I know you're upset, but it's been five years since you've left. You should at least greet us when you see your father and me now, isn't that right? How could you be so rude? Besides, I have sincerely invited you to come and join us for dinner."

“You’re still not getting out of my way, are you?”

Vania’s cold look made Josie panic a little, but she just bit the bullet and continued pestering her. “It’s alright if you don’t care about us after all these years, but what about your father? Don’t you care about him?”

After Josie had finished prattling, Vania stepped forward and growled, “I realized that you really don’t seem to understand what I’m saying.”

Then, raising her eyebrows, she ordered, “Security, throw them out. They’re blacklisted from ever dining here again.”

At once, security guards gathered around as they heard her orders.

Upon seeing the situation, Melanie stepped forward angrily. “Who do you think you are? What rights do you have to kick us out? We’re diamond members here, and you don’t have the authority to make us leave. Besides, my mother has invited you to dinner with good intentions. What is wrong with that attitude of yours? You’re being rude and ungrateful.”

Right then, she just wanted to throw the shade on Vania and post it on the internet so that the public could see her being unreasonable.

Vania sneered. “I can’t believe that you still have the guts to step up. Aren’t you afraid that I’ll send you to prison?” I still haven’t settled the matter with you sending someone to set me up with a car crash!

At once, Melanie and Josie’s faces turned pale with fright.

Just as she was about to leave, Vania heard a voice scolding behind her, “Nonsense! How dare you be so arrogant in front of me?”

That voice came from George.

When she saw him appear in front of her, Vania’s eyes became even colder.

“Is this how you should act when you see me? Do you ever think of me as your father? Josie invited you to dinner out of kindness, but look at you now. You’ve let the Greyson Family down. Hurry up, apologize to Josie and your sister at once, and then sit down and dine with us.”

As if she heard a joke, Vania scoffed. “Mr. Greyson, I’m afraid that your memory isn’t working well as you are getting old. I have cut all ties with you five years ago. Right now, you are in no position to speak to me.”

After finishing her words, she said to the security guard beside her, “Why are you still standing here? Throw them out.”

George trembled with anger and shouted, “Vania, don’t you dare!”

“What’s going on?” Just then, Hanson suddenly appeared in the middle of that argument.

He glanced at the group of people with his ice-cold eyes, then stood behind Vania by instinct as if he was protecting her with his body.

When Hanson appeared out of nowhere, Melanie and Josie panicked as they realized that he was actually with Vania.

George also feared him. When Hanson appeared, the arrogant attitude that he had vanished into thin air.

Vania hadn't expected Hanson to come out, so she asked subconsciously, "Why are you here?"

Hanson lowered his head. "I'm worried about you." When speaking to her, he had a gentle tone to his voice, which contrasted with the cold voice just now.

Chapter 83 Vania's Capabilities

Those words sounded different in Melanie's ears.

Since when did Hanson start worrying about other people? Why did it have to be Vania?

Thinking about this, she stepped forward at once and said feebly, "Vania, Mom just wants you to have dinner with us. Why did you have to get those people to make us leave?"

Following her words, Josie chimed in to add fuel to the fire, "She's right, Vania. Have you misunderstood me? We're a family; why did you have to cause such a scene? If I did something wrong, I apologize."

Vania looked at the mother and daughter in front of her, who were echoing each other's words, and felt even more ironic.

"What is it? Saw the person you wanted to meet, so you started acting good? Did I not make myself clear enough just now? I, Vania, cut off my relationship with you five years ago. Besides, my mother died a long time ago, so where did this sister of mine come from? I haven't even settled the issues with you guys, yet you come around looking for trouble over and over again? Who gave you the audacity to do that?"

Initially, they hadn't expected Vania to be so bold with her words now that Hanson was here, but surprisingly, she emitted such a strong aura, especially from her ice-cold eyes. It was so piercing that they didn't dare to look at her.

Seeing their expressions, Vania raised her head proudly and fixed her gaze on Melanie and Josie. "As for what you asked previously, what rights do I have to make you leave, you said? Considering that I am the investor of this restaurant, I own this place. So I can kick anyone out whenever I want to. Do you understand now?"

At once, everyone at the scene, including Hanson, was stunned.

This restaurant was quite well-known in Hammond. Everything in that restaurant was unique, from the interior designs and decorations to the taste of the dishes. It ranked at least in the top ten of all private restaurants. No one had expected Vania to be the investor.

Upon hearing her words, Melanie widened her eyes even more. It was such a sudden slap in the face that her mind went blank.

On the other hand, Josie had been addicted to showing off in the rich wife's social circle all these years; she hadn't paid much attention to what was going on in the outside world. So, she had no idea of Vania's current capabilities.

Even Melanie and George had overlooked Vania's abilities.

Josie asked doubtfully, "You can say anything you want, but where's the evidence?"

Just as she was questioning Vania, the lobby manager suddenly rushed over in a panic.

When he reached them, he first nodded to the crowd, then stood in front of Vania in a disciplined manner. "Ms. Greyson, what happened? I heard the waiter say something about customers who were giving you a hard time?"

Hearing this, Josie froze in place. Is Vania really the owner of this place? When did she become so capable that she could even invest in a private restaurant?

At that moment, in Josie's heart, Vania was still the puppet on strings that she could easily control.

Meanwhile, George's brows were knitted throughout the whole conversation. He stared at his daughter, who seemed very unfamiliar to him. Then, he opened his mouth, and his words came out with a completely different tone, in contrast to earlier. "Vania, let your people go back to doing their work; all this is just a misunderstanding. I haven't seen you in a long while, so let's just sit down for a peaceful meal and let us have a good chat."

Right at that moment, all he could think about was how she could bring benefits to him.

He didn't expect Vania to be so capable now, in addition to being so close with Hanson. And because of that, he softened his tone, hoping that she would be able to help his company.

After all, ever since Vania's mother passed away, his company deteriorated day by day, and he ended up needing to rely on other people's funding to maintain it.

At first, he thought that Melanie could successfully get married to Hanson so that he could keep his company safe in the long run. Alas, what he hadn't expected was how Melanie didn't live up to his expectations and was sent back by Hanson.

Chapter 84 How Can I Still Fall For Him?

Right now, without the support of Luke Corporation, his company had become unstable again.

But it didn't matter. Whether it was Melanie or Vania, they were both his daughters anyway; as long as they could forge a relationship with Hanson, everyone was the same for him.

At that moment, Vania looked at the self-righteous and arrogant man and said without hesitation, "Revoke their membership card and toss them out."

After hearing those brutal words from Vania, Melanie felt like she wanted to step forward and rip out Vania's hair. She retorted through gritted teeth, "Why are you being so outrageous now? You're just trying to make everything personal."

When she was done with her words, Vania gave her the side-eye. "You will have to reach where I'm standing before you qualify to judge my decisions," she said while giving the lobby manager a look.

Upon that, the lobby manager took the hint and made a gesture. Immediately, the bodyguards next to him stepped forward and jostled Melanie and the family out.

After all, Hanson was here, so Melanie didn't dare to lose her temper; she could only hold back her anger.

Meanwhile, in George's heart, he was still thinking about how he could win Hanson over.

Once they were gone, the restaurant was finally at peace again.

With a small smile, she turned to look at Hanson in embarrassment. "I'm sorry you had to see that."

Looking at her expressions, Hanson reached out to smoothen her hair, the corners of his mouth lifting, and said with a pampering tone, "It's alright. As long as you're happy."

When Vania felt his touch, she shrugged unintentionally as she sensed a tingle on her scalp. He really does like to touch my hair.

Under his gaze, she grew shy and lowered her head. "Don't you have anything that you want to ask?" About today's chaotic scene, as well as my relationship with Melanie, it must have made him curious.

But Hanson obviously had no intention to ask questions; instead, he answered patiently, "I still mean what I had said. Anytime when you're ready to tell me, I'll be listening. I've got all the time in the world."

Upon hearing his answer, Vania raised her head in surprise with her mouth agape. She looked deep into his sincere eyes, somewhat feeling shocked.

But verbally, she just politely said, "Thank you."

Then, she pointed her finger to the restroom and smiled helplessly. "I still haven't used the restroom yet. I'll have to trouble you to wait for a bit more."

Hanson reached out gently. "I'll come with you."

"This doesn't seem right, does it?" Vania blurted out without thinking. Does he even know that he would be going to the women's restroom? She blushed, and her body went stiff.

Compared to the image of the strong woman Vania showed the world outside, Hanson preferred this little woman's side of her more.

His lips curled up into a smile. "It's not like I'm going in with you. Why are you so nervous?"

"I..."

When he saw that Vania was struggling to explain, he reached out and gently patted her back. "Go on. The food is going to get cold."

"Alright." Then, dragging her weak body, she entered the women's restroom as fast as she could.

When in the restroom, she stood in front of the mirror, looking at her blushed face in the reflection, and sighed. I can't believe it! I'm already the mother of a child. How can I still fall for him?

She whispered in her heart as she turned on the cold water and let it run over her hands, then patted her face repeatedly with her cold hands. It took a while before she could cool her face down.

By the time she came out of the restroom, she had returned to the calm and composed President Greyson again.

Seeing Hanson standing tall at the entrance, she said, "Let's head back."

Hearing her words, he nodded and walked by her side as they returned.

He chuckled in his heart. How did she change her expressions so quickly?

Chapter 85 The Audition

Crash!

On the other side, Melanie returned to the villa and started smashing the decorative vases in the room angrily. "Argghhh! This is so frustrating!"

Startled by the sudden fuss, Josie quickly stepped forward to stop Melanie, who was going for another vase. "Keep your voice down. You don't want your dad to hear you."

But she was already taken over by her rage. "Who cares whether he hears it or not? Vania was so unreasonable to him, yet he still doesn't say a word about it. He could only pick on me," she fumed through gritted teeth.

At once, Josie stepped up and covered her mouth. "Do you really want your dad to beat you up with a whip too?"

Hearing that, Melanie shut her mouth in fright. She pushed Josie aside, ran to the door, and opened it; she was relieved to see that there was no one in the corridor.

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Then, she turned around and grabbed Josie by the arm. "Mom, what are we going to do now? You heard what Dad said today. Is he planning to forgive Vania?"

"Don't worry, Vania would never bow down with that stubborn temper of hers."

After all, she knew the cause of Vania's mother, Roseanne Jones', death.

When the time came, she only had to disclose this information to Vania, and nothing would be able to make her return to the Greyson Family.

But, the only problem was that Josie had been living under a rock these years. She just hung out and bragged about herself in the rich wife's social circle every single day; she didn't even have a clue about Vania's situation at all. "How did Vania become so capable? To the point where she's able to invest in restaurants?" she questioned in doubt.

Back then, when Vania left the family, she had nothing in her possession. She didn't even go to college. What great things could she do?

Melanie didn't quite understand as well, and she said with jealousy, "She just happens to know a little about design. Who knows what tricks she had used? Now that she has founded a company and also has a collaboration with Hanson, they will be researching and working together these days."

Hearing those words, Josie panicked, and her heart skipped a beat. After all, she didn't know what Vania was truly capable of. "It seems that we will have to do something about their collaboration," she said with a frown.

Still, Melanie didn't quite understand. "Mom, what do you mean by that?"

Josie's gaze turned ruthless. "Isn't she going to collaborate with Hanson now? We merely have to do something to mess up their collaboration. For now, you just have to work hard on your designing skills at home. When the time comes, I'll have my ways."

Seeing Josie's confidence, Melanie nodded. "I'll do whatever you say."

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A few days later, audition news from the Luke Corporation had blown up major media platforms and had been trending on the top list for a while.

A tweet from Luke Corporation read, 'Starting today, we will set up registration booths in Yonda Mall owned by Luke Corporation in every city to select the spokesperson for our Fantasy Daydream Jewelry, The Mysterious Collection.'

'Luke Corporation's audition is trustworthy. It's the only company that doesn't put up with insider dealing.'

'I am very excited about it. The mall here is already full of people.'

'I've signed up. Hope that I can make it.'

'Many A-listers have signed up too. I don't feel like there's hope for me.'

'You don't have to worry. Luke Corporation's auditions have always favored people with no background.'

'It is said that the creativity from this advertisement came from Mr. Wright. It would be fascinating. I hope that the audition will be on the live broadcast.'

Netizens were looking forward to this audition. After all, all the stars and artists who had cooperated with Luke Corporation had become A-listers over the years. Therefore, when such news was released, everyone would do whatever it took to get their names in.

Meanwhile, when Melanie saw the news, she immediately headed to the registration booth. This is my chance.

After a month of going through preliminary selections, she had successfully entered the top 50.

Chapter 86 Mr. Wright's Contact Number

None of the top 50 candidates was a celebrity as all of them were rookies.

According to the Luke Corporation, the 50 candidates would participate in the final evaluation at Hammond International Hotel.

Furthermore, it was officially verified that the advertisement proposal would be prepared by Mr. Wright, who had the final say in selecting the final candidate.

However, the proposal wasn't disclosed beforehand so that the candidates could come up with an ad-lib on the spot. Such a feature undeniably added another appealing point of the event.

As she surfed the internet about the news, Melanie's confidence sank to the bottom of her stomach. She had to claim the rightful place for the endorsement.

Right when she was at her wit's end, there came a message from the private investigator. It was Mr. Wright's contact number.

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She knew the private investigator well and hence trusted the credibility of the information. Her eyes lit up in an instant. With only three days remaining, if she could get on good terms with Mr. Wright, things might turn out differently.

Thrilled, Melanie picked up her phone, attempting to add him on WhatsApp.

Ding!

Never in her wildest dream did she imagine he would accept her friend request at lightning speed.

Her excitement elevated as she did not expect things to turn out that smoothly. She replied immediately, 'Hi, Mr. Wright. I'm Melanie Greyson.'

At Haling Villa was Jack sitting in front of his computer with disdainful eyes. Across the monitor screen, he could already imagine Melanie's coquettish face which made him feel like puking.

Noticing his younger brother was going to send a reply, James stopped Jack. "Hold on, don't reply to her that quickly. Let's string her along."

“You’re right. The more laid we are, the faster her patience will run out. By then, she’ll do as we say.” Jack snapped his fingers. He then hummed a song while closing the chat.

On the other hand, the impatient Melanie frowned as she felt her message had fallen on deaf ears.

It’s been ten plus minutes. Why isn’t he replying?

She kept convincing herself that Mr. Wright might be busy or he just ignored the message, thinking that it was a mere greeting message.

After a moment of hesitation, she decided to go straight to the point with an outspoken text. ‘Sir, I participated in the audition for your advertisement, hoping to receive some advice from you.’

Her heart was palpitating rapidly, unsure of how Mr. Wright would respond.

However, the three little brothers had fallen asleep at that time. Only after sleeping for two hours did they wake up and stretch their bodies before sitting in front of the computer lazily.

Jack smirked. “She’s a rather calm one. She only texted once.”

The placid James piped up, “Not necessarily. We must be careful about this. We can’t let her hurt Mommy.”

Jack waved his hand in response. “You don’t have to worry about that, James. There’s no way she can lay a finger on Mommy.”

In light of his two elder brothers’ capabilities, Jacob wasn’t in the slightest worried at all. While rubbing his eyes, he chimed in, “We mustn’t let her off that easily. She needs to pay the price for her deeds.”

Simultaneously, James and Jack gave an ‘OK’ sign to their little brother, completely understanding what their miserly brother was referring to.

After stalling the time for a while, they finally gave Melanie a terse answer that couldn’t be any shorter.

Mr. Wright replied, ‘OK.’

Despite the long wait, Melanie had been holding her phone as she waited for a reply. Hearing the sound of the notification, she turned on her phone at the drop of a hat, and was on cloud nine to see Mr. Wright’s answer. Without delay, she typed on her keypad to make a reply.

Melanie asked, ‘Sir, can we meet up somewhere?’

Though Mr. Wright had put his name on the map in the advertising industry for many years, no one had actually seen him before. Never once did he make an appearance in public.

Chapter 87 The Naive Melanie

Furthermore, numerous renowned leading figures had tried to invite Mr. Wright, but in vain. Hence, Melanie wasn’t sure if he would agree to meet up, but she guessed it wouldn’t hurt to give it a try.

Reading Melanie’s message, James snorted. Naive.

Nonetheless, Jack was quite nonchalant about it, as if he had seen it coming. He gave a prideful response. 'Don't you know my rules?'

In actuality, Mr. Wright had never formulated any kind of rules since the first day of his career. It was a question that Jack arbitrarily threw at the spur of the moment. Still, the meaning was different in Melanie's eyes.

How would she know that? Moreover, it was her first time dabbling in this field, and it was all because of Hanson.

Being given such a question, she had absolutely zero clue about how to deal with it. She didn't have the audacity to reply at that instant for fear that a wrong answer might ruin her plan. So, she quickly ordered her subordinates to search for it, including herself. However, to her dismay, their research did not come to fruition.

With her brows knitted tightly together, Melanie had no choice but to give a neutral reply. 'My apologies for crossing the line, Sir. I genuinely wish to join the audition and the final result is really important to me. I really hope to get myself shortlisted. Could you please give me some guidance?'

She made another attempt by injecting pathos into the context. Since it was her first interaction with him, she had no knowledge about his likings. Thus, she could only test the water. As long as he responded, she still had a chance.

Melanie presumed that he was no longer busy because he gave a fast reply.

Mr. Wright said, 'Considering your sincerity, it's not that I can't help you.'

Obviously, this wasn't the end of the sentence. There had to be a condition for it. She believed it without a shadow of doubt as this number was found by her subordinate, unlike previously in which she was completely fooled by Vania.

Still, Melanie failed to read Mr. Wright's mind. She didn't know what kind of condition he would come up with.

Trying to elicit empathy again, she sent another text. 'I joined this event for the person I love. He abandoned me for another woman, so I want to prove to him that I can do it as well. Please help me, Sir. I'm willing to do anything as you say.'

The three brothers sat in front of the computer. They gave a snort upon reading her message.

What a conniving woman, catastrophizing her story like the whole world owes her. And she's willing to do anything? She must be joking. What if we tell her to leave the Devil?

An idea seeped into Jacob's mind as he rolled his eyes. 'But it won't be easy to get it since it's my work.'

Melanie's eyes widened in joy as soon as she read the reply. She would be a fool for not understanding the message between the lines. So, she transferred 10 million to him at once.

Nothing could beat money in her eyes. It wouldn't be a problem if money could resolve it. In hindsight, she heaved a sigh of relief after transferring the money, reckoning that she was halfway there to her ultimate goal.

The three brothers chuckled after receiving the transaction.

She's very generous.

On second thought, they would love to see how many times she could offer the same amount of money. Therefore, Jack sounded solemn in his reply. 'You're a smart one. Since fate has brought us together, I'll help you.'

Chapter 88 As Expected From the Woman He Liked

Melanie almost cried tears of joy upon receiving Mr. Wright's answer. If she could get her hands on any useful information, winning the audition would be a no-brainer.

She expressed her gratitude at once. 'Thank you, Sir! Thank you so much!'

She thought she could get some tips immediately, but there was no reply from the other end. Another hour of waiting had passed, yet there was still no response, and it caused her to become distressed. Why isn't he replying after agreeing with it?

She didn't have the guts to rush him, so all she could do was to wait patiently. Since he had given his word to help her, he wouldn't go back on his promise. He must be preoccupied at the moment. Melanie could only convince herself with that.

However, doubts emerged in her as the clock ticked.

Perchance, is it the same as Master Mia's incident? Did Vania fool us again?

Even so, such fleeting thoughts were dismissed by her within seconds, for Vania was oblivious to Melanie's actions this time.

In addition to that, Mr. Wright was from the advertising industry, an industry that didn't have much relation to designing and the field that Vania was working in. Thus, there would be no reason for them to be associated with each other.

Most importantly, it was Melanie's subordinate who acquired his contact number. So, there shouldn't be any problem.

Still, she texted the subordinate nonetheless. 'Is the information reliable?'

The person from the other end soon replied, 'Yes.'

The distraught in her dispelled as soon as she saw the message. Thus, she continued to wait patiently.

Looking at the extra 10 million in their account, the brothers were giddy with jubilation.

Melanie, that silly woman, must be out of her mind for attempting to hurt Mommy.

Deciding to call it a day, they turned off the computer in contentment, whereas Melanie was depressed for not receiving any message from Mr. Wright albeit all the waiting.

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At Galaxy Corporation.

Hanson took the seat opposite Vania, perusing the document from her solemnly. After he had finished reading, she pointed at the content and explained, "This is my idea for the advertisement, and this one is for the audition. Mr. Wright's work will only be disclosed during the shooting day."

The man nodded. "What did Mr. Wright say?"

"Don't worry, I've taken care of it." She was confident with her answer, which surprised Hanson. He didn't expect her to come to an agreement with Mr. Wright that quickly.

Considering that Luke Corporation had never worked with Mr. Wright before, it would be a marvelous work to behold featuring Mia Stravinsky and Mr. Wright, who were both held in high regard by the public.

After taking a close look at Vania's idea, he was deeply impressed. Raising his head to look at her, he never imagined her to be as equally talented in advertisement designing as she was in jewelry designing.

As expected from the woman he liked—she was exceptional.

With eyes focused upon her, he gave her an approving nod. "We'll go with your idea."

On the other hand, Melanie waited another day, but in vain. She became jittery as she received no reply again. Thinking she might bother Mr. Wright, she never texted him again after last night.

However, with only one day remaining, she couldn't help the anxiety. Frowning, she decided to bite the bullet. 'Sir, are you busy?'

Jack, who was skimming through an astronomical article, replied to her perfunctorily, 'Oh.'

That one simple word raised myriads of questions in Melanie's head. What does he mean by that? Didn't we get along well yesterday? Why is he suddenly indifferent?

Chapter 89 Respective Preparations

Melanie said, 'Sir, some guidance please.'

Mr. Wright answered, 'Hm.'

Melanie was puzzled. Since he has already received the money, why is he still refusing to help me? Was the money too little after all? Thinking that, she proceeded to transfer another 10 million over to his account.

Throughout the process, Melanie had been feeling a sense of déjà vu. Why does this remind me of that meeting with Master Mia? The shadows of doubt grew as she thought about the similarities between her meeting with Mia and the current situation.

However, right after she transferred the money, she received a file in reply with a sentence: 'Just prepare yourself according to the file.'

Due to how smooth the entire process was, Melanie—engrossed in excitement—did not notice anything out of the ordinary.

Excitedly, she immediately opened up the file as her confidence in her victory grew sharply.

Melanie's mind was full of images of her victory as well as the scenario of her returning to Hanson's side once more.

Then, she immediately ordered for one of her men to place an order—with express shipping—for the latest limited-edition gold silk dress from CC. The slim-fitting design would perfectly accentuate the beautiful curves of her body. Moreover, the dress looked very much extravagant with all the jewels adorned on it.

Looking at the design, Melanie could already imagine the numerous spotlights that would be on her as she wore the dress, with every single pair of eyes on her during the event. She had planned to pair the dress with her most valuable bejeweled necklace and planned to wear an alluring makeup for the event.

Although it was a luxurious and sophisticated look, the overall outfit would show off her wealth and would cause others to see the outfit as her vulgar behavior as it lacked the mannerism—namely, being low profile—of a newcomer.

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On the same day, in Galaxy Corporation.

"Boss, President Luke is here."

"Let him in." Vania was in the middle of preparing for the final audition later in the afternoon. She had not expected a meeting with Hanson and thought that he had something important to discuss with her. Due to Vania's condition, he was the one coming over to meet her during the period of their collaboration.

With familiarity, Hanson easily made his way in the room and sat on his usual seat on the sofa the moment he entered. As though he was in his own office, he drank the coffee Linda had prepared for him. "Come with me when you're done."

Vania immediately asked, "Where to?"

Hanson avoided the question with a smile and kept her in suspense. "You'll know when you get there."

"Okay." Vania sighed inside her mind. What is this man up to now?

Soon after, Vania finished dealing with her work. The moment she raised her head, she met Hanson's gaze as Hanson continued to sip on his coffee in a composed manner. She then uttered somewhat awkwardly, "Let's go."

Hanson stood up and extended his hand out as a gentleman would. "After you."

Since Vania was still a 23-years-old lady, his actions made her shy as she muttered, "Go die." After taking her bag with her, she did a hair flip before leaving the office.

Hanson watched her from the back and smiled before following the lady with big strides.

When Vania arrived at Hanson's car, she hesitated for a moment before deciding to reach her hand out for the door at the back of the car. However, Hanson noticed her action and immediately piped up, "Are you trying to make me a mere driver?"

Vania turned embarrassed for a moment. Before she could speak up for herself, Hanson opened the passenger door. "Sit in the front." Vania could only brace herself as she went over to him due to his authoritative tone. After watching her sit in the passenger seat, Hanson smiled and got into the car as well.

Inside the car, Vania's gaze wandered while her hand clasped her phone. She was unsure why her heart would race whenever she met Hanson recently. Looks like I'll have to arrange for a medical checkup soon. There's probably something wrong with my heart.

Hanson started the car, but the car showed no indication of being on the road. This, in turn, prompted a confused expression from Vania.

Chapter 90 Seat Belt

Suddenly, Hanson leaned toward Vania. The close distance of his handsome face to Vania surprised her as she turned pale. What is this man up to now?

A thought immediately came to her mind—Hanson was about to kiss her. Looking at her panicked look, Hanson smiled as he intentionally moved closer to her with his gaze fixed on her lips.

"Ah..." Vania yelped as she pressed her hands on his firm chest with her eyes closed out of fear.

It was only when she noticed that there was no movement from Hanson after seconds had passed did she slowly open her eyes. She saw him giggling beside her.

Hanson had not noticed that this was the first time he had ever laughed aloud. Staring at Vania's face, he teased in a flirtatious manner, "Wanted me to kiss you?"

Vania was speechless. With her embarrassment turned into anger, she turned her face away as she looked out of the car window. Who wants a kiss from him? But, why is my heart beating so fast? Her heart was thumping so hard that it felt like it would jump out of her mouth any moment now. Her cheeks tinged with crimson red as they grew hotter by the second.

Hanson was afraid that Vania had gotten mad at his actions. Hence, after a mild laughter of amusement, he returned to his proper behavior. "You're not wearing your seat belt." Saying that, he put her seat belt on for her before returning to his seat.

Currently, Vania felt like finding some hole in the ground to hide inside from the embarrassment she was feeling. He only wanted to put my seat belt on, so why did I think of those things? Looks like I've been watching too many of those idol dramas that I'm starting to have a rich imagination.

Just as Vania was beating herself up in her mind, Hanson quipped flirtatiously, "I wouldn't say no if you insist, though."

Insist, my foot! This geezer is pure evil. It should be clear to him that I am embarrassed right now, yet he still intentionally continued that conversation. Really, that mouth of his is just bad to the bones.

At this point, Vania chose to avoid Hanson's gaze as she looked out the window. She kept quiet and refused to engage with him, for she had thrown every vulgar remark she knew at him... in her mind.

Hanson, on the other hand, was acting like a mischievous brat that had successfully pulled a prank, for he was in a good mood throughout the journey.

After a while, the speedy car came to a stop at a customized entrance.

It was the entrance to a clothing store that housed collections of custom-made orders by major brands. Here, rental of clothing was not an option, and customers would have to make a purchase should they fancy any of the clothing here. To Vania's knowledge, the owner of the store was extremely resourceful and capable, as the owner had managed to obtain unique designs from all the major brands. Every one of the clothing in here was priceless as they were truly one of a kind.

Puzzled, Vania questioned, "Why did you bring me here?"

As though the answer was obvious, Hanson answered, "Obviously, it's to buy some clothing for you." Why else would I bring you to a clothing store?

Vania's jaw dropped at the man's answer as she could not understand what Hanson's motive was. "Why are you suddenly buying clothes for me?"

"Because it would be the dress you're wearing for today's event."

Vania blinked at his answer. "I've already decided what I would be wearing for the event."

However, Hanson did not wish to argue with her on the matter and said in a forceful manner, "Be a good girl and listen to me."

"You..." Before Vania could finish her sentence, Hanson's handsome face came close to hers once more before he threatened, "Are you trying to make me kiss you so that you'll shut up?"

Vania held her tongue instantly. Why is this man being so weird today? Every word from his mouth is borderline obscene today.

Since she had stopped resisting, Hanson triumphantly brought her into the store. When they entered the store, the store manager greeted them with a smile on her face. "Welcome, President Luke."

Hanson nodded as a reply before coming to a stop at the section where the women's dresses were. "Pick a dress for her."

The store manager had been eyeing Vania ever since Vania first stepped foot into the store as she was attracted by Vania's beauty and elegance. Many ideas sprung in the store manager's mind at the image of Hanson right beside Vania.