The Divorced Billionaire Heiress

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"Since you're here, you don't have to leave just yet. Why don't you accompany me for a drink?" The man's gaze was lecherous as he flashed a cunning smile. His tone was half-threatening and half-coaxing.

Yvette was already tipsy. The man was holding her neck and looked like he could drag her away at any time.

Nicole looked straight at the man and said calmly, "Let her go."

The man hooked his lips smugly and beckoned to her. "Come here and drink this, then I'll let her go."

Nicole knew without having to think that the drink must have been spiked.

Even so, she did not hesitate and walked over, but an onlooker discouraged her. "Miss, don't go over first. Call the police. This guy is a notorious gang leader."

'Even a gangster dares to bully me now?'

Nicole turned to look at the other guy and said, "Thanks for your concern, but don't worry."

She was fed up and laughed instead of getting angry. "If I go over, you'll release her?"

"Sure. Come over then..."

The man smiled lewdly and thought that he had these ladies in the bag. 'I'm getting lucky tonight!'

Nicole smirked and walked over to him confidently.

When she was in front of the gangster, she raised her eyebrows. "I'm here now, so let her go."

'This chick is more beautiful than this drunk one.'

The gangster was aroused and reached out wanting to caress Nicole's face, but before he could touch her, he watched as a beer bottle landed on his head.

"Ah!" He squealed like a pig.

In the next second, Nicole reached out and bent his wrist downward, which made him lose all ability to retaliate. While the man was squealing, she kicked him in the chest, and the

punk fell heavily to the ground. He rolled around a few times and curled up in pain as his body trembled. The gangster did not even have the strength to stand up and fight back.

The music in the bar stopped abruptly, so it was unusually silent for a moment.

The crowd was shocked by this scene. Some people did not even catch it before it was over

because it all happened in less than a minute. Those who intended to be heroes did not even get the opportunity to save their damsel in distress.

Such a burly man was crushed by this beauty in mere seconds!

Having been out of practice for three years, Nicole was not at all rusty and still had the basic fighting skills. She took a step back and glanced at the punk on the ground with a cold gaze.

She then calmly went over to pick up the glass of spiked wine that was on the bar counter and squatted next to him.

"You wanna drink this yourself, or should I help you with it?"

The corners of her lips curled up in contempt. She was unfazed by the dark red blood that oozed out from his head. Under the colorful lights of the bar, her smile looked more terrifying.

The man wailed in pain as he twitched and shuddered in fear. He hurriedly begged for mercy. He never imagined that he would encounter such a difficult woman.

However, Nicole did not care about his pleas. She reached out and yanked his hair aggressively, forcing him to tilt his head back. Her voice was still as calm as ever. "I'll help vou."

After that, she poured the entire glass of wine into his mouth that not a single drop was left.

Nicole dusted her hands and stood up as she dealt with this vile man calmly, without the slightest panic, fear, or even haughtiness.

The crowd was in awe. Who they thought was the weakling turned out to be the champion.

Nicole went back to carry Yvette and left the bar unperturbed. "Let's go. That guy just ruined our night..."

When everyone came back to their senses, the woman had already disappeared through the door.

The gangster was covering his wound in pain as he rolled around in discomfort. He looked so wretched like a wriggling worm...

A few paparazzi that were there watched the whole spectacle in excitement. One of them sneaked out to make a call. "Mr. Ludwig, we took a video of Nicole hitting someone at the

bar. This content will surely go viral! If we post it online, her image will be ruined."

Keith Ludwig was eating some fresh air-flown caviar at that moment. He smiled smugly. "Go ahead and post it then."

'It's only been less than a day and Nicole already let the cat out of the bag? This ungrateful b*tch left the Ferguson family and dared to bully Ingrid and betray Eric. How detestable! It's time to teach her a lesson.'

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Late at night, the paparazzi quietly posted the edited clip online and left out the background story. They simply posted Nicole's violent actions. At a glance, it looked like Nicole was bullying the man without reason.

After a good night's sleep, Nicole did not forget that it was her first official day at work and woke up on time to pick out her outfit.

Yvette drove over in her little convertible and pushed the door in furiously. "Nicole! All those people online are berating you again! "

Nicole paused slightly. "Berating me? Why?"

Yvette showed Nicole the video that the paparazzi posted. It was only ten seconds, but it clearly showed the stark contrast between Nicole's hostile look and the man's miserable appearance.

The following comments were all about Nicole's screw-up. Eric Ferguson's ex-wife had a rendezvous at a bar late at night and even beat someone up.

Some people also commented on how ruthless Nicole was. This incident pushed Nicole into the top trending topics on social media.

Nicole was unconcerned and turned off the screen. "It doesn't matter. It won't affect your mood if you don't look at it. Now, go get ready for work."

Yvette was vexed for Nicole. Although Yvette had too much to drink last night, she was still conscious at that time and knew that Nicole only fought the man to stand up for her. 'No, I can't just let this be!'

"You don't need to care. I 'll handle this. Let's go to work! " Yvette said.

Once they went out, Floyd Stanton's butler stood respectfully at the door.

"Miss, the driver is waiting for you outside."

Nicole frowned. It was too conspicuous to go to work being driven in a Rolls-Royce, so she immediately refused. "No thanks, I'll drive to work."

The butler unhurriedly took out a set of car keys.

"The Chairman specially selected the latest models of Maserati and Porsche for you. They're placed in your garage. He has also ordered a few models of Lamborghini and Ferrari from Italy,

which will take a few more days to arrive, so he asks that you temporarily make do with these."

Yvette widened her eyes in awe and was left speechless. 'Wow...Uncle Floyd pampers Nicole so much that driving these cars worth millions of dollars is considered having to make do?!'

The small convertible that Yvette drove was not even enough to buy the tires of any car parked in Nicole's garage.

Nicole sighed helplessly. "I 'm going to work as an ordinary person, so I can't be too flashy. I don't want these. I'll just go with Yvette."

The butler hesitated for a while, then bowed slightly to Yvette. "That's very kind of you, Ms. Quimbey."

Yvette smiled, "Don't worry, I'll take good care of her. It's my honor to be a driver for our dearest Miss Nicole Stanton."

The two ladies looked at each other and laughed. Nicole then pulled Yvette away and ran outside. 'Mr. Anderson is just as naggy as Dad! '

Once they arrived at the office, Grant Stanton held a meeting to formally introduce Nicole as a director of the company. This position, which had been vacant for a long time, was coveted by

many, but it was now taken away by Nicole, who parachuted into this role. Before the meeting was adjourned, some people had already begun to dig up details about Nicole.

Besides her identity of being Eric Ferguson's ex- wife, everything about her was a blank slate, even her family background.

Samantha Lindt, who assumed herself to be the best candidate for this position, was the first to speak up in disapproval. She had her eyes on this role for a

long time, so why should it be taken by an incompetent person?

"Ms. Nicole, what qualifications do you have to assume this role? Do you think you can handle this position after three years of being Eric Ferguson's wife? I don't agree with this decision, and I won't

stay in this company if someone like Ms. Nicole is a director."

Samantha immediately raised her objection at the meeting.

Grant Stanton looked down at his watch. His voice was indifferent and unfeeling as he said, "Those who don't want to stay can hand in their resignation notice. I'll approve it."

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For a moment, the atmosphere in the meeting room was tense and awkwardly silent.

Samantha Lindt felt humiliated. She had been in the company for so many years and got to her position with a lot of effort, so she did not mean to leave just like that.

Grant Stanton standing up for the newcomer Nicole was also a slap in the face for Samantha.

The meeting room was silent, and everyone looked at each other.

Nicole frowned slightly. She did not want to be targeted the moment she took office. Just as she was about to ease the tension in the room, Samantha stood up apprehensively with a flushed face.

"President Stanton, I'm sorry for my transgression. I respect the company's decision and will work well with Ms. Nicole."

"Good. Meeting adjourned."

Grant Stanton did not say much. He did not want to waste another minute and left the meeting room in an imposing manner.

Samantha then let out a long breath of relief.

Although many others had opinions about Nicole's arrival, they dared not oppose Grant Stanton's authority. Nicole was also not bothered by this little episode because she would prove her capabilities over time.

When Logan arrived at Nicole's office, he was very respectful. "Ms. Nicole, I 'll be your assistant from today, so you can inform me if you have any orders."

Nicole knew that Logan was Grant's right-hand man, so having him by her side would be very helpful. "Thank you. The President mentioned something about J&L's project previously, so please get me all the information on J&L Corporation."

Logan nodded. "Sure, I'll get it ready for you."

After Logan left, Yvette waltzed in and swung her phone by the strap on her phone case. "Baby, my office is right next door, so we'll be working side by side from now on."

Nicole smiled and was in a particularly good mood. Her relationship with Yvette was back to how it was before she impulsively married Eric Ferguson.

"This job will be harder at first, but it gets better."

Yvette sneered and did a hair flip. "I'm not scared. By the way, let me show you something."

She smiled and handed Nicole her phone. Nicole looked at it quizzically and was dumbfounded when she saw the contents.

There was a new wave of comments online because Yvette had sent the full video of last night's incident to many influencers, who helped spread the message. Through this video, everyone could

see that the gangster first tried to take advantage of the drunk Yvette, but Nicole taught him a hard lesson and finally took Yvette out of the bar with her. This stirred a lot of debate online.

(OMG! How cool is she?! I wouldn't need a boyfriend if I had a good friend like her!]

(She's such a cool and valiant young lady! Now I understand why she got divorced and left such a wealthy family.]

(Nicole is my goddess!] (She should be a celebrity!]

(My heroine! Please give me your number!!]

Nicole was on the top trending topics again. She looked at Yvette helplessly. "Did you purposely go to get the surveillance footage last night?"

Yvette lifted her chin arrogantly and said, "Nah, it's nothing, just a matter of one phone call. I won't allow anyone to slander you under my watch! "

Nicole laughed. "Whatever, it's not a big deal anyway."

"Then do you know who's behind all this?"

Nicole shook her head but a name flashed across her mind. Yvette told her frankly, "It's Eric Ferguson's best friend, Keith Ludwig! "

Sure enough, it was not far off from Nicole's guess. Whether it was Ingrid Ferguson or Keith Ludwig, both of them were still related to Eric Ferguson.

Nicole snorted. Her face turned slightly colder. She would not have cared if she was clueless about this, but since she was aware of it, she could not let him get away so easily.

"Call Dominic Young, I want dirt on Keith Ludwig!"

"Now this is the Nicole Stanton I'm familiar with. We must get our revenge! Don't worry, I already have what we need to put him in his place."

Yvette had already dug up dirt on Keith Ludwig long ago. She sent all of it to Nicole, who took her pick and selected one of the photos. In that picture, Keith was wearing swim shorts at some party

and washugging a few girls left and right. It was back when he just got married.

Nicole posted the photo with a caption.

(If you have a beef with me, just come at me directly. I'll retaliate openly and certainly won't stoop so low to create misconceptions by hiring paparazzi to edit clips. Mr. Ludwig, you should just look out for yourself.]

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Nicole used her newly registered social media account to post this. Soon, many influencers began to share her post and turned the tide. Everyone began to watch the drama unfold.

Before this, not many knew about Nicole's new social media handle, but because of this post, her following skyrocketed. Some people even started to dig up Keith Ludwig's details.

Ferguson Corporation.

Keith ran into Eric Ferguson's office in a huff. "Bro! That ex-wife of yours is trying to destroy me! "

Eric looked up from the document he was reading and swept him a faint glance.

Keith found the spiteful comments about him online and showed them to Eric. He angrily said, "She's trying to shame me in public! This is just too much! Look, this is her true self!

This b*tch is up to no good. Now, my wife is making a fuss and wants a divorce! You have to help me, bro..."

Eric frowned. His eyes darkened as he looked through the comments on Keith's phone. After a long time, he said in a deep voice, "So, you intended to cyberbully her but you got bitten in the *ss instead?"

Keith shuddered and hurriedly explained, "I...I just wanted to teach her a little lesson. Besides, I didn't know that the video was edited. The paparazzi cheated my money and did me dirty this time..."

Eric threw the phone on the desk and said with a cold face, "Serves you right,"

"Bro, you gotta help me! I was duped by the paparazzi, and Ingrid asked me to help her with this. If it wasn't for me, those people would be cursing Ingrid instead! "

Eric's face turned glum. Thinking of what happened last time at the restaurant, he did not expect his sister to be so obtuse.

Keith begged for help with a bitter face, but Eric was unmoved. "You asked for it, so deal with it yourself. With your ability, why are you still worried about this kind of trivial matter anyway?"

"It was supposed to be easy, but that b*tch went to find Dominic Young from Falcon Entertainment.

That man is so cunning and doesn't even answer my calls anymore. Now no one dares to help me.

Everyone thinks I'm a monster now! "

Keith never imagined such a reversal where Nicole would get the upper hand and make him suffer such a big loss. How did that photo from the private party get leaked anyway?

His wife had been so obedient and well-behaved all this while, but because of this incident, she proposed a divorce.

Keith did not actually care about the divorce. The more pressing issue was that his grandfather wanted to beat him up and kick him out of the house. He was out of ideas, so he ran to Eric for help.

Eric raised his eyes and looked at him for a moment.

"My advice is for you to go to whoever you provoked." "Nicole?! "

Keith subconsciously rejected this idea. 'Why should I bow to such a despicable woman?'

Eric did not want to say more. When his secretary came in to invite him for a meeting, Eric stood up and walked out.

Keith hit a wall with Eric and left in disappointment. He did not dare to go online to read the harsh comments and his phone blew up from the continuous stream of calls from his family.

"It's none of your business how many women I hug! " Keith sat in the car and was so enraged that he was about to explode.

He must solve this problem as soon as possible, but having to apologize to Nicole was worse than getting beaten up.

However, he had no choice in the matter. If he did not compromise, he would be disowned by his family.

After some thought, Keith asked his assistant to post a statement with his social media account that had 800,000 followers.

(I didn't know that the video clip had been edited prior to posting it. I apologize for any distress and inconvenience caused to Ms. Nicole.]

Keith had lost this round. Since Nicole dared to blatantly call him out, she must have evidence on hand that he was behind it, so being at loggerheads with her would not benefit him.

Since Keith was not in the entertainment industry and did not depend on having a following to survive, he did not care about losing some followers. It was just that he lost his dignity in

front of his friends for apologizing to Nicole.

Stanton Corporation.

Yvette smiled as she waltzed into Nicole's office and waved her phone around. "This Mr. Ludwig couldn't even hold on for two hours before he surrendered. I thought he'd put up more of a fight, but I guess he's just useless."

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Nicole took out her phone and looked at the trending topics, then snickered and put it aside without a thought.

She was familiar with the Ludwig family's background and knew that Keith's parents must have pressured him. Otherwise, knowing his

character, he would never willingly admit his fault. Keith must be hating her guts at this moment.

There was a knock at the door. Samantha Lindt let herself in and smiled. "Ms. Nicole, is it convenient for me to come in and talk?"

Nicole nodded. "Please, come in."

Samantha walked in and glanced at Yvette as if she did not want to speak with the presence of a third person, but Yvette was not perceptive enough to wait outside.

"What's the matter?"

"I saw that Mr. Logan is preparing some information regarding J&L's project. Ms. Nicole, you might not know this, but we don't have much of a relationship with J&L Corporation and have a slim

chance for cooperation. If you want to gain your footing in the company, why don't you cooperate with FH Corporation? I know that they have a project that's very suitable for us."

Samantha placed a document in front of Nicole and raised her eyebrows. She smiled as if she had given Nicole a good deal.

Nicole paused for a moment. "Okay, I'll consider it."

"Ms. Nicole, you ought to close this deal. FH is an old partner, so landing this project will be enough for you to stand firm in our company."

Samantha targeted Nicole at the meeting but sent her such a big gift after. It would be odd if there was nothing fishy about this.

Nicole raised her eyes and smiled meaningfully. "Please call me Vice President Nicole."

Samantha's face stiffened and her voice suddenly became shrill. "Don't think that you're all that just because the President is fond of you. Whether you can stay still depends on your luck! Anyway, I've

given you this opportunity, so it's up to you to seize it."

After finishing her speech, Samatha turned around and left, slamming the door shut on her way out.

Yvette was stunned by this and said, "Are you her boss, or is she your boss?"

Nicole nonchalantly flipped through the file that Samantha gave her. "She assumed that this position would be hers if I didn't show up."

"That's just her wishful thinking, right?"

Nicole raised her eyebrows and snorted, then handed the document to Yvette.

"I remember that the Vice President of FH Corporation is one of your admirers?"

Yvette froze for a moment and laughed. "Don't worry, I'll find out what's fishy about this."

'Since my best friend is so serious about her career, I must support her in any way possible! 'Yvette thought.

Nicole's phone rang. The caller ID showed that it was her old friend that she had not contacted in a long time, Julie Nixon. Julie had single-handedly founded the internationally renowned fashion

brand, Share. The private fashion shows she held were so popular that it was hard to get an invitation.

Once Nicole picked up, Julie could not wait to speak. "Come hang out with us tonight! We organized a little get-together at Tattle Bar to celebrate your return, so you must come! "

Nicole laughed. She missed her friends a lot. "Okay, I'll definitely show up."

After she hung up, Yvette added Nicole into a chat group consisting of five people, which included the three girls and the Carter brothers.

Julie Nixon: (Nicole is finally back in our group! Congratulations, Baby!]

Ian Carter: (I already drank one whole night to celebrate Nicole's divorce...it's about time!]

Hugh Carter: (Congrats on your divorce, Nikki!)

Nicole laughed in exasperation. "Are they gloating over my failed marriage?"

Yvette helplessly said, "No...you don't know how happy we all are for you! When we heard that you

Chapter 23 Call Me Vice President Nicole were suffering, everyone in this group cursed Eric Ferguson, but we were afraid that you'd get sad when you see it, so we didn't add you into the

group chat until now. You're finally over him now!"

Nicole thought, 'Sigh...it's my fault. I have to thank them for not leaving me after all that.'

Keith Ludwig was depressed and dragged Eric out for a drink that night. When they arrived at Tattle Bar and got out of the car, Keith rubbed his eyes in disbelief and said, "Holy sh*t! Why do I run into this woman everywhere I go?"

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Eric Ferguson followed Keith's gaze and was instantly stunned when he saw her.

Nicole was wearing a long silver-gray dress that was flared and glittery at the hemline and corseted at her slender waist. It made her look so tall and beautiful. Her long wavy hair was draped over her

back and her temperament was incredibly striking.

Keith Ludwig cursed under his breath. "What kind of small world is this?! How can I run into someone I hate when I just want a drink..."

Yvette's group naturally noticed Eric and Keith. Although they did not want to see their faces, there was no reason to ignore them now that they ran into each other.

"Mr. Ludwig, have you finished cleaning up your messy love life? How are you still in the mood to come out for a drink? I guess the impact of that photo is still too small, huh?"

Yvette scoffed. Keith was not willing to show any weakness and glared at the culprit Nicole at the back. He sneered and said, "Nicole, I underestimated you. I didn't expect you to be a completely

different person. I guess anyone would change if they have a strong backer."

"Of course! She's been a wreck relying on her good- for-nothing ex-husband for three years, so now that she's divorced, we're here to back her up. Mr.

Ludwig, didn't you run to your friend whenever you encountered a problem?"

Julie Nixon chimed in and was infuriated when she saw Eric Ferguson. She pulled Yvette over and said, "Let's not waste our breath with them. Go on inside. "

Nicole looked indifferent as she followed her friends into the bar. She did not even take a glimpse at Keith or Eric and walked past them as if they were mere strangers.

A devilishly handsome man walked behind Nicole and was holding her purse. When the man walked past Eric, he glared at him and grunted before following Nicole.

Keith was vexed and anxious. 'What right did Nicole have to treat me like this?! '

"I didn't realize it before, but your ex-wife is quite capable! She messed with me online all day today and even pretended not to see us?! "

Eric's face sank slightly. "Enough. Do you want to create a bigger fuss? Go home and stay there! "

Keith took a deep breath. "I'm not going home. Why should I be the one to leave? I wanna see what else they're capable of!"

Eric was reluctant to go in, but his feet had a mind of their own and followed Keith into the bar. He recognized the purse that the devilishly handsome man was holding. Grant Stanton had also taken

that purse for her at the banquet last time. It was Nicole's purse.

Julie Nixon dragged Nicole up to the second floor and was extremely excited. "I'm hosting the last fashion show of the season in a few days. Bring your third brother along. I reserved good seats for you guys! "

Hugh Carter, who was behind them, protested in dissatisfaction. "I 've made reservations a long time ago and you still haven't given me tickets! I don't care, I wanna sit next to Nicole! "

"Dream on! " Julie retorted and greeted Ian Carter, who had already arrived long before them.

Nicole laughed and could not help but burst Hugh's bubble. "Will your father let you go when he sees that you're not doing your job?"

Hugh Carter paused in his footsteps and hugged Nicole's arm aggrievedly. "With you around, he won't be so harsh on me..."

"Tsk.."

lan Carter waved when he saw Nicole. He smiled brightly and went over to hug her. "Welcome back, my queen."

The two Carter brothers, Ian and Hugh, looked alike. Hugh was the younger brother that looked devilishly handsome. If he entered the entertainment industry, he would be the hottest rookie around.

lan was a few years older and was the second son of the Carter family. He looked more mature and was handsome enough that a group of young ladies would chase after him, but he always fooled around with them and was never serious.

Nicole laughed and sat on the side. Ian was playing a poker dice game before their arrival, and the players were still waiting for Ian to make a move.

lan waved his hand and said, "I'm out. By the way, Nikki, I hired your favorite band, The Lunatics.

Enjoy! "

Everyone at the table was discontented. "What? Ian, you're not playing? We were just on a roll..."

"Mr. Carter, what a coincidence! "

As soon as Keith and Eric went upstairs, they saw Ian Carter sitting there languidly as he swirled a glass of red wine with one hand.

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Although they were from different circles, the high society of Atlanta was small, so everyone would more or less cross paths with each other. Thus, Keith Ludwig and Ian Carter knew each other.

When Ian saw Keith, he naturally saw Eric Ferguson as well. Ian tipped his glass as a gesture. "What a coincidence, Mr. Ludwig."

Keith saw that Nicole and Yvette were sitting with lan, so he figured that they were here together. Keith turned and pulled Eric to sit at their table. "Let's play a game together. You won't mind, right, Mr. Carter?"

lan did not answer and turned to look at Nicole. "My queen, do you mind?"

Nicole stood up insouciantly. "Help yourselves, I'm going downstairs to watch the band."

Yvette immediately followed suit. "Let's go! It's so suffocating sharing the same space with such pests."

Julie took three bottles of fine wine and said, "I 'm coming too! "

Eric watched as Nicole disappeared down the stairs before he withdrew his gaze and glanced at lan. "Mr. Carter, what's your relationship with Nicole?"

lan tilted his head and chuckled. "A friend."

"How can her kind be friends with you? Mr. Carter, don't be fooled by her..." Before Keith could finish his sentence, he was interrupted by Eric.

"Keith..."

lan's gaze grew cold as he looked at Keith. "And what kind is she? Mr. Ludwig, do you know her very well?"

"I..." Keith was rendered speechless. Eric did not come to his rescue, so he felt annoyed because he could not tell lan about all the despicable things Nicole did.

The loud music downstairs ignited the atmosphere in the bar.

A familiar song from "The Lunatics" resurfaced after three years, immediately arousing the enthusiasm and passion of the crowd. Everyone cheered, swayed, and looked up at the people on stage.

Keith sighed in disbelief. "Didn't The Lunatics retire? Why are they here? I heard that The Lunatics even rejected an eight-figure offer to perform in a private show, but they came to this bar?"

There were three people in this band, but only two showed up. However, these two were already enough to incite the crowd's excitement and passion as they controlled the energy of the venue.

Yvette was screaming and shouting at the bottom of the stage and did not notice that Julie had already brought Nicole backstage.

"There are three minutes until this song is over. Demon just had an appendectomy, so he couldn't make it. Without the violin, the song will lose its soul. The last song needs a violin accompaniment

to the bassist. There's no one else but you now, so go!" Nicole was shocked. "Me?! "

"You're the only one who has played with them before, so of course, it's you. Do you really want them to be a failure? They're here because of you. Plus, don't you want to get back your old feeling?"

The music was deafening. Those familiar memories made Nicole feel exhilarated. She smiled and said, "Okay, I'll go on."

Everyone cheered loudly for the band. Their bodies swayed to the rhythm, and everyone was exuberant.

No one noticed that Nicole carried a violin in her left hand while she held her flowing dress with her other hand as she stepped onto the stage.

The lights suddenly dimmed, leaving only a beam of light on the stage.

Monster and Phantom, who were part of the band, lit up when they saw Nicole. The bassist, Phantom, started the rhythm. The best part about this piece lied in the bassist and violinist duet,

which was an absolutely divine pairing. If they were not equal, the song would lose its soul.

Phantom passionately took over the melody, just enough to invigorate the crowd.

In the next second, a delicate, mellow sound of the violin seamlessly integrated into the bass. When the drums stopped abruptly, the violin suddenly sounded bold, rich, and deep. Everyone was

astonished to see the woman on stage looking so cool and valiant. The violin in her hands sounded so

magical and in tune, which matched her very distinctive style.

Everyone was so immersed in the music when the drums suddenly joined in again. There was a tacit understanding between the drummer and violinist as they synchronized their rhythm. The stark

contrast between the intensity of the drums and the softness of the violin formed a beautiful medley. After the short two-minute performance, the crowd's screams were even more thunderous and deafening than before.

"Ah!! My goddess! "

"Violin goddess!" On the second floor, the shock that flashed through Eric Ferguson's eyes was undisguised.

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Phantom led Monster and Nicole to take a bow after the performance. Nicole smiled brightly and got off the stage with poise.

'Luckily, I still remember the basics! This performance is still quite satisfactory.' Nicole thought.

Phantom and Monster followed Nicole off the stage. Monster went over and patted her shoulder. "Lil Nicole, why don't you just join our band? We're willing to kick Demon out for you! "

Nicole lowered her head and laughed. "If Demon hears this, he'd probably get up from his hospital bed right now and fight you! "

Monster was in great spirits. "I'm so thrilled to perform with you today. You're the composer of this song anyway, so except for Demon, only you can perform so flawlessly with us. Lil Nicole, you seem just like you were three years ago! "

Nicole felt a trace of bitterness in her heart. She seemed to have missed out on an inordinate amount of life's excitement in these three years. Fortunately, it was still not too late to get back on track.

Monster refused to give up and kept persuading Nicole to join their band. "Lil Nicole, if you join us, we'll surely shock the music world! "

Nicole was just about to reject his offer when Julie walked over with a smile.

"Forget about it, you two...Nikki's gonna start her career all over again! "

As soon as Julie pulled Nicole out from backstage, Yvette gave her a bear hug. "Nikki baby, that was fantastic! You're my goddess! Do you know how excited everyone was? Your violin is simply amazing! "

Nicole helplessly pried Yvette off of her body. It was all thanks to lan's arrangement that Nicole got to have such a memorable night.

The three ladies thought that Eric and Keith should have already left, so they went back up to the second floor. Unexpectedly, Eric and Keith were sitting next to the Carter brothers as they stared at Nicole weirdly the moment she showed up.

Yvette snorted in dissatisfaction and pulled Nicole to sit by Ian. "Ian, Iet's play something. It's boring having to sit with such eyesores."

lan shrugged his shoulders. "Sure, the night's still young! "

Everyone downstairs was shouting for The Lunatics to have an encore.

"I didn't think that Nicole could play the violin. Why didn't I hear about it before?" Keith could not help his curiosity. He was genuinely shocked.

The moment Nicole went on stage, she was so cool and confident like a queen that was in control of the whole audience.

"Why should we tell you? Who the hell are you even?" Yvette scowled at him and retorted.

Keith felt attacked, but he indifferently shrugged his shoulders. "Didn't you say that you wanted to play something? How about poker dice?"

"Who wants to play with you?! " Yvette scoffed and was holding a grudge against them for Nicole.

'Stupid bastard!'

Eric Ferguson, who had not spoken, suddenly said in a deep voice, "Nicole, are you afraid to play just one game with us?"

Since Nicole came upstairs, Eric's eyes had not moved away from her. Nicole swirled the wine glass in her hand and looked down seemingly disinterested and treated them as if they were invisible.

Eric suppressed his shock. The Nicole sitting in front of him seemed familiar yet strange to him. At that moment, the emotions surging in his heart were incomparably complicated.

When Nicole was named, she nonchalantly lifted her head and swept a glance at Eric with a faint smile on her face. "What should I be afraid of?"

Although Nicole felt that Eric's words were unexpected, she was not afraid of him. They were like strangers now, so playing a gambling game was not a big deal.

Yvette objected discontentedly. "Nikki, why do you wanna play with him? He's clearly just trying to provoke you! "

Julie pulled Yvette aside and looked at the ex-couple. "Don't worry, Nikki knows what she's doing."

Eric Ferguson grew up as a member of the gentry, so taking part in these social events was like second nature to him. Poker dice was the easiest game and a sure win for Eric. Keith, who was

sitting on the side, could not hide his smug smile. The waiter set the table with two players against each other. Nicole did not make a move. Instead, she looked down and said, "What's the bet?"

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How meaningless would it be without bets?

Eric's eyes were deep as he stared at her indifferent side profile. "What are your thoughts?"

Before Nicole could say anything, Keith sneered and spoke first. "If Ferg loses, I 'll walk out of here butt naked, but if Nicole loses..."

He swept a glance at the Carter brothers and continued in a disdainful tone, "You need to admit in public that you married into the Ferguson family for money, and you can never show your face in Atlanta ever again! Nicole, do you dare to bet on this?"

lan and Hugh Carter were dumbfounded. Yvette was so enraged that she wanted to stand up and defend Nicole, but Julie pulled Yvette back and told her not to be impulsive.

Eric's eyebrows furrowed tighter. He was about to interrupt Keith when Nicole sneered and raised her eyebrows mockingly. "Sure, I accept."

Nicole looked so scornful of Eric, as if he was not a worthy opponent.

Keith laughed at the fact that Nicole was ignorant and oblivious to how strong her opponent was.

In the whole of Atlanta, Eric's poker dice skills were unbeatable, even if he played with his eyes

closed. Back then, Eric won his first big cash windfall at Vegas, not to mention, these menial people in front of them were all insignificant characters compared to Eric.

'I can finally avenge myself today!' Keith thought. Eric stretched out his hand. "Ladies first."

Nicole took the dice shaker on the table and shook it, then casually rested the back of her hand on it as she looked at Eric. "Your turn."

Eric looked at Nicole quizzically and frowned. It was obvious that Nicole did not take this game seriously. '

Does she truly not care whether she wins or loses this bet?'

Keith was watching eagerly as if they had already won the game. 'Nicole is such a noob! Look at the way she shook the dice, how unprofessional! Does she think she can win with two simple shakes? No way! '

Eric pondered for a moment, then casually lifted the dice cup. It was a four-of-a-kind, an expected win. He then glanced at Nicole, who still looked unfazed.

Keith was so excited that he almost jumped up. "Ferg, way to go! You used your usual skills. Here I thought that you might get soft—hearted..."

Ian Carter clapped at the side and was not surprised by this. He smiled faintly and said, "Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Ferguson has never been soft-hearted towards Nicole, but at least we finally get to see Mr. Ferguson's ability today."

"Why are you complimenting Eric? Are you trying to divert our attention and renege on the bet? Nicole, why don't you let us see your hand? Don't be a sore loser..."

"Keith Ludwig! Empty vessels make the most noise, so shut the f*ck up!" Yvette could not help but rebuke.

Nicole watched as the atmosphere suddenly became tense and laughed lightly. Her slender fingers tapped the dice cup twice before she casually tipped it over.

Before everyone had time to react, she took her purse and stood up. "I'm leaving, you guys carry on."

Besides Yvette and Hugh who were both startled, Julie and Ian seemed to have already expected this result and were calm and unperturbed.

The moment Keith saw Nicole's dice, he just felt like dying.

'Five -of-a-kind! How could she get an upper hand over Eric? This woman just simply shook the dice on the table and was able to get five-of-a-kind?!'

When Keith looked up again, the woman had already disappeared.

Yvette gloatingly slapped the table and smugly said, "Mr. Ludwig, don't forget to strip butt naked before leaving! As you just said, don't be a sore loser..."

"You...you're cheating!" Keith's face was flushed as all kinds of emotions flashed by.

"Cheating? Mr. Ludwig, you're the one who wanted to play. These are the rules of the table, yet you dare say that we're cheating when you lost? If you can't afford to lose, why play in the first place? Mr. Ferguson, don't you think so?"

Yvette sneered and called Eric Ferguson out as she gnashed her teeth in anger.

Keith looked at his best friend with big, innocent, pleading eyes. The words "save me" were written all over his face.

Eric glanced at Yvette, then swept a glance at Ian and Hugh before his gaze landed on Keith. "We lost."

His face was calm and unmoved. At first, Eric felt it strange that the sound of the dice from his hand and Nicole's hand were a little off. However, he was not the slightest bit upset that he lost. Instead, he even felt a little delighted.