

Chapter 1785 Not Starting Our Relationship Over

Mandy nodded thoughtfully, realizing that Della's efforts to pair Locke with the other girl were simply wishful thinking.

"Besides, you're far more beautiful than she is!" Locke added unexpectedly.

Caught off guard by his sudden compliment, Mandy felt her cheeks flush. She let out a small snort to conceal her embarrassment and averted her gaze.

However, she couldn't ignore the underlying implication in Locke's words—that he and his parents had drifted apart since his time abroad.

This sparked her curiosity about the events that had transpired between them.

However, before she could voice her inquiries, Locke added, "I returned because my father fell ill. He can no longer oversee the family business, so as his son, it's my responsibility to take charge."

Mandy's mind buzzed with questions as she stared at Locke, unsure where to begin.

Sensing her confusion, Locke tousled her hair affectionately and smiled reassuringly. "Don't worry. My father is receiving care in a sanatorium abroad. My mother is staying there to be with him. They won't be returning, so they won't disrupt our lives

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Momentarily lost in his soothing words, Locke offered a distracted nod in response.

Locke had always possessed a persuasive charm since childhood. If he said something, it was almost sure to be true.

Even after all these years, Mandy still found herself instinctively trusting him.

Nevertheless, the present was fraught with insurmountable obstacles. Regardless of their shared history, the prospect of rekindling their former relationship seemed unattainable.

"My mother had no plans to return, but upon discovering that we had reconnected, she grew concerned that we might reignite our romance, prompting her to rush back overnight," Locke confessed, his tone shifting from solemn to ambiguous when mentioning the possibility of reigniting their relationship.

Understanding the implication behind his words, Mandy's anger flared. She fixed him with a steely gaze, teeth gritted, and retorted, "What nonsense are you talking about? We've never been in love. How can we possibly restart a relationship?"

Amused by Mandy's fiery response, Locke chuckled. "Alright, I misspoke. Let's say I fell in love with you at first sight, and the feeling was mutual."

Blushing and shooting him a pointed glare, Mandy retorted, "Who said anything about me falling in love with you?"

Sporting a mischievous smile, Locke teased, "Aren't you curious about my relationship with my mother's assistant?"

Didn't he claim not to be acquainted with that assistant? How was it possible that they had connections?

Feeling a wave of nervousness, Mandy shifted her gaze to Locke.

However, as she caught his meaningful gaze, she came to the realization that she had been deceived.

Fueled by anger, she snapped, "I don't want to know!"

"Alright, I was just teasing! I've already made it clear to my mother that a relationship with the assistant is out of the question. She won't try to set me up with anyone else again."


Mandy let out a snort, feigning indifference but still listening attentively to Locke's words.

As Locke noticed Mandy's silence, he interpreted it as doubt and felt compelled to elaborate, "I made it clear to my mother that I would refuse to take over Avila Group if she continued to interfere in our lives."


In fact, besides this, there were other reasons as well.

Before assuming control of Avila Group, Locke had already launched his own business and had been in conflict with his parents for eight years, largely because of Mandy.

Concerned that her relationship with Locke might

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deteriorate further, Della reluctantly apologized to
Mandy and departed, feeling disheartened.

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