

Chapter 441 You Want to Compete Against Me

Nicole was the focal point everywhere she went. Just like the first time in Tattle Bar when Eric first heard Nicole play the violin on the stage. She was so bright, passionate, and confident. It was as if all the beauty in this world belonged to her.

Eric would remember that moment forever.

Nicole watched the water rippling and did not say anything. She thought to herself, 'Is this psychopath Eric trying to mess up my good mood?!'

Eric said, "I suddenly feel like giving you all the nice things in this world..."

'Is he done?!' Nicole suddenly turned back and frowned.

Just as she opened her mouth, fireworks lit up the dark sky behind Eric.

A cluster of beautiful purple and red sparks suddenly exploded in the sky. It was a spectacular sight. In an instant, the meteor shower slowly fell into the Seine.

Nicole was amazed as she saw the

Nicole was amazed as he saw the beautiful blooms in the background of the river, lighting up the night sky.

Eris was sitting alone in his wheelchair with the fireworks as his background. However, he did not look weak.

He did not look back at the fireworks and only watched Nicole's mesmerized face. His eyes became gentle and covetous as he stared at Nicole.

"Like it?"

Nicole held her breath. "It's you?!"

It was not an easy feat to set off fireworks over The Seine as there were many regulations to adhere to. How did he do it?

Eric smiled. Before he could speak, a tall, cold figure gradually approached them.

Clayton let out a low chuckle. "It's King Louis XIII's birthday, so the locals are celebrating it. We're quite lucky to witness this. It's a 3D projection that looks extremely realistic, right?"

Nicole turned around and looked at Clayton with delight.

"Wow! It's such a coincidence?"

"Wow! It's such a coincidence?"

Clayton nodded. "Yeah, there's some sort of celebration going on over there. Your father and Michael went over. Shall we go take a look?"

"Sure!"

Nicole wanted to check it out. She initially thought that this was all arranged by Eric and was relieved to know it was not.

How could Eric arrange such a cheesy and cute surprise?

He was only capable of giving money and jewelry!

When Nicole pushed Eric's wheelchair, Clayton stepped forward and took over.

His voice was gentle and pleasant to her ears. "You go ahead first. Your father's looking for you. I'll take care of him."

Nicole did not think much of it and ran away happily.

Similarly, Luca, who was following them, ran after Nicole, leaving Toto by himself. Toto stood not far away and thought about whether he should go over.

Clayton pushed Eric's wheelchair. The

Clayton pushed Eric's wheelchair. The two men fell into silence.

They seemed so out of place with the fireworks in the background.

Both men were big shots who stood at the top of the pyramid. They were both quick-witted and shrewd due to their experience in the industry.

Although they did not have much interaction, they both knew each other's characters very well.

Eric exuded an oppressive chill. He flicked away a leaf that fell on his legs. He narrowed his eyes and said, "Mr. Sloan, your purpose is no longer just cooperation, right?"

His low voice carried a grim coldness.

Eric's attitude was very different from when he was with Nicole. It was a side of him that he would not let her see.

Clayton had one hand in his pocket. His tall and well-built figure was imposing. His powerful aura was equal to Eric's.

He raised an eyebrow and met Eric's scrutinizing gaze with a smirk.

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“Mr. Ferguson, are you upset that Michael tagged along, or that I came with Michael?”

Clayton did not answer Eric’s question directly, but the implication was self-evident.

He came prepared, so there was no need to deny it.

Eric’s eyes narrowed with a dangerous sharpness. His hawk-like eyes were sunken, cold, and dark.

“You want to compete against me?”

Chapter 442 You're Conceited

In that instant, the atmosphere between the two men seemed to be frozen.

Clayton did not show any aggression and looked indifferent with a faint smile on his face.

“So what if I am?”

Eric could not control his anger because the feeling of having his things coveted by others made him very upset.

Clayton was very powerful and mysterious. On the other hand, Eric's business was obviously huge.

In terms of strength, they were both equals.

Soon, Eric regained his composure. Anger was only resentment expressed by the weak, and he did not lose just yet.

His face was sunken in the dark. The fireworks bloomed in front of them, lighting up the sky intermittently, which cast a shadow on his glum face as he glared at Clayton.

“Mr. Sloan, you're too conceited.”

Mr. Sloan, you're too concerned."

Why would Nicole give Clayton a change when he has a child and such deep affection for his late wife?

Eric knew that Nicole would not succumb to another relationship.

Clayton looked indifferent as he said calmly, "I'm not."

He seemed very confident.

Eric turned his head to the side and swept a cold glance at Toto. Toto instantly responded and went over.

Toto was panting after a few seconds.

He glanced at Clayton, whose eyes were clear and cold, and deliberately said, "Mr. Ferguson, you have to grasp this opportunity to be with Ms. Stanton under the beautiful moonlight. Both of you love each other and should be inseparable..."

Toto pushed Eric's wheelchair and quickly left Clayton.

Clayton stood there and watched them leave. He let out a chuckle and silently shifted his eyes in a certain direction.

There were pedestrians all along the river.

There were pedestrians all along the river. Lil Michael happily hugged Nicole's arm as the both of them went around to see some interesting things.

Floyd looked very delighted. It was rare to have such a leisurely and lively moment with his beloved daughter by his side. This was the best life.

Nicole thought that since she was already in France, she would meet up with some old classmates, especially when she did not have any work arrangements.

She made an appointment with them for tomorrow night.

Toto pushed Eric's wheelchair and reminded him.

"Mr. Ferguson, I feel that Mr. Sloan has an interest in Ms. Stanton. It's all because Ms. Stanton is too outstanding. You can't let down your guard because I think that their relationship is much better than yours..."

Eric's face was dark and sullen. He was about to agree with Toto, but when he heard the last sentence, he did not want to say anything.

Toto saw that Eric was unhappy and consoled him.

“But... I don't think Ms. Stanton is interested in him. Although he's rich, he already has such a big child from his previous marriage. If he dies, it'll be a hassle to split his inheritance. Sigh... Rich people's problems are too complicated!”

Eric's face eased a bit.

Toto continued, “But... I think Ms. Stanton really likes his kid. What if she doesn't mind being a stepmother?”

‘Shut up!’ Eric's face was gloomy. His knuckles turned white from clutching his armrest so tightly.

“If that day really comes, I'll throw you into the Seine! You'd better think of something!”

Otherwise, why would Eric put up with Toto's incessant chatters for so long?

Toto was only hired to help him with Nicole. If Toto could not come up with a solution, Eric would not show him any mercy.

Hearing this, Toto shivered from the

mercy.

Hearing this, Toto shivered from the sudden chill. He quickly kept his mouth shut.

Chapter 443 Good at Kissing *ss

They went back to the chateau after midnight when the fireworks stopped and the streets became desolate.

Back at the chateau, the butler had prepared supper. The servants showed them to their respective rooms. Floyd was exhausted and went to bed.

Clayton carried the sleeping Lil Michael and went to his room.

Nicole was also a bit tired and had little appetite, so she went upstairs and found out that Eric's room was right opposite hers.

Toto, who came to deliver supper, called out to Nicole.

"Ms. Stanton, you haven't had anything to eat earlier. Have some light snacks before bed. It'll help with your sleep."

He always had a way with words.

During Nicole's moment of hesitation, Toto squeezed into her room.

"Did you know? Mr. Ferguson worked so hard today to prepare this fireworks

Did you know? Mr. Ferguson worked so hard today to prepare his fireworks display! He contacted so many departments and spent tens of millions just so you can see fireworks on the Seine! Sigh... If I'm a woman, I'll be so grateful that I can die happy!"

Nicole was startled. Her heart skipped a beat.

"Fireworks? Isn't it for the celebration of King Louis XIII's birthday?"

Toto looked at her strangely. His features were twisted in shock.

"Such a coincidence? Then this Louis XIII is really lucky. The fireworks are definitely not for him. Mr. Ferguson said that the tour can't be boring. Otherwise, it'll make you and Chairman Stanton unhappy. That's why he prepared this fireworks show for you. When have they ever celebrated King Louis XIII's birthday with such a big spectacle?"

Nicole's face changed slightly. She recalled that for the several years she was in France for work and study, there was really no holiday to celebrate the birthday of Louis XIII.

OF LOUIS XIII.

However, she never really cared for holidays because she would just join the fun whenever she pleased.

It seemed that this was really arranged by Eric.

Nicole pursed her lips and said, "That's quite the trouble."

Her heart was heavy as she felt that she still owed Eric a debt.

At that moment, the opposite door opened.

Eric stood in the doorway with a walking cane. He was tall and upright. The hair on his forehead was slightly messy. Besides his slightly pale face, he looked like a healthy person. His eyes were pensive and charming as he opened his thin lips.

"Why haven't you guys rested yet?"

Toto cheerfully came out of Nicole's room.

"Ms. Stanton found out that you arranged the fireworks show and was so touched that she almost cried. She said that you're so busy yet you can still think of these, so she's extremely emotional and hopes that you can recover sooner. That way, she can stand with you, hand in hand, to enjoy the

fireworks!"

Nicole, who was just about to close the door, was speechless.

All she said was "that's quite the trouble", but somehow, Toto made up that absurd speech.

Her gaze was complicated as she looked at Toto, who did not bat an eyelid.

Toto was chosen as Eric's butler not just because he was Mitchell's cousin, right?

His skills in kissing *ss were next level!

Eric gently raised his eyebrows. His cold face had a tenderness as he sized up Nicole with a faint smile.

"Okay, don't cry."

He promised that he would recover quickly so that she would not get so emotional.

Eric's hair was disheveled. He had a casual and lazy look and did not look like that high and mighty President of Ferguson Corporation that was distant and indifferent.

Nicole was speechless as she looked at

and indifferent.

Nicole was speechless as she looked at Eric strangely. 'He actually believes what Toto said? How can he stay in the industry with that IQ? Ridiculous!'

Chapter 444 Shouldn't Waste Food

Nicole wanted to say something sarcastic but thinking of the fireworks earlier, her tone eased a little.

"You think too much. Sleep early."

Before she closed the door, Eric tilted his head a little and suddenly said, "I'm hungry. I want what you're having."

Toto immediately said, "That's the last portion... Ms. Stanton, you'll be bored if you eat alone, why don't you share some with Mr. Ferguson?"

It would be a romantic supper for just the two of them!

Nicole narrowed her eyes and did not say anything.

Eric added, "I won't eat much..."

He only wanted to go to her room and accompany her for one meal.

Nicole raised her eyebrows and laughed lightly. She turned around, picked up the tray, and handed it to Toto.

"Okay, I'm not eating. It's all yours." 1

"Okay, I'm not eating. It's all yours."

She really regretted holding back her harsh words earlier. Eric's stupid habit of pushing his luck really made her want to kick him to death.

Eric wrinkled his eyebrows. "I don't mean this."

"But I do," she said.

"Aren't you hungry?" Eric looked at her.

She did not eat anything earlier.

Nicole retorted. "Well, just so that you can have enough, just let me starve to death!"

Eric froze. He originally thought of taking advantage of Nicole's soft heart to ease their relationship. He forgot how stubborn Nicole was.

He hesitated to take it, but Nicole had already shoved the tray to Toto.

"Toto, make sure Mr. Ferguson doesn't choke to death."

Nicole smirked and slammed her room door shut.

Eric gritted his teeth and laughed in exasperation.

exasperation.

'She really doesn't compromise!'

His chest felt stuffy.

Toto stood there with the tray and looked embarrassed.

He especially prepared this for Nicole according to her preferences. Eric would not appreciate it.

Toto snapped his head up and said ingratiatingly, "Mr. Ferguson, you should eat it on behalf of Ms. Stanton since she offered it to you so that you can get more nutrition and recover faster!"

Eric only glared at him coldly. Toto bowed his head and stared at the tray of food. 'Fine... I'll eat it. We can't waste food...'

Nicole went back to her room and saw the picture that Floyd sent her. It was a photo of Nicole and Eric on the bridge with fireworks in the background. Nicole was looking at the river while Eric was staring at her with such deep affection from his wheelchair. Time seemed to stop at that moment.

She knew why her father took this photo. Even Floyd felt soft-hearted, but she did

not. 3

Nicole silently deleted the photo and clicked into the group chat with her doctorate friends.

The group knew that Nicole was in France, so it was very active.

One of them brought up today's top news.

[Nic, did you see the fireworks on the Seine today? All major media are going crazy trying to get news about it! It's a rare sight in a hundred years...]

[Yeah! Remember the first birthday you spent here? I remember you wrote in our school's public class record that your wish was to see fireworks on the banks of the Seine! I think that book might still be there...]

.....

Nicole scrolled through the messages. Her mind went blank for a moment. She suddenly realized something.

She had forgotten that watching fireworks on the banks of the Seine was the first wish she made when she had to spend her birthday alone the first year she was in France.

was in France.

At that time, she had nothing to wish for, so she just casually wrote down a wish that probably would not come true.

She never thought that it would come true today.

Nicole pursed her lips. Her heart clenched and she found it hard to breathe.

‘Eric didn’t plan this because of my wish, right?’

She put away her phone and looked out the window. The warm lights around the chateau and green landscape were such a beautiful scene like a dream. A light drizzle left oblique watermarks on the window.

Nicole laughed. ‘It’s probably just coincidental. How would Eric know about her wish anyway?’

At that moment, she received a message from Eric.

[To the smart and beautiful Ms. Stanton,
I hope that all your wishes will come true.

-Your eternal fan.]

I hope that all your wishes will come true.

-Your eternal fan.]

Nicole could not help but roll her eyes as she laughed in exasperation.

She replied. [It's my misfortune to have you as my fan!] ①

Chapter 445 Take Him With You

Since they came back late last night, they all got up late.

It was still drizzling last night, so the air was humid and chilly.

Perhaps from the weather changes, Eric came down with a high fever. Toto was the first to notice and called the doctor. After a while, his fever finally subsided.

Eric could no longer go around and lay in bed looking weak, pale, and fragile.

Floyd was very concerned and visited Eric several times. When Eric was awake, his voice was low and hoarse.

“Chairman Stanton, if you feel bored, I’ll have someone arrange a car to take you around. A light drizzle shouldn’t affect your tour. You can still go sightseeing.”

Floyd patted Eric’s shoulder. “Forget it. Seeing you like this, I’m also afraid to come down with a fever.”

Eric was speechless.

He swept a glance around the room and looked disappointed when he did not see

Nicole.

Floyd coughed. "Lil N said that she wanted to go to the university for a walk before going for a class reunion. She's getting ready to leave."

Eric's eyes flickered. He coughed and said, "Bring someone..."

"Don't worry, Luca's going with her."

"Take Toto along." Eric coughed two more times.

Toto regained his senses and immediately understood Eric's intentions. 'Right!'

"Yes, yes, I should come along. Luca and I can protect Ms. Stanton together to ensure she won't be in any danger. The university must be very crowded. Besides, Luca won't be as quick-witted as me..."

Floyd was hesitant and did not quite understand what was the use of Toto following.

However, thinking about Nicole's previous assassination attempt, it was better to be more careful, so one more person would be better.

He simply nodded. "Okay then."

He simply nodded. "Okay then."

Toto nodded. "Don't worry. With me around, no one can get near Ms. Stanton!"

He ran out in a flash afterward.

Nicole got dressed and came out of her room to see Toto standing there with Luca.

She wrinkled her eyebrows. "What are you doing here?"

"Shouldn't he be taking care of Eric?"

Toto smiled and went forward. He patted his chest and spoke.

"Chairman Stanton's worried about your safety and told me to protect you. Ms. Stanton, you're such a beautiful princess and a kind soul, so we absolutely can't put you in any danger!"

Nicole rolled her tongue. "You... Protecting me?"

She could not believe her ears, but seeing Toto's confident face, he did not look like he was lying.

Why would her father get Toto to follow her?

Toto smiled confidently and lifted his

Toto smiled confidently and lifted his chubby chin proudly.

“Don’t judge my fat body. Even though I might not have any fighting skills, I have very thick skin! Bullets won’t be able to penetrate me. The bad guys will naturally stay away from my naturally frightening and grim aura!”

Nicole felt a headache coming on. She forced a smile and said, “Whatever. Just follow if you want to.” 1

After that, she walked away.

Toto quickly followed suit and grabbed her purse from her hand. He bent slightly at the waist and said, “No queen will personally carry their bag. Don’t tire your beautiful slender arms. Oh! Watch your step!”

Luca snorted slightly in the back. His cold gaze carried disdain.

The light rain hit the car windows. The scenery flew by as the car drove at a steady speed. Luca was sitting in the passenger seat in front, while Nicole sat in the back looking at some updates in her group chat.

group chat.

Many of her classmates went back to their home countries or went to other countries for business. Only a few stayed back in France, but they all kept in touch.

Nicole arrived at the university and looked around. The European architecture that was centuries old gave off a historical and academic vibe. It was nice to be back at a familiar campus.

Nicole's doctorate degree was not from a French university. She only came to France because of her professor. While she was doing her PhD, she also expanded Stanton Corporation's business here. Thus, she had a deep impression of this place.

Luca had the good sense to leave some personal space for Nicole and lagged not far behind.

On the other hand, Toto strutted alongside Nicole and exclaimed from time to time.

“Wow! This fountain is so beautiful...”