

A Spoonful of Sugar: Don't Beg for Love By Oopsie Daisy

Chapter 261

“Ah, good morning.”

Michelle waved toward the camera. She was wearing a fluorescent yellow top with a high ponytail, looking extremely zingy and lively. “Good morning, everyone.”

“I didn’t expect you to wake up so early. Do you even sleep?” the producer admitted with a grin. “If it wasn’t for the organizer’s request, I would still be in my bed at this time!”

Michelle seemed a little embarrassed. “Not really. In fact, I just graduated and I still can’t get rid of my bad habit of sleeping in. It’s just that when I participated in the competition, I adjusted my biological clock so that I could have more time to think. Now I’ve just gotten used to it.”

The two talked for a couple of minutes. The producer was too busy chatting with Michelle to look at the live comments, while Michelle could not see the comment section either, so it was only natural for them to not notice that the comments were getting more and more unpleasant and offensive.

“Uh, although I haven’t watched this show for quite some time, I remember that Hesper was the first to get up today, wasn’t she? Can waking up at 8:30 still be considered early?”

“This character setting feels so stiff... Even I feel awkward for the two of them.”

“The point is, Michelle really seems to think that she’s woken up extremely early...”

On the other side of the hotel, Hesper and Celine just came back from a stroll when they smelled a faint dairy scent on the ground floor. It was a chilly morning in the late autumn, so Hesper pulled Celine aside and asked, “Would you like some warm soy milk or sweetened milk? Your hands feel so cold.”

“Okay.” Celine had no objection but subconsciously felt that Hesper might want to get herself some sweetened milk or soy milk.

There was also a hidden camera at the entrance, which happened to manage to record Celine’s somewhat helpless and doting gaze.

“Huh? Hesper and Celine have arrived too. Judging from their outfits, did they just go out for a walk in the morning when there were fewer people?”

“Look at Celine, look at the way she glances at Hesper, that kindness in her eyes...”

“The interaction between the two of them looks rather sweet!”

As soon as Hesper entered the restaurant, she immediately started searching for the sweetened milk. Although she did not know where it was, she could smell it, so she led Celine in the direction of the sweetened milk until they arrived in front of a drink dispenser.

On the opposite side, Michelle and the producer just so happened to be walking toward them together.

“Hesper!” Michelle obviously did not expect to run into Hesper and Celine at this time, but after being stunned for a split second, she took the initiative to greet her. “It’s so early. Are you here for breakfast?”

Celine was focused on getting Hesper some milk, and Hesper squinted her eyes and gave off a smile.” Yeah.”

“Ah... Huh?” Michelle, not expecting Hesper to treat her so politely all of a sudden, was not used to it. Hence, the next line that she had prepared got stuck in her throat. “Then I shall not disturb you. See you around.”

did not ask her to stay, so Michelle escaped the awkward conversation with the producer in embarrassment.

I’m laughing to death. Hesper only treated her politely for once, and she instantly became mute.”

“Am I the only one who thinks that Michelle behaves as if she’s a simp for Hesper? In all fairness, Michelle has always been very polite to Hesper. Why are you people still showing Hesper this much support when she’s just being a pain in the *ss to Michelle?”

“If you weren’t blind, you would be able to tell that Michelle isn’t doing all this sincerely, right? Wasn’t she the one who kept trying to get close to Hesper? Since the very beginning, Hesper and Celine have already mentioned that they aren’t very close to her.”

“Why are you guys arguing for so long...? Am I here to watch a fashion design or debate competition?”

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Back in Genecity, Rickard was rather anxious.

After settling down some time ago, Rickard sent Renfrew back to kindergarten to continue his classes as per what Hesper wanted, but another problem emerged very soon.

“Everyone’s parents will be there.”

After all this while, Renfrew had become more courageous when facing Rickard. He was currently sitting on his little stool and complaining sternly. “Sports day is going to be held on the weekend, and mommy is participating in the competition and can’t be there with me. So, if you’re not going to attend the event either, no one will care about me.

“If that’s the case, I’ll be so lonely and so sad, I’ll cry through the whole day and finally die of sadness.” Renfrew sighed. The statement indeed consisted of a handful of exaggerations, but Rickard could not help but feel a little helpless.

“It actually took a lot of hard work for Renfrew to be able to blend in with the other children in kindergarten like a normal child. Now that there’s such an activity in the kindergarten, it’s an even better opportunity for Renfrew to join the other children in some games too.”

“Okay, I’ll come.”

It was not that Rickard did not want to go to the sports day with Renfrew, but he had never gone through such an event, so he did not know how to tackle these problems with Renfrew.

For him, stepping into the unknown was equivalent to making mistakes, but the upbringing that he had received since he was a kid told him that he must never make mistakes.

“Then that’s a pinky promise.” Renfrew stood up and locked his pinky with Rickard’s. “Thank you, Daddy!”

Back in the competition, the preliminary round had an individual assignment. Participants were to complete a design piece that qualified for the competition as quickly as possible.

Hesper had been tested for her hands-on capability many times back in college, so this task was too simple for her. On the other hand, Celine had also gone through too many tournaments, so completing a design quickly was as easy as ABC for her.

The first round had only managed to eliminate some students who had yet to graduate and had no practical experience.

Michelle was also a little surprised when she saw Hesper’s skillful movements-

Originally, she thought that Hesper had not been doing anything related to fashion design for so many years, and she had only been studying the theories and knowledge that they studied back when they were both in college, so her practical skills must be a lot weaker than her theory, but the reality instantly

smacked her in the face.

Hesper did better than most people.

The whole game was broadcasted live, and Ernest and Wendy watched the show with great joy.

“I knew it. The clothes that the young lady sewed when she was still a kid already looked great, so this must be a piece of cake for her.” Wendy recalled that when Hesper first arrived at the Duvals’ residence, she was reluctant to throw away her clothes even when they were already extremely old, so she would sew them herself, covering the worn-out spots with a few small flowers. It was obvious that she had not learned how to do it before that, but those patterns still looked true to life.

understand that Grandpa did so to show me his support. I also understand that the Duvals don’t care about such a small amount of money. Thus, I’ll accept the tip this time, but I won’t allow it to happen again.

The news related to Hesper naturally made its way into Rickard’s ear. When he saw that Ernest had spent so much money with his credit card, he felt that something had gone wrong, but he did not expect the money to be directed to Hesper.

This amount of money was really nothing to him, so Rickard did not plan to talk to his grandfather about this matter. After all, he only wanted to show his care and support for Hesper in his own way.

After the first round, originally, there wasn’t supposed to be much time for the contestants to rest.

However, the live broadcast format received extremely strong and positive responses from the fans, and many audiences and spectators also began to pay attention to the tournament. So after some discussions, the competition that was originally supposed to last a month was changed into an episode- based match to attract more attention over time.

Before leaving the venue, Hesper helped Celine export all the photos on her cell phone onto her personal phone, then bid her goodbye temporarily.

At the same time, the contestants’ personal short interviews that had been filmed before the competition started also aired through multiple media and online platforms amidst the audiences’ demands.

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Ernest was also exhilarated. “Look at her score; It’s so high. She’s truly amazing.”

Ernest put on his reading glasses, saw the bouquet of flowers and hearts that were flashing on the bottom of the screen, and frowned. “What are all these sticker-looking things? Why are they flashing all the time?”

Wendy leaned over. After all, she was a little younger than Ernest. When she saw the words that appeared together with the emojis, everything just connected in her mind. “It should be a tipping system. Viewers can tip this live broadcast with some real cash.”

As soon as Wendy finished speaking, another firework salute exploded in the middle of the screen, and a written message appeared with it: “Michelle is the best. I’ll always support you, Misha!!!”

“Is this Michelle, Michelle Sullivan? The girl who’s on bad terms with Hesper?” Ernest became upset when he saw so many tips being directed at Michelle. “I think Hesper’s design looks much better than hers. I want to be able to tip too.”

When Yann was dragged into the room by the two elderly to watch the live broadcast again, she was already feeling a little helpless.

Ernest then started very modestly asking her to help him out. “I want to tip Hesper. I want to be able to do ... What is it that you youngsters call it?... Virtual tipping? However, the two of us don’t understand this whole tipping process, so I want you to help me take a look.”

“Give her presents?”

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Yann was astonished for a moment then subconsciously persuaded her master. “Sir, the money that you’ll be spending won’t go into Ms. Hesper’s purse. Part of it will even be taken by the platform, so it isn’t worth it.”

After saying so, she realized something.

‘Ms. Hesper is now the president of Lane Holdings, so giving money to an event organized by Lane Holdings is equivalent to giving money to Ms. Hesper... And Mr. Duval Sr. has the wealth to make it happen! To him, the money that he’ll be spending is just a number.’

Realizing this reality, Yann graciously helped Ernest bind his credit card to his account and then watched as Ernest spent his money as if he was lighting them on fire.

Seeing Ernest throwing cold hard cash into the platform in the form of virtual currency, Yann only felt that the world of the wealthy was giving her a headache. Although she knew that Ernest was rich, she still could not help but try to stop him.

‘Jesus Christ! Aren’t the Duvals and the Lanes competing against each other now?’

“Sir, there’s no point in throwing money into a platform like this. If Ms. Hesper were to find out about this, she definitely reprimand you for spending money thriftily.”

Before Yann could say anything else, Wendy had already opened her mouth. “Sir, Hesper has just started participating in the competition. She’ll definitely be criticized by the public if you were to spend too much money on her.”

Someone watching the live broadcast was already shocked by the sudden reward. The amount of money that Ernest just tipped was in a different league compared to everyone else, and his tipping and commenting rate were much higher than any ordinary follower.

“OMG, is this how rich people tip others? This sh*t is scary!”

‘I’ll be honest, I might not even be able to make so much money in my whole life. Jesus, help me, Lord.’ It’s all directed to Hesper. My goodness, this is just the preliminary round. I really don’t understand the world of the rich.”

With such a large tip amount, the user’s information would naturally be disclosed in the system of the platform. Normally speaking, with Hesper now participating in the competition, the employees of Lane Holdings should not contact her through any medium, but then they realized that the elder master of the Duvals had tipped so much to Lane Holdings’ platform. No matter how they looked at it, it still felt a little unreasonable, so the staff could only contact Hesper to deal with this matter.

Having just passed the first round of the competition, Hesper was searching for useful ingredients in the small refrigerator, preparing to cook something delicious for the evening, when she received a message from her staff through her cell phone.

“Grandpa?

Hesper went through the content of the message carefully and could not help but feel a little helpless.

I didn’t expect Grandpa to pay so much attention to the competition’s games. He even learned how to tip

a streamer...”

Hesper shook her head, feeling a little dumbfounded, and replied to the message.

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The first contestant to have her interview aired was Michelle.

As the star participant in this competition, Michelle's session was inserted in the most significant section of the series in order to gain popularity and attention. Hesper and Matthew had already talked about this very early on, even before the tournament started. Sure enough, the effect was also very significant.

When it was Hesper's turn, although it brought about a lot of discussions compared to other contestants, it was still slightly worse than Michelle's. That was because Hesper's interview was a little too dull.

She replied to every question perfectly, so after watching the video, the only thing everyone remembered was Hesper's face, which looked too beautiful to be true.

At first, Hesper did not intend to use this interview session to show off. The only thing on her mind after the first round of the contest was that she finally had some time to get back to the company to discuss some affairs. However, after two days of compact work, she got the chance to take a look at her rating, which was rising steadily, and felt a little relieved.

This hectic state lasted until Friday when Rickard knocked on her door with Renfrew.

"Who is it?" Hesper was busy editing her design draft when she heard someone knocking on the door. She thought it was Matthew who had come back, so she stood up and went to open the door. "Why didn't you bring your key? I thought-

The second half of her sentence got stuck in her throat.

"Mommy!" Renfrew threw himself into Hesper's arms, and she subconsciously caught him. "I missed you

so much!"

The three of them sat on the couch, and Hesper folded her arms as she scanned through the father and son thoroughly.

"So, you're only here because you want to talk about the parent-child sports day?" Hesper looked at Rickard.

She had not seen him for only a few days, and the man had not changed much, but he seemed a little embarrassed when talking about the parent-child sports day.

Hesper really could not understand it.

'This man is already a full-grown adult, yet he's still using an excuse like not being able to take care of our son by himself just to come over to visit me. Just how ridiculous can he get?'

“Mommy, let’s go together. The other kids will bring both their parents along.” Renfrew grabbed Hesper’s hand and said coquettishly, “Daddy doesn’t know how to do anything, and when the time comes, he’ll only cause me to be the last place in all the races. If that’s the case, I’ll be so sad and cry through the whole day, finally dying of sadness...”

Rickard was stunned for a short while.

“Why does that feel somewhat familiar?”

Hesper still felt a little angry at first, but when she heard what Renfrew had to say, she could not help but laugh out loud and reached out to pinch Renfrew’s chubby cheek. “Okay, okay, I understand, but you’re not allowed to say that you’ll die again. Do you hear me?”

Renfrew nodded vigorously. “Does that mean that you’ve agreed to come together?”

Rickard glanced at her with a little beam of hope flashing from the bottom of his eyes.

“Yes.” Hesper nodded. “It’s taking place this weekend, isn’t it? I’ll definitely be there”

On the weekend, the parent-child sports day began.

Renfrew put on a new suit that day, and Hesper tied the little bow that he had on while they were on the way.

Although she promised Renfrew to take part in the sports day, Hesper still did not want to stand right next to Rickard, so she held Renfrew’s hand on one side while Rickard held the little fella’s hand on the other, and they did not talk to each other at all.

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Seeing the comparison between his childish mommy and his daddy who had no footing in the family, Renfrew felt a little helpless, but at the same time, his heart was filled with joy.

This was his first time participating in a parent-child activity with his parents. Although it seemed that his parents were not on good terms, it did not stop him from feeling exhilarated!

When the other children saw Renfrew’s family, they were a little envious. After all, they were all kids. Some of them even ran over and told Renfrew that his parents look so beautiful!

Hesper bent down and rubbed the heads of the other children. “Are you guys Renfrew’s classmates? You look very cute too.”

Renfrew pulled the two of them and introduced Hesper and Rickard to the children in the kindergarten. Then the parents of the other party also greeted Hesper and Rickard with some surprised expressions.

In order not to embarrass Renfrew, the two of them did not put on long faces. After all, neither of them were simple-minded people who did not know how to act tactfully, so even when they were not in a good mood, it was not difficult for them to maintain a polite and wide grin.

While the event was ongoing, the other children's parents were not as shallow as their kids and only saw that Renfrew's parents were very pleasant to the eyes. Looking at Hesper and Rickard's attire, they instantly knew that they were not ordinary people, so they were very polite when they spoke to Hesper or Rickard.

When the teacher arrived at the class, she saw Renfrew's parents being surrounded by the crowd as if they were celebrities. The man looked breathtaking and the lady looked gorgeous, while the child holding their hands looked adorable and well-behaved, staring obediently at his parents as they socialized.

'Did I come into the wrong classroom?'

Renfrew was the first student to see their teacher, so he cleared his throat and raised his voice. "Ms. Zeelen! You're here!"

Everything would have been fine if Renfrew had not done so, but the little boy's voice instantly skyrocketed Ms. Zeelen's presence in the class.

The teacher blinked in slight embarrassment and then began to put everything into place. "Okay, I must first express my appreciation to all the parents who are here today with us. Thank you for finding the time in your busy schedule to join our activity. Everyone should take a seat first. Sports day will start shortly

It was probably the kindergarten's aim to promote the intimacy level of the families, as the small stools for each family were arranged very closely to each other. Hesper sat down without a change in her expression, so Rickard also led Renfrew to their seat and sat down beside her.

Although it was not their first time meeting each other, Ms. Zeelen just felt that Renfrew's parents had unreal looks every time she saw them, so when she came closer to hand out the number cards, she could not help but exclaim inwardly, 'This family looks so good!'

Seeing that the teacher had arrived, the parents stopped chatting. Ms. Zeelen first asked the parents to take turns to come see her at her desk to talk about how their child had been doing at kindergarten and in class.

“Renfrew is very obedient and smart,” Ms. Zeelen praised with a smile. “I feel that Renfrew has become more gregarious since the last time I talked with you.”

When Hesper heard Ms. Zeelen’s compliment, she felt very proud and the smile on her face widened.

“You two are truly a perfect match.” Ms. Zeelen could not help but let off a comment of admiration. She then returned to the podium, leaving Hesper and Rickard frozen in place in embarrassment.

“You’re a good match!” Renfrew cheered.

Rickard’s gaze was rather gentle, and he turned sideways to rub Renfrew’s head, while Hesper turned her head away and stopped looking at Rickard.

“Our sports day officially begins!” Ms. Zeelen was used to putting forward her childish personality and coquettish tone when she was interacting with the children, so now that she was facing a group of parents, she could not help but feel a little nervous.

“The first round is a three-legged race. Each family has to decide who the team members will be, and then we’ll start the competition.”

Renfrew lifted his head and looked at Rickard then Hesper.

Seeing that the two of them were not talking to each other and were treating each other like invisible gas, Renfrew sighed inwardly. The grievance that he was suffering was completely visible on his face.

Seeing this, Hesper immediately said, “Ren, why don’t you join the race with me? I haven’t played any sport -related games with you before, so why don’t we try it out today?”

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“But Mommy, you’re so tall” Renfrew blinked and then looked at Rickard. “If you were to go into the race with me, you’ll probably cause me to fall, won’t you? Then won’t I ruin this suit that Great-grandpa gave me ? Great-grandpa has always liked to see me in this little suit, so if I were to trip and fall...”

“All right, all right.” Hesper interrupted him with a smile and glanced at Rickard in extreme embarrassment “You little imp, don’t bring Great-grandpa into this.”

Renfrew was proud of his achievement. Then will you do what Great-grandpa wants?”

“How would I dare to defy your great-grandpa?” Hesper rubbed Renfrew’s head, and then looked at Rickard. The two of them gazed at Rickard together. “I have no problem with what you want, but I don’t know if someone else will say no to that.”

“Daddy...”

Staring at Hesper’s indifferent gaze, Rickard helplessly took a glance at Renfrew, who had been winking at him, nodded, and agreed. “I’m fine with it.”

Hence, the two adults’ legs were tied together with the same rope.

Being so closely linked to each other by a rope was something that had never happened before between the two of them.

Unexpectedly, Hesper did not reject this kind of contact very much. In fact, when the two of them started running, they were more in tune than expected. They looked so in sync that it felt like they were one. While the other parents still had not figured out the rhythm to follow, the two of them were already able to run at normal speed on the not-too-long plastic runway.

It was a rather easy win.

Hesper subconsciously looked at Rickard’s side profile. The man seemed to be completely unaffected by the result of the race as he untied the rope on her leg with his slender fingers. His fingers were acting very cautiously and lightly as if he was afraid that the thin rope would strangle and hurt her ankle.

Hesper fell into a trance for a split second, then stood up. “Alright.”

Perhaps it was because of the design tournament’s hectic schedule and that she had been busy with work in the company for several days after coming back from the recording, but Hesper had not gotten a good rest. So the moment she stood up, the sight in front of her eyes went dark.

Hesper swayed from side to side but was then supported by a hand.

“What’s the matter...? Are you okay?”

She was feeling absolutely fine before he asked her the question, but as soon as the question escaped Rickard’s mouth, Hesper started feeling a little tired all of a sudden.

However, she was only slightly tired, so after resting in Rickard’s arm and under his concerned gaze for quite some time, Hesper opened her mouth and whispered, “I’m fine.”

Rickard did not know how to proceed with the conversation, so he could only reply softly, “Oh, okay.”

The teachers and parents witnessing the race from the side of the arena were a little astounded. In fact, this kind of fun sports day would not ask its participants to perform very difficult sports tasks. After all, it was just a simple activity that aimed to promote familial harmony.

But not only were the two of them completely in sync and did not slow down during the whole race, but they managed to leave the other contestants far behind at the end... It was rather humiliating to the other

participants.

The two went on to win the next few rounds of competition. Renfrew was as happy as a lark as he went all out by praising both his parents in front of each other, looking cute and solemn as he acted as the glue. of his parent's relationship.

Arriving at another round of the parent-child race, Renfrew grabbed Rickard's hand, went into the arena, and then whispered to him, "Just look at how well I'm doing today Mommy seems to be treating you much better! Although you're my daddy, if you bully Mommy, she'll be very sad." Renfrew looked serious. "And if Mommy is sad, I'll be sad too. However, I'm still a very fragile human being, so if I were to feel very sad, I might die-Ahem, I might... I might not be able to eat any delicious food."

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Recalling what his mommy had told him earlier, Renfrew instantly changed his lines. Besides dying, the scariest thing in the world would be not being able to eat delicious food....

Rickard had never been very competent at coaxing children. He thought that if it was Hesper who ran into this situation, she would probably pat Renfrew on the head and utter the "touch wood" phrase, and the issue would end there.

However, all he did was stay dumbfounded for a while before rubbing Renfrew's collar.

"Yeah, I understand. I won't make Mommy sad anymore."

'It seems that even a child knows that I caused Hesper a lot of suffering back then.'

Rickard turned his head and looked at Hesper who was not far away from them. She had her head lowered as she unbuttoned the wrongly buttoned shirt of the kid sitting next to her, giving off a gentle smile.

In fact, Hesper had never been someone who was very good at coaxing others either, but she had always been very patient when she was around children.

Although she had not been by Renfrew's side these years, she had learned how to be a qualified mother.

"Then you have to do something to coax Mommy. She's also a very fragile human being." Renfrew

widened his eyes and then said, "Let's go. Let's win a championship trophy for Mommy. We're boys, so we have to take the initiative to coax the girls!"

There was no suspense about the result of the games as Renfrew's family crushed the other families and won the first kindergarten sports day championship.

The prize for the first-place winner was a small strawberry cake. After thinking about it, Renfrew gave the cake to Rickard.

"Daddy, use this cake to coax Mommy. Ms. Zeelen is summoning us!" Renfrew put the cake box firmly in Rickard's palms, turned around, and went off to look for his teacher. "Good luck!"

Rickard was holding onto the cake, which had been turned into an attractive pink block because of the addition of food coloring, and could not help but feel uneasy, as this was one of the most embarrassing moments that he had ever experienced in the past thirty years.

Hesper leaned against the wall not far away and looked at him, watching as he walked up to her, lifted the cake, and held it right in front of her face.

"Er... This is the prize." Rickard lowered his head, and his keen gaze slumped downward. He looked like a beast that had retracted its sharpest claws and then showed its soft belly to her without any reservations.

Hesper could not help but burst into laughter.

When Hesper smiled, deep dimples would appear, one on each cheek and at the corners of her lips. Rickard did not know if he had done something right and had managed to coax her. Anyway, it seemed like he had not seen Hesper smile so heartily in the past several years.

'Somehow... this is worth it. Even when she got her wish fulfilled and married me back then, those pretty, bright eyes of hers were filled with uncertainty. Plus, while it might have been her wish to marry me, it was definitely no dream-come-true moment.'

Thinking of the past, Rickard frowned while looking at the woman who was smiling right in front of him. All the guilt he had never felt before surged from the bottom of his heart, and he could hardly breathe.

Just how devastated she must have felt back then?"

Hesper glanced at Rickard then lowered her head and looked at the strawberry cake in her hand, which did not look expensive at all. For some reason, she remembered the wedding that she and Rickard had had years ago.

Under Ernest's instructions and close inspection, that wedding was not rushed. All the details of the ceremony and banquet were decided by a wedding designer and then executed flawlessly.

‘Perhaps he has long forgotten that the cake that we had at the wedding was strawberry-flavored too.’

She looked at the perfunctory man beside her, and as the mouthful of cake slowly melted in her mouth, all she tasted were hints of bitterness.

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Before the two of them had the time to finish their conversation, Renfrew and his classmates had been disbanded by Ms. Zeelen. All of them went back to their respective parents and went home.

Under the vast sunset, three extended shadows overlapped with the shadows of the camphor trees on both sides of the street.

Hesper raised her head thoughtfully. Renfrew walked next to her, talking to Rickard about his life at the kindergarten. The warm sunlight shined on her face, and it looked as if it was coated with a layer of gold paint.

It felt like everything that happened back then had been completely erased by time.

When Hesper got home, Matthew was sitting in the living room. When he saw Hesper arriving, he cleared his throat twice lightly.

“Matt?” Hesper was surprised and took a glance at the time.

‘At this time, Matt would usually either be in the study or at the company. Why has he gone out of character and sat here waiting for me today...? Please don’t tell me that he’s here because of Rickard again.’

Sure enough, Matthew lifted his gaze.

“Did you go out with Rickard again today?” His tone sounded like he knew about the fact that she had gone to the kindergarten with Rickard and Renfrew to take part in the sports day.

It also felt like he was waiting for this time to come to question her, and she was stuck in a position where confession would not get her any leniency and resistance would surely get her stricture, so she could only nod helplessly.

“Renfrew has learned to be a little more gregarious in kindergarten. I’m his mother, so I think I should at least attend some of the kindergarten’s events when I have the time.”

“Is it really for Renfrew’s growth?”

Hesper nodded without hesitation. Matthew stood up and walked over with a different expression than usual, looking a little more solemn. “Hesper, don’t let revenge blind you

and cause you to lose your judgment. Your feelings and emotions aren't something that can be measured. You should understand this best, shouldn't you?"

Hesper was taken aback. "How do you know..."

Remembering the phone call that she had with Matthew when she was drunk and the reason why Matthew insisted on staying there, Hesper froze for an instant then gave off a wry smile. "So, you already know about it."

"Yes, I know the ins and outs of it." Matthew frowned.

Hesper remained silent for a while then leaned against the wall and sighed.

"This revenge plan of mine might sound ridiculous to you, but I only want to ruin him through this means." Recalling Rickard's rather bashful and cautious expression when he handed her the cake, the only emotion that she felt deep down was a scorching heartache.

Matthew shook his head. "I don't think there's anything wrong with your plan, but while you're setting him up to make him fall in love with you, can you really control your own emotions?"

The night breeze was chilly, and Hesper lowered her gaze. "Yes."

Matthew looked at Hesper's reluctance to listen to what he had to say and was a little anxious. Then what about Renfrew? I think he still values the relationship between you and his father very highly. So when you were out there carrying out your plan without care, did you think about your son?

Hesper did not answer any more of Matthew's questions and changed the subject immediately "There are two more days before I have to go back to the competition venue. I'm a little tired, and I still have to go back and go through my drafts."

"Hesper..." Before Matthew could say anything, Hesper had already gone back to her room and shut the

door.

Two days later, the tournament continued.

This time around, no transportation was arranged for the contestants, so Hesper had to travel to the hotel with her luggage for the competition. She checked herself in and waited for Celine to arrive

Because Hesper arrived early, only a few cameras were operating at that time. The viewers who followed the live broadcast had already skipped over several scenes out of boredom. Hence, when someone finally appeared in front of the camera, the comment section reignited and became much more boisterous again.

“Hesper is the first to arrive again. I’ve come to realize that she really loves to arrive early to prep herself “Here I thought I had started watching this broadcast early, but Hesper actually arrived earlier than I did

Chapter 269

“But why is our gorgeous lady always so cold? She didn’t say much at all during the personal interview compilation.

“Perhaps she pays more attention to her own privacy. I feel that Hesper doesn’t like to reveal her private life very much.”

“Maybe she’s afraid of killing her own character setting by saying sh*t that she shouldn’t be saying? Peeps, this is all scripted. Please don’t tell me that you really believe in her character setting.”

Hesper did not know what was being said in the comment section. As soon as she returned to room 345, which was rather familiar to her, she put her luggage away and discovered that the small garden. downstairs had been reconstructed at some point.

Originally, there was a glass flower shed below and she could see the scenery inside through the glass roof before, but now it was now completely covered for some reason, so even if she was living stories. above ground, she could not see the inside of the flower shed.

‘If nothing else, something must be hidden inside the shed.’

Regarding the emergence of new buildings and things, Hesper was not curious at all, probably because she had already seen through everything.

Celine had gotten onto the bus earlier than her last time, so Hesper thought it would be the same this time around. Hence, she waited in the room for Celine to arrive, but after more than half an hour, there was still no sign of her.

The sound insulation of the room was above average, but Hesper could still occasionally hear the sound of participants dragging their luggage past her room in the corridor as if things were getting livelier on the

other side of the door.

“What happened...”

Hesper took a glimpse of the time.

‘Time is almost up, and Celine still hasn’t shown up yet. But she doesn’t seem like someone who would miss the competition at all.’

Feeling that something was wrong, Hesper stood up and opened the door.

“Oh, here you are, Hesper.” Michelle, standing in front of her door, greeted her with a smile. “Everyone was saying that they haven’t seen you, so I thought you hadn’t come, but I didn’t expect you to arrive earlier. than all of us.”

Since she was in a rush to look for Celine, Hesper did not have time to stay back and chat with Michelle at the doorsteps, so she said, “Excuse me, I need to go find someone.”

“Huh?” Hesper turned sideways, wanting to go around her, but Michelle blocked her way with her arm.” Who are you looking for? Fill me in. Maybe I can help you find the person too?”

Hesper lifted her gaze and glared at Michelle expressionlessly.

“Hmm... Does anyone think that this scene resembles those bullying scenes from high school dramas and

movies?”

“She’s just another sassy bully who loves to make others’ lives difficult and make herself look innocent after getting what she wants.”

“Hesper seems to want to go find Celine. I don’t think she’s arrived at the venue yet, and the time is almost up.

“Can’t you people see that Michelle is just trying to help her and that her intentions are good? Your hearts are so filthy that everyone that appears in front of you must have ulterior motives...”

Just as Hesper was about to speak, she saw the bracelet on Michelle’s wrist in the blink of an eye.

This looks so familiar; I’ve seen it somewhere before. Does it belong to Juniper? It’s the bracelet that she bid and purchased at the charity auction.”

“Do you know Juniper Wight?” Hesper frowned. With her sensitivity toward fashion, she could not have mistaken the bracelet.

Sure enough, Michelle glanced at her suspiciously and then hesitated before saying, “How do you know that?”

Michelle admitted to knowing Juniper. Hesper retracted her gaze after seeing that her puzzled eyes did not seem to be faked.

‘If Juniper is paying any form of attention to me, she’d known that Michelle knows me, so she’s given this bracelet to Michelle so that she can wear it in front of me. This poor lady doesn’t know anything and has probably been approached by Juniper as a potential weapon that she could use to hurt me.

‘In the end, she still thinks she’s gaining something from this relationship of theirs.”

Chapter 269

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Chapter 270

Just how wicked and dumb can she be?’

Seeing that the time was almost running out, Hesper did not have the time to catch up much with Michelle. She had to find Celine as soon as possible. Otherwise, she would be disqualified.

“Step aside.”

Michelle did not know why Hesper was so impatient, but the more anxious Hesper looked, the more she did not want to let Hesper have her way. Just as she was about to stop her again, Hesper stared past her and saw someone standing in the corridor behind her.

“Celine.”

Pulling her suitcase, Celine ran over from the corridor. When she saw the scene in front of her, she was confused about what was happening. “Yeah, sorry. I was a little late today. Something came up all of a sudden when I was leaving my place...”

Michelle was completely ignored by Hesper and Celine. Standing there, she could not help but feel a little embarrassed. Not knowing what to say, she could only withdraw her hand and stand aside awkwardly, like a waitress who had come to the room to deliver services.

Seeing that Celine had arrived safely, Hesper was relieved and shifted her attention back to Michelle. “It’s an extremely valuable bracelet, so why would Juniper lend it or give it to you so casually?” Hesper pulled Celine closer to her, and her gaze landed on Michelle’s wrist. “Be wary of being used by someone else. Or you might even end up doing something filthy and getting your hands dirty for that person.” Hesper and Celine entered the room, leaving only Michelle standing in front of the door of room 345, thinking about what Hesper just said.

‘Do Hesper and Juniper know each other? But I mentioned Hesper to Juniper before. Why didn’t she tell me about this?’

After giving what Hesper had just said some deeper thought, Michelle lowered her head and stared at the bracelet on her wrist.

She had been extremely ecstatic when she received it. After all, it was a royal bracelet and it was bought at such a high price. Everyone would surely feel jealous when they saw it.

But after listening to what Hesper said, no matter how she looked at it, it just looked like an eyesore.

She took the bracelet off and gnashed her teeth. Because of all the cameras, she could not give off too big of a reaction, so she only stared at the door of room 345 for a while, then turned around and left.

“Who’s the person that Michelle and Hesper were talking about? She isn’t one of the competitors, is she?”

“I remember the bracelet. My family’s famous enough to attend an auction some time ago. It seems that this bracelet was auctioned off at more than \$20,000. I was shocked when I heard about it back then.”

“Jesus Christ, more than \$20,000? Doesn’t that mean that Michelle and Hesper’s families are filthy rich?”

“People who study design usually come from families that sit higher up in society, don’t they...?”

“Uh, have you forgotten about Celine? Her family background doesn’t look too good at first glance.”

The second round of the competition was a round surrounding the concept of teamwork. Contestants who were staying in the same room would be paired up as a group to complete a series of designs. The

materials for the design could be found in the glass flower shed downstairs, and the material selection process would be kept a secret.

Hesper would be working with Celine, so the two of them were not worried about this round at all. While living together, they would occasionally exchange Ideas about design, only to find that their opinions would sometimes be very compatible. In addition to that, because they both had relatively rational personalities, if there were any differences, they would listen to each other’s opinions, and then arrive at the same outcome through different routes.

7 don’t even need to look to know that room 345 will win this round.”

With Michelle’s ability, it was not very difficult for her to complete a good design, but when she was choosing someone to be her roommate, she chose a submissive young girl who would follow her around. Apart from her personality, she was also extremely timid when it came to her design concepts.

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