

Never Say 408

“And who might this be?”

“A friend. She’s a college student looking for part-time work, so she reached out to me. I’m taking her for training,” Cornelius explained.

Casting a playful look at Hannah’s back, Valery commented, “Cornelius, you’ve improved. Are you now even getting college students?”

“Oh, Valery, spare me your teasing, please.” Cornelius clapped his hands together, saying, “Why not make some cash and lend a friend a hand in the process?”

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“Hmm,” Valery replied, indifferent, her eyes fixed on Hannah.

“Turn around. Let me get a good look at you.”

At Valery’s request, Hannah’s grip on her bag’s strap tightened.

Turning around could blow her cover; all her hard work would go to waste.

“What’s the holdup? Turn around, I said!” Valery’s voice edged toward irritation.

Cornelius surveyed the tension, contemplating a change of subject.

Just then, the manager’s office door swung open.

Mr. Turner emerged, spotted Valery, and said, “Valery, good to see you. Come on in.”

Glancing at Cornelius and Hannah, Mr. Turner gestured impatiently.

“Aren’t you two headed for training? Get moving.”

Eager to defuse the situation, Cornelius chimed in, “Valery wanted to meet the new recruit.”

“Never mind that.”

Valery flicked her hair back with disdain.

“Prioritize the customers.

Take her up first.”

“Understood.”

Seizing the moment, Cornelius turned around and guided Hannah upstairs.

Once inside the office, the manager got straight to the point.

“We have an important guest arriving at 10 tonight.”

“Who?”