In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 401

However, she did not share this matter with Kate as she felt that the chances of it happening was slim to none.

Following that, Kate brought up something even more important.

"Your grades are out. All the artistes have been assessed." Kate took out a list and waved it in front of Skylar.

This reminded Skylar of the feeling when her exam results were about to be announced. She was so nervous she felt as though an invisible hand was gripping her heart.

Taking a deep breath, she lifted her gaze to look at Kate.

"You got a C."

The results were far behind her expectations. Even though her grading wouldn't really affect her much while she was here, she was still upset that her grading had dropped rather than increased.

To make matters worse, she did not even know the exact criteria for the grading system.

She took the list full of names and saw that Amelia, another artiste under Kate, was still a grade A.

Heaving a dejected sigh, she muttered, "I'm sorry for letting you down. I was overconfident and thought people regarded me as some kind of national idol just because many of them recognized me on the streets."

"This grading is only temporary. Once this film is released, you'll definitely become a top actress," Kate comforted.

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"But what if I still remain a grade C?" Skylar asked in a small voice.

Kate was never one to mince her words. "Then it means showbiz isn't for you and it's time for a career switch. But honestly, it'd be ridiculous if you still remain a grade C after starring in such a huge film. I mean, just how much does the audience have to hate you for that to happen, right?"

Skylar shrugged, feeling slightly miserable. Despite that, there was still some fight left in her. "I believe that everything is possible as long as I put my mind to it. Besides, I'm already used to being disliked anyway."

Kate just couldn't understand. Skylar obviously has the looks, but why does she lack confidence? Did something happen to her when she was a kid?

It's like she was traumatized and is too afraid to even dream.

Out of compassion, Kate pointed a way out for her. "Or, you can marry Tobias and live as the daughter-in-law of a wealthy family. Do you know how many female celebrities dream about having that kind of life?"

Skylar huffed out a laugh. "This is even more difficult than becoming famous. There's no way he'll marry me."

Kate quipped, "Then get a new man. Easy."

Skylar shook her head in response. "My standards in men have skyrocketed after meeting Tobias. It's impossible for me to date other men because I keep comparing them to him."

Kate thought that Skylar was overthinking it. Although she wasn't that popular, she wasn't lacking in admirers.

She had the feeling that the gradings this time had been tampered with, and only someone from Royal Entertainment's upper management could do something like this.

I wouldn't be surprised if it was Valerie. She's clearly jealous of Skylar for receiving such special care, and wants nothing more than to trample on her dignity.

But then again, Valerie's quite pitiful. She's been quietly guarding Tobias for so many years, but she's probably never even held his hand.

Skylar, on the other hand, has a unique sort of beauty. Logically speaking, she could easily rise to fame by merely showing her face.

Photos of the gathering were posted on social media by the filming crew, and netizens quickly noticed that Skylar wasn't present.

#FussyMissAttentionSeekerAlienatedByCrew

Skylar appeared in the trending searches because of this hashtag by the netizens. Although her name wasn't specified, everyone could guess who it was referring to.

Skylar: Suffered an injury during filming yesterday. Doctor strongly advised to rest.

A brief clarification on her social media helped to keep the backlash to a minimum.

Miss Attention Seeker, huh? How absurd. Just who am I seeking attention from?

Skylar took the doctor's advice very seriously. After Kate left, except for toilet breaks, she did not leave her bed at all.

...

She always checked her phone for messages from Tobias first thing in the morning. Taking out her phone from underneath her pillow, she only saw a single WhatsApp notification.

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 402

Skylar initially thought that it was Tobias checking in as usual. Sometimes when he was busy, he would still send her a short message. Truth be told, Skylar was rather impressed with his consistency.

Upon seeing that it was from Penelope, she tapped to listen to her voice message.

"Skylar, can you lend me some more money? I don't have enough for my prenatal checkup." Penelope asked for money early in the morning.

Skylar sensed something wrong from her voice. Even through the phone, she could feel Penelope's depression.

"Where's Brayden? Hasn't he given you money?" Skylar sent back a voice message.

Penelope's reply only came after a few minutes. "No. He told me to settle it on my own because he's too busy with work lately."

Skylar resented irresponsible men like Brayden who used work as an excuse.

Although Penelope was pregnant with Brayden's child, she wasn't given a proper title. But then again, she insisted on conceiving his child through deception. Thus, she had no one but herself to blame.

According to Brayden's financial standing, it wasn't too far-fetched to say that he could afford to buy the entire hospital, let alone pay for a prenatal checkup. Yet, he was brushing off Penelope.

"How much do you need? I'll transfer the money to you," Skylar replied.

After Penelope informed her of the amount, Skylar immediately wired the money to her. Well before she even started work for the day, a few thousand was already deducted from her bank account.

People often said to help the needy and not the poor. Penelope was both.

After she got pregnant, she stopped working and ruthlessly severed ties with her family. Hence, she had zero income.

Skylar did not expect Penelope to pay her back either. They had been friends for many years, and Penelope had always shared her things with Skylar during their schooling days.

Most importantly, she never minded that Skylar's mother was a murderer. Thus, Skylar saw this as a chance to repay her kindness.

After transferring the money, she chatted a while with Penelope, telling her that she would visit in a few days since the filming crew was given a short break.

By then, it was probably close to Penelope's due date.

Skylar only went to the set in the afternoon to get her makeup done as they were shooting a night scene. Largo came up to show his concern for her as soon as he arrived on the set, asking if she was feeling better.

Skylar had almost forgotten that she was still injured. Upon Largo's question, her mind registered the dull pain in her back which was covered with ointment.

There was no denying that she got lucky this time because she could very well have lost her life.

"I'm feeling much better. Thank you for your concern, Mr. Zeller." As usual, Skylar was polite and respectful toward Largo because this was the best way to keep him at a distance.

Avery, however, did not seem to have any regard for professionalism. Skylar heard the crew members having an animated discussion about Avery getting drunk the previous night and leaving with Largo later on.

Not only that, the two of them seemed to have even stayed in the same room for the entire night.

Needless to say, a man and a woman alone in a confined space while being under the influence of alcohol had everyone's imagination running wild.

Skylar squinted slightly, noticing the faint nail marks on Largo's neck, seemingly left by a woman.

Cassidy made an appearance after changing into her costume. She was so thin that a kite could probably lift her into the sky.

She was clad in a bright yellow tulle dress with a turquoise lining. Her complexion did not look very good even with makeup on. Perhaps it was because of the overly white foundation.

Skylar heard that Cassidy starved herself for the sake of losing weight. Right then, she noticed how the latter swayed on her feet slightly as she walked.

Still, she had many die-hard fans who said that she was the most beautiful girl in the entertainment industry.

Skylar greeted Cassidy warmly, but the latter merely hummed a response and avoided eye contact.

Skylar's outstretched hand hung awkwardly midair, and she did not know if she should withdraw it or hold it there.

A few seconds later, she retracted her hand with pursed lips. By then, Cassidy and her manager had already walked away.

Skylar changed into a flowy white to pink ombre chiffon dress. Its waistline and hemline were adorned with beautiful roses, giving the entire dress a dreamy vibe.

Several crew members were busy sprinkling flower petals all over the ground from an elevated platform. Her first scene that night was a dance scene with Largo.

Thick trees surrounded a wooden cottage. A short distance away was a bridge over a river. The moon was shining brightly that night, its silvery rays illuminating the set.

This scene was absolutely mesmerizing.

The moment Josiah shouted action, Largo placed his hands on Skylar's waist, gazing longingly at her.