

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2291-Estelle was teetering on the edge; here he was, already swamped with online rumors, and now these two troublemakers had landed them in the police station!

Dealing with Leighton's rebellious dog-like temper alone was challenging enough, and now there's another one. Damn it, making money had become increasingly tough!

Despite his frustration, seeing Nicole and Leighton unconscious and covered in blood filled Estelle with immense worry.

"How is she?"

"She's not dead."

Leighton rubbed the sore spot on his lower back and shot a glare at the woman pretending to be unconscious. "Haven't you had enough of acting?!"

Nicole leisurely opened her eyes and chuckled, "So, how was my performance?"

Realistic enough?"

Leighton snorted and couldn't resist glancing at the back of her head. Her thick hair provided excellent coverage, making it difficult to assess the extent of her injury. When that stone came flying at them earlier, it packed quite a punch; he could even hear the dull thud as it hit her head.

Besides appearing slightly pale, Nicole seemed completely unfazed, even using a tissue to dab at the blood on the back of her head.

Leighton couldn't help but comment, "You shouldn't use tissue on wounds; it's unhygienic."

"Why is it called tissue if it's unhygienic?" Nicole retorted with a twisted logic.

"When you use tissue to wipe your butt, do you suddenly find it unhygienic?"

Leighton's expression darkened. "Am I wiping hemorrhoids when I wipe my butt?"

Nicole was momentarily taken aback, then burst into laughter, teasing, "Where's your idol image? How could an idol talk about butts and hemorrhoids?"

Unamused, Leighton grumbled, "You're bleeding quite a bit from the wound on your head. If you use tissue and the bits stick, it could get infected.

Then you'll end up with a scar there, and don't blame me if your hair doesn't grow back."

The mention of scarring didn't faze Nicole much, but the comment about her hair made her pause.

"Why didn't you say that earlier? Quickly check if there are any bits stuck there."

Turning her back to him, she asked Leighton to inspect the wound.

Her jet-black hair, neatly arranged on her back moments ago, now cascaded down like a dark waterfall, soft and glossy, with a faint scent of shampoo lingering in the air, giving Leighton an odd feeling.

"How is it? Any bits?"

Nicole urged him on.

Leighton snapped back to attention and murmured, "I didn't see clearly. Let me take another look."

He gently pushed aside her hair and finally spotted the wound on her scalp, blood oozing out.

The wound wasn't deep but quite long; it seemed like the sharp edge of the stone had scraped it.

Leighton had been a delicate-looking child; his father had been convinced, inexplicably, that his wife was carrying a daughter during her pregnancy. They had prepared everything and bought clothes for a girl. However, when Leighton was born a boy, his parents, in order to save money, decided to make do with what they had.

Being mistaken for a girl when he was young was bad enough, but being dressed up as a boy by his parents led to Leighton being teased a lot. With a quick temper and stubborn personality, he often got into trouble and ended up getting hurt.

He had taken quite a few beatings for others, but Nicole was the only one who had taken a hit for him.

Leighton's emotions were somewhat complicated for a moment. He whispered, "Why did you just... take that hit for me?"

With her eyes closed, Nicole replied softly, "If I hadn't blocked it, that stone would have smashed your face. If your face had been turned, your parder would have been pretty much over. You helped me out at the press conference before, and then because of our 'relationship,' your popularity plummeted. I owe you a favor; consider this my way of repaying you."

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2292-Leighton pursed his lips. "I'm 'dating' you because I wanted you to introduce me to directors. We have a contract, each taking what we need. It's not like I helped you, but you genuinely took a hit for me this time.

Consider this a favor I owe you. If you need help in the future, just ask, and if I can do it, I'll definitely help you."

Nicole paused, suddenly looking at the serious A-lister in front of her.

She wondered, how could there still be such a simple-minded guy in this circle?

Even though she had laid out many superior conditions at the time, being in a contract relationship with him was actually more of a disadvantage than an advantage for him. He wanted to film, wanted to meet big directors, and his cousin could help him with that. There was no need to get involved with her.

After they "officially announced" their relationship, the comment section of Leighton's social media accounts visibly intensified with hostility.

Just her being his "girlfriend" had received countless abusive messages after the announcement. There were even extreme fans sending her edited photos, along with threats of death and blades. It was worse for Leighton.

Just now, besides fearing that he might injure his face and affect his career, the main reason for blocking that hit for him was a bit of guilt, with thoughts of making it up to him.

But this guy seemed genuinely clueless, even solemnly saying that he owed her a favor and would repay it. With this kind of naivety, how did he become famous?

The Hall family of Salcator, a prestigious family, had raised such a fool? His cousins, even his twelve-year-old brother, were smarter than him.

This fool, who would help count the money even after being sold out, somehow made her feel a bit soft-hearted. A hint of a smile appeared in her eyes as she lazily said, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do. Since I'm with you, I'll follow your lead. Anyway, I'm not losing out."

Leighton was stunned for a moment, suddenly feeling a bit annoyed. Through gritted teeth, he said, "I'm serious! Can't you be serious for once?!"

His voice raised a few decibels, his ears turning slightly red.

Nicole inexplicably thought of the little German Shepherd they had at home when she was a child. It looked majestic and intimidating, but when it was angry, it only dared to bark loudly to scare people away.

Just like Leighton at the moment.

Nicole felt like teasing him. Leaning closer, her eyes half serious and half teasing, she said, "How am I not being serious? You're my boyfriend, shouldn't I listen to you?"

Seeing her approach, Leighton retreated to the car door like he was avoiding a flood or a fierce beast, his ears turning even redder, embarrassed. "We're just in a contract relationship. Just putting on a show in front of the camera is enough.

Don't think you can take advantage of me. You're older than me, have a bad personality, and I'm not interested in your type!"

Nicole's expression showed a hint of being hurt. She pursed her lips, sat up straight, and turned her head to look out the window, not saying anything more.

The atmosphere in the car became unusually quiet. With Nicole's head tilted, Leighton could still see the wound on the back of her head.

Her shoulders were trembling slightly, as if... she were crying.

Leighton suddenly felt uncomfortable. The words he had just said did seem a bit too much.

Women probably didn't like it when others said they were old. He had just casually said it.

Leighton scratched his hair, agonizing for a long time before speaking. "You're still a good person."

Among actors your age, regardless of gender, no one has achieved what you have."

Nicole didn't respond.

Seeing her shoulders still trembling, Leighton racked his brains, using his meager vocabulary to make up for the hurtful words he had said, "Having a bad personality isn't necessarily a flaw; with a bad personality, no one dares to bully you."

Nicole still didn't say anything.

Nicole's shoulders shook even harder, making Leighton feel ever, more guilty. "I said those things recklessly. If you really like me, then...

then I won't date anyone else until the contract ends."

Leighton said stiffly, "Plus, you're decent-looking. Although I'm not interested in you, there will always be someone who likes your type."

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2293-He figured that Nicole must like him, which was why she got upset and cried when he said those hurtful things. If she didn't like him, why would she block that stone for him? If she didn't like him, why would she always tease him to get his attention? His words must have really hurt her.

Leighton was feeling regretful when suddenly he heard a low chuckle beside him, which quickly turned into hearty laughter. Leighton turned to look and saw Nicole clutching her stomach, laughing so hard she was doubled over, tears streaming down her face, nearly out of breath.

"Be honest, have you never been in a relationship before?" Nicole asked, still laughing, her face showing no signs of sadness, only teasing.

Leighton realized he had been tricked by this crazy woman, and his face darkened. Estelle, in the front seat, was also laughing. He had thought this ferocious pit bull only acted tame in front of his cousin, but it seemed there was someone else who could tame him this way. Everyone had their match.

Leighton, embarrassed and angry, ground his teeth, i've had more relationships than you can count on ten fingers!"

"Like childhood pretend relationships?" Nicole mocked. "Was I your first kiss?"

Leighton froze. Nicole had been teasing him, but seeing his reaction, she was stunned, her eyes widening. "It really was me?!"

Leighton, flustered and furious, shouted, "No!"

He was a terrible liar, which was why Nicole had immediately guessed he had never been in a relationship. Now, feeling trapped, he decided to come clean.

'That wasn't a real first kiss. I did it on purpose to disgust you. It doesn't count!"

Nicole chuckled. "Good, I was worried you'd try to hold it over my head.' Leighton wanted to bite her! Before he could act, Nicole's phone rang. It was her agent, Lindy Jacob. She answered, but the voice on the other end wasn't Lindy's. It was a deep, heavy male voice. "Where are you?"

Nicole's smile faded, and she didn't answer, instead asking, "What do you want?"

The man's tone grew heavier, repeating his question, "Tell me where you are!"

Nicole replied calmly, "I just left the police station. I'm in my boyfriend's car."

The man didn't respond immediately, but the atmosphere turned cold.

Then he chuckled lightly. "Nicole, don't joke around. I know Leva came to find you at your movie launch. You have no choice but to find someone to act as your boyfriend."

Nicole pressed her lips together. "No, I'm serious."

The man, not taking her seriously, tried to soothe her. "Leva was out of line that day. I was abroad and didn't know until I got back. I've talked to her; she understands she was wrong.

Don't be mad, okay?"

Nicole's tone remained calm. "I'm not mad. I really am in a relationship. Initially, we didn't plan to go public because he hadn't transitioned.

Suddenly announcing it might hurt his career. I wasn't upset about what Leva did at the launch it back?

been father, wouldn't have known how much Leighton loves me, willing to go public for my sake. I should thank her."

Leighton had been eavesdropping on the gossip, but hearing his name mentioned, his face turned a mix of colors.

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2294-Was her skin always this thick? Love? Yeah, right. If she hadn't come running over with that pale face begging him like her life depended on it, he wouldn't have been bothered! He didn't believe this shameless talk, and neither did the person on the other end of the phone, who even chuckled." Stop being stubborn. Everyone in the family knows your type."

Nicole's expression darkened as if she had thought of something unpleasant.

She gripped her phone tightly, her knuckles turning white. She lowered her eyes and gave a light laugh. "It's been so long, maybe you've forgotten."

"What?"

Nicole said calmly, "My first love was a man. I initially liked men."

Leighton, sitting next to Nicole, could hear everything clearly because she had the speaker on. He glanced at Nicole, thinking, what kind of nonsense is this? If not a man, then what, a woman?

Estelle was shocked, his mind reeling. Could the rumors about Nicole's past relationships actually be true?

The man on the phone scoffed. "Don't kid yourself. You haven't even done a kissing scene all these years. People in your circle say you're high and mighty, that you keep yourself pure. But I know you can't stand intimate contact with a man. Even the thought of sharing breath makes you physically sick. How could you possibly have a boyfriend?" Nicole's knuckles stood out as she sighed lightly. "Didn't Leva tell you?"

"Tell me what?"

"That at the launch event, I kissed my boyfriend right in front of her."

There was silence on the other end. Nicole continued, "I did it because I knew she wouldn't believe it otherwise. Just like you said, if I didn't like him, even touching him would make me uncomfortable. Leva, like you, knows this best. It was with Leighton that I realized I don't reject all men. I really like him, and he loves me very much."

Leighton felt extremely annoyed. He was young and handsome; she should be the one pining for him. For the second time being dragged into her narrative, he opened his mouth to retort, "Like hell I-" love you. But as soon as he started, Nicole twisted his thigh with such force it felt like she might tear a piece off. The "heir he started to say came out in a series of odd sounds.

The man on the phone, sounding colder now, asked, "Who's with you?"

Nicole didn't answer but instead spoke to Leighton, "No need to practice singing in the car, right? Wait until we're home. I'm on the phone. Be good, and I'll take you for something nice to eat after."

Leighton's curses were cut off by Nicole's words. Her tone was lazy and indulgent, almost affectionate. If he hadn't seen her expressionless face while she said those words, he would've thought he was seeing things.

Was she crazy or what?

"That Hall family boy is with you?"

Nicole responded with a casual "Hmm."

"Didn't I just tell you? I accompanied him to the police station. Someone tried to frame him ah«have lo' show where I stand. He's my man.

Anyone who messes with him will get it back tenfold from me.”

The man on the other end was silent for a long time. Nicole waited for a moment before speaking again. “If there’s nothing else, I’ll—”

“If you’re together, when will you bring him home to meet us?”

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2295-Nicole said, “We haven’t been together long, so it’s a bit too soon to talk about this.”

The man replied, “You’re not that young anymore. Dad and Aunt Helen are quite worried about your future, especially Aunt Helen. She’s worried so much her hair has turned gray. Since you have a boyfriend now, bring him over to meet her so she can be at ease.”

Nicole pressed her lips together. “We haven’t been together for long, and Leighton is a few years younger than me. His career is on the rise. We’re not ready to talk about marriage yet. When his career is stable and our relationship

is still strong, and if he wants to marry me, I’ll bring him to meet our parents without you telling me to.”

The man wanted to say more, but Nicole didn’t give him a chance. She continued, “If there’s nothing else, I’m going to hang up now. Leighton is busy preparing for his new album and is under a lot of pressure. With all the recent strange happenings, I want to spend more time with him. I won’t be able to attend the family dinner this week. Please let Dad and Mom know.”

She hung up the phone, and just before it disconnected, she heard a loud thud, like something heavy had been thrown to the ground.

Nicole wasn’t hearing this for the first time and had seen it happen countless times. What once made her heart tremble now hardly fazed her.

Over more than a decade, what was past was past.

She snapped back to reality and looked over at Leighton, who was eyeing her strangely.

Nicole patted the spot where she had pinched him earlier. “Does it still hurt?”

Leighton had almost forgotten until she brought it up again. He slapped her hand away, scowling. “Of course it hurts. Don’t you know how hard you pinched?”

Nicole chuckled. “I was just afraid you’d spill the beans. Alright, it was my fault. I pinched you once, so you can pinch me once to make it even. Deal?”

Leighton grumbled, 'What about the pinch outside the police station? Did you forget about that?'

Nicole paused, then burst out laughing. "Holding a grudge, huh? Fine, you can pinch me twice."

She extended her leg toward Leighton, looking as if she was ready for the worst.

"Go ahead!"

Leighton looked down and saw her pale leg. She had come looking for him early in the morning, wearing a T-shirt and shorts under her trench coat. The morning was chilly, and her legs were turning purple from the cold. They had been covered by her coat until now, so he hadn't noticed. He looked away, annoyed.

"Crazy! Who wants to pinch your leg?"

Nicole was unfazed. "Then where do you want to pinch? My waist or my arm?"

Your choice."

Leighton thought, is this about pinching? Doesn't she have any sense of propriety?

Nicole seemed oblivious and kept urging, "Just say where."

Nicole probed, "Really not going to pinch? If you regret it later, don't blame me."

"Shut up!"

"Okay!"

Nicole quickly pulled her leg back.

Estelle glanced in the rearview mirror, catching the mischievous look on Nicole's face.

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2296-Leighton was taken aback, his ears turning red as he met Nicole's teasing gaze.

"You're the one who's dumb! I know it's pronounced petty!1"

Nicole blinked and helpfully pointed out, "But you just said 'pi' not 'pe'." Leighton stiffened. "No, I didn't."

“Yes, you did.”

“I didn’t!”

“You did! Estelle heard it too.” Nicole nodded toward Estelle. “Right, Estelle?”

Not wanting to get involved in their childish argument, Estelle cleared his throat and said, “I didn’t catch what you were saying.”

Nicole clicked her tongue. “No wonder so many young idols are clueless these days. It’s because managers like you spoil them.”

Leighton suddenly wanted to kick her out of the car!

Estelle chuckled. “Leighton just isn’t great at the language. He’s fine in other subjects.”

This wasn’t just to cover for Leighton. The Hall family had good genes for academics. Leighton’s grandmother had been an educator before she retired, and his siblings excelled in school. Leighton’s younger brother even won a world championship at the age of ten.

Leighton might not have been as brilliant as his cousins or his younger brother, but his grades were respectable. He secretly applied to a regular program at a film academy, intending to switch majors once there.

However, his father found out and made him switch to Salcator Medical University. Despite the high admission requirements, Leighton got in.

With his language scores just barely passing, he still ranked in the top ten of his program, indicating his strength in other subjects. After being scouted in his third year, he signed with an entertainment company. Due to missing too many classes in his fourth and fifth years, he couldn’t graduate, but the university allowed him to keep his student status and take a leave of absence. He could still complete his degree within two years if he returned.

In the entertainment industry, image was everything. From foodie personas to straight-laced types, naving a persona was crucial 11!

whetherit was genuine or not, as long as the fans bought it. Estelle, upon learning about Leighton’s academic history, initially considered marketing him as a top student.

However, Leighton refused, feeling that not graduating was too embarrassing.

Estelle, having seen many shameless individuals in his career, thought that boasting about Leighton’s high scores was hardly shamefa O m compared to others who flaunted

average grades. But after hearing Leighton mispronounce words, Estelle was relieved that Leighton had insisted against it. otherwise, they might have faced a major backlash.

Leighton didn't seek the spotlight. Aside from being stubborn and showy, he didn't pretend to know things he didn't. This helped him maintain a solid reputation in an industry where scandals often erupted.

Nicole, skeptical of Estelle's defense, smiled and said, "Excelling in other subjects doesn't really help in this industry. Poor reading skills lead to poor comprehension, making it hard to understand scripts, let alone portray roles convincingly. Academic achievements are often mocked by audiences when actors perform poorly yet make a lot of money. Last year's grassroots Best Actor only had a middle school education, and no one mocked his education after he won all those awards

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2297-"Ultimately, what everyone detests are actors whose virtue doesn't match their position. If you can't see this and only think about using your education to silence the audience, even with a high degree, you'll just be seen as a highly educated waste in their eyes.

"Being an actor is different from being an idol. Fans' affection for you is eighty percent based on your looks. They need to see your face first to have the desire to know you as a person. Idol dramas choose you because you look good, fulfilling fans' fantasies. However, an actor doesn't have to be handsome or beautiful. They serve the role, and sometimes you might not even show your

face in a whole scene, but your acting can still leave a mark on the audience.

That's the charm of an actor.

"I can introduce you to big directors, but if you still cling to an idol's mindset, caring about your image in fans' eyes and heavily focusing on your external persona, then even if I help you, it will do you no good. Do you understand?"

Nicole had worked with many young actors, both male and female. Poor acting skills weren't really a big deal. When she first started, she couldn't even find the camera and was once scolded to tears by the director.

Everyone had gone through this step by step. Behind the spotlight and attention, the hardships endured were no less for anyone.

But now, many of these young actors shared a common trait: they had the idea that acting was extremely easy. They didn't want to spend much effort on acting and lines, caring more about how good they look on camera.

Those without fans would think this way, and those with fans were even more burdened.

Idol dramas made for fans could still be somewhat passable, but if they were to act in serious dramas, they would appear out of place.

At first, when young actors came to ask her for advice, she would carefully share her experiences. But she gradually realized that they didn't take her words about the hardships seriously. They asked just to make connections, shoot a short video, and give something to their fans.

Later, when someone asked for advice, Nicole couldn't be bothered. Her reputation for being difficult, having a bad temper, and being arrogant spread from there.

But Nicole's audience has never been those idol-chasers, so those baseless rumors couldn't shake her position.

She wasn't sure how determined Leighton was to transition, so she had to make her stance clear from the beginning.

Leighton frowned. "If I really cared about that, would I be 'dating' you?"

Nicole asked, "What about looking ugly? When we were filming *Motives for Murder*, wasn't it you who thought the floral shirt the costume team gave you was tacky and secretly unbuttoned an extra button?"

Leighton was struck speechless.

The director didn't notice, so how did she?

Leighton couldn't deny it. He really thought it looked bad back then.

He pressed his lips together and after a moment said, "It won't happen again."

Nicole smiled, "Then make an ugly face for me to see."

Leighton frowned. "How?"

"Just the ugliest expression you can think of. Freestyle it, let me see how ugly you can get."

Leighton really had an idol burden. At his age, a guy who was slightly goodlooking would kelsmug enough, ldt alone Leighton, who was excessively handsome. Having this burden was normal.

But he was also stubborn, especially unwilling to be looked down upon by Nicole, sp he gave it his all and made.

a'goofy, not-so-smart looking face.

While he was wondering if it was ugly enough, he heard the sound of a camera shutter. Leighton was stunned and looked at Nicole.

She smiled with her eyes and waved her phone. "Next time, think twice before speaking to me, or i'll post your ugly photo in your fan group."

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Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2298-Leighton suddenly realized what was happening. All this talk about making ugly faces and shedding his idol image-this crazy woman was just messing with him!

Embarrassed and angry, he lunged for her phone. Nicole dodged left and right, but in the process, she accidentally hit the back of her head on the glass, her face turning pale with pain. At the same moment, Leighton managed to grab her phone but was startled by her cry of pain.

Holding her phone, he looked at Nicole's ashen face. He instinctively wanted to ask if she was okay but remembered her recent antics and hardened his heart.

"Stop messing with me. Don't think I'll fall for it again."

Nicole didn't say anything, pressing a tissue to her wound. When she pulled it away, it was nearly soaked with blood.

Leighton was at a loss. "Why is there so much blood?"

Nicole glanced at him, pressing the tissue back to her wound. "You were so rough, and now you're scared?"

Leighton was speechless once more.

He ground his teeth. "No one's going to think you're mute if you don't talk!"

This crazy woman, did she even feel pain?

Leighton urged Estelle to drive faster. Nicole, seeing his serious and tense expression, couldn't help but tease him. "Worried about me?"

Leighton glared at her. "Only a fool would worry about you! I'm just afraid you'll die in my car!"

Nicole chuckled, closing her eyes and murmuring, "Don't worry. Bad people live long lives. I've got another nine hundred years to go."

Leighton felt puzzled, wondering if she'd hit her head too hard. But when he entered his birthday, the phone.

actually Unlocked! Her wallpaper was even a photo of him. His hands shook as he looked at her in disbelief.

Seeing her so weak, Leighton's lips twitched. For once, he didn't argue back.

Instead, he kept glancing at her head, unable to hide the worry in his eyes.

"Are you going to delete it or not?" Nicole asked quietly. "If not, give me back my phone."

Leighton snapped out of it, annoyed. "How am I supposed to delete it without the password?"

Nicole said, "The password is your birthday."

Feeling complicated emotions, Leighton opened the photo album it was filled with pictures of him-some from when they met, some from his magazine shoots.

Leighton was stunned. "What did you say?"

Nicole repeated, "The password is your birthday."

Nicole, frowning, urged him, "Hurry up and delete it. Then give it back. I need to reply to some messages."

Nicole began typing a quick response to her manager, while Leighton sat beside her, his heart in turmoil.

Would someone who didn't like you use your birthday as their phone password?

Feeling complicated emotions, Leighton opened the photo album it was filled with pictures of him—some from when they met, some from his magazine shoots.

Would someone who didn't like you use your photo as their wallpaper?

Would someone who didn't like you have so many pictures of you on their phone?

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2299-Ah...

Leighton was so frustrated he wanted to pull his hair out. Why would this crazy woman like him? He glanced at Nicole, who was replying to a message, and quickly turned his head to the side when he saw her about to look up. His overly handsome face was reflected in the car window.

Leighton paused for a moment, suddenly thinking it was quite normal for her to like him. After all, the Hall family genes were indeed excellent.

With this thought, he unconsciously straightened up, raising his chin slightly.

From Nicole's angle, his profile was absolutely perfect. After all, he had been in

numerous magazines and on many stages; he knew exactly which angles and poses made him look the most handsome.

Nicole finished her message, put her phone aside, and turned to look at Leighton. Seeing him sitting so stiffly, she paused and asked, "Did you stick a ruler in your back? You can't bend at all?" Estelle chuckled.

Leighton was more than ten years younger than her, and to Estelle, he was just a cocky kid who loved to act cool. This kind of behavior was too common for boys his age, especially for someone as strikingly handsome as Leighton. A bit of narcissism was nothing unusual.

Although Estelle often felt like making the same remark, she never expected anyone to actually say it to Leighton's face. Nicole was indeed bold.

Leighton stiffened, glaring at her angrily. "You've been in the entertainment industry for so many years, hasn't anyone ever hit you?"

Nicole smiled nonchalantly. "I'm just taking the hits for you, aren't I?" With one sentence, she pulled Leighton's guilt back up, and he closed his mouth, not saying another word.

Leighton took Nicole to see his private doctor. Dr. Sanders was surprised to see Leighton bring Nicole but didn't ask any questions and efficiently treated her wound.

Nicole remarked, "It's good to be a top star; the company even provides a private doctor."

Leighton didn't respond. Dr. Sanders wasn't provided by the company; his mother had arranged it.

When he had a fallout with his family and entered the entertainment industry, he endured a lot of hardships. The company planned for him to debut as part of a boy group from a talent show.

He started late, had a decent voice, could sing well, and played seven or eight instruments, but he couldn't dance at all.

Despite being the least talented in his family, Leighton's tenacity was unmatched. Once he set his mind on something, he had to excel at it. His father thought entering the entertainment industry was just idling away, so Leighton was determined to prove him wrong.

He ingrained hard work into his bones when it came to dance practice.

Even after the company's scheduled practice hours, he would continue practicing on his own. He had left home for a year, holding in his breath and refusing to return until he had made progress.

While his father could harden his heart and compete with his son, his mother was more tenderhearted. The night before his first stage performance, she made a special trip to see him.

When they reunited offstage, his mother hugged him and cried as soon as she saw him. Leighton wanted to comfort her, but the pain in his waist was too much, and he couldn't hold back a hiss.

His mother sensed something was wrong and lifted his shirt despite his protests.

The eldest son, who had been pampered all his life, had come back after a year covered in injuries. His extreme practice methods, while yielding rapid progress, also inflicted significant harm on his body.

His mother was heartbroken, shedding tears as she insisted on taking him home. By that point, Leighton had come too far to give up.

Leighton's performance on his debut stage was stunning. His dance skills ranked him among the top ten in a group of talented Show contestants. No one believed it was the result of just one year of practice, except for his mother, who knew he had no dance background before that.

Unable to persuade her son, she scolded her husband and then forcibly arranged a private doctor for Leighton. She threatened to cry if he didn't accept.

Leighton had the best relationship with his mother. The harshest words she'd ever said to him were, "Pan really got to be upset," and as unruly as he was, he couldn't stand to see that gentle woman cry. So, he accepted her arrangement.

However, Leighton didn't want special treatment at the company or to be seen through a biased lens!!

Therefore, he never allowed the private doctor to follow him during dance practice. He only went for therapy after practice to reassure his mother.

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 2300-Leighton hesitated to share these thoughts with Nicole. It was mainly because during their previous "relationship" publicity stunt, Nicole unintentionally bumped into his family while they were together. Except for his cousins, no one else in his family knew that their relationship was a charade. They were ecstatic to see Nicole and insisted on treating her to meals.

Despite Nicole's tough demeanor around him, she knew exactly how to act around elders. She addressed them as grandpa, grandma, uncle, and aunt, melting everyone's hearts. Even his father, who typically disapproved of entertainment industry stars, seemed to approve of her, silently expressing, "You've done well, kid, finding such a beautiful and remarkable partner."

Nicole's behavior made Leighton question if his previous perceptions of her were biased or exaggerated. But after they finished eating, she surprised him in the car, saying, "Didn't realize you're such a mommy's boy, needing your mom to clean your fish for you."

"Mommy's boy" were the two words Leighton despised the most. It all began when he was in middle school. One morning, his mother showed up at school with milk for him.

He had overslept and rushed to school without eating breakfast. His mother was worried he'd be hungry, so she brought him food.

His mother wasn't tall, only about 1.6 meters. Though her husband wasn't short, she believed a child's height was determined by the mother's genes. She feared Leighton wouldn't grow tall enough, so she always included milk in his meals.

However, Leighton disliked drinking milk, and she was afraid he'd waste it, so she made sure he finished it.

That day was no different. After he finished his meal, she hugged him as usual.

Unfortunately, some gossiping classmates witnessed this scene.

Rumors escalated from "Leighton still needs his mommy to hug him" to "

Leighton still sleeps with his mommy," spinning out of control.

Leighton, being hot-headed, ended up hitting the gossiping classmates, landing him in trouble.

On the way home, she lectured him, insisting violence wasn't becoming of a gentleman; only barbarians resorted to it.

Leighton didn't listen; he blamed her entirely. If she hadn't hugged him at school, the rumors wouldn't have spread.

No longer a child, he disliked being hugged. Despite numerous rejections, she persisted. So, for the first time, he vented his anger at his mother, blaming her for everything.

His mother remained silent, tearing up. His father, upon learning of the incident, pursued him with a belt.

He scolded Leighton for his poor academics and inability to discern right from wrong. If not for his mother's intervention, he would've been severely beaten.

Afterward, his mother refrained from hugging him before school. She interacted with him cautiously, sometimes making him feel unworthy.

Though he knew he was wrong, he couldn't bring himself to address it.

Reconciliation became awkward after growing distant from his parents.

Later, after a falling out with his father, he saw his mother even less.

During meals, she'd subconsciously try to feed him like when he was young, then realize and discreetly observe his reaction.

Annoyed, he retorted, "Don't you have a mom? Just because I ask for a fish, I'm a mommy's boy? Hasn't your mom ever fed you?"

Leighton was heartbroken. He no longer rejected his mother's om affection, byt he never expected Niede to misinterpret it as being a "mommy's boy" again.

Nicole was taken aback, then smiled softly. "I have a mom, but she never fed me. She regrets bringing me into this world."

Leighton was stunned. His words had unintentionally touched a raw nerve. His upbringing stopped him from making any more sarcastic remarks.