

Chapter 546 Cheesy and Posh

Someone noticed Ivy Harrison standing on the balcony of the eighteenth floor, looking relieved as she regained her smile.

She had some paranoia and a long-hidden madness and hatred.

Ivy hated Joy Harrison the most.

She could have grown up with the same lavish lifestyle as Joy. What right did Joy have to enjoy all the benefits of being Eli Harrison's daughter alone?

Ivy knew that she was powerless against Nicole and could not touch her, but she could get rid of her curse, Joy Harrison.

If Joy Harrison died, Ivy would be the only Young Lady of the Harrison family.

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Nicole was playing poker with Yvette, Julie, and Ian when she heard the news of Joy's murder.

Logan called her saying that Ivy Harrison was arrested.

Nicole's mood was quite complicated.

Nicole's mood was quite complicated.

She pitied and disliked Ivy Harrison.

After hearing such news, Nicole was in no mood to continue playing and went home.

She called Logan to let the Harrison family off the hook.

Since she had taken out all her anger, she wanted to leave some leeway for them.

Nicole asked Gerard Lichman about the progress on the European side. He stammered and said that he did not understand, so Eric would handle it.

She was curious, so she wanted to call Eric, but after some thought, she called Molly Stewart instead.

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Although Eric had been busy, he did not delay dealing with this matter.

Nicole roughly gauged the situation and understood the recent situation of Liberty Technologies. Suddenly, she admired Eric's ability.

The accident with the driverless car was suppressed. The international lawsuit filed by Gerard Lichman and a private

filed by Gerard Lichon and a private investigation was secretly put in motion to find out the truth behind this accident.

In the past few days, the news of Liberty Technologies' brake system failure gradually spread from one country to another.

Many car owners were contacted to form an alliance so that they could take legal action against Liberty Technologies.

However, Liberty Technologies had investors from prestigious political and business backgrounds all over the world. Thus, their strong background made them a force to be reckoned with.

In the past, Liberty Technologies used clumsy means to deal with accidents. The car owners were displeased with their arrogant attitude, so this matter gradually came into the public eye.

A lawsuit filed by a company could be kept a secret, but once it was brought up by the public, it could not be hidden.

Liberty Technologies manufactured many brands of car parts, and the brake system was one of them.

was one of them.

The series of luxury cars that had problems were related to the new braking system, which they claimed to be the most stable and safe braking technology in the world. This instantly broke the world's trust in Liberty Technologies. The sales of their brand of luxury cars were also affected.

However, Liberty Technologies did not admit that its braking system was faulty. They were not bothered to investigate and reflect on themselves. Instead, they dramatized it and took those car owners to court.

Nicole sneered at this series of bewildering actions and felt that someone was behind this.

If it was Eric Ferguson, then Nicole had reason to believe that he was playing a big game of chess, slowly guiding Liberty Technologies into his elaborate trap.

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When Nicole got off work, she saw a very unexpected person in her office lobby.

"Mr. Sloan?"

Mr. Sloan?

Clayton smiled. His eyes were gentle, and he had a modest aura around him, which was hard not to notice.

He was holding a small navy-blue gift box. When Nicole walked over, Clayton handed it to her.

“Michael asked me to pass this gift to you. Please accept it.”

Nicole froze for a moment and hurriedly took it.

“Where’s Lil Michael?”

The boy used to insist on coming over to deliver his gifts in person in a cute and solemn way.

Clayton cleared his throat. “He’s still in class, so he didn’t have time to come out.”

Nicole laughed and secretly speculated if this box contained chrysanthemums.

“Open it and see?” Clayton urged.

Nicole raised an eyebrow. When she opened it, the corners of her lips stiffened slightly.

‘Wow... It’s an exquisite chrysanthemum made of gold!’

slightly.

'Wow... It's an exquisite chrysanthemum made of gold!'

Chapter 547 A Box of Gifts

There was a logo at the bottom of the gold chrysanthemum.

It seemed to be a custom-made piece that was extravagant and cheesy.

Nicole's heart trembled, but she kept her smile. "It's too expensive..."

Although this was not worth mentioning compared to the diamonds Lil Michael gave her before, what kind of child would simply give out gold and diamonds?

Nicole was a bit overwhelmed.

Clayton saw Nicole's dumbfounded look and could not help but laugh.

"It was already too late when I found out about the type of flower he chose.

Fortunately, the shape of this flower isn't

about the type of flower he chose. Fortunately, the shape of this flower isn't too bad. It'll still look nice as a decorative item."

Clayton thoughtfully added.

Anyway, a chrysanthemum made of gold was certainly worth more than a bouquet of white chrysanthemums.

Nicole chuckled and nodded along in agreement.

"Oh right, I've prepared some gifts for Lil Michael as well."

"Oh?"

Nicole called Logan and asked him to carry the stuff downstairs.

She patted the box that was half her height and smiled leisurely.

"Lego?" Clayton wrinkled his eyebrows and guessed what it was.

Nicole shook her head.

"Since he's learning nineteen languages, these are some of the test papers."

The number of test papers in there was probably equivalent to the total amount of

probably equivalent to the total amount of tests that Lil Michael had to take throughout his entire education!

Clayton was stunned for a moment before he laughed.

This gift was simply too thoughtful!

“Ms. Stanton, with this gift from you, Lil Michael will definitely put more effort into his studies.”

‘Hahaha! Michael’s gonna feel like dying...’ Clayton could imagine his son’s expression when he found out that this stack of papers was from his pretty lady!

As the two of them were talking, a man approached from behind.

“With you guys standing here, the employees don’t even know if they should get off work!”

Floyd said in feigned seriousness.

Nicole raised her eyebrows and walked over to hold Floyd’s arm affectionately. “My dearest dad, did you come over personally to pick me up from work?”

Floyd helplessly rolled his eyes and casually shifted his gaze to scrutinize

Clayton.

"Mr. Sloan?"

Clayton nodded and went over to greet Floyd frankly. His modest and sincere attitude was heartwarming.

"I just came back from a fishing trip with my friend and passed by here. Why don't I take you guys to dinner?"

Floyd lifted his chin in a direction. The reserved and cool Grant Stanton suddenly quickened his pace and trotted over to his father.

"Mr. Sloan?"

Clayton nodded in greeting.

"Mr. Sloan, join us. I saw a private restaurant nearby. I'll get them to cook the fish that I caught today. Let's go for a nice dinner."

Floyd proposed.

Nicole frowned thinking that Clayton would not agree since he was not familiar with them. She was about to refuse for him when Clayton smiled and said, "Sure, it'll be my honor." 1

Floyd nodded and was not surprised.

Thus, the four of them went to the private restaurant in the next building.

The breeze was light and pleasant. The view from the top floor was amazing and wide. They could see the whole city from here.

The food was served very quickly. They ate and drank as they chatted.

Nicole saw that Clayton was in a very relaxed state. He adapted quickly and got along well with Floyd and Grant, so she was relieved.

Floyd noticed his daughter's reaction and looked at Clayton.

"Mr. Sloan, you're so young, yet you already have a son. You should bring him to our house sometime. Kai loves children!"

Kai, who dislikes children the most, sneezed at home. 1

Clayton smiled. "Yes, then I'll apologize in advance for any inconvenience he may cause. Michael likes Ms. Stanton very much."

much.”

Nicole glanced at Floyd and shot him a look.

She naturally understood what her father meant when he mentioned Michael.

Floyd sensed that Clayton’s attitude towards Nicole was different.

For anyone else, Clayton’s conditions were impeccable, but for the Stanton family, they still had the liberty to pick and choose a suitable partner for Nicole.

To Floyd, having a child was an unfavorable condition that was not negligible.

Thus, mentioning Michael in front of Clayton was a courteous warning.

Chapter 548 He's Jealous

Clayton did not take Floyd's words to heart.

He swept a glance at Nicole with a gentle gaze and continued to answer Floyd's question.

Floyd said, "Since you're friends with Nicole, you can scout around for a suitable partner for her. I can't be assured if she stays single forever."

He laughed heartily, but even Grant's fingers froze for a moment.

Grant slowly picked at a slice of fish with his fork and savored it without a word.

Clayton laughed naturally. "Ms. Stanton's an excellent lady, so she's not short of admirers, but those who can match Ms. Stanton are very rare. I see that Ms. Stanton enjoys her life with her family. Chairman Stanton, you must've treated her like a princess, so no one can be as attentive to her as her family."

Floyd raised his eyebrows and wholeheartedly agreed with Clayton's words.

words.

He was extremely delighted with what Clayton said.

Floyd nodded repeatedly. "Yes, that's true. Our whole family lets Nicole get her way. We're happy when she's happy."

This statement undoubtedly hinted at Nicole's steady position as the heir of Stanton Corporation.

Grant did not even raise his head and did not care about this matter.

Nicole also did not bother and concentrated on eating the fish.

They were really siblings because the way they ate was the same.

The cordial and relaxed atmosphere between the Stantons was so different from ordinary affluent families. There was a very rare harmony and beauty to it.

Clayton lowered his eyes and smiled, then continued to converse with Floyd.

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Eric Ferguson was sitting in his car at Stanton Corporation's entrance. He had been waiting to meet Nicole "

coincidentally”.

Not long after, he received a message from Keith.

It was a picture of Floyd, Grant, and Nicole having dinner with Clayton Sloan.

The scene was surprisingly cheerful and relaxed.

Floyd, as an elder, had a smile that did not hide his fondness for Clayton.

They really looked so harmonious together.

[Keith Ludwig: Ferg, he’s already meeting the parents, but you’re still in the same spot. Why don’t I introduce you to other women?]

‘Meet the parents?’ Eric’s face instantly turned gloomy. His hands that were on the steering wheel clenched tightly.

His expression was very cold.

At that moment, anger and jealousy intertwined and surged in his heart, which almost made him lose control. He wanted to go over and snatch Nicole away.

His heart suddenly jumped, and he had the idea of keeping her hidden just for

His heart suddenly jumped, and he had the idea of keeping her hidden just for himself. 2

Otherwise, the other men by her side were just an eyesore to him.

Even after pretending to be a gentleman for so long, there was no way that a wolf in sheep's clothing could actually become a gentle sheep.

Eric's wolfish nature did not allow him to sit back and watch.

Toto's lapdog approach was completely useless on Nicole. If Eric continued that act, Nicole might just get a marriage license with someone else without his knowledge.

'No, I can't wait any longer!'

Eric sent a text message to Nicole and went to wait for her at her apartment.

He knew that she would come.

After Nicole was done with dinner, she glanced at her phone and saw a text message from Eric Ferguson an hour ago.

[You left your flash drive in Imperial Gardens. I'm waiting for you at your

apartment.]

Nicole pondered suspiciously. 'Did I leave my flash drive behind? How come I didn't notice before?'

Thinking that there was probably some sensitive company information in there, she did not want it to be in the hands of outsiders.

Nicole bid goodbye to the rest and left early.

Even though she had not been to her apartment in a long time, a cleaner would come over every day to make sure that everything was in order.

'What the hell is Eric up to? Why did he have to meet here?'

After entering her neighborhood, Nicole saw a familiar Range Rover parked downstairs from a distance. The headlights flashed and a slender arm was casually leaning out the car window with a lit cigarette in between his fingers.

She recognized that it was Eric.

His side profile was cold, and his temperament was somewhat casual and unrestrained.

unrestrained.

The car was parked in the empty space next to her.

When Nicole took the gift that Lil Michael gave her and got out of her car, she was pulled into a cold embrace from behind. Eric's tobacco scent and aggressiveness made Nicole's body stiffen.

Chapter 549 Throw It Away for You

“Let go of me.” Nicole warned Eric.

Eric did not let go of her. Instead, he hugged her tighter.

His voice carried a coldness that was hard to conceal. “Who did you go to dinner with, huh?”

Eric was uncomfortable and was afraid that he would really lose her.

Nicole wrinkled her eyebrows. Eric spun her around and met her gaze. The two were in extreme proximity that was beyond the usual safe distance.

Nicole’s gaze was clear and cold as she tried to see what was wrong with Eric, but she did not notice any abnormalities.

He did not smell of alcohol.

She answered his question. “It’s none of your business. I don’t need to explain anything to you, right?”

Eric narrowed his eyes and smiled. A cold light flashed in his eyes.

He knew who she was out with, but he

He knew who she was out with, but he still wanted to hear that name from her mouth like some sort of masochist who enjoyed torturing himself.

“Where’s my stuff?” Nicole reminded him.

“What stuff?”

“You tricked me?!”

Eric laughed. He only wanted to find an excuse for her to leave the dinner, but he did not expect it to be more than an hour later.

His patience wore off little by little as he became manic. He had no choice but to hold back.

Eric casually took a flash drive from his car and put it into Nicole’s bag.

Nicole saw this and tried to push him away from her body, but Eric was unmoving. His gaze was dark as he looked at her.

The two of them stared at each other for more than ten seconds, but no one gave in.

Nicole suddenly realized that this was Eric’s true self. 1

Eric's true self.
His previous compromise was just an act.

Eric inadvertently swept over the navy-blue gift box that Nicole was holding. For some reason, his heart felt like it had been pierced by a needle.

After a moment of stinging pain, he yanked it away without hesitation and opened it.

The chrysanthemum made of gold was exquisite.

Without needing to guess, Eric already knew who this gift was from.

Nicole frowned and was just about to take it back from him, but Eric sneered and raised his arm, then threw it away.

The gift box landed in the trash can next to them.

"Some gifts shouldn't be kept. I threw it away for you and will buy you something nicer."

Eric looked at Nicole quietly with a monstrous wave of restraint in his eyes.

Nicole raised her eyes to look at him. After a long time, she said in a dull voice, "Pick i

t back up.”

Eric smiled. He held her slender waist with one hand and brought her closer to him.

“I’ve thought about my terms, Nicole. I want to sleep with you.”

His voice was extremely light and faint, like the passing wind, but his words were clear in Nicole’s ears.

He wanted her to be his, then he would slowly win over her heart.

Although despicable, this method would work.

Nicole’s face changed slightly as he lifted her head to look at him.

In the dim light, he looked so cold, but he did not seem to be joking.

His eyes were dark with an unconcealed desire for her.

Eric still had a faint smile. His hand gently caressed the curve of her waist in a suggestive motion.

He was trying to get a physical reaction from her.

from her.

Nicole's face was expressionless as she stared at him. "Pick it up."

"Impossible."

Eric laughed lightly. "Why would I pick up a gift from Clayton Sloan from the trash? Dream on!"

Just as his words fell, Nicole fiercely squeezed his hand and twisted it to the side. Eric did not expect her sudden counterattack and almost let her break his arm.

In the next second, his strength took over.

His arm was bent to her side and was vaguely trembling. She did not show mercy on him and used a vicious force earlier.

Nicole's gaze was extremely cold as she lifted her leg to kick his crotch. Eric anticipated this and tried to hold her leg so that she could not move.

However, Nicole drew back in time and suddenly pulled his tie close to her. It was a move that Eric did not expect.

Chapter 550 Asking Even if It Hurts

Eric's deep eyes stared intently at Nicole's perfect lips. She did not put on lipstick, but her lips were pretty, pink, and peachy.

He wanted to taste it.

When he lowered his head, Nicole suddenly kicked him viciously in the shin.

Eric stumbled two steps back and looked at her in shock.

She was extremely cold and did not want to speak to him, so she turned around and left.

The veins on Eric's forehead jumped abruptly. He stepped forward and clutched her wrist.

"Nicole, you said that you'll forget about the past, so why can't you give me a chance? You can even accept Clayton Sloan, so why are you rejecting me?"

Nicole turned to look at him quietly. "Can you even compare with Clayton?"

Eric was transfixed with a single sentence.

He stood there stiffly. 'Is she angry because I threw away that trash gift, or is i

He stood there stiffly. 'Is she angry because I threw away that trash gift, or is it because of my display of affection?'

The man did not say a word. His jaw tightened, and he did not let go of her.

"You've decided to stay with him?"

Nicole stared at him for a few seconds. "Yes."

Eric seemed to hear the sound of his heart cracking open.

"So, you took him to meet your father?"

Nicole said, "Yes."

"You'll get married later?"

His voice was getting heavier and colder.

Nicole looked at him and curled her lips slightly. "Yes."

Eric's face turned gloomier. The waves of emotions in his eyes surged, and his hand that squeezed her wrist was trembling.

The air was dead silent with a faint chill.

Eric felt that every pore in his body started to freeze. He felt so numb from the bone-piercing cold.

bone-piercing cold.

He was willing to get retribution for his faults, but he could not lose Nicole.

“Nicole, even prisoners get a second chance at life. Am I not worthy of forgiveness in your heart?”

His voice was extremely deep. Those dark, deep eyes were bloodshot. The corners of his eyes were also red.

His chest was in severe pain as if he had smashed his hopes with his own hands.

He knew that this was not the answer he wanted, but he still wanted to hear her say it himself.

The cool breeze came.

Nicole’s voice was as light as a wisp of wind. “Yes.”

The moment he heard her answer, his world collapsed inch by inch.

It crushed him and made him feel out of breath. He saw no hope and his breathing became labored.

The air was quiet.

Nicole thought that he would go crazy or lose control and do something to her

Nicole thought that he would go crazy or lose control and do something to her. Even if he got what he wanted, she would never forgive him.

Who would forgive a rabid dog that bit them?

Nicole struggled a little and broke free from his shackles.

She immediately turned around, entered the door with the facial recognition lock, then quickly closed the door.

Nicole leaned against the door and slowly let out a sigh of relief. Her palms were sweaty.

She did not turn on the lights.

She looked through the window at the man outside, who was walking toward his car.

He had a limp in his right leg because she kicked his old injury earlier.

Nicole's breathing was a little heavy as her heart clenched with a momentary cramping pain.

Was she heartbroken for him?

No, he deserved it.

Nicole was slowly forgetting about the horrid past, but what did Eric say today?

He wanted to sleep with her.

Just because she was close to Clayton, Eric wanted to brand her and show off his sovereignty?

She was not bothered to take care of his ridiculous and low self-esteem.

After a long time, she still could not hear the sound of the car engine starting up outside.

Nicole thought about his injured leg and felt guilty.

Thus, she opened the door to check on him, but she suddenly saw Eric standing at her door, looking so disheveled with his head hung low.