

'Angels' suffered in culture of misogyny

Victoria's Secret defined femininity for millions of women. Its catalog and fashion shows were popular touchstones. For models, landing a spot as an "Angel" all but guaranteed international stardom.

But inside the company, two powerful men **presided** over an **entrenched** culture of **misogyny**, bullying and harassment, according to interviews with more than 30 current and former executives, employees, contractors and models, as well as court filings and other documents.

preside 支持; 管理

entrenched 根深蒂固的

misogyny 厌女

crotch 胯部

Ed Razek, for decades one of the top executives at L Brands, the parent company of Victoria's Secret, was the subject of repeated complaints about inappropriate conduct. He tried to kiss models. He asked them to sit on his lap. He touched one's **crotch** ahead of the 2018 Victoria's Secret fashion show.

The atmosphere was set at the top. On multiple occasions, Leslie Wexner, the billionaire founder and chief executive of L Brands, was heard **demeaning** women.

demean 贬低

dismissive 轻蔑的; 鄙视的

In March, at a meeting at Victoria's Secret headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, an employee asked Wexner what he thought about the retail industry's embrace of different body types. He was **dismissive**.

"Nobody goes to a plastic surgeon and says, 'Make me fat,'" Wexner replied, according to two attendees.

The interviews with the models and employees add to a picture of Victoria's Secret as a troubled organization. L Brands is **on the brink of** a **high-stakes** transition.

on the brink of 在...的边缘

stakes 赌注; 风险

The annual Victoria's Secret fashion show has been canceled after nearly two decades on network TV. Razeq, 71, stepped down from L Brands in August. And Wexner, 82, is exploring plans to retire and to sell the *lingerie* company, people familiar with the matter said.

lingerie 内衣