

## **Chapter 291 I Want to Fly My Own Plane**

Hearing those voices, Nicole frowned slightly. "That sounds like Yvette..."

Kai was doubtful. "Really?"

He then stood up and went outside. When he came back, he brought Yvette, Julie, and Ian with him.

The three of them were all red-eyed. Yvette jumped over as soon as she saw Nicole. "Lil N!"

Julie also wanted to jump at Nicole, but Kai grabbed her clothes to stop her.

"One by one! Don't touch my sister's wounds!"

Julie immediately stopped fighting him. The worry in her eyes was unconcealed.

"You're injured?!"

Nicole patted Yvette's back and looked at Julie with a smile. "I'm fine now, mostly recovered!"

Ian Carter, who was standing on the side, looked so disheveled, thin, and drained. He even had stubble all over his jaw from not having shaved for days.

Seeing that Nicole was fine, Ian kneeled on one knee in front of Nicole's hospital bed and started to sob.

Yvette, who was also choking back sobs, was speechless.

Julie was too shocked to say anything.

Suddenly, the somewhat sad atmosphere instantly dissipated.

Floyd, who wanted to pretend not to have seen that, helplessly stood up and carried Tigger out of the room.

When Floyd got to the door, he muttered, "Those who don't know are gonna think

someone just died...”

Kai was also speechless as he watched Ian crying hysterically without a care for his image. Kai can no longer stand watching this and immediately ran out to get a breath of fresh air.

Julie finally managed to drag Ian up.

“What are you crying for? Nicole came back safely, so you should be happy!”

Ian cried while tugging at Nicole’s sleeve.  
“I thought you were dead... Lil N, you really scared the sh\*t out of me...”

Yvette sobbed. Everyone was a little emotional, but Ian was the first one who broke down.

“Nicole Stanton, how could you not tell us when you came back?! We all thought that you were really dead. Everyone’s so depressed because of you!”

Nicole’s nose felt a little sore. She sniffed and apologized.

**“I’m sorry... I was afraid that you’ll get scared seeing me in that condition. I originally planned to wait until I was fully recovered to tell you guys...”**

**Julie, who was usually an aloof and proud person, also could not help but shed some tears at this time.**

**“It’s okay... All that matters is that you’re back! You’re surely a lucky star for having escaped such a catastrophe!”**

**They asked what Nicole went through, so Nicole told them the full story since there was nothing to hide.**

**It felt like all these thrills and adventures had happened in a previous life.**

**Yvette and Julie listened excitedly, but Ian only sat in silence at the side, becoming more sullen as he listened.**

**After the story, Nicole nudged Ian with her foot and frowned.**



**“Ian, why didn’t you even react to my story?”**

**Ian covered his face and looked lost. His voice had an unconcealed chagrin and regret.**

**“Why am I not the one who saved you? Why is it Eric Ferguson again?”**

**With this, the room fell into a dead silence that even a pin drop could be heard.**

**Julie glared at Ian, then blocked Nicole’s line of sight and changed the subject with a smile.**

**“Nathaniel suddenly released this video. That’s how we found out that you’re still alive. You’ve gone crazy viral this time... Reporters everywhere are looking for you!”**

**Julie took out her phone and showed her the trending topics. In just a short span, this video had already reached millions of**

views. The degree of attention was way beyond anyone's imagination.

Nicole pursed her lips, but she was not too surprised because Nathaniel told her when they were on the island that if they managed to get out alive, she might appear in his work.

“Let my big brother worry about this. I bought a couple of private planes, and I'm gonna learn to fly them!”

Nicole was a little traumatized and felt it was too risky to rely on another pilot, so why not just fly the plane herself!

Yvette screamed in excitement. “OMG! So cool!”

Julie was rational and said, “You need to calm down...”

## **Chapter 292 Thank You for Never Giving Up**

In a few days, the online discussion was getting more and more intense. The number of views and comments was soaring, and this video spread like wildfire.

Nicole was almost fully recovered and was ready to leave the hospital. Under layers of coverings and disguise, she was still recognized as soon as she went out.

Numerous microphones and reporters swarmed over to Nicole.

**“Ms. Stanton, are all of those experiences real?”**

**“Ms. Stanton, is there anything you want to say after surviving this ordeal?”**

**“Do you think that this plane crash was an accident?”**

**“Are you planning to take your**

relationship with Nathaniel Ferguson further?"

.....

Countless reporters blocked the entrance of the hospital with their cameras flashing.

The bodyguards formed a protective circle around them, shielding Nicole and Kai in the center.

The crowd was overwhelming, and Kai was getting slightly impatient with all these reporters. Having lived in the spotlight for so long, Kai knew that these people would not rest easily.

He took Nicole in his arms and walked forward with great strides towards the Lincoln stretch limousine parked not far away.

Nicole suddenly stopped walking and raised her head to reveal her bright and stunning eyes.

At this time, however, there was a layer of sorrow overshadowing her beautiful eyes.

It was perplexing.

Everyone quieted down and waited for her to speak.

Nicole's voice was a little hoarse, but every word was clear and articulate.

“I'm glad that everyone is thinking about my safety, but please stop paying attention to me. Because... There are more than thirty people on the plane who are not as lucky as I am, and their families will be in pain every time they see news like these.”

After that, Nicole bowed solemnly and respectfully.

The surrounding voices gradually died down, and the vibrant atmosphere sank into a cold silence.

Nicole did not say another word after, so



**Kai held her by the shoulders and led her to the car.**

**Her return was not just a gimmick for popularity. It was also painful for some people.**

**After all, the only person who survived the plane crash was Nicole.**

**Soon, this short response from Nicole won everyone's hearts.**

**Nathaniel even removed his latest video that was going viral.**

**[You can really see a person's character through the details. Nicole is really a goddess to still think of others at this time. She has such a big heart!]**

**[Such a beautiful and kind-hearted young lady! I really want to marry her! Nicole, please make your debut in showbiz!]**

**[I'm a family member of the victims of the plane crash. We firmly believe that**

**they're the same as Ms. Stanton, stuck someplace on an adventure, and hopefully come back one day. Ms. Stanton, we wish that you can live well so that they can live vicariously through you. You are our hope!]**

**This last comment had the most likes and was bumped to the top.**

.....

**Nicole got a new phone and saw that the most liked comment under her response was from one of the family members of the plane crash victims.**

**She immediately replied. [Whether separated by time, space, or geography, there will be a day when they'll come back. Thank you for never giving up.]**

**Perhaps Nicole's words worked, or perhaps someone authorized the platform to reduce the discussion on this topic because this matter finally subsided. The reporters no longer**

squatted outside Stanton Tower.

Nicole had a period of calm for a while. Her life was back on track, but she was in no hurry to go back to work. Perhaps Nicole had used too much energy during her desert island survival adventure, so nowadays, she really enjoyed eating, drinking, and just having fun.

Floyd was also happy to see his daughter in this state. Every day, he would drag Nicole to go fishing with him. They would shop, buy a yacht, and even watch live-streaming shopping sessions together. Floyd would help her hold a variety of parties and had never batted an eye when it came to spending money.

Life was peaceful and wonderful, up until Nicole received an unfamiliar phone call.

She thought that it was a friend who changed their number, so she cheerfully picked it up.

“Hey! Name please...”

The other party was silent for a second.

“Eric Ferguson...” His magnetic voice was familiar and deep.

Beep--

Nicole hung up.

Eric’s eyes darkened as he looked at the call that was disconnected. His face instantly turned glum.

He had been busy during this time abroad. He had endured missing her for so long. He was worried about her recovery, but more so, her psychological recovery.

However, he was no longer qualified to worry about her.

Eric had watched Nathaniel’s video over and over again. Every time he watched it, he would feel his chest tighten. He felt so suffocated that he could not breathe.

People online were praising her bravery,

**strength, and luck.**

**Only his heart ached for her stoicism and fear.**

**Just after getting off the plane, Eric could not resist taking his driver's phone to call Nicole, but this was the result...**



## **Chapter 293 Who Will Be Interested in You?**

Mitchell followed Eric from behind, carrying his suitcase. He looked at his boss' despondent and cold figure and could not help but remind him in trepidation.

“President, Lee's phone...”

Lee, the driver following behind them, watched in trepidation as his few-hundred-dollar phone was almost crushed in Eric's hand.

Mitchell was familiar with Nicole's number, so Eric found a random number to call her.

After all, Eric had saved her, so something should have changed between them.

Who knew that once Nicole heard his name, she would hang up the phone

without hesitation?

Eric's face was glum as he deleted the call record and threw the phone back to Mitchell. Eric had such an unapproachable aura about him.

Mitchell gave the phone back to the driver, Lee, then quickly caught up to Eric.

“President, the famous painter Mr. Wilhelm invited you to attend the soft opening of his fine art exhibition restaurant this evening...”

Stanton Mansion.

Nicole hummed a tune while picking out an outfit for this evening's banquet in her dressing room. This would be the first time she attended a public event after her return.

Thus, she had to look her best.

That phone call from Eric was like a hiccup. She did not take it to heart at all. She wanted Eric Ferguson to know that

she was grateful, but she would never offer up herself to him!

Kai was forced to sit in the living room and watch Nicole parade outfit after outfit like a happy little bird. At the rate that she was changing, she probably wanted to wear all the latest collections of the season.

'I suddenly feel like going back to work...'  
Kai thought.

Floyd had someone bring over the custom-made and exquisite pink diamond necklace. The diamonds on it were large, unique, and precious.

The necklace was paired with a light pink slim fit dress that Nicole just tried on which outlined her slender waist. Her long hair was let loose and draped over lazily behind her back. The dress and the necklace had such a gentle, stunning, and harmonious coexistence, which made Nicole very satisfied.

It was neither exaggerated nor inappropriate.

Kai narrowed his eyes. When he saw the necklace, he was slightly stunned.

“Dad, isn’t that for your daughter-in-law?”

Floyd rolled his eyes at him. “Only blind people will be interested in you...” 1

‘So, this is my future wife’s share?!’ Kai was speechless as he felt his father’s contempt.

Nicole blinked her beautiful eyes innocently.

She said in a playful and lazy voice, “K, this design isn’t reserved for my sisters-in-law, but you should have a sense of crisis...”

Kai choked on his words. He stood up and was about to get dressed to accompany Nicole to the event, but Nicole stopped

him.

“Someone else will accompany me.”

“Who?”

Floyd and Kai spoke in unison, guarded.

“Nathaniel, the one who saved me on the island.”

Kai sighed in relief. ‘Phew, that’s just a man-child...’

According to his understanding of Nicole, she would not like this type of man.

Floyd nodded meaningfully like he was quite satisfied with this person.

“Alright then, get Mr. Anderson to send you there.”

Mr. Anderson answered at the side with a joyful smile.

Nicole was dressed so beautifully, so she certainly should not drive herself. Thus, she did not refuse.



In the evening when the sky darkened, neon lights lit up the whole city.

Nathaniel Ferguson wore a custom-made suit and looked so dapper and handsome. Even when he was just standing there, he had already attracted the attention of many girls.

This was a soft opening for the exhibition restaurant, so not many were invited.

The furnishings inside were simple and elegant, yet everywhere was meticulously designed. It was very much in line with Mr. Wilhelm's style.

Nathaniel went to order some food while Nicole visited the exhibition hall. When she saw the last painting at the end of the promenade, that black and red picture hit her with such impact that her body stiffened.

This was the second time she saw this painting.

The stunning woman in the red dress in that painting was Nicole.

The man behind her was unconscious, but his features were striking and prominent. That was Eric Ferguson.

The endless darkness behind them seemed to swallow everything. In front of her was a huge palace door. Her shoulders were slim, but she looked so strong as she firmly pushed the door open to take him away, walking towards the sun.

Nicole pursed her lips. The famous painter, Mr. Wilhelm, had already arrived behind her. He was old but very spirited. “Is it nice staring at yourself?”

Nicole turned back and said playfully, “Of course! Not everyone can be as beautiful as me.”

“Pfft...” Mr. Wilhelm snorted coldly. His gaze was deep as it landed on that

painting.

“The photo you took was taken by someone in that restaurant...”

Nicole remembered the photo Eric had, and her eyes darkened slightly.

“I want to buy this painting. State your price.”

Nicole did not want this painting to be seen by Eric Ferguson. Otherwise, it would be a problem.

“It’s not for sale!” The old man decisively refused.

Nicole frowned and intended to reason with Mr. Wilhelm.

However, when she turned around, she saw the man standing not far away, staring at her and the painting with such a deep gaze.

His face was cold.

The moment Nicole saw Eric, her heart

**jumped.**

## **Chapter 294 Sell It to Him**

Nicole's body instinctively stiffened for a moment. It was too late to avoid him.

Eric Ferguson had already walked in front of her with big strides.

He took out the photo from his pocket. His brow was slightly furrowed as he stared intently at the painting on the wall.

It was exactly the same.

His face was pale. "How did..."

Mr. Wilhelm glanced at the photo in Eric's hand and said in a nonchalant voice, "Oh, so it was you who stole my photo..."


Eric's face was sullen. He swept a glance at Nicole, but she deliberately did not look at him.

Nicole's light makeup was exquisite. Her long pink dress outlined her perfect figure in all the right places and made her



look so stunning. She did not look as cold as usual, but softer. She was so beautiful that he could not take his eyes off her.

Eric's gaze darkened slightly. "Mr. Wilhelm, this photo..."

"Yup, I took this photo. This girl dragged you out of that place while I was drinking coffee across the street. This is one of my most satisfying works. Want it?" 

The old man's words made Nicole's previous denial that she was not the person in the painting invalid.

Once Nicole heard this, she became furious. "Old Master, how could you?! I was the one who asked first!"

He just said that it was not for sale, so if he wanted to sell it, it should be a first come first served rule.

The old man looked at Eric Ferguson with a smile.

"I always sell my work based on my mood

and whoever's more pleasing to my eye."

Mr. Wilhelm treated the painting that Gillian and Chloe Snyder wanted last time the same way.

Eric's gaze was deep with a faint spark in them. He hooked his lips.

"I want it. Mr. Wilhelm, state your price."

Any amount was worth it!

Mr. Wilhelm's smile deepened as he extended one index finger.

Eric did not hesitate to turn to Mitchell, who was behind him, and instructed, "Transfer \$100 million to Mr. Wilhelm immediately."

Mitchell was shocked. '\$100 million for a painting?! Even an heirloom antique masterpiece isn't so valuable...'

Mr. Wilhelm smiled and glanced at Nicole. "Transfer it to her, since I painted her anyway."

Chapter 294 Sell  
Nicole was so exasperated that she could not speak. "This old man lost his mind!"

She could not stay there for another second.

Just when Nicole was about to leave in a huff, Nathaniel walked over with a frivolous smile. "Nikki, you're here! I was looking for you everywhere..."

"Hey, Uncle Eric. Why are you here too?"

When Eric saw Nathaniel, his face sank. His eyes turned even colder when he heard Nathaniel calling her "Nikki" so intimately.

The air pressure around them unconsciously lowered.

Nathaniel casually walked over to Nicole and took her arm affectionately.

He hooked his lips and asked, "Nikki, shall we watch a movie after dinner?"

The atmosphere instantly became a little

Chapter 294 Self  
weird. Mr. Wilhelm looked at them with an ambiguous and strange gaze.

The old man looked a little confused. “This is...”

Nathaniel introduced himself frankly while he looked at Nicole adoringly.

“I’m Nathaniel Ferguson. Nikki and I have been through life and death together and have survived against all odds. We’re more than close friends...”

At those words, Eric’s face darkened at a speed visible to the naked eye.

Mr. Wilhelm just let out a quick “oh” and “ah” before he immediately found an excuse to run away because he noticed that the atmosphere was off.

He left them to stare at each other face to face.

Eric’s gaze was clear and cold. His tone was hostile.

Chapter 294 Sent  
“Nathaniel, you’re pretty capable now, huh?”

Nathaniel’s gaze was clear and innocent as he looked at Eric.

“Uncle Eric, you’re already divorced. Why don’t you allow single people to nurture their feelings with each other?”

At the mention of this, the air around them instantly plunged into a deadly coldness.

Mitchell, who was behind Eric, kept giving Nathaniel signals with his eyes, warning him to speak less.

However, Nathaniel pretended not to see any of it and continued to try Eric’s patience.

Nathaniel looked at Nicole and asked nonchalantly, “Nikki, shall we?”

Nicole nodded. She did not want to stay here for another second.



When the couple turned around, Eric's icy voice came from behind them.

"Nathaniel Ferguson, do you not want your studio anymore?"

Nathaniel's footsteps lurched.

"Uncle Eric, how can you threaten me like that?"

Nathaniel wanted to say something, but he was afraid of embarrassing himself in front of Nicole.

After holding back, he looked at Nicole and said, "Nikki, why don't you go and eat first. I'll join you shortly."

Nicole did not care about their uncle-and-nephew rift and disappeared out of sight in a few seconds.

Nathaniel stood there and raised his eyebrows slightly, with a cynical look on his face.

"Uncle Eric, it's useless even if you

**threaten me. Nikki doesn't have any interest in you at all!"**

**Eric stepped forward with an intimidating chill in his eyes.**

**"Who are you to call her Nikki?!"**

## **Chapter 295 You Can't Separate Lovebirds**

Nathaniel subconsciously took a step back. He still did not have the guts to go against Eric.

Even so, he braced himself and said, “She... She willingly said so! Uncle Eric, you can't just separate lovebirds...”

As soon as he said that, Nathaniel's entire body was picked up and shoved against the wall. His scalp was tingling, and his back was in severe pain.

As an explorer, Nathaniel had a much better physique than the average person, but in the face of Eric Ferguson, he simply became a weak little boy who could not fight back.

**His dignity was trampled under Eric's feet!**

**Eric glared at him coldly without the**

slightest regard for kinship. His actions were firm and ruthless.

“Nathaniel Ferguson, if you have a death wish, just say so. I’ll gladly grant it...”

Mitchell hurriedly stepped forward. “President, there’s still room for discussion. Young Master Nathaniel is just joking! How could Ms. Stanton be attracted to him?”

Nathaniel was completely butchered in seconds. However, there was still defiance in his fear. At the thought of Nicole, Nathaniel was full of spirit again.

“How could she not be attracted to me? Nikki only likes young hunks after her divorce. Aren’t they all my type?”

All those men who had scandals with Nicole were really different from business elites like Eric Ferguson.

Therefore, Nathaniel was very confident.

Eric laughed in exasperation. Those cool

eyes carried a murderous chill.

“Nathaniel Ferguson, I’m warning you to stay away from her, or else, I’ll just have to arrange a marriage alliance for you.”

His tone carried such crushing contempt.

This was not even a warning. It was just a notice.

Nathaniel’s expression changed a few times.

For gentries like them, who were not as successful as Eric in commanding the family business and their own destiny, their destinies could only be controlled by their families.

Eric coldly let go of Nathaniel and did not glance at him again before he turned around and left.

Mitchell followed suit, not forgetting to take away the hundred-million-dollar painting with him.



In the meantime, he gave Nathaniel a sympathetic look.

‘Out of all women, he wants to steal Eric’s woman? Isn’t he just asking for trouble?’

Regardless of whether Nathaniel joined her for dinner, Nicole ate very well.

During her meal, many people came to talk to her and added her on social media.

Nicole saw that these people looked familiar, so she did not refuse and could only accept their friend requests.

Various men and women came over excitedly to add Nicole on social media because this was a rare opportunity.

Eric passed by and overheard a group conversation.

One of the guys was holding his phone excitedly. “I can’t believe Nicole accepted my friend request!!”

“Me too! I didn’t expect her to be so down to earth! She’s too pretty...”

**“No, wait... Why didn't she accept my friend request?”**

**Another guy's tone was puzzled and disappointed.**

**Eric's anxious heart settled again as he left expressionlessly.**

**Nicole finally managed to take a breather. At this time, Nathaniel came out looking dispirited.**

**“Nikki, let's go...”**

**Nicole nodded and followed him to the car while she looked at what movies were available at this time on her phone.**

**Nathaniel was still a little frightened by that encounter with Eric. When he drove downhill away from the restaurant, the lights of the car opposite them flashed. He did not manage to stop in time and collided with the car in the front.**

**Nathaniel cursed. ‘What bad luck!’**

He was just about to get out of the car to settle this when he saw Eric getting out of that car. Eric stood in front of the car looking at the part that was hit and swept a cold glance at the two people in the other car.

Nathaniel's body stiffened. He was obviously scared.

Nicole noticed Nathaniel's reaction and thought, 'Wasn't he quite bold inside the restaurant? Why does he look like a little mouse who just saw a cat now?'

"You're afraid of him?"

Nathaniel refused to admit it.

He gritted his teeth and said, "I'm not afraid. It's called respect!"

## **Chapter 296 The Divorced Couple's Date**

Nicole raised an eyebrow and watched as Nathaniel got out of the car looking like he was accepting a death sentence with open arms.

Nathan walked over to Eric's low-profile and expensive Cayenne that he drove today. The collision caused quite a lot of damage.

On the contrary, his Jeep Grand Cherokee was unharmed in the slightest.

However, Nathaniel had not figured out how exactly they collided in the first place.

In this scenario, Nathaniel did look like the guilty party...

Usually, this kind of issue could be settled with some money, but since the other party was Eric Ferguson, this would not

be an easy feat.

Eric's dark eyes stared at Nathaniel. He said with a compelling chill in his voice, "Should we go by proceedings or settle this privately?"

Nathaniel pursed his lips. 'Do I even have a choice?'

"P-Proceedings..."

Eric's gaze was indifferent as he took out his phone. "Then I'll get your father."

Nathaniel's expression stiffened. He quickly stopped Eric. "Don't! Uncle Eric, let's settle this privately!"

Eric put away his phone and threw his keys to Nathaniel.

"Go get it fixed now."

"Now?"

Nathaniel held the keys and did not know whether to go or stay.



Nicole was still sitting in his car waiting to go to the movies later...

Seeing Nathaniel's hesitation, Eric's face turned colder.

"You're still not leaving?"

Nathaniel dared not delay. 'I'll just apologize to Nikki later!'

Nicole looked at this scene in confusion. 'Why is Nathaniel running to Eric's car?'

At this time, Eric straightened his shirt and went to the driver's seat next to Nicole.

Nicole looked at him and said in a cold tone, "Mr. Ferguson, did you get into the wrong car?"

Eric's face was light and had hidden the anger from earlier very well.

The corners of his eyes had a hint of tenderness. His voice was also magnetic, mellow, and alluring.

**“No, he insisted on fixing my car and asked me to accompany you. Didn’t you want to go to the movies?”**

**With that, Eric started the car engine and drove towards the biggest movie theater as if nothing was wrong between them.**

**After knowing each other for so long, they had never gone to the movies together nor done anything normal couples would do.**

**At that thought, Eric felt like his heart was being squeezed and unconsciously felt suffocated.**

**Nicole paused and looked at him as if he was a stranger.**

**“Mr. Ferguson, what are you saying? Have you seen a divorced couple going on a date to the movies?”**

**“This is ridiculous!” Nicole thought.**

**Eric’s face froze for a moment. His smile**

immediately returned to a gentle and natural state.

“What’s wrong with that? Divorced couples can still remarry...”

He was testing the waters, but he made this proposal sound irrefutable.

Nicole looked at him in silence. Her eyes showed no emotion.

The temperature inside the car gradually cooled.

Eric did not turn his head, but he could already feel Nicole’s cold and detached gaze.

This was the first time he was sitting on pins and needles in front of a woman, but he did so willingly.

He could not help but laugh deprecatingly at himself in his heart because he inflicted all this misery on himself.

“Stop the car.” Nicole’s voice was icy cold.

Eric clenched his jaw. His voice was still gentle.

“We’re not there yet...”

Nicole gave him a deep look, then without hesitation, she unbuckled her seatbelt and opened the car door.

The moment the cold wind blew in, Eric’s face suddenly turned extremely glum.

Screech --

Eric abruptly slammed on the brakes. At the same time, he quickly pulled Nicole, whose body was already half out the door.

While he was shocked, the bitterness at the bottom of his heart became more intense.

The feeling of powerlessness in his heart pulsed through every vein and gradually spread to his whole body. All he felt was weakness and helplessness.

Even his hand that was holding onto her

trembled slightly.

Nicole was willing to accept Nathaniel's date and was willing to add random guys on social media, but when it came to him, she would rather jump out of the car and risk her life than stay with him.

Eric could no longer keep his gentle facade. Painful remorse flashed across his eyes that were darker than the night.

"Nicole..."

His voice was low, raspy, and extremely humble.



## **Chapter 297 I Invested in All of These**

Nicole did not get to jump out of the car. She just sat there and cast a sidelong glance at Eric. Her gaze was as cold as the cold wind in the night.

**‘Remarry him?! Bloody impossible!’**

Nicole did not like Eric’s proposal, not even as a joke.

Eric’s eyes were deep and dark, blending into the night.

**“Why did you lie to me that it wasn’t you? The woman in the photo is clearly you...”**

**‘Why won’t you admit it? Why won’t you admit that you saved me?’** Eric thought.

The moment Eric confirmed that it was Nicole, he felt indescribably relaxed and vaguely happy.

Nicole laughed. **“So what if it’s me? What can you do with this knowledge?”**

She had him at a loss.

‘Yeah, what could I do...?’

At that moment, Eric’s expression was clearly stagnant. The corners of his lips were tightly pressed into a straight line.

Eric, who had always been calm and steady, seemed to be on the verge of collapsing.

Nicole hooked her lips into a faint smile. Her red lips parted slightly as she said, “Mr. Ferguson, can’t you see that I’m lying to you because I don’t want to have anything to do with you anymore? That’s all in the past, and I’m someone who will never look back. Not to mention remarriage, I’ve never reconciled with friends that I’ve cut off contact with. Mr. Ferguson, just move on. We don’t have anything to do with each other anymore, so we can marry whoever we like. No matter who you’re with in the future, I’ll certainly prepare a generous gift to

congratulate you.”

She was obviously smiling, but the words that came out of her mouth were like sharp nails that densely pricked Eric’s heart.

It hurt so much that he could not speak.

‘Was it all in the past? I knew nothing about these, yet she just drew the line at these things and classified them as a clear-cut past?’

Nicole said her piece and wanted to get out of the car without looking at him.

Eric’s voice was clear and cold, but with a hint of affection as he said behind her.

“Nicole, I saved your life. Do you not want to admit this?”

Nicole froze in an instant.

Her hand was propped on the door as she turned back to look at him.

Eric’s faint smile seemed to carry a trace

of bitterness.

“Fine, I won’t mention remarriage again, but there’s no need for you to avoid me like the plague, right? Didn’t you say that everything’s in the past? So can’t we just be regular friends?”

Nicole glanced at him with knitted eyebrows.

Her subtle change in expression was instantly captured by Eric.

Eric maintained a gentle and frank smile and hid the emotions deep in his eyes.

The corners of Nicole’s lips twitched. If Eric had not saved her life, she really would have just opened the door and left.

‘What game is this Eric Ferguson trying to play...?’ Nicole thought.

Eric withdrew his gaze. His long, sculpted fingers tapped the steering wheel gently.

“Since I’ve saved your life, why don’t we

watch a movie that I've invested in that just premiered today? As regular friends ...”

He said the last two words through clenched teeth.

Nicole scrutinized Eric's expression. As long as he did not mention dumb things like feelings or remarriage, she was willing to get along peacefully with him.

“Fine.”

She sat back in the car again. Her eyes looked straight ahead and pretended to be generous and forgiving.

When they arrived at the cinema, Nicole, who was wearing a formal dress, immediately captured a lot of attention. She was so stunning and eye-catching like she was a movie star attending a premiere.

Soon, a suit jacket was draped over her body, blocking the burning gaze of the



crowd.

“Don’t take it off unless you want to be in tomorrow’s tabloid headlines again.”

Nicole looked too outstanding and would be recognized sooner or later, so perhaps this jacket would make her more low-key.

Nicole’s outstretched hand retracted upon hearing this. She raised an eyebrow.

“Then let’s go buy a ticket. Mr. Ferguson, which movie did you invest in?”

Nicole swept a glance. ‘None of today’s movies are new. This lying son of a b\*tch!’

Eric swept a glance and said in a light tone, “I invested in all of these...”

Nicole was speechless.

## **Chapter 298 Came With the Tickets**

Eric walked up to the ticket counter. His outstanding handsome features soon became the focal point. The attendant blushed and recommended him some romantic comedies.

He did not care much for it and chose the movie with the closest showtime.

When he glanced to the side, he saw the couple next to him holding a large bucket of popcorn and a Coke and frowned slightly.

Nicole was bored sitting on the side with her chin propped up on her hand as she scrolled through her phone.

She was looking at the group chat messages, where Yvette and Julie were discussing where they should go for a ski trip.

Nicole wanted to give some inputs, but if

they found out that she was out at the movies with Eric Ferguson, their eyes would probably pop out of their sockets.

Next to her, a college-looking guy came over with a shy face.

“Excuse me, Miss. May I ask if you’re from U of A? Which department are you in?”

Nicole was stunned. ‘Right... U of A is just nearby...’

She instantly felt a little giddy with joy for being mistaken as a college student.

“I...” Nicole was just about to explain when the college student handed over his phone.

“Can I have your contact? We have a play that’s in need of a female lead at the moment...”

Nicole smiled at him with squinted eyes. Her eyes were glimmering like the stars.

The college student was so enchanted by Nicole's smile that he did not notice the cold aura from another person behind her.

The man placed one hand on the back of Nicole's chair like he was declaring sovereignty. His eyes were gloomy as he stared at the boy.

A familiar and cold voice with a compelling moroseness came from behind Nicole. "What are you guys talking about?"

He had such an awe-inspiring and reserved temperament. The Patek Philippe on his wrist was enough to end someone else's lifelong struggles.

Without having to speak, anyone could tell that this man was no ordinary person.

The college student's eyes dimmed as he withdrew his phone in defeat.

He hurriedly apologized and fled the

scene.

Nicole looked at the college student with regret. Her smile also faded.

Eric noticed her change in expression. His gaze darkened.

His heart felt like it was soaked in ice water. It was frozen and gloomy.

Nicole turned her head expressionlessly and was a little stunned to see what Eric was holding.

The bucket of popcorn and Coke in his hands were so out of place with his limited-edition expensive cashmere coat.

When Eric saw Nicole's expression, he pursed his lips unnaturally and said, "It came with the tickets."

Nicole immediately believed it. After all, Eric did not look like someone who would buy such childish things.

When they entered the hall, Nicole saw



the ticket in his hand. 'Hah! Horror movie?'

Nicole walked in expressionlessly. There were only two couples in the entire hall, them and the young couple in front of them.

After all, comedies were all the hype now, followed by literary films. Thus, there was not much of a market for horror films.

Eric intended to sit next to Nicole when she placed the large bucket of popcorn on the seat between them.

He frowned at her and clearly looked displeased.

Nicole glanced at him lightly and said in a cold tone, "Regular friends ought to have a sense of proportion, right, Mr. Ferguson?"

Eric remembered what Mitchell had said to him before leaving the gallery

restaurant earlier.

“You need to have full patience when you chase a girl. You absolutely can’t just get angry and leave, especially with Ms. Stanton. She won’t fall for this trick!”

Eric pondered for less than half a second and sat down one seat away from Nicole.

Before this, he did not think that he could sit down and watch a movie with her, so this was considered progress.

The young couple in front of them would occasionally kiss and hug and were very intimate.

Especially during a scary scene, the girl would just hide in the boy’s arms. She would even scream in a pretentious voice.

“Ah! I’m so scared! OMG, it’s so scary... I can’t look anymore...”

## **Chapter 299 Stay Away From Him**

Eric looked at Nicole, who was next to him. She was just looking at the big screen with concentration. The curves of her side profile were soft. Her nose bridge was high, and every inch of her skin was flawless.

Nicole quietly watched the movie. No matter how shocking or thrilling the sounds and scenes were, she was not the least bit afraid. Rather, she was watching with great interest and would let out a snort from time to time.

It was like she was not impressed by this low-budget horror movie and was mocking those ridiculous special effects.

She was treating it like comedy.

Eric clenched his fists tightly. All those scenarios he had in his head did not happen. The anticipation and fervor in his heart also dissipated with each time

she snorted.

He looked up and stared grimly at this so-called horror film.

He hated it to death.

Nicole did not touch the popcorn or Coke the entire time.

The couple in front of them were already glued as one as they shared a seat.

When the movie was about to end, Nicole looked down at her phone and tapped on it a few times. She then looked sideways at Eric as if nothing had happened.

She frowned slightly.

“Mr. Ferguson, why do you keep staring at me?”

Nicole did not deliberately suppress her voice, so when the couple in front heard her, they realized that someone was behind them the whole time.

Eric's voice was clear and cold. “You didn’

t say that I couldn't look at you..."

Nicole was speechless.

Eric then asked, "Why aren't you afraid?"

Nicole looked at him like he was crazy. She faintly hooked up the corners of her lips and replied, "What I experienced in the past is the true horror film."

It would be strange if she was scared of such low-level special effects and cliché scenes.

Compared to the movie, Nicole was more afraid that the couple in front of them would not be able to restrain themselves and give them a full show.

Fortunately, that couple did not do anything excessive.

Eric's chest hurt again when he heard this.

He silently looked away. His gaze resumed its dark and deep coldness.



The young couple in the front stood up hastily, fixed up their clothes, and left the hall with their heads down.

The phone in Nicole's hand lit up. She casually glanced at it and stood up.

"It's getting late. I should go back."

Eric stood up and spoke naturally.

"I'll send you back."

When Nicole got to the entrance and saw Mr. Anderson who was walking towards them, she paused in her footsteps. Her voice carried a faint coldness.

"Mr. Ferguson, even if you've saved me, I hope this won't happen again. Niel is my good friend, and no matter what becomes of our relationship, you have no right to interfere."

Eric's reaction tonight was somewhat unexpected. He had overstepped his bounds.

Exactly why was Nathaniel suddenly afraid of Eric and why he happened to bump into Eric's car was self-evident.

If Nicole did not get this point across, the same thing would happen again.

Naturally, Eric also saw her butler who came to pick her up.

However, her words still made Eric's face sink.

All night long, he had been carefully observing her emotions and was constantly making concessions. Being able to watch a movie with her felt like a luxury he could not afford.

However, Nicole still did not leave him a shred of hope. To her, even Nathaniel Ferguson was a million times more important than him!

Eric felt like someone hammered his heart. He could not breathe from the pain.

Nicole did not intend to get a response from Eric and did not even want to say goodbye.

Just as she was about to walk to the entrance of the theater, the person behind her suddenly caught up to her. The man fiercely pulled her arm and pinned her against the back of a pillar.

His eyes returned to their usual coldness. When he looked at Nicole, the shocking waves of emotions in his eyes seemed like they wanted to swallow her whole.

The man's big hand tightly squeezed Nicole's shoulder. He did not hide his anger, nor his jealousy. He could no longer bear her neglect.

His deliberately lowered voice was magnetic and clear, with such compelling authority that was borderline menacing.

"Nicole, I also hope that this won't happen again, so you must stay away

from him. Otherwise, he won't be able to live a good life. Although I'm soft on you and can't bear to touch you, he's a different story..."

## **Chapter 300 Of Course, Marriage Is Best**

Eric's eyes had a momentary flash of sharpness, ruthlessness, and firmness, which overwhelmed all other emotions.

That was his inherent noble, calm, and aloof temperament.

The moment Eric let go of Nicole, the butler the Stanton family happened to walk over.

“Miss... Oh, Mr. Ferguson, you're here too.”

Mr. Anderson was surprised. Eric's face was calm and gentle as if nothing had happened.

However, Nicole's face was not very pleasant. She was somewhat pale and seemed to be angry.

Since the relationship between these two was rather special, the butler was



especially wary.

Looking at the jacket draped over Nicole, Mr. Anderson immediately took out the shawl he prepared and respectfully handed it over.

“Miss, the Chairman is waiting for you at home...”

Nicole took a deep breath. She pushed Eric’s shoulder and took a step back, then yanked off Eric’s jacket and threw it on him.

She then took over the shawl from Mr. Anderson and put it on.

Nicole swept a contemptuous look at Eric and left in a huff without another word.

‘This two-faced son of a b\*tch! I guess he’s been pretending to be a gentleman all night and finally can’t help but reveal his true face, huh? Hmph! How dare he threaten me?! He can’t touch me, so he’s gonna make a move against Niel? He’s

simply a bully!’

Mr. Anderson hurriedly followed.

Eric watched as the slender and beautiful figure left in a huff. The anger in his eyes gradually dissipated, but his brows were tightly knitted.

After he cooled down, he thought, ‘Did I scare her just now?’

Eric calmly took out his phone and called his assistant Mitchell.

“Close down Nathaniel’s studio and notify him to work in our subsidiary in the neighboring city.”

“Yes, President.”

Nicole returned to the Stanton mansion with an unpleasant face.

Grant came back early to discuss some things with Floyd in the study. Kai intended to give Tigger a bath, but Tigger shook its little head in resistance.

Seeing that Nicole was back, Kai was a little surprised. "So early?"

Grant and Floyd came downstairs when they heard the commotion. Grant's eyebrows were relaxed, and he had a gentle smile on his face.

"Did you have fun?"

Nicole saw them and felt a large part of her bad mood disappear.

"Dad, Big Brother... You guys gotta prepare a generous gift for the Fergusons to thank them for saving my life. Otherwise, they'll think that we're ungrateful..."

'Otherwise, why would Eric Ferguson use this excuse to blackmail me?! I'm sick and tired of it!'

Grant raised his eyebrows and hooked his lips.

"Dad and I were just talking about this.

Some time ago when we contacted Eric Ferguson, he repeatedly excused himself. What he means is that money can't solve this..."

Grant paused and smiled at Nicole meaningfully.

Nicole gritted her teeth. 'Hmph! If it weren't for Mav, how could that son of a b\*tch get the opportunity to find me with his intelligence?!'

"Then what does he want?"

Kai spoke carelessly from the side. "Of course, marriage is the best. That son of a b\*tch Eric Ferguson surely won't let go of this opportunity. All those material things are meaningless. The most valuable thing in the whole Stanton family is you..."

Nicole naturally knew the meaning of Kai's words. The expression on her face stiffened slightly.

**Eric's act tonight was obvious enough.**

**He even proposed a remarriage and kept saying how full of regret he was.**

**However, all these were just ridiculous and meaningless to Nicole.**

**Whether or not Eric was sincere would not change a thing.**

**'He wants to exchange saving my life for feelings?!'**

**Nicole just felt like a thorn was stuck in her heart and felt extremely uncomfortable.**

**Looking at her pale face, Floyd fiercely glared at Kai, the deadbeat.**

**Floyd consoled Nicole. "Don't worry, our family hasn't yet reached the point of needing a marriage alliance. If he doesn't want money, we have nothing else to give. This will just keep dragging on then. I can't possibly let our princess marry**



him again, right? He can go ahead and daydream about marriage!”

Kai stuck out his tongue and immediately took a stand.

“I’m on your side! Lil N can choose anyone but Eric Ferguson! That bastard is on our family’s blacklist and can never be forgiven!”

Nicole agreed and stood up with a grunt.

“Hmph! He can’t even try to blackmail me with this! Worse comes to worst, I just won’t admit that he saved me!”

The three Stanton men were thick-skinned enough to agree with Nicole’s words.