

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 131 - 135

Skylar whispered to him, "That's enough now. He's actually quite pitiful, you know? He was always bullied back in school. He didn't really do anything wrong other than being a tad stubborn. He'll realize his mistake soon enough."

Tobias retorted coldly, "Are you saying that I'm the one at fault? So I should just let my woman be subjected to such revolting photos in the middle of the night?"

Skylar grumbled silently. Why is he getting so worked up over this? It's not like I looked at them on purpose.

After receiving that kick, Jackson seemed like he was on the verge of death. Until now, the agonizing pain in his groin had not diminished one bit.

He was no longer raring for a fight. Instead, he began to play the victim to garner sympathy. "I don't know what I did wrong. Am I wrong to like you, Skylar? All I want is to be there for you."

He staggered onto his feet and picked up the plastic bag which had been thrown to the ground just now, then took out a large metal box from it.

After that, he opened the metal box, revealing the hand-folded paper cranes and stars inside it, which were the results of his time and effort. There was also a handmade wool bag that he planned to give to Skylar for her birthday.

Jackson looked immensely aggrieved when he said, "I made these for you, Skylar. Everything I want to say to you is written in them."

Skylar lowered her gaze to the contents of the box. He must've poured a lot of heart into folding these. There're so many of them.

At that thought, her heart softened. Jackson was right. He's not the one at fault. After all, he was dragged into this from the start.

Tobias stuffed his right hand into his pocket, his handsome face frosting over as the corners of his mouth tightened. Then, he spoke in a voice that matched the unfeeling look on his face, "Wasting your time on meaningless things. Serves you right for ending up this way."

Jackson cried as he aired his grievances, choking on his own tears and sobbing harder when Skylar looked at him.

Skylar took out a pack of tissues from her bag, but as soon as she extended it toward Jackson, Tobias' ominous voice scared her into withdrawing her hand. "Don't you dare. Put your hand down."

Biting her lip, she glanced at him before persuading him nicely, "Just let him go. He's really pitiful, and it's all my fault that I didn't make it clear enough the last time."

Ignoring her words, Tobias approached Jackson, towering over him in height as he emanated an intimidating aura.

Immediately, Jackson hugged the box to his chest tightly.

Tobias took a lighter out of his trouser pocket and flicked it, the sound exceptionally crisp in the quiet night.

Looking at the flickering flame, a sneer formed on Tobias' lips right before he threw his zippo lighter into the box.

In an instant, Jackson's efforts were engulfed in flames. He threw the box to the ground in fright, his hand almost being scorched by the fire just now.

Skylar took a few steps backward in shock as she stared at the flames licking the sides of the metal box.

Tobias grinned mockingly. "Didn't you say that you have strong feelings for her? If you pick up the box again, I'll give her to you."

Jackson cowered in response. "You already lit the box on fire. How am I supposed to pick it up? Aren't you deliberating making things difficult for me?"

"You can't even endure a little pain? Do you think a few words are enough to prove your feelings?" Tobias patted Skylar's bum affectionately and said, "Go back first. Tell me once you're upstairs."

But Skylar could not help but worry. She peered at Tobias anxiously, afraid that he would do something reckless.

Sensing her hesitation, Tobias reassured her, "Don't worry. I won't do anything to him."

At that, Skylar breathed a sigh of relief and turned to go upstairs. She did not look back once, trusting Tobias to keep his word. Besides, she did not have a choice anyway because she knew that it was useless no matter what she said to Jackson. It was as though her words could not get through to him, or perhaps he was merely playing dumb.

Jackson stared after Skylar's retreating form with a crestfallen look on his face. Watching his efforts literally go up in flames, he roared angrily, "All you have is money. Do you think money can buy you love? It's obvious that your feelings for Skylar aren't genuine because there's no love in your eyes when you look at her."

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 132

Tobias felt exasperated, wondering when he had been reduced to a state where he had to discuss about love with this trash. With a haughty expression, he ordered in a disdainful tone, "You can leave now and stop harassing my girlfriend. If I catch you doing it again, you might very well be the one burning."

Jackson was so petrified that goosebumps covered his whole body. Reluctant to give up on Skylar, he expressed his devotion, "I will wait until Skylar accepts me. The two of you won't last long."

Tobias looked at him with amusement and chuckled. "You should look in the mirror before going after a woman. Don't overestimate yourself. Even if I'm no longer with her one day, her body and soul will still belong to me."

Meanwhile, Avery stood in front of her bedroom window with blazing eyes. Tobias sent Skylar back. This means they're still together.

When Skylar saw Avery standing by the window, she guessed that she had already seen Tobias.

Upon hearing the door creak, Avery turned around but stayed silent for quite some time. After coming to terms with reality, she forced herself to smile at Skylar. "Skylar, you're back. Have you packed your luggage?"

Skylar was slightly stunned since Avery had never spoken to her in such a gentle tone after so many years of knowing each other.

She asked blandly, "What do you want? Since when did you care so much about me?"

No matter how reluctant Avery was, she had no choice but to be nice to Skylar for the meantime as per her father's orders. The company had an abandoned project. If it were not resumed, they would face bankruptcy. The only one who could help them now was Skylar.

Avery put her ego aside and smiled gently. "It was all my fault last time. I always felt like you were going to take my father away from me. I admit that I was young and ignorant. Dad heard that you're going to film soon, so he wants you over for dinner tomorrow. He's going to prepare your favorite food."

However, Skylar refused flatly, not wanting to be involved with the Joneses whatsoever. With a curl of her lips, she replied, "Forget it. I grew up eating cheap food. I'm not used to the lavish lifestyle all of you have."

Avery already expected such a response from Skylar. She blinked innocently as she explained, "Your mother will also be there tomorrow. Dad visited her at the hospital today. She's recovering well and will be discharged soon. The meal tomorrow is also to celebrate your mother's recovery."

Ever since Miranda was hospitalized, Skylar had only seen her once, but even that one time was when she was sedated.

Skylar was terrified of Miranda. She could still remember the day she visited her mother in prison when she was thirteen years old. Miranda had screamed hysterically at her, "Why did I give birth to a daughter like you? You ruined everything for me!"

Miranda even told Skylar to get out of her sight and never come again. That visit had greatly traumatized her until this day.

To this day, Skylar still could not understand why Miranda hated her so much. She had even asked her grandmother about it before.

But her grandmother had only given her a piece of advice. No matter what, she's still your mother and the person who gave you life, so you must never give up.

Even at that moment, Skylar could still clearly remember her grandmother's words and her own promise to never abandon Miranda if she were released one day.

Skylar did not immediately agree to Avery's request. Instead, she ran to the corridor and called Tobias. The call was only picked up after a long time.

"Why are you calling me this late? Miss me already?" His voice was deep and husky as usual, but it was laced with a hint of sleepiness.

"It's about my mother. Is she still at the hospital?" Skylar's hand tightened around her phone as she awaited Tobias' answer.

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 133

"I don't know. The hospital didn't call me. The payment is still ongoing though. Why are you asking me this all of a sudden? Do you want to see your mother?" Tobias asked in a leisurely tone.

Right then, Skylar came to a sudden realization. How could Tobias possibly know? He's only responsible for providing the money, nothing more and nothing less. I was overthinking it.

He isn't obligated to keep track of my mom's condition.

Nevertheless, she told Tobias about Thomas' invitation, then asked him for his opinion. She was grateful that she finally had someone to share her problems with instead of flying blind like before.

"Don't go. Just do your part."

Tobias' reply made Skylar feel uneasy. "But if I don't go, will Thomas do anything bad to my mom? She'd be all alone there. Besides, she killed Irene's sister back then, so Irene definitely still bears a grudge against her."

"Who's Irene?" Tobias asked in confusion.

Skylar's mouth tightened. "My stepmother."

Tobias sighed in understanding. "What's the point in you going? Do you want to get bullied together with your mother? Anyway, Thomas won't be too hard on you. Besides, I doubt your mother will go. Just use your head and think."

Skylar felt unsettled as she weighed her choices. The trap at her uncle's house the other day had made her see everything in a different light. This time, she wasn't sure what the Joneses would be hiding up their sleeves either.

In the end, she decided to go for the dinner. She was mentally prepared to be choked if Miranda went berserk upon seeing her.

People tended to feel the most helpless and vulnerable in the middle of the night. At times, Skylar bemoaned her fate as being alive seemed like an exhausting feat to her.

While other children were loved by their parents, she was abandoned by her father and hated by her mother.

I must have been a sinful and wicked person in my previous life. That's why I'm paying off a debt that does not seem to have an end to it.

When Skylar told Tobias her decision to go tomorrow, he did not stop her because the choice was hers to make. Instead, he merely said gently, "I can't accompany you there, so be careful. You can find me at the company when it's over."

Skylar was slightly taken aback. Since when could both of us be together in the open? There's no way I'm going to his company.

Early the next morning, Skylar followed Avery and got into a Mercedes-Benz.

Avery was so pampered that even at university, her driver would wait for her by the gates every day, always at her service. Apart from that, she had a cleaner to clean her dorm every day and take care of her daily necessities.

Both of them were Thomas' daughters, but they were treated so differently. In the beginning, Skylar still felt slightly envious, but she was already indifferent to it now.

"Skylar, I've never gotten the chance to apologize. I was immature last time, so I hope you can find it in your heart to forgive me." In the car, Avery looked at Skylar with an imploring gaze.

Despite that, Skylar did not buy Avery's sudden change in attitude, neither did she believe the latter had abruptly grown a conscience.

Skylar put on a better show than Avery as she looked at her calmly with a tender smile. "Of course I forgive you."

Avery went rigid as she cursed inwardly. If Thomas hadn't promised to buy her a Maserati, she would not have agreed to grovel to her sister.

Feigning innocence, she leaned over to hug Skylar, saying in a honey-laced voice, "You're the best, Skylar. We will always be family, and nothing can ever come between us. Dad has been meaning to take you back into the family, but he was afraid you'd reject him, so he hasn't brought it up."

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 134

Upon hearing that, a slightly strained smile crept onto Skylar's face. Naturally, she did not buy Avery's words. In fact, she knew that Thomas probably wished she never existed.

With reluctance, Skylar got out of the car at the residential area entrance that only seemed to bring back bad memories.

She took in a deep breath when she thought about the possibility of Miranda throwing a crazy tantrum.

After Avery knocked on the door, a servant came over to answer it.

The servant immediately took Avery's classic LV bag from her hands while giving Skylar, the abandoned daughter, a once-over. Indifference was written all over the face of the servant, who did not even offer her a pair of indoor slippers from the shoe rack. Instead, she merely gave her some shoe covers.

Her eyes were filled with disdain as she sized Skylar up.

Having worked for the Joneses for many years, the servant had long since heard that Thomas had another child who grew up in the streets and was an unruly girl without discipline.

Meanwhile, Avery's face beamed with excitement as she called out, "Dad, I'm back. Is the food ready? I'm starving."

Hearing that, Thomas came out of the kitchen with an apron wrapped around his waist and gazed at Avery adoringly. "Yes, it's ready. I was just waiting for you to come home. I cooked some honeyed pork ribs and BBQ beef ribs."

Right after saying that, Thomas realized his mistake and quickly corrected, "I mean, I was waiting for the two of you."

Skylar disliked Thomas' pretentious behavior because she was aware that her presence was unwanted in this house.

"Where's my mom? You said she'd be here," Skylar asked.

Thomas shot a puzzled gaze at Avery.

Avery hastily explained with a tinge of guilt, "Dad asked the doctor about it. Unfortunately, your mother's condition isn't very stable, so she can't come out for the time being."

At that instant, Skylar finally agreed with Tobias' words.

He often called her foolish and told her to use her brain. But she was refused to heed his advice and thought that he was just being judgmental.

However, it was too late now as she had walked into Avery's trap.

Since she was already here, she decided to make the most out of it and find out what this family was up to because it was quite unlikely for people to change overnight.

Irene came downstairs in an emerald, green dress, looking youthful and vibrant for her age. Her curvy body was not in the least bit inferior to women younger than her, making it difficult to guess her true age.

A person's first reaction was usually genuine. When Skylar collided gazes with Irene, the latter's eyes flashed with a hint of resentment.

"You're here. It's late already. The whole family has been waiting for a long time," Irene spoke in a monotonous voice.

The man beside her, who also shared the same animosity, was Hayden Jones, Thomas' son.

Although Skylar had not seen him in many years, she remembered that he had always regarded her with contempt.

Hayden was older than Skylar. Before Thomas and Miranda divorced, Hayden was still the illegitimate son of Thomas and Irene.

Skylar's grandmother had said that this was another reason her mother hated her so much. She blamed Skylar for Thomas divorcing her and marrying another woman.

She believed that if she had given birth to a son, Thomas would never have divorced her for Irene. That was why Miranda preferred boys over girls and saw her daughter as a liability ever since.

Thomas waved Hayden over and chided, "Aren't you going to welcome your sister, Hayden?"

However, the arrogant Hayden did not even spare Skylar a glance. "She's not my sister. I only have one sister, and that's Avery. Both of you being in the same space should be interesting to watch."

Skylar was not eager to have him as her brother either, even though they shared the same father.

On the other hand, Avery was secretly gloating. Her brother had always pampered her since young. She couldn't understand what her father was thinking, trying to get him to acknowledge Skylar as his sister.

To ease the tension hovering in the air, Thomas urged everyone to take their seats at the dining table. He had personally prepared the food today and had been busy in the kitchen since this morning.

Everything he cooked was basically Avery and Hayden's favorite food.

In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 135

Skylar seemed to remember Avery telling her that Thomas was going to cook her favorite food, so she scanned the food served on the table.

None of these are my favorite food. It had been years since she last shared a meal with Thomas.

She pulled out a chair and sat down next to Irene, who looked at her as if she were a thorn in her side.

When Irene caught a whiff of Skylar's perfume, the sneer of her face was apparent. "Since when did you start using perfume? Have your standards become higher after being with a rich man?"

Skylar raised her brows. "I'm about to film soon. I need to have a little class, don't you think? Besides, it's only perfume. There's no need to kick up a fuss about it, is there?"

Thomas cleared his throat, reminding Irene to keep her thoughts to herself as they had more pressing matters at hand.

Now that they succeeded in getting Skylar here, they had to seize the opportunity to ask her for Tobias' help.

"I haven't congratulated you yet. I heard that you're going to start filming. For a freshman, that's very impressive, which is more than I can say for Avery."

Avery was extremely upset that Thomas was complimenting Skylar at the expense of her pride. In spite of that, she had to endure it for the sake of her dream sports car.

On the other hand, Skylar was very modest. "It's nothing. I only passed the first round of auditions. There are still many uncertainties."

"How are things between you and Mr. Ford? Good, I presume?" Thomas finally broached the topic.

"Fine. We're just friends," Skylar replied.

Hayden sneered, "Dumped so soon? Dad, I told you it was a mistake calling her over. She can't even help us."

Thomas glared at Hayden, but the latter didn't think he said anything wrong. Dad is blinded by his desperation to save the business, so much so that he turned to Skylar for help. But what the hell can she do to help?

Skylar smiled with amusement. "You tricked me into coming here because you need Tobias' help? In that case, I'll have to disappoint you because contrary to your belief, I'm not that close to him."

Thomas really couldn't tell whether Skylar was speaking the truth or not.

"Skylar, I genuinely want us to be closer. We've been estranged for so many years. Give me a chance to make it up to you. I owe you so much as your father, too much."

Thomas gazed at Skylar with benevolence gleaming in his eyes. He even offered her a smile, which was a first for her.

Even though Skylar had always craved parental love, she wasn't moved by his words at all. Her heart had long since been shattered and could no longer be pieced back together.

"There's no need to make up for anything, but if you insist, then the best way is to leave me alone," she said nonchalantly as she remained obstinate.

Thomas knew that something like this couldn't be rushed either. Now that she was with Tobias, he regretted not realizing Skylar's potential back then. Even if Tobias were only fooling around, Skylar would undoubtedly be known among his usual crowd.

Forced to suppress her irritation and cooperate with Thomas, Irene placed her glass heavily on the table to vent her frustration.

Skylar didn't have an appetite even though Thomas had prepared a scrumptious meal. Hence, she picked up her bag and prepared to leave. "Enjoy your meal. I've said what I wanted to say. I'll be leaving now."

Seeing that Skylar was leaving already, Thomas panicked and finally blurted out, "Can you help me just this once? I need to meet Tobias. Our company is facing a problem, and Tobias is the only one who can solve it. If you don't help me, I might end up getting entangled in a lawsuit. I'm still your father, Skylar. You can't turn your back on me."