

## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1401 Blushing - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1401 Blushing Online -**

### Chapter 1401 Blushing

Nicole nodded and posed her question promptly. "Did Kendrick and his team assist in resolving this issue?"

The question was crucial. If Kendrick had lent a hand, those machines might still have issues.

After all, the entire incident was peculiar, and if it was Kendrick's doing, it was already a red flag.

For Kendrick, this collaboration meant next to nothing. If it fell through, it would merely be a minor setback for him. However, the stakes were higher for Nicole.

Thinking back to the last time Kendrick had demanded a two percent exchange condition with Chloe, she felt a shiver down her spine.

Kendrick obviously didn't want her to cooperate with Colton and the others. However, he didn't expect them to have no intention of collaborating with him.

"Yes, they assisted in resolving it," Chloe confirmed, quickly grasping the situation and looking at Nicole with surprise. "Nicole, are you implying that there might still be issues with that batch of machines?"

Nicole remained silent, but her expression conveyed her agreement to Chloe.

"In that case, I'll have someone inspect the machines immediately. We will know it if they're faulty." Chloe turned serious. This was no minor issue. Without wasting a moment, she left the lounge to take action.

Meanwhile, in Restrada, Roxanna stood in her office, constantly glancing out her door. It was nearing 5

p.m., but Isaac was yet to arrive.

"This Isaac, he's not a man of his word," Roxanna muttered under her breath, frustration evident as she turned and sat in her office chair.

She checked the time; it was almost 5 p.m., which meant it was evening on the other side of the world. Chloe was certainly available at this time, so she could also join in on the discussion.

"Miss Miller, Mr. Quill has arrived."

An employee knocked and entered, only to be taken aback as they found Roxanna appearing disgruntled. Despite wondering who, of all people in the company, could've mistreated Roxanna, they still delivered his message calmly.

Roxanna nodded slightly, maintaining a composed exterior, though her internal turmoil had been building.

Now she felt even more nervous, not for any other reason but because she knew she would be nervous just meeting Isaac.

This time was different from the first.

Roxanna suddenly slapped her thigh, berating herself, "Really, Roxanna, what's wrong with you? You need to pull yourself together and not let Nicole and Chloe worry about you."

"What are you mumbling about in your office, Miss Miller? May I have the pleasure of joining you for a conversation?" Isaac's voice suddenly rang out in the room.

Roxanna immediately sat up straight, looking at the nonchalant Isaac standing at the door, and cleared her throat gently. "Mr. Quill, please have a seat. I'll initiate a video call with Miss Anderson."

Isaac didn't respond. He just smiled and took a seat beside Roxanna, who was startled by his action.

She quickly scooted aside and exclaimed in surprise, "Mr. Quill, what are you doing?"

Isaac looked at Roxanna with surprise and feigned innocence. "Aren't we going to video call? If we don't sit together, how can Miss Anderson see both of us?"

Roxanna froze at that. She considered it and thought Isaac had a point.

Meanwhile, Isaac quirked a brow at Roxanna as if to say, see, I told you so.

Roxanna felt even more embarrassed and moved toward Isaac, her cheeks slightly flushed. "Alright," she reluctantly said.

Isaac shrugged, indicating that he didn't mind.

They initiated the video call, waiting for Nicole to answer.

It seemed like Nicole had been waiting for the call, and it was promptly answered. Nicole and Chloe's faces appeared on the computer screen.

Seeing Roxanna's flushed countenance, Nicole furrowed her brows slightly and wondered if the former was overworked or unwell.

Chloe, on the other hand, didn't seem to share Nicole's concerns. She smiled enigmatically at the two of them, seemingly suggesting that she knew something.

Roxanna felt uneasy under their scrutiny; her body trembled, and she suddenly felt cold.

Chapter 1402 Teased

"Roxanna, your cheeks are quite flushed. Are you feeling unwell?" Nicole expressed her concern for Roxanna in a hushed tone.

Roxanna couldn't afford any further complications. If anything were to happen, she would be too far from home to return promptly.

Instantly, Roxanna's cheeks turned an even deeper shade of red, resembling a ripe apple, which was even more alarming than before.

"Roxanna, your face has turned even redder." Nicole was taken aback and quickly tugged on Chloe's sleeve to point out Roxanna's flushed cheeks on the screen.

Chloe shook her head, glancing at the two individuals on the screen, and softly said, "Let's get started; we don't have much time, and Nicole shouldn't stay up too late."

Sigh, looks like it's true that pregnancy can make you a bit scatterbrained. She can't even discern something so simple.

"Alright, alright, Mr. Quill, please begin." Roxanna, grateful for Chloe's intervention, quickly addressed Isaac, hoping he would start speaking soon.

Isaac, however, looked at Roxanna with a somewhat enigmatic smile but still didn't show any intention of speaking.

Unsure of Isaac's intentions, Roxanna grew anxious, and she quickly turned to Chloe on the screen, seeking her assistance.

Chloe shook her head in helplessness. She didn't know what to do either.

Indeed, Roxanna was inexperienced in such situations.

"Mr. Quill," Chloe spoke up.

With Nicole's pregnancy-induced naivety, only Chloe could assist Roxanna in this predicament.

"Well, here's the thing. If we're going to collaborate extensively between our two companies, the overseas branch must also be involved. Currently, our overseas company..." Isaac nodded and began to explain, no longer teasing Roxanna beside him.

Chloe studied Isaac's eyes. Despite his constant smile, his eyes remained cold. It was a clearly insincere smile. Moreover, she had heard that Isaac was close to Colton.

Chloe suddenly recalled the phone call from Roxanna, which had mentioned the connection between the two men.

Someone like Isaac, with connections to Colton and multiple influential companies abroad, was certainly not a straightforward individual.

Sure, Roxanna had grown a lot, but she still appeared quite childish in front of Isaac, and Chloe couldn't help thinking if Roxanna might be taken advantage of in this situation.

The idea made Chloe furrow her brows. I'll have to keep Roxanna at a distance from Isaac somehow.

"Chloe?"

Nicole and Isaac had nearly concluded their discussion. She felt reassured about this collaboration since Isaac and Colton were close friends.

Moreover, there was a possibility she could gather some insights into the rivalry between Colton and Kendrick at a critical moment to help Colton.

Chloe came to herself and looked at Nicole, nodding. "No problem."

"Alright, it's settled then. Roxanna, when it's time to sign the contract, forward it to the legal department. You can sign on my behalf," said Nicole as she nodded at Roxanna after receiving Chloe's affirmation. Then, she glanced at Isaac, giving him a slight nod as a sign of courtesy.

"Okay." Roxanna agreed, but she hadn't looked at Isaac throughout the conversation.

Their proximity was quite noticeable, and Roxanna wondered what the man beside her was thinking. He was sitting so close when there was clearly more space available.

"For better communication in the future, Mr. Quill, let's exchange contact information," Chloe suddenly spoke as they were about to conclude the conversation. She gazed at Isaac with a profound look as if deep in thought.

Roxanna was surprised by the request. Chloe had never proactively exchanged contact information with any guy before. Could there be an issue with Isaac?

She didn't dare speculate and simply turned to Isaac, awaiting his response.

Isaac was momentarily taken aback but quickly realized what was happening. He nodded and agreed, "Sure, I'll have Miss Miller send it to you later."

Chapter 1403 Doubt

The video conference concluded as such. It was already 6:30 p.m. in Restrada. A seemingly simple contract issue had taken both parties over an hour to resolve.

"Miss Miller, it's been a pleasure working with you," Isaac stood up frankly, looking at the woman beside him who still seemed reluctant to look at him, and smiled.

Roxanna looked slightly puzzled, gazing at Isaac. Suddenly, she remembered Chloe's earlier words, "Chloe just mentioned adding your contact information, but we don't have it yet, so I can't give it to her."

Isaac's back paused slightly, and he slowly turned around, taking out his phone and displaying a QR code for Roxanna.

"Here, scan it to add me."

His voice was very gentle, unlike anything Roxanna had heard before.

"Thank you, Mr. Quill," she replied softly, not daring to look at Isaac's face. She quickly scanned the QR code and added him.

"Alright, I've added you. It's getting late, so I won't see you out," she said, her voice tinged with an inexplicable sadness. She couldn't understand why she felt upset after the successful cooperation.

Roxanna lowered her gaze, turned, and turned to leave.

Isaac was puzzled by her sudden change in mood. However, he had matters to attend to in his company and had to leave.

The office fell silent, save for the sound of the door closing behind her.

Roxanna let out a faint sigh, gazing at the figure outside the floor-to-ceiling window before exiting the office.

She didn't forget to forward Isaac's contact information to Chloe. At the moment of sending, her heart felt heavy.

Elsewhere, Nicole closed her laptop and looked at Chloe with a somewhat peculiar expression, then asked, "Chloe, why did you ask Isaac for his number?"

In reality, Nicole had seen through Roxanna's little scheme, but in such situations, she always enjoyed teasing Roxanna a bit.

She had everything under control but hadn't expected Chloe to request Isaac's contact information afterward.

Nicole didn't believe Chloe had developed an interest in Isaac. She was more concerned that Chloe might discover some dangerous factors related to Isaac

in Roxanna's eyes. After all, Chloe had always been more astute in judging people.

Thinking about this, images of the person who had been thrown into a prison cell flashed in Nicole's mind.

"I might be overthinking this, but have you also noticed what Roxanna is up to?" Chloe's movements

stiffened slightly, and she turned to look at Nicole.

Initially, she thought Nicole was oblivious to Roxanna's intentions, but if Nicole was really oblivious, she wouldn't be asking Chloe about it now.

"Yeah, but Chloe, you've never been one to overthink. Go on, we still have time," Nicole reassured, glancing at the clock.

Nicole used to stay up much later in the past, but in recent months, due to her pregnancy, she had been going to bed early. However, the pregnancy-related morning sickness often disturbed her sleep, so staying up a little late wasn't a big deal.

Despite Nicole's reassurance, Chloe's lips trembled slightly, unsure if her thoughts were rational.

She had always been adept at understanding people's thoughts. Initially, she thought she was overly sensitive, but her speculations had always turned out to be true, including the major incident at the base.

"Chloe, go on. It's okay," Nicole urged gently, noticing that Chloe seemed lost in thought.

Chloe hesitated for a moment, then sighed. "I don't believe someone like Isaac wouldn't be interested in Roxanna, who is so straightforward and lacking in cunning. It's just that everything seems too coincidental, which makes me start to doubt Isaac's motives."

She paused, then added, "Roxanna is too naive. She doesn't understand my concerns. I just want to keep an eye on them all the time, hoping to spot something and intervene in time."

## Chapter 1404 New Clues

Chloe spoke intermittently, and Nicole didn't interrupt, listening attentively. Chloe's concerns were not unfounded, but...

"Chloe, don't fret. Roxanna won't misconstrue your intentions, but it's natural to feel distressed." Nicole gently patted Chloe's shoulder, her voice soft and comforting.

Chloe nodded, resolved to lay everything bare to Roxanna once the truth emerged. However, she harbored doubts about Isaac's suitability for Roxanna. She feared that one day, Roxanna might remain oblivious even after being deceived by Isaac.

"Get some rest—"

Nicole's words were cut short as she was suddenly seized by a wave of nausea. Sensing she was about to vomit, she hastily dashed to the bathroom.

Two hours of respite seemed to be her limit. She was suddenly grateful that she hadn't suffered from morning sickness during the earlier meeting. That would have been mortifying.

"Nicole!"

Chloe, noticing Nicole's morning sickness, quickly followed her, arriving just in time to see Nicole hunched over the toilet, retching.

She frowned slightly. Had Nicole been enduring this every night? Why hadn't I noticed it?!

After a bout of retching and vomiting, Nicole finally felt somewhat better. She rose, panting, and met

Chloe's worried gaze.

"It's alright, Chloe." She smiled faintly, trying to reassure Chloe.

"Even now, you're still trying to comfort me. Have you been suffering through this alone all these days?" Chloe asked, her voice laced with worry. Despite being preoccupied and exhausted from work, she had shallow sleep, so she should have been able to hear Nicole under normal circumstances. However, she had never been roused.



If that was the case, it meant that Nicole had been trying not to disturb her, even when she was feeling unwell.

Reflecting on this, Chloe felt even more distressed.

Nicole saw the concern etched in Chloe's eyes. She knew that her actions would upset Chloe if she discovered them, but she couldn't disrupt Chloe's sleep every night.

"Alright, let's get some rest. I'm a bit weary now."

Nicole took Chloe's hand and used it to help herself up. She then quietly returned to her room and closed the door.

She would find an opportunity to have a heart-to-heart with Chloe the next day. Chloe was too sensitive, and if this continued, it would burden her.

She wouldn't allow that to happen. As for Roxanna...

Nicole's eyes darkened. She had to devise a plan to keep Roxanna and Isaac apart.

Meanwhile, at the top floor of the hotel...

"Ah, Colton, let me go out and have some fun. I've been cooped up in this hotel for several days, and I'm feeling stifled!" Wendy threw a tantrum in Colton's room, hoping he would relent and let her go out and play.

If Colton often ventured out, that would be tolerable. However, the reality was that he rarely left the hotel, spending his days glued to his computer. The few times he did go out, he never took her along, no matter how much she pleaded.

Things had deviated from their initial agreement, and she found it hard to accept.

Beryl, who was staying next door, went out every single day, while Wendy didn't even get to enjoy the planned barbecue.

She sighed softly, feeling like a captive in this room, and stole a glance at Colton, realizing that he was completely absorbed in his work, with no attention to spare for her.

Frustrated, Wendy pouted and looked at the room's decor, secretly admiring her brother's ability to stay indoors in such a boring place.

"Colton." Beryl walked in with a room card, having obtained one from the front desk to avoid bothering Colton every time he had to let him in.

"How's it going?"

Colton asked without looking up, his hands busy typing away on the computer keyboard.

#### Chapter 1405 A Flaw Emerges

"Their defenses are tight, but we've managed to uncover a flaw. The situation in Restrada is tense at the moment, but thankfully, we hold the advantage." Beryl sat opposite Colton, his face etched with seriousness, not sparing a single glance at Wendy. He passed the file he was holding to Colton.

In essence, both factions were in a deadlock, neither gaining the upper hand. The only reason they maintained an advantage domestically was due to Ryan's unpredictable nature and impatience. However, the situation overseas might not mirror it. Despite having a plan, their execution might be hindered under Kendrick's watchful eye.

"It's alright. Finding a flaw is good enough for now. How's the investigation into the subsidiary company progressing?" Colton asked as he skimmed through the file in his hand, quirking a brow slightly.

They had been aware of the subsidiary company for quite some time, but the specifics were well- hidden by Kendrick.

"His female secretary has been making some noise, and she made a move against Nicole recently," Beryl replied, looking at Colton with a faint smile.

At the mention of 'Nicole,' Wendy immediately perked up and started listening attentively, though she still maintained the appearance of someone idle, eagerly wanting to go out and have fun.

Beryl quirked a brow upon noticing Wendy's reaction but decided not to call her out, allowing her to eavesdrop.

If his hunch was correct, Wendy and Nicole must have struck some sort of deal, and Nicole had likely provided explanations for their previous actions. If Wendy continued to have a close relationship with

Nicole and acted in a way that benefited Colton, he wouldn't interfere.

Nicole.

Colton immediately looked up at Beryl upon hearing Nicole's name being mentioned. Seeing Beryl's enigmatic smile, he realized the guy had done it intentionally.

That said, the information was certainly not fabricated, and his curiosity to gauge his reaction was genuine as well.

"Continue," Colton said, feigning calm.

"A few days ago, the base required a batch of equipment. She seized the opportunity to replace the machinery, giving them faulty ones. Her plan was to create problems with their experiments, prompting higher-ups to come and inspect. When that happens, the base would have to be shut down."

Beryl paused, acknowledging that this secretary had a ruthless mindset. It was a shame that she was working under Kendrick. Then again, only someone like Kendrick could nurture such talent.

"However, this was promptly discovered by Nicole's friend, Chloe Yelton, who reported it to Nicole and Kendrick. Kendrick rectified it immediately."

The incident was sufficient to demonstrate the other party's ill intentions.

"You should know that if the base gets shut down, Nicole and Kendrick's collaboration would be rendered useless. There would be a substantial penalty for breach of contract. Even though the domestic medical base is currently thriving, this incident would tarnish its reputation. It's only a matter

of time before the news spreads domestically, and it won't be an easy problem to resolve." Beryl laid out the situation for Colton, whose face was grim.

Nicole was almost seven months into her pregnancy. While the baby was mostly developed at this stage, a major shock could still lead to a miscarriage.

"Do we have evidence to back this up?" Colton refrained from commenting further, only inquiring about the evidence.

This surprised Beryl, as he hadn't expected Colton to show no concern for Nicole's well-being. How would he react if he found out that the child in Nicole's womb was his?

Beryl wasn't certain about the accuracy of the information. It was a tip-off from Isaac back home. The truth of the matter remained to be verified.

"We do have evidence, but Kendrick is also investigating the matter. It seems that he didn't order his secretary to do this, and it's likely that she acted on her own," Beryl voiced his suspicions.

#### Chapter 1406 The Truth Revealed

The situation was indeed peculiar. If their suspicions were correct, Kendrick must have been the puppet master behind it all. Yet, Kendrick was also probing into the matter, skillfully sidestepping the secretary.

Pondering over this, Beryl gave a slight shake of his head. The world of the wealthy and influential was indeed riddled with intrigue.

"Got it. Continue the investigation into the subsidiary company," Colton said, nodding without much reaction.

Beryl didn't elaborate further. He simply rose from his seat and stretched. "I'll get a good night's sleep tonight and continue the investigation tomorrow. However, Kendrick is on high alert at the moment. We need to stay vigilant and not rush into things."

Colton didn't respond, his gaze fixed on the computer screen, his thoughts hidden.

Beryl shrugged and glanced at Wendy, who was still eavesdropping. He flashed a smile. "Aren't you going to rest, Miss Wendy Gardner? If you don't, all your beauty treatments will have been for naught."

She really couldn't conceal anything; even her eavesdropping was so blatant.

Upon realizing that she had been caught and even teased by Beryl, Wendy immediately averted her gaze in defiance.

"Hmph." Wendy harrumphed before getting up and leaving the room, ignoring Beryl's teasing.

This jack\*ss is just like Colton. Neither of them keeps their promises!

Beryl chuckled helplessly, then turned to Colton. "I'll take Wendy out for a while tomorrow. Otherwise, with her temperament, she'll be bored to death these days."

"Sure, take her out," Colton replied without objections. He had been thinking of finding an opportunity to take Wendy out himself, but he had been swamped lately. Having Beryl take her was just as good; it would help distract Wendy.

Seeing Colton's agreement, Beryl nodded and exited the room.

Once Wendy returned to her room, she carefully locked the door. She glanced at her phone and noticed that her sister-in-law hadn't checked her phone often. She hadn't responded to the message about the child from the day before.

It didn't matter.

Wendy typed out a detailed message about what she had overheard. She hadn't expected the secretary to be so ruthless. Then again, she hadn't seemed to have met that secretary before.

Meanwhile, Beryl stood outside Wendy's room, hesitating to knock. She decided against it and figured she would send the message through Wendy's social media the next day.

Having made up his mind, Beryl returned to his room to check out what local delicacies were available nearby. He planned to take Wendy out to try them the next day.

After a good night's sleep, Nicole checked her phone and realized someone had texted her the night

before.

A message?

Nicole suddenly remembered Wendy's message. She had seen it but hadn't responded due to the base incident the day before.

Thinking of this, Nicole quickly unlocked her phone and saw that Wendy had sent numerous messages.

She read each message carefully, and her expression turned serious as she went through them. Nicole didn't even know the name of the female secretary, but she couldn't believe that someone was plotting against the base.

However, the message also mentioned that Kendrick was investigating the matter. Nicole couldn't fathom how a female secretary could have such influence unless Kendrick was involved in some way. Her brow furrowed as she considered the implications, her previous assessment of Kendrick's power now uncertain.

If even Kendrick's secretary had such connections, how formidable could Kendrick himself be? Nicole pondered this before sending Wendy an explanation about the child issue, followed by discussing the rest of the matter. She wanted to gather as much information as possible, as more knowledge would be beneficial in dealing with the situation.

"Nicole, I'm leaving," Chloe's voice came from outside the room.

Nicole glanced at the time and realized how late it was. Without waiting for her response, she heard the

sound of the security door being closed from outside. Nicole smiled wryly, then slowly rose and started perusing the new report.

Chapter 1407 Revealing One's True Colors

Kendrick's brow furrowed as he studied the document in his hands. The incident at the medical base was Darcy's handiwork.

The investigation hadn't been challenging. It was clear that Darcy had manipulated a money-hungry man to do her bidding. A small sum of money was all it took to uncover everything he needed to know.

Darcy harbored many secrets about him. If he acted rashly, he might face repercussions.

This issue required a long-term strategy. It was high time to wrest control of some matters from Darcy's hands. If things continued as they were, disaster was inevitable.

Knock, knock, knock.

"Mr. Hofstead, there's a document that requires your signature."

It was Darcy.

Kendrick's eyes slightly darkened as he commanded. "Enter."

This day marked the first step. Colton's situation was precarious, and he couldn't afford any further delays.

"Mr. Hofstead, this document is rather urgent and requires your signature. Also, there's an impromptu meeting scheduled for this afternoon; you need to prepare for it."

Darcy entered, completely unaware that her actions had already been discovered. She felt a sense of

accomplishment, considering that she had managed to keep her involvement in this matter completely hidden from everyone.

Kendrick looked at Darcy thoughtfully and responded with a simple "Hmm."

Seeing Kendrick's change in demeanor, she began to feel uneasy. Kendrick's attitude was no longer as friendly as before.

"Mr. Hofstead." Her voice quivered slightly. She wanted to inquire about something, but after starting, she didn't know how to continue with her words.

"Speak."

Kendrick briefly glanced at the document in his hand, confirmed that it was in order, and then efficiently signed it, handing it back to Darcy. The legal department had briefed him on this document earlier, so he didn't need to examine it closely. However, Darcy's actions had cost her his trust. Harming Nicole behind his back was unforgivable.

"It's nothing. I'll take my leave now."

Darcy shook her head and left with the document. She decided to inquire later whether that person had been asking about anything related to her.

"Has anyone been asking you anything recently?"

Darcy's unease intensified. She had a hunch that her actions had been exposed, but no one had confirmed it to her, and there was no evidence to confirm her suspicions. However, Kendrick's gaze

was more menacing than before, which frightened her.

"Huh, what are you talking about? Don't you know the rules here? A hundred grand. Not a penny less." The man on the other end of the line responded as if he didn't recognize Darcy, demanding a substantial sum.

Darcy gasped at the high demand. She hadn't anticipated that a simple question would prompt the man to demand such a hefty sum. However, if paying him could ensure his silence, it might be worth it. She planned to gather more leverage against him in the future and then let Kendrick handle him. This way, the money he had taken would also be returned, ending up back in the company's accounts, where she could access it.

With her plan in mind, Darcy agreed, saying, "Alright, a hundred grand. Give me your bank account number."

After that, she hung up the phone. Now, she needed to figure out where to obtain a hundred thousand dollars.

Darcy stood outside her office, clutching her phone tightly. She discreetly pinched her own flesh, feeling the sting of pain. Tears welled up in her eyes, giving her a pitiful appearance.

At this point, her only option seemed to be approaching Kendrick and asking for help. She had worked diligently by his side for many years, and he should be willing to assist her to some extent.

Taking a deep breath, Darcy knocked on the door and, upon hearing the response from inside, entered the office. "Mr. Hofstead, I'd like to discuss something with you."



## Chapter 1408 The Plot Begins

"I've had some recent family issues, and I've invested all my savings into them. Can I get an advance on my salary and bonuses?"

Darcy had already worked out the details. If she could get an advance for two months, she would have a hundred thousand dollars.

The salary system at Kendrick's company was highly competitive as it was designed to retain talent. Even her position as a personal secretary, privy to all sorts of company secrets, was well compensated.

Kendrick looked up at Darcy when she spoke, observing the tears in her eyes with a stern gaze. She was clearly acting, and he could see through it, but was it because someone was extorting her?

"Alright," he responded without much thought. He immediately called the finance department to arrange for Darcy to receive the money. If this was what she wanted, he would fulfill her requests.

Seeing Kendrick agree and transfer the money so swiftly, Darcy could hardly contain her joy. She quickly expressed her gratitude, "Thank you, Mr. Hofstead. I will continue to support you discreetly from the sidelines."

With that, Darcy turned and left. However, Kendrick, who had been looking down, slowly raised his head. The plot was now in motion, and Darcy's days were numbered.

Darcy transferred the money to the man and found out that someone had been inquiring about her lately. However, the man didn't reveal any details about the situation, claiming they were broke and unwilling to share a single cent.

Initially, Darcy had some doubts, but when she heard the second part of the man's statement, all her suspicions disappeared. It was clear that this man loved money, and if he wasn't paid, he wouldn't say a word. But among the two groups involved, who else could it be besides Kendrick?

Ring, ring, ring...

Darcy's phone rang just then.

She answered the call nonchalantly, her mood evidently good. She didn't even bother to check the caller ID.

"Come back now."

Mr. Hofstead?

The voice on the other end was unmistakably Kendrick's.

Upon hearing his voice, Darcy quickly glanced at the caller ID in surprise.

"Yes," she responded before hanging up. She didn't linger and hurried back to Kendrick's office.

His voice had been grave and low, suggesting he was dealing with a serious issue. Darcy didn't dare to speculate further and quickened her pace.

"You wanted to see me, Mr. Hofstead?" Darcy asked, noting the worry etched on his face. She surmised that something must have happened at the company.

"What is this? Why are you targeting the medical base?" Kendrick questioned, placing a pile of

evidence before Darcy.

She looked at the evidence, and her heart sank. It seemed that the man who was easily swayed by money couldn't be trusted after all.

"Mr. Hofstead, please let me explain—"

"No need." Darcy's words were interrupted by Kendrick. "I've already taken care of it for you. You've been with me for many years, and this is the first time you've made a mistake. It's only right that I help you.

"Besides, over these many years, I've developed feelings for you. This matter—"

"Sorry to interrupt, Mr. Hofstead, but there's a document that requires your signature," a voice interjected.

The person entered slowly, observing the strange atmosphere between the two of them with disbelief. This individual was someone Darcy had promoted at the medical base.

Darcy, seeing this person, furrowed her brow slightly. Why must he come in before Mr. Hofstead finished speaking?! I still don't know what Mr. Hofstead wants to tell me!

"Alright, just leave it here," Kendrick responded, his tone icy.

At that, the man quickly placed the document on the table and exited the room, not daring to linger.

#### Chapter 1409 Preliminary Success

After the man's departure, Darcy turned her gaze towards Kendrick, her eyes filled with anticipation as if awaiting the unfolding of events. However, Kendrick appeared reluctant to divulge more, his attention seemingly absorbed by the documents in his hand, his lips sealed.

Unable to bear the suspense any longer, Darcy quickly reminded, "Mr. Hofstead, you didn't finish what you were saying just now."

Kendrick had just confessed his feelings for her, and she was not about to let this moment slip through her fingers.

She had suspected it for a while now, given that they had been through thick and thin together over the years. She wasn't unattractive either, so it was entirely plausible for Kendrick to have feelings for her.

Upon hearing her words, Kendrick seemingly snapped back to reality, recalling the recent events, and said, "Is something wrong at home? If you have time, I can accompany you. After all, I am your boss."

"What?"

This time, it was Darcy's turn to be taken aback, as Kendrick had never made such a proposition before.

"What's wrong? Is it inconvenient?" He sounded somewhat hurt, his tone unusually gentle.

She quickly shook her head. "No, it's not inconvenient at all. Whenever you have time, Mr. Hofstead."

Kendrick nodded and smiled gently in response. "You carry on with your work then. There's a lot to be

done recently, so don't overwork yourself."

Darcy, unsure of how to react, simply complied with Kendrick's instructions. She nodded and exited Kendrick's office.

She felt that many eyes were on her as soon as she left the office, and she suspected that the words Kendrick had uttered in his office had already spread among the employees.

A hint of satisfaction crept onto Darcy's face. That person could continue to rise through the ranks; he had handled this situation quite adeptly.

"Darcy, congratulations!"

As expected, that person stepped forward to congratulate Darcy, and once he did, many others followed suit, showering Darcy with praise.

Darcy was suddenly on cloud nine. She hadn't anticipated such a turn of events. She no longer had to live in fear of the past, and her marital future seemed secure.

Kendrick sat in his office, monitoring the outside through surveillance. The computer screen displayed the current scenario outside, and he observed it with a grave expression.

His objective had been accomplished, and he could now proceed according to his plan. Since this person was no longer under his control, merely a pawn, it was time to discard her and make way for other pawns.

He slowly picked up the phone and dialed a relatively unfamiliar number. "Report to the company next

week. Submit your application first, then commence work."

Kendrick's voice was even colder than before, as if the warmth and smile from earlier were nothing but a facade.

Indeed, all he had done was lull Darcy into a false sense of security and fully exploit her. Ultimately, she would plummet into a bottomless abyss, and no matter what she claimed, no one would believe her.

"Yes," the man on the other end of the phone responded mechanically, akin to a robot.

Kendrick hung up the phone and positioned himself in front of the floor-to-ceiling window. The company was situated in the city's prime location, offering a panoramic view of the entire city.

When he was slightly agitated, he enjoyed standing here, observing the world below.

Darcy excitedly shared the news with her closest friends. All her friends had managed to snag wealthy men, while she had never had a relationship worth mentioning.

Her friends all advised her to move on from Kendrick. Although Kendrick was the most influential and affluent man in their circle, if she couldn't secure him, it would be wise to let go.

However, she was resolute and persisted, and this day, she could finally proudly tell her friends that her perseverance had paid off.

"Ladies, I've snagged Kendrick." She gleefully sent a voice message in the group chat. Soon, she could return home like her friends and relish the life of a wealthy wife in their circle.

#### Chapter 1410 Feasting Lavishly

"Nicole, you haven't been eating well these past few days. How about we go out for dinner tonight and take a leisurely walk afterward? Staying cooped up at home all day isn't healthy," Chloe proposed upon returning home and finding Nicole still engrossed in a mountain of reports.

Nicole raised her head upon hearing Chloe's words, feeling a sudden chill down her spine. She was well aware that if she didn't consent, Chloe would devise a plan to coax her out of the house.

Chloe's gaze remained fixed on Nicole, resolute in her mission to get Nicole out. If Nicole didn't acquiesce, she would resort to more persuasive measures.

"Alright, alright, I give in. Shall we leave now?" Nicole hastily agreed, fearing that if she hesitated any longer, Chloe might resort to force.

Satisfied with the final answer, Chloe turned around and fetched Nicole's coat, preparing for them to head out.

Nicole was already dressed for the occasion, only needing to don her coat. She sat in the chair, awkwardly slipping on her shoes.

Witnessing this, Chloe couldn't help but feel a twinge of sorrow.

Colton was still oblivious to the fact that the child Nicole was carrying was his, and he continued to harbor misconceptions about Nicole. If possible, she wished Colton would never discover the truth.

"Alright, Chloe, I'm ready. Let's go."

Nicole slowly rose, leaning on a nearby object for support, and glanced at the preoccupied Chloe, gently nudging her back to reality.

If she wasn't mistaken, Chloe was once again lost in thoughts about her and Colton.

Chloe snapped back to reality at Nicole's voice, looking at Nicole, who was already dressed and prepared to leave, and gave a slight nod.

The two of them embarked on their journey together. The cool evening breeze was blowing, but they were both bundled up and didn't feel the cold.

"Darcy, is it true? You've really snagged Kendrick Hofstead?"

A piercing female voice accompanied by a potent perfume scent reached them.

Kendrick Hofstead? Darcy?

Instinctively, Nicole turned to look at Chloe, who was also looking back at her.

Evidently, they both caught the crucial information.

"Absolutely, he confessed his feelings to me at the office today. But we were interrupted, and that person overheard what Kendrick said to me. Kendrick probably cares about his reputation, so he didn't pursue the matter after that person left." Darcy boasted, nonchalantly handing her card to the waiter.

The money on the card was the advance salary that Kendrick had given her earlier that day. But now that she thought about it, if she and Kendrick were to become an item, this money would be

insignificant. So, she didn't feel the slightest bit of regret. Today was all about indulging herself.

"Order whatever you want today. Dinner's on me." Darcy declared generously. Kendrick was so affluent he would certainly not skimp on her financially once they were together.

"Darcy, are you sure? This card should contain all your savings, right? If you exhaust it today, what will you do in the coming days?" One of her close friends looked at the bank card Darcy had handed over with concern and voiced her apprehensions.

They were all close friends, and although they often competed with each other, they would always consider each other's welfare at critical moments.

At that, Darcy clenched her teeth in a direction where no one could see. Her friend's words clearly indicated that she was being looked down upon.

She didn't have such a competitive spirit initially, always believing that she could excel with her abilities, and she was definitely more accomplished in her studies than her friends.

However, several of her friends found their wealthy boyfriends, and their lives improved dramatically. During that time, she was so envious that she couldn't focus on her work. She simply couldn't accept it.

What exactly was the reason? She wasn't sure. She was clearly the most capable one, but in the end, she was the worst off.

## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1411 The Idle Chatter Next Door - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1411 The Idle Chatter Next Door Online -**

Chapter 1411 The Idle Chatter Next Door

Darcy's hands involuntarily clenched into fists. Since she had finally secured Kendrick, she was determined not to let him slip from her fingers.

Still, she had to admit that her friends had a point. If she maxed out her card today, she would be left penniless.

"Impossible. Kendrick loves me too much to let me run out of money," Darcy retorted as she turned around with a faint smile. Right now, her expression was no longer as fierce as before. Instead, considering the soft expression on her face, it seemed that she had recovered.

Her friends immediately breathed a sigh of relief. Therefore, their entire demeanor changed in a matter of seconds as they walked arm-in-arm into the private room.

Chloe silently watched Darcy's retreating figure with furrowed brows. If Darcy's claims were true, this situation could become complicated.

Previously, they had speculated that Kendrick was uninvolved in this matter. Unfortunately, it seemed that they were wrong as he was deeply entangled in it.

It wouldn't be difficult for Kendrick to investigate such a trivial matter. It was highly probable that he was already aware that Darcy was behind all this. Thus, they could conclude that not only was he shielding Darcy, but also using this opportunity to express his profound affection for the woman.

"Nicole." Chloe turned to Nicole beside her.

However, Nicole's expression took her by surprise.

"Chloe, there are some things beyond our control. What we need to do is to strive harder. Aren't we here to unwind and enjoy a meal? Let's make the most of it," Nicole said calmly. Regardless of how formidable the adversary was, it made no difference to her. The priority was to dig deeper into Kendrick's background.

As for the rest... Well, it would be prudent to prepare for any scenario.

"Alright. I understand, Nicole. I guess I've been a bit paranoid," Chloe conceded, realizing she was indeed over-analyzing the situation.

"No, Chloe, you're actually on point. It's just that under the current circumstances, it doesn't matter even if we've unveiled some truths as we can't resolve them. So, we should try to find the opponent's weak spot and aim for a swift victory," Nicole suggested rationally. Of course, it was unrealistic to expect to defeat Kendrick easily. They had to strategize for the long haul.



After all, why would a person like Kendrick concern himself with those around him? Everything he did was driven by pure self-interest.

Nicole's expression momentarily darkened when she arrived at that conclusion. Nonetheless, she quickly regained her composure. Today was a day for relaxation, so certain matters should be left unspoken for now.

Chloe understood Nicole's intent. Hence, she turned to the nearest server to reserve a private room, and the two headed toward it without another word.

Coincidentally, Darcy and her sisters were in the room next door. They seemed oblivious to the fact that the rooms were not soundproof as they were engaged in a loud discussion.

Nicole pondered their options momentarily before turning to the waiter, who was currently serving their dishes, and asked in a deliberately hushed tone, "Are all the private rooms occupied at the moment?"

"No. Only two of them are—this one and the one next door," the waiter replied, puzzled by the woman's question. Nevertheless, he was obliged to answer truthfully since she was a customer.

Nicole nodded, and the waiter served all the dishes and exited the room, leaving the guests to their privacy.

"Darcy, spill! What else did Kendrick say to you? I still remember how I was speculating with my husband about what kind of woman Kendrick would be attracted to and what he would say to her. After all, he never reveals any personal feelings in business," one of the sisters exclaimed enthusiastically, her face alight with genuine curiosity.

Indeed, Kendrick was always decisive in business and was never one to let personal feelings interfere with... anything, really. He was the epitome of a profit-first individual. As a result, one could envision what it would be like if such a person fell in love. Some would even joke on the sly that he would probably reproduce via mitosis.

Now, they were eager to find out some hot gossip straight from the source. Coincidentally, her husband had been facing business setbacks recently and was in low spirits. So, she also hoped that this intriguing piece of information could lift his mood.

"Let's hear it," the other sisters chimed in. After all, who could resist a juicy piece of gossip? In fact, this topic would make for an entertaining post-dinner conversation.

#### Chapter 1412 The Unveiling

The other women's unabashed interest utterly gratified Darcy's vanity, and she felt a surge of pride at being the main attraction for once. So, she discreetly took in the anticipation etched on the faces of the others and deliberately paused before speaking in a measured tone, "He once confessed his profound affection for me but was interrupted halfway. But... he did promise to accompany me to my home on another occasion."

As Darcy narrated, her cheeks flushed a deep crimson. Naturally, she omitted the fact that Kendrick had visited as her superior. However, deep down in her heart, she figured it didn't matter as it made no difference.

"Really? He wishes to meet your parents?"

When the other ladies in attendance heard her words, they immediately set their sights on her as though they were sharks, and she had just given them the juiciest kill. They even went as far as setting down their cutlery and gazing at Darcy in astonishment, tossing any modicum of decorum out the window.

If Darcy and Kendrick had truly become an item, their husbands' businesses could potentially benefit from this alliance. So, it wouldn't be preposterous for them to assume that this bond could potentially propel their family's ventures to greater heights.

Nicole and Chloe, who were seated right next door, remained silent. Instead, they enjoyed their meal while attentively listening to the neighboring conversation with neutral expressions, betraying no signs of abnormality.

Their objective was to gather beneficial information.

Meanwhile, Wendy, who had just entered the private room, was greeted by a cacophony of women chattering boisterously without any semblance of propriety.

The moment the name 'Kendrick' reached Beryl's ears, he couldn't help but arch his eyebrows in surprise, intrigued that he could glean such information

merely by taking the little princess out for dinner. It was indeed a productive day.

Nicole delicately dabbed the corners of her mouth with a napkin and glanced at Chloe once they were nearly done with their meal.

Chloe instantly understood Nicole's signal as she nodded in agreement. Then, they both rose to depart from the premises.

They had gathered all the necessary information, and there was nothing more to be gleaned from the mutual adulation of the others.

"However, Kendrick seems quite perturbed about Nicole. I'm somewhat concerned about this as Nicole is competent and rather attractive, I suppose. Also, did you know that she's a single mother? I even heard she's pregnant!"

Darcy suddenly brought Nicole into the conversation for some inexplicable reason.

The two women poised at the door hesitated, deciding it wouldn't harm to linger a little longer before departing.

Wendy, who was enjoying her meal nearby, bristled when she heard Nicole being disparaged. It was

one thing to be loud and boastful, but now they were gossiping behind someone's back. To make matters worse, it was about Nicole!

She couldn't tolerate it!

Wendy was about to confront Darcy when her wrist was seized. So, she turned around indignantly to face Beryl, the only man... nay, the only person present who could possibly restrain her at such a crucial moment.

Before she could start reprimanding him, he subtly shook his head, silently telling her not to act so impulsively. As she pondered the meaning behind his decision, he leaned in and whispered in her ear, "Don't stir the hornet's nest."

She was momentarily taken aback, but her resistance against him significantly diminished after his warning. So, she eventually complied and returned to her seat.

Although she was vaguely aware of her brother's recent dealings, she was still very much in the dark about the whole Kendrick situation. All she knew was that it was serious, so if Beryl advised her not to stir the hornet's nest, it was better to listen to him.

Of course, she would definitely have a thorough discussion with Nicole about this bunch of gossipmongers upon returning to the hotel.

On the other hand, Beryl was shocked to see Wendy being so compliant for once. Still, he maintained his composure.

Since the little princess was finally behaving, he decided not to probe further.

"What should we do then? Doesn't Kendrick fancy you? What harm could she possibly do? Plus, Kendrick spoke to you in such a manner today. You're merely overthinking things."

Darcy's 'buddies' seemed to be mildly reproaching her, but they didn't articulate it explicitly. They merely grumbled a few times, but internally? They were somewhat disgruntled by her words.

#### Chapter 1413 Unexpected Meeting

Darcy was suddenly struck by the abruptness of it all, making things seem rather surreal. Regardless, after she heard her friends' words, she decided to take the rumors she heard at face value. Thus, she didn't bother delving too deeply into the implications behind their grumblings. Instead, she chose to accept Kendrick's statements as truth.

"You're right. I'm overthinking matters again. Silly me!" Darcy acknowledged her tendency to overanalyze the situation as she nodded in agreement.

As a result, the initial lighthearted joy returned to their gathering.

Now that Nicole was certain that the conversation between Darcy and her band of misfits held no interest for her, she figured that it was time to go. Nonetheless, she didn't expect to bump into Wendy.

The four of them tacitly remained silent until they were out of the restaurant, assured that no one would be able to eavesdrop on their conversation. Then, the four divided into pairs as they turned to face one another.

"Nicole! I can't believe that you're also having a meal here! Oh, we could have shared a meal if I had known that you were coming here as well," Wendy expressed her sincere regret of being unable to have a good time with Nicole. As she thought about the nonsense she had heard earlier, she couldn't help feeling frustrated that her perfectly good day had been ruined because of those harpies.

"Nicole, you heard what they were saying about you, didn't you? I wanted to defend you, but this guy here kept holding me back," she said, casting a sidelong glance at Beryl. Now that she thought about it, she regretted ever restraining her temper.

Nicole gently patted Wendy's head as she replied, "It's fine. What they do with their time is none of our business. Besides, we can't reveal our true colors just yet."

Meanwhile, Beryl studied Nicole thoughtfully. She was not the woman he had envisioned; she was even better.

"Oh, alright. Nicole, where are you headed now? How's the baby? You need to take good care of yourself. You can't risk your health. You know that, don't you?" Perhaps due to not having seen Nicole for quite a while, Wendy was now chattering away incessantly.

"I'm fine. Don't you worry now. Don't you trust my medical knowledge?" Nicole responded with a smile, patting Wendy's head again as she spoke in a soothing tone. It was as if she was pacifying a child.

On the other hand, Chloe's gaze had never wavered on Beryl's face from the moment they stumbled upon one another. It seemed that he hadn't been lying; he was indeed Colton's close friend.

If he wasn't Colton's trusted friend, how could the man possibly allow Wendy to venture out alone with Beryl under such circumstances?

"It's been a while, Miss Yelton," greeted Beryl. He had naturally Chloe's gaze on him.

Her expression shifted slightly. However, she didn't respond verbally, merely nodding in acknowledgment.

Alas, when Wendy saw Chloe's reaction, she rashly assumed that Beryl had somehow wronged her sister-in-law's friend. So, she immediately chastised him, "Why do you have to be so antagonistic? I'm

telling you right now that you can return to the country if you upset Nicole's friends again." Her fiery yet adorable demeanor left him taken aback. Thus, he was momentarily at a loss for words.

He was clueless as to how he had wronged Chloe. It was true that their previous interactions had been somewhat strained, but he was genuinely unsure how Wendy had misinterpreted their reactions toward one another so terribly.

Fortunately, when Chloe heard the term 'antagonistic' being tossed about, she quickly clarified, "No, it was just a minor misunderstanding."

Wendy smiled at Chloe, patiently waiting for her to finish before turning to Beryl with a suspicious look in her eyes. "Really?"

He shrugged helplessly as he complained, "You and I know you won't believe me regardless of what I say. Anyway, we've already had our fill, so it's time to head back. If we don't leave now, your brother will start hounding me about your whereabouts."

Even though Colton had consented to him taking Wendy out the previous day, Colton had also set a curfew. It was already getting rather late, and they hadn't even begun their journey back yet. He could already imagine Colton giving him the cold shoulder if he brought Wendy home even a minute late.

"Fine. Nicole, Chloe, I'm heading out," Wendy pouted, appearing somewhat discontent. Still, she obediently bid her goodbyes to Nicole and Chloe before turning around and following Beryl.

Although the two had the bearings of an aristocrat, the pair never ceased teasing one another as they departed.

Chapter 1414 Strangely Happy

Nicole could only watch in exasperated amusement as the pair departed before turning her gaze toward Chloe.

The two women exchanged a knowing smile as Chloe assisted Nicole in her amble toward the apartment.

Meanwhile, Wendy returned to the hotel, arriving just in time to see Colton waiting for them by the elevator door.

"Why are you standing here, Colton? Although it's true that we've booked the entire floor, your presence here could easily lead to misunderstandings."

Wendy looked at her brother with a hint of disdain. She had returned punctually, so why was he waiting for her with that look on his face?

"Don't worry about it. I need to discuss something with Beryl. So, stay in your room unless it's urgent."

Colton shot a glance at Wendy. Even though she appeared contemptuous, he could still tell she was in high spirits today.

Since the trip had clearly been good for her, she should behave now. After all, the upcoming days were fraught with danger.

She would undoubtedly get into trouble if she were sent back to the country without his supervision right now. The thought of her disappearing to who knows where was something he didn't even want to think about.

"Fine."

Honestly, Wendy was not keen on hearing him instruct her to stay in her room yet again.

However, he had shown some consideration today by allowing Beryl to accompany her to an outing. She knew how to appreciate that kindness as she knew that Beryl wouldn't have been able to take her out to have some fun without Colton's approval.

Thus, she obediently retreated to her room. As she stared at the now familiar arrangement in the room, she felt a pang of regret.

Had she known this would be the outcome, she wouldn't have followed Colton abroad.

Yet, there were advantages to being abroad. At the very least, she had finally discovered the misunderstanding that occurred between Nicole and her brother.

So, it was precisely with this thought in mind that she whisked out her phone and began to text Nicole discreetly.

Colton glanced at Beryl, and the two silently moved to Colton's room.

The room was as dim as usual, with the computer screen on the desk serving as the only source of light.

Beryl, who was slightly repulsed by Colton's living conditions, promptly switched on the light. Then, he sat by the computer, crossed his legs, and said, "Well, have at it then."

Colton side-eyed Beryl before deciding to ignore his comment. Instead, he began to speak in a solemn tone. "Kendrick has started to act, but I have discovered some inconsistencies. I suspect he did it deliberately. After all, how could such a meticulous person leave any loopholes?"

Frankly, even he was astonished by this piece of information as it was unlike Kendrick to leave such glaring mistakes.

"Let me take a look."

Beryl, who had initially been relaxed, immediately straightened up, scrutinizing the messages on the computer screen.

"We should lay low for now as we're unsure of his intentions."

While Beryl was engrossed in checking the data on the screen, Colton shared his carefully thought-out conclusion.

After a while, Beryl was finally done with his reading. So, he pondered for a moment before humming an affirmative.

Colton nodded in satisfaction since they were in agreement. Then, he gazed at Wendy's room as if recalling something before inquiring, "Where did you go today?"

Since she was so cheerful today, it couldn't have been just a meal.



Of course, this was all just his speculation.

"Actually, something interesting did happen today."

Beryl immediately recalled the conversation he overheard from Kendrick's secretary, Darcy. So, he eagerly shared what he knew with Colton with a gleam in his eye.

"Do you remember Kendrick's secretary, Darcy?"

Colton was slightly surprised by the sudden topic as he looked at Beryl with a baffled expression. How was he supposed to know who the heck Kendrick's secretary was?

He had never met her. Besides, he had only encountered Kendrick twice, so how could he recognize his secretary?

Chapter 1415 A Pair Of Fools

The two men simply stared at each other in silence for a few minutes.

Suddenly, Beryl slapped his forehead, exclaiming, "Oh! There's no way you could possibly know her. Right, so do you know that woman from the medical base who set up Nicole?"

He was indeed being foolish. Colton had only encountered Kendrick a handful of times; it was unlikely he would remember Kendrick's secretary.

Furthermore, there was nothing particularly memorable about the secretary that would make her stand out in Colton's memory.

"Kendrick appears to have a soft spot for this secretary. He confessed his feelings to her today, and she celebrated by treating her friends to an extravagant dinner. They were chatting boisterously in a private room, seemingly oblivious to the fact that the room wasn't soundproof."

Suddenly, Beryl couldn't help but find Wendy's reaction today amusing. He didn't even notice a slight smile playing at the corners of his mouth.

To Colton, it seemed as though Beryl was recounting a humorous anecdote.

"So... that's it?"

Colton regarded Beryl as if he were observing a fool. With a smile like that... Had he fallen for that woman's friend or something?

"Do I have to remind you that we're adversaries? In the realm of female relationships, friendship reigns

supreme; you should consider giving up."

After some contemplation, Colton figured he had to say something.

This was a principle he had learned from Nicole. A shadow crossed Colton's face when his mind wandered to the woman.

Beryl was slightly taken aback as he glanced at Colton. He had been so engrossed in his own feelings that he hadn't noticed anything amiss with Colton.

"Colton, what's on your mind?"

Beryl wished he could knock some sense into Colton. When did Colton's judgment become so impaired? Or did he believe his little sister and those women were on the same level?

"Anyway, they brought up Nicole, and Kendrick's secretary confessed to framing her. That's all."

Beryl's voice turned into a murmur toward the end of the sentence when he saw how unresponsive Colton was.

"Alright, let's head back. We need to keep a close watch on Kendrick. Inform me if anything transpires. Wendy should lay low for a while," Colton nodded as he urged Beryl. He needed some solitude to think. Plus, it would be advantageous if this irritating individual departed swiftly.

Beryl pouted. Regardless, he had already said all he wanted to and was also exhausted from the day's events. So, he turned and left.

Yet, he had initially considered the pros and cons of telling Colton about his encounter with Nicole. Ultimately, he decided against it.

If he did, he probably wouldn't be able to sleep tonight.

Nicole, who was back in her apartment, received a message from Wendy. A smile appeared across her lips as hearing Wendy talk about Colton filled her with joy.

Chloe was preparing some items to help Nicole relax for the night, and she happened to catch sight of Nicole's smile.

She immediately surmised it had to be related to Colton.

"Nicole, the medical base will start getting hectic tomorrow. If anything comes up, remember to let me know. Don't bottle it up."

Chloe placed the milk in front of Nicole, leaned in close, and glanced at her chat with Wendy with a touch of envy. Nevertheless, that was swiftly replaced by contentment.

She had to admit that Wendy's personality was truly admirable. The girl was generous and vivacious. It was evident that her parents had done an excellent job raising her.

"Nicole, try to rest early tonight. If you don't, you might not get much sleep."

Chloe patted Nicole before walking out of the bedroom.

She also needed to rest early. The medical base was about to become busier, and she had to

strategize for the induction of research personnel. Of course, she would discuss the matter with Nicole once she had a preliminary plan.

Nicole sipped the milk beside her and settled into bed after bidding Wendy goodnight.

It was then that she suddenly realized that her morning sickness had significantly improved. In fact, she wasn't experiencing bouts of vomiting as frequently as before.

**Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1416 The Challenge of Recruiting Talent - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1416 The Challenge of Recruiting Talent Online**

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## Chapter 1416 The Challenge of Recruiting Talent

"Roxanna, a job application from abroad has arrived. It's on your desk."

Roxanna was still engrossed in her work even though it was late into the night. She glanced at the document that had been placed beside her, gave a slight nod, and remained silent.

The assistant checked the time and hesitated for a moment while she observed Roxanna's diligent demeanor. Eventually, she chose not to disturb Roxanna further and quietly exited the room.

Roxanna studied the document in her hand. It was sent by Chloe, detailing the medical base's need for new researchers.

Chloe planned to attract domestic talent currently working abroad. It was undoubtedly a venture that would require substantial funding.

Roxanna frowned slightly at the document. Indeed, funding was a significant hurdle.

Both domestic and international medical bases were at a crucial juncture, and they would soon need financial support. If this were the case, the medical base could potentially face bankruptcy.

Roxanna ran her fingers through her hair in frustration, leaving it in disarray.

The funding from the Quill Corporation's partnership would take some time before it would arrive, which wouldn't alleviate their current immediate financial crisis.

Yet, if they implemented the plan even a moment later, several projects would be stalled. As a result, it could potentially lead to delays and ultimately cause a chain disruption.

Either way, the situation was far from ideal.

This predicament left Roxanna feeling overwhelmed. If it were the medical base of the past, they wouldn't be even the least bit concerned about a shortage of staff. Nonetheless, she also couldn't possibly compare the two since they were starting from scratch.

"Roxanna."

The assistant, seemingly having thought of something, abruptly returned. She entered the office just in time to see Roxanna looking troubled and decided to voice her concerns.

"What's wrong?" Roxanna inquired as she suppressed her previous frustration. It wouldn't be good to take out her frustrations on her staff.

Alas, the assistant still noticed Roxanna's stiff expression. The worries on Roxanna's face were still evident despite her best efforts to conceal it.

"I've been managing our medical base's financial affairs recently. Although the income and expenses can balance and maintain the base's normal operation, if there are any complications during this period, we might not be able to..."

The assistant's words echoed Roxanna's thoughts, but she was also at a loss for a solution.

Still, Roxanna noticed the assistant's hesitant demeanor. It was evident that the other party could barely muster the courage to speak up.

So, she sighed softly before replying, "I will resolve this issue. Just research which top researchers are currently abroad and compile a report for me."

The assistant gasped at Roxanna's words, realizing what Roxanna intended to do.

Recruit foreign talent.

"But Roxanna, about the funding—"

"That's enough. I will handle it!"

Roxanna abruptly interrupted the assistant before she could finish her sentence.

The assistant was taken aback as this was the first time Roxanna had been so stern with her.

Roxanna quickly realized her harsh tone and quickly apologized, "I'm sorry. You should rest. I'll talk to you if I need you."

The assistant nodded in a daze as she left the office.

Roxanna replayed the recent exchange in her mind. Her outburst probably startled the young woman.

The base was home to people of all ages, both men and women.

Yet, she remembered this particular assistant.

Although her assistant was young and a recent college graduate, she was highly competent. It was her

efficiency that led to her recruitment to the base.

It was truly vexing. Roxanna lowered her head in frustration. Who could guide her through this predicament? The base seemed fine on the surface. In reality, it was far from its glory days.

Meanwhile, the assistant trudged back to her dormitory, her mood somber. She had always admired the medical base, but now that it faced such a significant issue... Well, she didn't want to remain in the base any longer.

When she arrived at that train of thought, she gritted her teeth as she came to a decision. Then, she pulled out her phone from her pocket.

Chapter 1417 The Last Resort

The following day, in a bid to save time, Roxanna decided to send an email to Chloe. She was gearing up to have a discussion with Isaac, as the execution of their plan would be mutually beneficial.

Once the email was successfully sent, Roxanna glanced at the clock. She had scheduled a meeting at the coffee shop located beneath the Quill Corporation building at 3 p.m.

When she noticed that time was ticking away, she swiftly gathered her belongings, straightened her attire, and exited the medical base. This time, she was resolute in her mission to convince Isaac.

In a corner, an employee watched Roxanna's departure in silence.

Roxanna arrived at the agreed-upon coffee shop. Rumor had it that this coffee shop was also a part of the Quill Corporation. Therefore, many employees frequented it for a coffee break.

Perhaps due to her previous visit to Isaac's office, her entrance into the coffee shop drew the attention of many.

They were aware that their boss, Isaac, had just walked in a while ago. Everyone surmised that her visit was related to him.

She glanced at a message on her phone. It was a room number sent by Isaac, and she quickly located the private room following the provided directions.

When she made it there, she briefly paused at the door, not entering immediately. Instead, she took a deep breath as she felt an unexpected wave of nervousness.

"What are you doing standing at the door? Aren't you going in?"

A familiar voice echoed from behind. Roxanna spun around to face Isaac, looking as if she had seen a ghost.

How could Isaac be standing here? Had he witnessed all her actions?

"Um, I was about to knock."

She hastily feigned nonchalance and responded softly.

At that moment, she realized that her acting skills seemed to be improving as she had somehow become a natural at fibbing.

"Go in. There's no need to knock. It's just us on this floor."

Isaac didn't call Roxanna out on her lie. He merely smirked as he brushed past her shoulder, and opened the door to the private room.

Roxanna entered the private room, her head bowed as if resigned to her fate. She was grappling with how to broach the subject with Isaac.

In truth, when she scheduled the meeting with him, she hadn't fully thought things through. She knew Isaac had the capability. Nonetheless, she hadn't considered whether he would have the time to listen to her.

She had merely intended to broach the subject casually but was taken aback when Isaac agreed

immediately. Moreover, he had set the time and place without hesitation.

This left her somewhat bewildered. Yet, since the meeting was already set in stone, she had no choice but to give it a shot. On her way there, she had briefly organized her thoughts, but now...

Roxanna sat across from Isaac, eyeing the steaming coffee and assortment of small pastries before her. They all looked like treats that girls would enjoy.

"Go ahead, Miss Miller. You were so eager to call me this morning for just one thing. Just say what you need to say. Our companies are closely cooperating now, so there's no need to beat around the bush."

Isaac looked at Roxanna, his hands folded. When he saw the clear worry on her face, he began to wonder what could make her so anxious.

Roxanna took a deep breath, silently bolstering her courage.

"Here's the thing, Isaac. Currently, our medical base is looking to expand its scale and accelerate the project's progress. The location has been selected, and everything is in place. Now, what we lack is manpower."

Isaac nodded as he listened, but he didn't interrupt her. He simply waited for her to continue.

He knew that something that could make her so anxious and eager to find him wouldn't be a trivial matter.

She paused for a moment when she noticed that Isaac's expression remained unchanged. Then, she continued, "We need substantial funds to recruit foreign talents and repatriate some talents that have

gone abroad. Unfortunately, the base is in a critical phase at the moment and does not have sufficient funds. We hope you would consider investing."

Chapter 1418 Roxanna's Anxiety

The room was as silent as a crypt, neither party daring to break the silence.

Roxanna had just spilled out all her thoughts in one breath. Once she was done, her gaze nervously darted to Isaac. She couldn't help but gulp as her body tensed in anticipation.



Although she had said her piece and her mouth was parched, she paid it no mind.

She was unsure if he would agree to such a venture. Their acquaintance was brief at best, and she wasn't certain if her forthrightness was appropriate. For her, this was a massive gamble.

She desperately hoped that this time, her gamble would pay off.

Isaac was staring at Roxanna, their eyes locked in a silent conversation. Neither uttered a word, and their expressions remained unreadable.

Her anxiety escalated in the face of his dispassionate demeanor. She had never been this nervous before. Due to his impassive demeanor, she couldn't tell whether he was leaning toward declining or accepting her proposal.

All in all, she was left in the dark.

"Miss Miller, perhaps you'd like to take a sip of your coffee?"

After what seemed like an eternity, he finally broke the silence, nudging the coffee towards her.

She managed a small smile in response. Yet, her heart was pounding, and her palms were slick with sweat. Still, she forced herself to maintain her composure.

Even though she was thirsty, she had started to mentally berate Isaac. He should at least give me a clear answer as to whether he was going to shoot me down or not. What was the point of offering me coffee without saying anything?

Nevertheless, she had no choice but to take a tentative sip of her coffee under his watchful gaze. Of course, she set it back on the table after just one sip as she refused to show anything but placid calmness.

She feared that if she downed the entire cup, Isaac might perceive her as impolite and refuse to cooperate.

After a quick mental tug-of-war, she decided to play it safe, taking only a sip before setting it down.

Her subtle actions didn't escape his keen eyes. It was these same eyes that seemed warm and inviting and rather out-of-place for a businessman.

"Miss Miller, I understand your proposal. However, I won't invest in your company without a solid reason. I'm a businessman, not a philanthropist."

Isaac suppressed a chuckle, but his gaze was serious.

Although he was somewhat fond of Roxanna, it wasn't enough for him to risk the entire Quill Corporation for the medical base.

Meanwhile, Roxanna felt a glimmer of hope upon hearing his words. Isaac hadn't outright rejected her proposal. So, she looked at him expectantly and urged, "Mr. Quill, please go on."

"So, I'm willing to buy some of your shares. I'm not asking for much... Perhaps 10%? In return, Quill Corporation will invest two hundred million in the medical base."

Isaac shifted in his seat, slowly articulating his terms, and held up two fingers.

Two hundred million?

Roxanna's eyes widened in surprise. With two hundred million, the medical base would be saved from their financial crisis!

"I need to discuss this with Nicole. Please give me some time, Mr. Quill."

Roxanna quickly regained her composure. She was representing the medical base and couldn't afford to appear naive. So, she forced herself to remain calm and collected.

She couldn't let Nicole and Chloe down.

"Of course, take your time."

Isaac smiled and swept his hand across the table in a gentlemanly gesture.

Roxanna nodded, retrieved her phone, and exited the room. She had taken more than ten steps before finally relaxing and dialing Chloe's number.

Chloe, who was overseas, was reviewing some reports. So, when she saw Roxanna's call, she answered immediately.

"How did it go? Any progress?" Chloe asked, her voice laced with anxiety.

She had received Roxanna's email earlier and thought her proposal was promising. She had also informed Nicole about it, who had readily agreed.

Now, everything hinged on Isaac's decision.

"He agreed, but..."

Roxanna relayed Isaac's terms to Chloe, both women understanding the gravity of the situation.

This decision would shape the future of the medical base and had to be handled with utmost care.

"Okay, I understand." Chloe nodded, "Wait for my call."

Then, she swiftly ended the call.

## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1419 The Alliance - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1419 The Alliance Online -**

### **Chapter 1419 The Alliance**

Isaac savored a sip of his coffee within the confines of the private room as his gaze fell on the cup across from him. The same cup that was touched by a woman's lips. Soon, a faint smile played at the corners of his mouth.

The proposition Roxanna had brought up was something he and Colton had previously considered. However, at that time, Colton had hinted at the emergence of a traitor within the medical base.

The exact cause remained a mystery, but the issue was eventually resolved. Now that they had independently arrived at this solution, he did not need to broach the subject in a manner that painted him as a villain seeking to seize their medical base.

Soon, there was a stir outside the door.

This time, she didn't bother knocking. Instead, she gently pushed the door open, sauntered in, and took a seat opposite Isaac.

Isaac's smile faded as he silently observed her, patiently awaiting her response.

As long as the women agreed to his conditions, the two hundred million would be transferred instantly.

"Isaac, about the contract, we..."

Roxanna lifted her gaze to meet Isaac's eyes. She had barely begun her sentence when he interjected, "Alright, I'll draft the contract. You can review it later to ensure that it's satisfactory. As a future shareholder, you can always approach me if the base encounters any difficulties."

Isaac swiftly took control of the conversation. He didn't want to dally any longer. Once this matter was settled, he would immediately contact Colton, who was abroad.

"Ah, okay."

Frankly, she was slightly taken aback. She couldn't fathom why Isaac was in such a rush, seemingly more so than herself.

Still, since Isaac was being strangely considerate of their circumstances, she had no further objections to the matter.

"Then, Isaac, I have some matters to attend to at the base. I'll be taking my leave." Roxanna gestured towards the door.

"Okay," he responded with a smile.

She cautiously moved toward the door. When she saw that he made no attempt to stop her, she finally felt comfortable enough to depart.

It's like he's a changed man or something, Roxanna thought as she descended the stairs with a contemplative expression.

As soon as she reached the ground floor, she felt a multitude of eyes upon her.

Roxanna was more than accustomed to this. She often felt that the employees of this company had never seen a woman prior to this. Perhaps, to be more precise, they had never seen a woman in

Isaac's company.

Otherwise, why would so many people stare at her merely for discussing business with Isaac?

Suddenly, her thoughts drifted back to the untouched dessert on the table. If he understood a woman's heart so well, why didn't he have a woman in his life?

The instant Roxanna left the private room, Isaac promptly dialed Colton, who was abroad. Alas, he received no answer, which left him disgruntled.

However, he finally noticed that she hadn't touched the dessert on the table.

Seeing this, Isaac felt a pang of disappointment. Was he so intimidating that she couldn't eat at all, or did she simply not like them?

But these were all items he had specifically requested from the staff here. They even swore up and down that these desserts were the ones that girls usually adored.

Isaac suddenly felt rather dispirited. After all, she seemed somewhat fearful of him, which dampened his spirits.

Little did he know that his expression earlier had terrified her out of her wits. It was so scary that Roxanna had only dared to take a sip. She didn't dare to drink more, let alone eat anything.

Nevertheless, she relayed the good news to Chloe and Nicole. By the time she did, Chloe had already returned to the apartment. Today's progress had been very promising, which was excellent news for all of them.

Chloe excitedly discussed the next steps with Nicole. If Nicole hadn't been exhausted and in need of rest, Chloe certainly wouldn't have let Nicole leave until she had said her fill.

Nicole watched Chloe exit her room, a smile tugging at her lips. This was indeed good news for the medical base.

However, if Kendrick discovered this, he would likely deduce their stance.

Of course, it wasn't exactly an issue, as it could also serve as a warning to Kendrick. A sign that he couldn't act recklessly, especially with her keeping a close eye.

Once she had sorted through her thoughts, she finished her usual glass of milk, turned over, and settled into bed. Perhaps her mind was finally at ease as she quickly drifted off to sleep.

#### Chapter 1420 Differing Treatments

Colton returned to his room only to discover a dozen missed calls on his phone. He was taken aback, and his brow furrowed slightly. Who could possibly be trying to reach him so persistently at this hour?

He picked up his phone, and his brow quirked in surprise. Isaac?

Thus, he dialed back without a moment's hesitation. If Isaac didn't have anything of importance to discuss, he would certainly give the man a piece of his mind.

"Hello, Colton, where on Earth have you been? Why didn't you answer your phone?"

Isaac's voice came through the phone, clearly irritated that Colton was returning his call at such a late hour. He had made over a dozen calls. Yet, none were answered, which had left him quite frustrated.

Could it be that a woman had been keeping Colton's hands occupied, preventing him from answering his phone?

Of course, he only dared to voice such thoughts internally.

"I was out today and didn't have my phone with me. Is there something urgent you need?"

Colton cut straight to the chase after briefly explaining his situation.

"Today, Roxanna approached me and mentioned that the medical base is planning to recruit overseas talents, but they are short on funds. Now, I've become one of their shareholders."

At this point, Isaac couldn't help but feel a sense of pride. After all, this was something Colton had

wanted to do previously, but now he was the one who had accomplished it. Colton can eat my dust, hah!

"What's next?" Colton's expression darkened slightly at the news. Still, he suppressed any negative emotions he was feeling as he pressed for more information.

He hadn't heard anything about the medical base for quite some time. Instead, he had been preoccupied with investigating Kendrick's company these past few days, leaving him with minimal sleep.

For some reason, even though Nicole was carrying another man's child, he couldn't help but learn about her whereabouts.

He didn't probe too deeply because he knew those around him would keep him informed, so he wasn't overly concerned.

"There's no 'next'. I invested two hundred million, and it stings."

Isaac feigned disappointment. Frankly, he hadn't anticipated Colton's reaction to be so indifferent. This was no fun at all.

"Alright. Carry on, then. There's no need to update me."

With that, Colton ended the call, not giving Isaac a chance to respond.

Isaac stared at the phone that had been abruptly disconnected, slightly taken aback. He had to admit that this guy was truly a master at ending calls so suddenly. Was he a professional at achieving such a

strange skill set in his past life?

As he grumbled about Colton internally, he set his wine glass aside and inexplicably took out his phone. Then, he began scrolling through Roxanna's social media feed.

Roxanna was a simple, straightforward girl. If it weren't for the medical base, she wouldn't be concealing her emotions at all.

However...

Isaac recalled the expression he saw on her face today and smirked slightly. "Still not quite adept enough."

Roxanna returned to the medical base and immersed herself in her work. She had to contact numerous overseas personnel. Since these potential recruits were scattered across different countries, each of them had their own unique work and rest schedules. To be honest, it was a daunting task.

In other words, she had to pull an all-nighter and make several calls while doing so.

She had finally wrapped up everything the following morning and sorted them into three categories: considering, rejected, and agreed. Then, she forwarded them all to Chloe in the form of files.

After she completed all these tasks, she was so exhausted that she fell asleep right there in her office.

...

"Isaac, the contracts have been coded."

The secretary walked in with a contract and handed it to Isaac.

To be frank, he hadn't expected Isaac actually to invest in the medical base. Although the medical base had potential, it still fell short of the company's standards.

"Alright, leave it here," Isaac responded nonchalantly as he glanced up briefly and continued with his work.

He planned to deliver it personally later. Perhaps he could even use the opportunity to pay a visit to Roxanna. He seemed to have developed a certain fondness for her ever since their encounter yesterday.

"Isaac, aren't we supposed to deliver this to Miss Miller?"

The secretary looked at Isaac, worried he might forget about this task. So, he quickly took the initiative to remind Isaac.

This was an important matter, so Isaac really couldn't afford to overlook it. He was genuinely concerned. After all, Isaac usually delivered such documents directly to the concerned party instead of instructing him to leave them on the desk.



## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1421 The Rumor Mill - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1421 The Rumor Mill Online -**

### Chapter 1421 The Rumor Mill

Isaac slowly raised his head at the comment, his gaze falling on the secretary without uttering a word. Then, he placed his pen on the desk.

When the secretary noticed Isaac's gaze, he momentarily assumed there was something amiss with his appearance and quickly checked his immaculate suit.

So, he couldn't help but wonder why Isaac was staring at him when he found nothing wrong with his attire.

"Mr. Quill, is there a problem?"

The secretary asked, his eyes reflecting his confusion about Isaac's silent contemplation.

Isaac suddenly realized his secretary was rather dense. "I'll deliver it personally. There's no need for your involvement."

The secretary instantly recognized his blunder upon hearing Isaac's response.

Who was Isaac Quill? How could he ever make such a fundamental error?

"Yes." The secretary didn't dare to linger any longer and hastily fled the office.

He hoped that Isaac would overlook his mistake this time.

It wasn't until the secretary returned to his desk that he realized Isaac always treated Roxanna differently. Yet, he couldn't quite pinpoint why.

Isaac glanced at the documents on the desk as he thought things over. Then, he picked up the documents and exited the office.

The incident at the cafe yesterday had already caused a buzz in the office. This was the first time a scandal involving Isaac had emerged, and the other party was the head of the medical base. How could this not be shocking?

"Did you hear? Isaac and Miss Miller spent a considerable time in the cafe yesterday. Their relationship is probably still fresh. They're practically inseparable."

The company's employees were all abuzz with gossip. They chatted daily about which mistress the bosses of other companies were with today. Now that they had caught wind of their own boss' affairs, how could they let it pass?

"I also heard that Isaac invested in the medical base. Want to guess how much? Well, don't. It's two hundred million!"

Another gossip enthusiast couldn't help but gasp in shock upon hearing this.

"Doesn't the medical base not meet our investment criteria? How could Isaac make such a fundamental error..."

An employee was puzzled as he rubbed his hungry stomach.

It was lunchtime, and everyone was preparing to eat with their colleagues.

"How naive could you possibly be? It's definitely because of love!" A nearby employee immediately retorted in a somewhat exasperated tone.

Isaac, clutching the documents, appeared in everyone's sight. His face was adorned with a faint smile,

indicating his good mood.

He was now on his way to finalize the contract with Roxanna. The thought of seeing her so soon filled his heart with joy.

He probably didn't realize that his feelings for her had long crossed the line of simple fondness. It was no longer a mere curiosity but a deeper emotion.

Isaac didn't use a chauffeur. Instead, he drove away by himself.

After Isaac left, the crowd that had fallen to a hush immediately became lively again.

"Why is Isaac smiling so happily? Although he usually smiles, this feels completely different!"

"Yeah, could it be that he's going to see Miss Miller?"

Immediately, an employee speculated about Isaac's intentions, but it was just a conjecture, and no one took it seriously.

"Oh, I'm sure he is."

Although it was a conjecture, who could resist getting emotionally invested in some romance? So, they quickly concurred without even bothering to fact-check.

The secretary was about to enjoy his lunch when he overheard various rumors, some of which left him utterly stunned.

There was even a rumor saying that Roxanna was Isaac's long-time fiancée...

Isaac stood at the entrance of the medical base. When he saw that there was no one inside, he couldn't help but dawdle outside. Just as he was about to approach the security guards to ask for assistance, they greeted him without prompting, "Isaac, right? Please come in."

He had been frequenting the place these past few days, and the security guards were no longer surprised by his appearance. They had long noticed Isaac standing at the entrance and were wondering why he hadn't approached their doors. Just as they were about to inquire whether he needed help, they caught sight of Isaac sauntering over.

Could it be that he was interested in their boss? The two security guards thought to themselves, exchanging a knowing smile.

That wouldn't be too bad, as the two seemed rather well-matched.

Chapter 1422 Slumber

Isaac cast a wary glance at the two men as he stepped into the medical base. There was an unsettling aura about these security guards, though he couldn't quite pinpoint what it was.

Regardless, he reminded himself that the contract signing was of utmost importance.

So, he quickened his stride towards the office building and found his thoughts straying from the contract. He was keen to see Roxanna, curious about her current activities, and her reaction upon his arrival.

He quickly located Roxanna's office since he had visited numerous times. Thus, he was well- acquainted with its whereabouts.

Knock. Knock. Knock.

Isaac gently rapped on the door. Alas, there was no response from within after several knocks and a lengthy wait.

Could she be absent from the office?

He had specifically inquired with an employee downstairs earlier, who had assured him that she was indeed in her office.

So, he hesitated momentarily before cautiously pushing the door open. The sight that met his eyes was Roxanna, slumped over her desk. The window behind her was ajar, allowing a gentle breeze to brush against her face.

She had dozed off here, seemingly unconcerned about the risk of catching a cold.

A small smile played at the corners of Isaac's mouth at the sight. Then, he quietly approached her and spotted a thin coat nearby.

Hence, he picked up the coat and gently draped it over her.

Her face in slumber was serene, her long eyelashes fluttering slightly in the breeze.

He swallowed hard, unable to tear his gaze away from her.

Perhaps she had sensed a stranger's presence in the safety of her office as her eyes fluttered open. When he saw that she was roused from her sleep, he quickly averted his gaze, feigning interest in the view outside.

Roxanna, still groggy from her nap, didn't notice anything unusual. Instead, she couldn't help but feel puzzled as she rubbed the sleepiness away from her eyes.

She distinctly remembered leaving it on the couch before she dozed off. Could she have been so drowsy that she didn't recall putting it on herself?

"Are you awake?"

The sudden sound of a male voice startled Roxanna from her thoughts. She quickly turned toward the source of the sound, and Isaac's face came into view.

"Why are you here?"

She hastily straightened her clothes. She was known for her restless sleep and hoped that he hadn't seen her in such a disarray.

She would be extremely mortified if he had.

"The contract is ready. So, I came to get your signature. I didn't expect to find you asleep. I heard you spent the night in the office?"

He recalled the employee he had encountered downstairs, who had informed him about her overnight stint.

This thought stirred a pang of concern for her within him.

"Ah, okay. I'll review it now. Then, I'll forward it to the legal department," she answered as she swiftly regained her composure. Sure enough, she noticed the contract on her desk.

She figured that the discussion they would have about the contract would hopefully divert his attention and spare her further embarrassment.

So, she picked up the contract and began to peruse it. It was quite comprehensive.

Roxanna nodded in satisfaction. Then, she glanced at Isaac, and after a brief pause, she spoke, "Isaac, I don't see any issues from my end, but I still need to forward it to the legal department for review. Please bear with me."

Isaac turned to look at her, his gaze lingering on her for a moment before he responded, "Alright, I'll wait here."

She was pleasantly surprised by his patience but refrained from making any comments. She simply dialed the legal department and requested them to come and review the contract.

After the call, the office descended into an awkward silence.

Roxanna sat in her chair, feeling as if she was perched on a bed of needles. She was so restless that she could barely stop herself from fidgeting.

To be precise, she found it impossible to concentrate on anything with him in the room.

On the other hand, he appeared perfectly comfortable, leisurely exploring the office as if he were in his own home.

Chapter 1423 Tension

Roxanna watched as Isaac paced back and forth in her office. Soon, a sense of frustration bubbled within her, and she questioned whether this was her office or his.

Had she ever been this nonchalant in his office?

Suddenly, she couldn't help but feel a sense of injustice. She hadn't really taken the time to observe his office the last time she was there. Instead, she had always maintained a respectful distance. Yet, he was clearly different.

Little did she know that Isaac was merely feigning relaxation as he looked around. In truth, he was afraid that she would perceive his discomfort.

"Do your legal department employees always take this long?"

Still, the moment he noticed that she seemed to be loosening up a bit, he decided to tease her.

Now that she wasn't as tense, it was the perfect time to lighten the mood.

"What?"

Unfortunately, she was definitely still lost in her own thoughts. So, she couldn't quite understand what he was getting at.

"Forget it."

Thus, he simply shook his head as he wondered what was going on in her mind. Were his words really

that difficult to grasp?

Knock. Knock. Knock.

Someone was at the door.

"Come in."

She responded without hesitation. At this point, the only people who would see her were from the legal department.

"The contract is on the desk. Review it. If there are no issues, Isaac and I will sign it immediately," she spoke as she gestured to the contract. Her actions were swift and decisive. It was evident that she wasn't one to waste any time.

Isaac sat nearby, a smirk playing at the corners of his mouth as he observed Roxanna in her element. He had to admit she was like a different person when she was focused on her work.

The lawyer nodded, picked up the contract, and began to read. Nonetheless, he didn't expect that Isaac was also present.

As the minutes ticked by, Roxanna sipped her coffee leisurely. As she held the cup, she seemed to

recall something and glanced at Isaac.

His hands were empty, and he was just smiling at her.

Only then did she realize her oversight. She had forgotten to offer him a drink. So, she slowly rose, poured a cup of coffee for him, and placed it in front of him.

"Isaac, have some coffee while you wait."

This coffee was her favorite. Frankly, it felt wasteful to let him drink such fine coffee.

Alas, Isaac was a guest, and it was only right to serve him.

She released a soft sigh when she thought of time. It seemed she would have to stock other types of coffee in her office.

Meanwhile, Isaac raised an eyebrow as he observed her shifting expressions. It was then that he noticed a tinge of regret on her face. What is she thinking?

"Alright."

The lawyer handed the contract to Roxanna.

The contract was flawless. Plus, some of the terms were even in favor of the base, which was surprising. Perhaps Miss Miller had made some private arrangements with Isaac.

"Fantastic."

She accepted it, signed her name on the contract without hesitation, and handed the other copy to Isaac.

"Isaac, I've signed the contract."

He nodded in acknowledgment, took the contract, and examined the signature on it.

Roxanna couldn't help but exhale a sigh of relief. There shouldn't be any issues now, right?

Just as she was about to let her guard down, Isaac suddenly leaned in with the document. As a result, their proximity was alarmingly close. It was as if they would be pressed tightly together if he had moved just a bit further.

By the time she could snap back to her senses, he had already taken the other contract from her.

"Isaac, what are you doing?"

She frowned slightly, feeling both annoyed and embarrassed. There were still people here! What would she do if the rumor mill started to spew more nonsense about them?

The lawyer sensed the tension in the room. So, he coughed lightly and said, "Miss Miller, I have other matters to attend to, so I'll take my leave now."



With that, he turned and exited the office without another word.

Roxanna became even more flustered upon seeing the lawyer's reaction. She was so vexed that she

ended up glaring at Isaac. It was a much more natural look than whatever she was sporting earlier.

"I haven't signed the contract yet, so this isn't valid. How can we proceed with our collaboration?" Isaac stated calmly as he signed both contracts.

Chapter 1424 Misunderstanding

Roxanna felt a blush creeping up her cheeks in a momentary lapse of composure.

She was the only one who had signed the document earlier, a detail she had inadvertently overlooked due to her nerves.

Isaac signed the contract and placed a copy of it on the table. "Alright. If that's all, I'll be taking my leave."

With that said, he turned and exited the office.

Roxanna stared at the contract on the table as if it still held the warmth of Isaac Quill. He was such an enigmatic man.

"Miss Miller, the contract..."

Upon seeing Isaac leave, the lawyer mustered up the courage to step forward and cautiously inquired about the document on the table.

He could not help but feel that Roxanna was more challenging to deal with than Nicole, especially with how frequently Isaac visited her.

"Okay. Thank you for your hard work."

She had no energy to think about anything else. She nodded silently before turning her attention back to the matters at the base.

Seeing this, the lawyer picked up the document and exited the office.

He was somewhat aware of the recent happenings in the company. It was likely that the multitude of issues was leaving her in a rather agitated mood.

Meanwhile, at Hofstead Corporation in another country.

"Darcy, you look stunning today."

As Darcy walked through the company building, she was showered with compliments and praises. Things had been like this for a few days now.

A smug smile spread across her lips. This was the effect she desired.

However, she was running out of money. At that thought, Darcy frowned. Ever since that day, Kendrick had been treating her like he always had, with no noticeable changes.

This made her uneasy.

"Darcy, are you going out for dinner with Kendrick today? I heard he made a restaurant reservation."

An employee from the secretary department came to congratulate Darcy with his face full of joy.

He believed that Kendrick wanted to surprise Darcy, which was why he entrusted such an important task to him. Since he owed his promotion to Darcy, he naturally wanted to please her.

As Darcy was contemplating whether Kendrick was deceiving her, the new information made her heart flutter with happiness.

Did this mean that what Kendrick said that day was true?

"Keep a hold of your tongue."

While Darcy seemed to be reprimanding the employee on the surface, her voice was actually filled with pride.

As soon as she finished speaking, Darcy walked past the employee to sit down at her desk. Her every move exuded the air of someone who owned the place.

The employee happily returned to his seat. This promotion was a chance he had been granted by luck, so he could not let it slip through his fingers.

Darcy's reputation within the company grew exponentially. She had always liked to keep a high profile, but now she was even more so.

As the saying went, oppression bred rebellion.

Many female employees were dissatisfied with Darcy's behavior, but with Darcy at the height of her popularity, they could only growl in silence.

With Darcy's temperament, she would certainly not stoop to their level.

With a stack of documents in hand, she walked over to Kendrick's office door. Her hand, poised to knock, halted mid-air.

Was she now his girlfriend? If so, could the rule of knocking before entering be abolished?

After all, she was the woman he liked. She should be an exception, right?

With that thought in mind, her hand fell down to reach for the doorknob, and she opened the door.

With her head held high, she walked toward Kendrick. "Mr. Hofstead, I have a few documents that need your approval."

Kendrick looked up at her and completely ignored the documents in her hand as he stared at her.

As if he was trying to decipher something from Darcy's expression, his eyes were deep and captivating.

Silence fell as their eyes locked while everything seemed to freeze.

Chapter 1425 Truly Love Her

Darcy did not know why Kendrick was staring at her. She apprehensively wondered if he was upset that he had entered without knocking.

If that was indeed the case, then she had committed a serious blunder.

If a seemingly trivial matter like failing to knock on the door would upset Kendrick, did it mean he did not like her?

Darcy was filled with distress and regret upon thinking that. She should not have acted so impulsively. If Kendrick was upset because of that, she would regret this for the rest of her life.

"Please don't be upset, Mr. Hofstead. I apologize for not knocking before walking in. I was in too much of a hurry. I'll be more mindful next time," Darcy said, hurriedly ducking her head down as she tightly gripped the documents in her arms, with her anxiety clearly visible on her face.

"I've been neglecting you these past few days. Let's have dinner together tonight," Kendrick said calmly, as if nothing had transpired.

He was merely making Darcy more reliant on him, which would be beneficial for his future plans.

Upon hearing this, Darcy looked up in surprise. Seeing his slightly indulgent gaze, she was at a loss for words.

"What? Are you surprised? Leave the documents on the table and go. I'll call you if I need anything. We'll leave together after work."

After uttering these words, Kendrick looked away from her and resumed his work.

She quickly placed the documents on the desk and nodded in agreement before walking out with a bashful twirl.

She had not anticipated such a turn of events. It seemed that she did hold a special place in his heart.

Kendrick's gaze gradually intensified. First, he would make Darcy believe that he liked her. The next step was to make her increasingly dependent on him.

The most effective way to make someone dependent on him was through money.

Fortunately, he was never short on cash. This was merely an investment.

Soon, it was time to leave work. Darcy touched up her makeup and warmly bade her colleagues farewell.

Everyone immediately understood what Darcy was implicitly saying and congratulated her, making her feel ecstatic.

People like Darcy were too easy to please. She did not scheme if she was not schemed against, and being nice to her meant they could reap many benefits. Who would not appreciate such a beneficial arrangement?

Darcy kept glancing at the office door, eagerly waiting for Kendrick's appearance.

Would he be as meticulously dressed as she was?

Finally, his office door swung open. Darcy sat up straight with her gaze fixed intently on the door.

Kendrick emerged and glanced in her direction as he said with a faint smile, "Let's go. Sorry to have kept you waiting."

He had deliberately lingered inside for a while before coming out so that Darcy would become increasingly dependent on him. It was all part of his strategy.

Seeing the smile on Kendrick's face, she was somewhat taken aback. Still, she composed herself like a lady and took his arm, tenderly leaning against his shoulder.

"Mr. Hofstead, was there a lot of work today?"

"Are you still addressing me as Mr. Hofstead?"

The man's voice was exceptionally captivating today, making Darcy feel weak in the knees.

"Kendrick..." While Ann felt shy, she quickly adapted to the new form of address, causing the name to smoothly roll off her tongue.

Kendrick nodded in approval before he answered her previous question.

"A bit, but the company's sales have increased by another five percent."

Upon hearing this, Darcy was even more thrilled. She naturally hoped that he would continue to

prosper so that her social status would rise as well.

"Kendrick, I will always be your right-hand woman," she sweetly said. She wanted to stay by his side so she could lead a better life.

In the future, she would be able to hold her head high in front of her peers, and no one could ever belittle her.

She could have it all—wealth, status, and everything she desired. Darcy's eyes squinted as she flashed him a radiant smile.

#### Chapter 1426 Ryan's Predicament

The company's hallway was deserted as all the employees had left for the day. Kendrick and Darcy were the only ones there.

Unseen by Darcy, a smirk played on Kendrick's lips.

Meanwhile, Roxanna relayed the news of the successful collaboration to Chloe. With the transfer of 28 million, talent acquisition had begun, marking a significant transformation for the medical base.

Alone in his room, Ryan read the latest news and slumped in despair with his hands clutching his head.

The stock had been on an upward trajectory, so why was it plummeting now? Was Colton hell-bent on dragging him down too?

As he watched the continuous decline of Gardner Corporation's stocks, his phone buzzed incessantly. It was a message from Kendrick, indicating that it was time to make his move.

What good was this information now? He had already acted, and his plan was teetering on the brink of failure.

Who could guide him out of this mess? He certainly could not confide in Kendrick. If he did, Kendrick would undoubtedly shift all the blame onto him. He could not shoulder that burden alone.

Ryan's expression hardened. Staring at the plummeting stocks, he gritted his teeth and sold all his shares.

It was the only option left.

Meanwhile, in another country, Colton sat in his room and watched as his company's stocks continued to fall. Anxiety gnawed at him.

He was engaged in a psychological battle. He could withstand the fall, but Ryan couldn't.

If he did not act promptly, all his efforts could be for naught. However, if Ryan dared to gamble and risk everything, then he could potentially win this psychological warfare.

Colton kept a close eye on the stock market's fluctuations. At the last minute, Ryan sold all his stocks.

"Do it."

At his command, Beryl, who had been sitting next to him, immediately started buying back all the stocks, causing their value to rise again.

Relieved, Colton instructed in a slightly hoarse voice, "Tell our people back home to prepare for the final move."

"Understood."

Beryl nonchalantly nodded as he messaged their contacts back home to prepare for the final move. This maneuver was enough to land Ryan in jail.

Soon, the news reached Kendrick.

"What do you mean that Ryan has been arrested? Didn't he just make his move?"

Kendrick's frown deepened as his voice dropped to a whisper.

Sitting across from him, Darcy put down her cutlery. Kendrick's tense expression gave her a premonition that something was amiss.

Could it be related to their operations in Restradd?

"Make sure all the blame falls on him."

Kendrick snapped before abruptly hanging up.

These fools could not even keep tabs on one person. They had acted prematurely without even warning him.

Frustrated, Kendrick had to admit that his information network in Restrada was lacking. If he wanted to expand, he needed to penetrate the Restradian market.

"Kendrick, what's wrong?"

Darcy looked at him with concern. It had been a long time since she had seen him this agitated. This situation must be serious.

Would she still stand by him if he went bankrupt?

Darcy had pondered this question before, and her answer had always been yes. However, she now found herself wavering.

"It's nothing. Finish your meal. I'll take you home later."

He reassured her with a slow shake of his head.

Although she had been involved in the early stages of his plans, she was oblivious to the potential consequences. It was best not to involve her further at this point.

After all, he was prepared to sacrifice her as a pawn if necessary.

He casually picked up his cutlery and resumed eating his steak, but his mind was preoccupied with the wait for further news. He could not afford to be outmaneuvered by someone like Colton.

Chapter 1427 A Tiny Company

"Alright."

Upon hearing that, Darcy quietly lowered her gaze to her meal, not daring to instigate further conversation. If Kendrick could evade bankruptcy, she would be more than happy to maintain her silence.

Suddenly, Kendrick retrieved a bank card from his pocket and placed it before Darcy.



She was taken aback by Kendrick's action as she recognized the card. It was a black card that was recognized worldwide, but there was a small symbol on it indicating it was a supplementary card.

A supplementary card was fine with her.

"Kendrick, what are you doing?" She feigned confusion.

If he truly meant this move, then she had struck gold.

"This supplementary card is for you. You must be running low on funds by now. Don't worry. I have some to spare."

He pushed the card forward with his gaze fixed on Darcy, studying her reaction. It was only by continuously understanding her thoughts that he effectively executed his plan.

Her eyes suddenly sparkled. With this, she would have access to all of his assets and could buy whatever she wanted.

"It's fine, Kendrick. I still have my salary, so you don't need to concern yourself with this."

In an attempt to preserve her image, Darcy spoke softly, not wanting him to uncover her true intentions.

"Keep it. Consider it a keepsake of our time together."

He lowered his gaze and continued savoring his steak with a faint smile on his lips. He no longer wanted to watch Darcy's acting.

Seeing this, Darcy feigned shyness and tucked the card away, saying somewhat bashfully, "I'll accept it then."

She carefully stowed the card in her bag before she resumed eating, not daring to disturb him.

After the phone call, his mood had soured. At this time, she needed to be considerate.

Back in Restrad, Ryan discovered that Kendrick had completely abandoned him and was momentarily thrown into a panic.

He surmised that he had overreacted this time, which led Kendrick to discover the truth so quickly.

Ryan would not allow himself to bear the blame for this matter alone. Since Kendrick wanted to pin all the blame on him, then he could not be blamed for being ruthless in return.

He sat down and began to compile the information he had gathered about Kendrick during this time.

After two hours, Ryan scrutinized the information he had compiled with a serious expression. There was not much, just Kendrick's name and the name of an obscure company.

Ryan's brows furrowed upon realizing that, but he believed this information would be valuable to Colton.

He tidied up the information and set it aside before sending it in an email to Colton.

Colton would undoubtedly seize this opportunity to apprehend him, but what if he provided information on Colton's opponent? Would he be let off the hook then?

He did not know; he had to take a gamble.

"Let Isaac handle it."

Upon reading Ryan's message, Colton responded without hesitation. It was only fitting for Isaac to manage this matter.

After all, not many people could outwit a seasoned fox like Isaac. Clearly, Ryan was still a novice.

Beryl raised his eyebrows at Ryan's email. Ryan had really landed himself in hot water this time.

By the time Ryan was imprisoned, they would already have all the information they needed. For them, it was like killing two birds with one stone while Ryan would lose everything.

"I've found something on Kendrick's company, but it will take time to find out more."

Beryl suddenly brought up the topic of Kendrick's company, as investigating it was no easy task. It was unregistered, and they suspected it was quite a tiny company.

There were many tiny companies around, so it was normal for the right one to be hard to find.

"I see. Keep searching. Be fast."

Colton nodded, but his expression was tense. If this matter continued to drag on, Kendrick would have time to recover from this.

Wendy, the little princess preparing boxed meals nearby, overheard the conversation between the two. They no longer feared her presence, probably because they were confident she could not escape. Listening to these conversations was a way to alleviate her boredom.

Tonight, she would have another opportunity to converse with Nicole. Heh, it was as though the gods were helping her.

Chapter 1428 Absence of Guilt

"Isaac will meet Ryan tomorrow, so there's no need for concern," Beryl reassured Colton, passing along Isaac's message.

Success could yield valuable information about Kendrick, but they had already surmised that Ryan might not know more than they did, perhaps even less.

"Understood," Colton responded in a low tone. His gaze then shifted to Wendy, who was quietly preparing a meal nearby. With a slight frown, he asked, "Why aren't you in your room? What brings you here?"

Observing Wendy's apparent confusion, Beryl offered a faint smile and came to her defense, saying, "What harm is there in her staying here for a bit? She can't go out, and staying cooped up in her room all day could make her ill."

Wendy was unsure about how to respond to Colton, but upon seeing Beryl speak up on her behalf, she directed a thankful glance his way.

She hadn't expected Beryl's support; it turned out that he could still advocate for her. She had assumed this man would simply enjoy the spectacle.

"Whatever you overhear, you mustn't share with anyone," Colton cautioned Wendy, his unease diminishing as he considered her presence. He couldn't shake the feeling that something was amiss about Wendy, as if she were a spy gathering information on his turf.

His sole known adversary now was Kendrick. Besides, Colton knew Wendy's nature well; she certainly wasn't here to harm him, but his suspicion lingered.

"Of course not. Besides, I don't fully grasp your earlier conversation. You guys carry on; I'll just keep myself busy cooking for you," Wendy assured Colton, eager to demonstrate her commitment.

Seeing Colton's tension ease, Wendy promptly showcased the meal she was preparing, fearing he might reconsider and send her away.

Colton realized that Wendy didn't appear to be lying. He could easily detect when his little sister was untruthful.

He responded nonchalantly, "Alright." Then, he returned to his work.

Wendy felt relieved upon seeing this. As long as Colton didn't speak ill of her behind her back, she could continue to share information with her sister-in-law.

She silently patted her chest and resumed her work, but all the while keeping her ears alert to eavesdrop.

Beryl cast a deep look at Wendy, who continued to feign cooking. He shook his head in resignation and turned his attention back to Colton, inwardly sighing.

Colton had underestimated his little sister's capabilities. Even during her idle time at the hotel, Wendy wouldn't stoop to learn cooking and risk cutting her hands.

She did it all for her sister-in-law, the woman who constantly occupied Colton's thoughts.

"Next, we'll exert pressure on Hofstead Corporation. We have the means to do this now. Let's get to work," Colton declared after briefly reviewing the data on his computer.

The real battle was about to begin.

They conversed late into the night, with Wendy remaining by their side, committing their dialogue to memory.

Wendy was resolute in her support for her sister-in-law. After all, they shared the same enemy. Informing Nicole was aiding her brother, not an act of betrayal.

As long as she maintained this perspective, she wouldn't feel guilty.

Only then could her performance in front of Colton become increasingly flawless.

Yes, that's it. Wendy quietly reaffirmed her commitment to assisting her sister-in-law and brother, finding motivation for this purpose.

Had it been any other time, she would have been comfortably tucked in bed, enjoying her beauty sleep by now.

Chapter 1429 Messaging Mrs Gardner

"Go ahead and rest first." Beryl's words jolted Wendy awake from her slumber.

Wendy glanced around in surprise, noticing Beryl approaching her. She hastily rubbed her eyes and prepared to leave.

Finally, it was over. She might have nodded off right then and there if the discussion had gone any longer.

What had they been discussing?

As Wendy retreated, she mulled over this question. She realized she missed some of the conversation, so she resolved to get a sleep and find out more the following day.

Yes, that's the plan. Wendy bolstered herself, determined to contribute to Colton and Nicole's perfect and happy future.

Unbeknownst to her, Beryl noticed all of her gestures and thoughts.

His captivating eyes narrowed with delight, fixing his gaze on Wendy.

Beryl had only mentioned Nicole after seeing Wendy doze off.

However, Colton's demeanor remained unchanged, and he remained silent, leaving the matter to their discretion.

Wendy stretched languidly, quickly washed up, and then collapsed onto the large bed.

Suddenly, the surroundings grew quiet, and she felt a tad uncomfortable.

As Wendy lay there with her eyes closed, she abruptly opened them, grabbed her phone, and began tapping on the screen.

No, I must inform my sister-in-law today. I'll forget their discussion if I wait until tomorrow.

Suppressing her exhaustion, Wendy relayed everything in a message and then drifted off to sleep without bothering to lock her phone.

Back in the country, after receiving Beryl's message, Isaac promptly contacted Ryan, proposing a meeting the next day.

Ryan understood why it wasn't Colton in person, as he was preoccupied with dealing with Kendrick overseas, leaving no time for him.

Ryan felt relief at this realization; if it had been Colton, his chances would have been slim to none.

Having someone else come was what he desired.

Without inquiring about Isaac's identity, Ryan agreed immediately, confident that this last showdown would surely be his triumph.

The next morning, Ryan invited Isaac to meet at Yael Residence at the agreed time.

As Isaac stood outside, he noticed that the garden had become overgrown with neglect.

Ryan had clearly poured all his energy into the ongoing battle with Colton, yet despite his exhaustive efforts, he had achieved nothing.

Noticing the door slightly ajar, Isaac gently pushed it open and stepped inside. As he entered, he found Ryan sitting nearby as if he had been waiting for quite some time.

"Mr. Quill?" Ryan slowly rose from his seat, clutching a sealed file in hand.

"Yes." Isaac's eyes narrowed slightly. He briefly glanced at the file before returning his gaze to Ryan, maintaining a calm expression.

Ryan scrutinized the man before him, noting that his demeanor bore a striking resemblance to Colton's.

An earlier twinge of unease had prompted him to conduct a quick online search. As expected, none of the individuals Colton sent were pushovers.

Victory was assured as long as he retained the information in his hand.

"So, what do you want?"

Isaac chose a suitable place to sit down, even wiping off the dust with a look of distaste.

The place appeared slightly rundown, but he aimed to complete the task swiftly, ensuring Colton's peace of mind.

He had made up his mind. He was attracted to Roxanna and planned to pursue her after settling this matter.

"I can assist you within my capabilities, but you must tread carefully," Isaac continued. He had no desire to engage in idle chatter with the man before him because patience wasn't one of his virtues.

Chapter 1430 Negotiations

Ryan was taken aback by Isaac's direct approach. He had anticipated several scenarios and prepared countermeasures, but none seemed effective against Isaac.

"What, you don't want to talk? Then why did you summon me here?"

Noticing Ryan's silence, Isaac couldn't help but scoff. He had initially thought that Ryan was a formidable adversary, but apparently, he was mistaken.

"Since you've put it that way, I'll get straight to the point."

Failing to read Isaac's expression, Ryan quickly spoke up. If Isaac was already behaving so candidly, it would be his fault if he continued to evade the topic.

"I want Colton to have mercy on me and my grandfather. I also want him to give the company back."

He spoke without hesitation. Everything he had done was for this purpose, but in the end, he had lost everything. It left him feeling bitter.

Upon hearing this, Isaac scoffed. He finally raised his head and looked Ryan in the eye. Such demands were nothing short of a fantasy.

However, he wasn't in a hurry to reject them. After all, in this situation, Ryan was the one feeling the pressure. If Ryan couldn't keep his cool, Isaac would have a chance.

Seeing Isaac's lack of response, Ryan grew anxious. He couldn't understand how Isaac could remain so composed under such circumstances. Didn't he want information about that person so that he could

inform Colton about it? Then, Colton would deal with him, right?

Had he misinterpreted everything?

Seeing that, Ryan frowned deeply. Things were beginning to spiral out of his control.

"Why aren't you saying anything? This shouldn't be a challenge for you, right?"

Ryan didn't want to waste any more time and went straight to the point. The longer the delay, the more disadvantageous things would be for him. According to his calculations, the police would arrive in half an hour.

"True, it's not a challenge. As I said before, you need to understand your position."



Isaac slightly shook his head and spoke leisurely. He didn't seem anxious at all, as if he were just here to chat with Ryan.

Hearing that, Ryan fell silent. He knew that he was asking for too much.

Once the company was back in operation, Logan would undoubtedly continue to target Colton and Nicole. Colton would be helping his enemy if he did that.

"My grandfather and I are fine. We don't want the company anymore."

Ryan gritted his teeth. This was the greatest compromise he could come up with. He had to save his grandfather.

"No, no, Mr. Yael. That still won't do."

Isaac shook his head and refused again. He had to admit that Ryan was a flexible man, and he was great at adapting.

However, he was not here today to agree to Ryan's demands. He was eyeing the information in Ryan's possession.

In simple terms, he was here for the information and had no intention of agreeing to Ryan's demands, regardless of what they were.

"What do you mean by that, Isaac? You should know that the information I have is very important to you. That person is very mysterious, after all."

Hearing that, Ryan frowned deeply. He didn't expect the outcome to be like this. He refused to be manipulated anymore.

"Let me guess the information you're referring to, Mr. Yael. The person is named Kendrick Hofstead, and he owns a company overseas. But all you know for now is that he's called Kendrick, and he has a small company, right? You still haven't figured out the details of that company, correct?"

Isaac shook his head in exasperation and spoke lightly, revealing what he had learned over the past few days. Of course, he kept it simple and didn't delve into details.

When Ryan heard that, his eyes widened in disbelief. He couldn't fathom how powerful Colton and his team were. He was astounded.

But everything Isaac said was true. That truly was the only piece of information he had.

As Ryan thought about that, his expression darkened. This was completely beyond his expectations. If that was the case, how was he supposed to negotiate with Isaac? Did he have no choice but to wait for the police to arrest him?

No, absolutely not!

## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1431 The Negotiation Breaks Down - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1431 The Negotiation Breaks Down Online**

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### Chapter 1431 The Negotiation Breaks Down

"Mr. Quill, what you shared is merely a fraction of it. After all, I've been in cahoots with him for quite some time. Do you really think he'd be privy to so little?"

Ryan feigned nonchalance, his voice brimming with confidence as if he held a wealth of information at his disposal.

"Interesting. But bear in mind, if the information you provide doesn't measure up to your claims, you'll find yourself back behind bars."

Isaac regarded Ryan with a look of feigned surprise, his voice steady and unflinching.

Did Ryan genuinely believe he could dupe him with such a transparent ruse?

At this, Ryan fell silent, his lips pressed into a thin line as he found himself at a momentary loss for words.

He didn't possess as much information as he had led Isaac to believe. If Isaac was calling his bluff, he would need to rethink his strategy.

"I'm not interested in whatever information you claim to have. I'm here because Colton suggested I give you a chance."

Isaac casually examined his palm, adjusted his attire, and spoke in a measured tone.

It was clear that Ryan was oblivious to the precariousness of his situation. Isaac felt it necessary to remind him of his current predicament.

Ryan froze, his mind racing. Isaac's words had shattered his defenses, leaving him feeling exposed and vulnerable.

He sank into the couch behind him, his gaze fixed on the man before him, his face obscured in shadow. The object concealed in his arms seemed to pulsate with anticipation.

Eventually, Ryan's eyes took on a bloodshot hue, and he reached into his jacket as if to retrieve something.

Although Isaac couldn't discern Ryan's actions from his vantage point, he had a rough idea of what was transpiring.

He narrowed his eyes, surreptitiously typing a message on his phone before swiftly pocketing it, maintaining an air of nonchalance.

"Mr. Quill, if that's the case, I have nothing more to add. Here's the information you seek."

Ryan rose to his feet and retrieved a file from the table beside him.

"Truth be told, I harbor a deep resentment for Kendrick as well. He abandoned me when I needed him most. I trust you'll help me exact my revenge. After all, the enemy of my enemy is my friend, and I should assist my friends."

As Ryan approached him, Isaac could feel his body tensing up. Still, he feigned ignorance as he kept his gaze fixed on Ryan.

The gap between them closed, and Ryan's breathing grew erratic. This was uncharted territory for him.

If he was destined for a life behind bars, he was determined to take someone down with him!

"Really? That file you're clutching is worthless."

Isaac's eyebrows arched slightly. He could now see Ryan's face clearly. He held the file upright, and it appeared he had something concealed behind it.

Such a pathetic ploy.

Isaac's disdain was palpable.

It didn't go unnoticed by Ryan. To him, it was a blatant show of contempt, something he couldn't abide.

"Well then, you can go to hell!"

Ryan flung the file aside, revealing a gleaming dagger which he thrust toward Isaac.

His movements were swift, precise, and merciless.

Isaac found it difficult to evade the attack. His lack of rest over the past few days had blurred his vision, making it challenging to fend off Ryan. What was he supposed to do now?

He furrowed his brow, continuing to dodge Ryan's relentless onslaught. The knife in Ryan's hand posed a significant threat.

"Why?! Even now, why do you refuse to show mercy and keep pushing me into a corner? If that's what you're going to do, you'll meet your end here today!"

Ryan's sanity began to unravel. He brandished his dagger at Isaac with reckless abandon.

Against such a frenzied opponent, Isaac found it impossible to retaliate. His foggy mind was his biggest handicap. Any rash move could prove fatal. His only option was to remain alert and focused.

"Heh."

He scoffed. He had never liked Ryan.

## Chapter 1432 Resolved

"What are you laughing at? Are you looking down on me? I know that all of you think you're better than me. Well, guess what? Today, you will pay for Colton's mistakes!"

Ryan's emotions were escalating, and the speed at which he was brandishing the dagger in his hand was increasing rapidly.

"Freeze!"

The authoritative voice of the police echoed.

Ryan glanced at the police officers standing behind Isaac, his pupils dilating in surprise. He hadn't anticipated the police to intervene so swiftly.

Seeing the officers with their guns drawn, he immediately ceased his actions, dropped the knife to the ground, and raised his hands in surrender.

If he hadn't complied, his charges would have undoubtedly become greater.

Isaac, realizing the imminent danger had passed, felt his vision blur as he collapsed forward.

Before he fell, his gaze was locked onto a file nearby.

That was what Colton had been after. The obscure company listed inside might be the one they had been investigating.

"Isaac!"

Who was that calling his name?

He managed to open his eyes slightly, and Roxanna's concerned face swam into view.

How did she get here?

"The file... The file..."

He tried to articulate, but his words were becoming increasingly indistinct, and he eventually lost consciousness.

Roxanna leaned in to catch Isaac's fading words. She frantically scanned the area and spotted a sealed file, which she swiftly picked up.

He must have been referring to this.

Roxanna was cradling Isaac's head with one hand and clutching the file with the other.

She had received a cryptic message from Isaac earlier, but despite her numerous attempts to contact him, she received no response.

Upon reading the message, she knew she couldn't just stand by.

Luckily, she was in the vicinity, so she alerted the police and rushed to the scene.

"This is..."

Roxanna overheard the conversation between the police officers and pieced together the situation.

But this was beyond her capabilities.

"Miss, the suspect has been apprehended. We'll escort you to the hospital."

A police officer approached her, gesturing toward the unconscious Isaac in her arms while speaking gently.

Roxanna nodded in agreement. It was crucial to get Isaac his medical attention.

Two officers promptly came over to transport Isaac, and Roxanna followed them into the police vehicle.

She resolved to stay until Isaac regained consciousness. She wouldn't be able to rest easy otherwise.

Once she had made up her mind, she accompanied them to the hospital, choosing not to return to the base.

Isaac was settled in a VIP ward. The hospital staff, familiar with Isaac, had arranged a comfortable room for him.

Roxanna placed the file next to Isaac. He had guarded it so fiercely, and even in his weakened state, he had thought of it. It must hold significant importance.

But what could it contain?

She recognized the apprehended man as Ryan, who now seemed to be defeated.

She would have to discuss this with Nicole later. After all, it was Isaac who had summoned her, and she was merely a bystander.

"Water, water."

The man beside her suddenly muttered something.

After Roxanna leaned in to hear Isaac's request for water, she quickly poured a cup of warm water and struggled to help him sit up.

It was only after Isaac had drained the cup that he fell back into a deep sleep.

Roxanna sighed in relief. Isaac had merely fainted from exhaustion. A good rest would help him recover.

She glanced at the man who was sleeping peacefully. Even as she wondered how long he would sleep, she was glad he was resting.

Soon, she too began to feel drowsy. As she lay down at the edge of the bed, she gradually drifted off to sleep.

Colton had not received any updates and was growing anxious.

Normally, a small-time crook like Ryan would pose no threat to Isaac.

Why hadn't he heard anything from Isaac yet?

Colton frowned, worried.

"This tastes awful."

"If you don't like it, then don't eat it. Why complain and still continue eating?"

Their argument was escalating. It seemed like they were on the verge of a physical altercation if it wasn't stopped.

"Enough. Beryl, check on Isaac. Wendy, if you continue this squabble, return to your room."

At Colton's stern command, the two immediately fell silent and ceased their argument. They only shot each other a glare before they turned around and left.

Chapter 1433 There's a Woman

Wendy and Beryl instantly fell silent, their gazes meeting as they turned to look at Colton.

Without wasting another second, Beryl pivoted and settled in front of the computer, commencing his investigation into the matter between Isaac and Ryan.

Wendy, on the other hand, sat quietly on the side, nibbling on takeout as she observed the two men at work.

Truth be told, she hadn't seen Isaac in years. However, she found it hard to believe that Isaac could be so weak as to not be able to handle a man like Ryan.

Beryl quickly found out Isaac's whereabouts. After all, they had sought the police's assistance, making it easy to comprehend the situation.

"Colton, it appears that Isaac has been under immense stress for a while now, and Ryan intended to harm him. They seem to have had a heated altercation. By the time the police arrived, Isaac had already collapsed from exhaustion and is currently hospitalized.

After Beryl reported that, his eyes widened with surprise as he stared at the computer screen.

"And then? What's the current situation?"

Colton's gaze shifted to Beryl when he didn't hear the second half of Beryl's words. Seeing his astonished expression, Colton couldn't help but feel a twinge of annoyance.



Snapping out of his surprise, Beryl slowly began, "There's a woman with him. Is Isaac dating

someone? When did he get a girlfriend?"

Wendy was taken aback by this revelation.

However, she reasoned that it was typical for a playboy like Isaac to have a woman by his side. "Isn't it normal for him to have a girlfriend?" she retorted.

Beryl shook his head, recalling Isaac's decision to move abroad a few years ago. "No, he hasn't been involved with women since he left the country four years ago."

"Oh, he must have reverted to his old habits now that he's in control of the company."

Wendy couldn't help rolling her eyes as she quipped. Isaac did hurt her best friend back then. Despite their good relationship, she couldn't help but hold a grudge against Isaac when it came to romantic matters.

"Wendy, that's enough," Colton interjected, unable to bear any more of her comments.

Wendy glanced at Colton, wisely choosing to remain silent. She began to fiddle with her phone as she wondered if Nicole had responded to her message.

Nicole woke up early the next morning to find several messages from Wendy. They all seemed to be clear.

Colton had indeed proven his competence by swiftly defeating Ryan and dismantling Kendrick's power in the country.

However, Kendrick still held considerable influence abroad, and his foundation in the country was yet to stabilize.

Moreover, his judgment of people left much to be desired.

Nicole quickly responded to Wendy before turning her attention to the report. According to the experimental report, everyone was making excellent progress.

If they maintained this pace, they were bound to succeed.

"Nicole, I'm leaving now. I've left breakfast on the table."

Chloe's voice echoed from outside the door before it shut tightly.

Nicole set her phone aside, rising to exit her room. She looked at the breakfast that Chloe had prepared on the table. It had been over six months now, and she hoped that time would pass more quickly.

Her morning sickness had lasted only about half a month. During this period, she had to ensure that nothing affected the child.

She needed to schedule a prenatal check-up.

Nicole suddenly remembered that she had been so preoccupied that she had forgotten to schedule her prenatal check-up. She unlocked her phone and began to arrange an appointment.

This was her and Colton's child. There was no room for error.

Upon unlocking her phone, she saw the top news headline about Kendrick. The headline was quite shocking.

She frowned slightly, clicking on the headline. It turned out that Kendrick and his secretary were rumored to be having an affair, and they had openly acknowledged it.

The article included a picture of them holding hands intimately.

Then again, how could Kendrick suddenly become involved with his secretary?

Chapter 1434 Awakened

Without a moment's delay, Nicole forwarded the screenshot of the news article to Chloe. Kendrick's actions were indeed perplexing.

Logically, if a man of Kendrick's stature had romantic feelings for his secretary, they would have been an item long before now. Why did he choose to do this at such a crucial moment?

After all, Ryan had been dealt with by Colton earlier today. Could it be that the secretary is a key player in all this?

Chloe was swamped with work and had no time to even glance at her phone. Nicole, who was aware of this, didn't mind whether Chloe responded to her message or not.

She simply found the entire situation too coincidental and difficult to decipher.

Eventually, Nicole sent a message to Kendrick on her phone, expressing her desire to meet him and discuss the next course of action.

She assumed Kendrick would decline. After all, he was already in a relationship, and he would likely reject such a private meeting.

However, Kendrick's response was surprising. He promptly replied to her message.

Kendrick: Okay. You can choose the location.

Nicole clutched her phone tightly.

In the VIP ward of a local hospital.

Isaac was deep in slumber. He appeared to be in immense pain with his eyebrows knitted together as if he were trapped in a nightmare.

"No!"

Isaac abruptly opened his eyes and yelled.

He took deep, ragged breaths, his chest heaving rapidly, indicating the terror induced by the nightmare.

He instinctively looked around then. Is this...a hospital?

He suddenly noticed someone sprawled on his hospital bed.

"Roxanna?"

Isaac's voice was slightly hoarse. If he hadn't been so startled, he might not have been able to utter a word.

The woman was peacefully lying on the edge of the bed, seemingly content in her sleep. The blissful smile gracing her face was a stark contrast to his nightmare.

Why was she here?

Isaac regained his composure. Such a question abruptly crossed his mind, but soon, he pieced it together.

When he had fainted the previous day, Roxanna had appeared before him. He had even requested her assistance in retrieving some documents.

The documents!

He quickly scanned the room and finally spotted the documents on the table next to him. Seeing that they were untouched, he heaved a sigh of relief.

The task assigned to him by Colton was finally accomplished. The next step involved their overseas operations.

"Hmm."

The woman groaned and slowly sat up. She unconsciously stretched, and as she opened her eyes, she found the man in front of her staring at her.

She froze in place with her arm suspended mid-air. What should she do now?

How could she alleviate the current awkwardness? But it seemed that no matter what she did, she couldn't salvage the situation.

She confessed that she hadn't intended to fall asleep on the bed the previous day. She was simply exhausted.

Would Isaac accept her explanation?

She resignedly closed her eyes, bracing herself for Isaac's reprimand.

"How did you know I was there yesterday?"

Isaac studied Roxanna for a while before slowly voicing his query.

Indeed, he had been pondering over this question. Could it be that Roxanna and Ryan shared some sort of connection?

But as far as he was aware, Ryan was single. Could she be a secret girlfriend?

Isaac mulled over various possibilities, his expression growing increasingly grim. The only relationship between a man and a woman that needed to be concealed seemed to be clandestine lovers.

Roxanna was deep in thought. Wasn't Isaac the one who had messaged me? Why is he questioning me now?

Did he sustain a head injury when he fainted? However, she distinctly remembered that she had helped Isaac up in time.

Before she could make sense of it, she looked up and found that Isaac now wore a terrifying expression.

Did I do something to piss him off?

Chapter 1435 Are You Hungry?

"You mean you didn't send me that message?"

Roxanna inquired cautiously, apprehensive that any further words might provoke Isaac.

Isaac was momentarily taken aback by her question. He started to rummage for his phone. He did dispatch a message yesterday, but it was intended for the police. Could he have mistakenly sent it to the wrong recipient?

"Are you looking for your phone? It's right here."

Roxanna picked up the phone from the side and handed it to Isaac. She spoke nonchalantly, her movements unhurried.

Isaac hesitated for a moment before accepting the phone from her and reviewing the message he had sent the previous day.

Indeed, he had inadvertently sent it to Roxanna.

He locked his phone, his hands gradually descending to his sides before finally resting on the bed.

So, he had indeed dispatched it to the wrong person. What about yesterday's police, then?

"Ah, do you want to know what transpired yesterday?"

Roxanna finally grasped what Isaac was implying and spoke as if she was seeking approval.

Upon hearing this, Isaac dazedly nodded.

"When I received your message yesterday, I initially thought someone was attempting to deceive me, or perhaps your phone had been stolen. But then I realized that they didn't demand any money, so I brought the police to locate you."

After getting his affirmation, Roxanna began to recount the incident.

"But after you collapsed, another group of police arrived. They seemed to recognize you, so they escorted us both to the hospital. As for Ryan, he should be in custody now. Don't worry."

Isaac nodded upon hearing this. So that's what occurred. He must have been disoriented and sent the message to the wrong person.

However, it didn't matter as long as the ultimate objective was accomplished.

"Thank you."

Just as Roxanna was about to ask Isaac if he wanted to eat something, she was taken aback by his unexpected gratitude.

"Huh?"

Momentarily bewildered, she threw that out instinctively.

Isaac shook his head, acknowledging his abruptness. "It's nothing."

Indeed, to Roxanna, he wasn't the type to express gratitude. He shouldn't startle her.

"No need to thank me. We're friends!"

Isaac was slightly surprised as he observed Roxanna, who was smiling at him.

This naive woman is probably the type who will count the money for me if there ever comes a day when I sell her off.

Isaac pondered this and couldn't help but smile. But then, this was also part of Roxanna's allure, wasn't it?

Roxanna didn't notice Isaac's smile. She scanned the takeout options on her phone, but there didn't seem to be anything particularly light. Never mind, I'd better head to the hospital cafeteria.

"By the way, are you hungry?"

"I am,"

Isaac responded obediently, his tone more amiable than usual.

Roxanna nodded, seemingly oblivious to anything unusual about Isaac. As she rose to leave, she reminded him before her departure, "Wait for me to come back. I'll fetch you something to eat. Get some more rest. The doctor mentioned you're overworked. You can't push yourself too hard no matter what, right?"

With that, she turned and left the ward.

Isaac found Roxanna's lengthy speech rather useful. After her departure, he obediently reclined on the bed, closed his eyes, and awaited her return.

Roxanna navigated through the hospital. She had noticed Isaac's smile earlier, but she feared that acknowledging it would create an awkward situation for both of them.

It was better to feign ignorance. That was the optimal approach.

She finally exhaled a sigh of relief after she gradually distanced from Isaac's ward. Why was Isaac looking at me with that gaze?

Ring, ring!

Before she could figure out the answer to her question, her phone rang, disrupting her thoughts.

Roxanna glanced at the phone number. It was from the base. Seeing that, she answered the call without any hesitation.

"Hey, what's up?"

Chapter 1436 Impossible

"Miss Miller, my company is interested in investing. When can we discuss this further?"

"Investing?"

Roxanna was taken aback by the unexpected news. She recognized the voice on the other end of the line; it was the young girl.

Londyn Sander.

"Yup! If you're not available today, we can meet tomorrow. I've already spoken to Chloe and the person in charge. They said the final decision rests with you."

Londyn's grip on her phone tightened. She had never broached this subject with Roxanna before.

Would Roxanna be upset that she had taken the initiative without consulting her?

Londyn wasn't sure, but she was determined to help the base. She had finally persuaded her father and was confident she could convince Roxanna as well.

"I'll arrange for them to come tomorrow. I'll wait for you at the base."

With this thought, Londyn's voice grew more resolute.

"Alright, we'll discuss it when I return."

Roxanna agreed, touched by Londyn's thoughtfulness. She decided to address this matter upon her

return.

After all, she still had Isaac to attend to.



Roxanna quickly bought some corn soup and other foods suitable for patients before returning to the ward.

The sunlight streamed through the window, casting a warm glow on the bed where Isaac, whose breathing was steady and rhythmic.

"He seems to be sleeping soundly," Roxanna whispered as she set the food on the table. She planned to wait for him to wake up before eating. If the food cooled, she could always buy more.

"You're back."

The man's hoarse voice came from the bed.

Startled, Roxanna turned to Isaac and apologized. "Did I wake you? I'm sorry. You can continue sleeping."

She blamed herself for being so engrossed in her thoughts about the base that she had been careless.

Seeing her concern, Isaac shook his head and reassured her, "No, I was just dozing off. If I had been asleep, you wouldn't have woken me. What would you have done with the food you bought?"

Roxanna, who usually seemed so carefree, was surprisingly attentive when caring for others.

She quickly opened the container with the corn soup, took out a plastic spoon, and handed the soup to Isaac.

"Have this first. I also got you chicken pot pie. Since you just woke up, you shouldn't eat anything too heavy,"

Roxanna whispered. For some reason, her cheeks flushed when Isaac spoke.

Seeing Roxanna's shy demeanor, Isaac simply smiled and accepted the soup, sipping on it quietly.

This meal was prepared by his future wife; how could he not savor every bite?

But before that, he needed to make the woman in front of him his girlfriend.

Later, Roxanna also handed Isaac the pot pie. She had assumed that Isaac, being a young master, wouldn't enjoy such simple food. However, Isaac not only didn't show any distaste, he ate it with gusto as if he was savoring a gourmet meal.

Roxanna didn't overthink it. The only thing that mattered was that he was eating. She didn't dare to entertain any other thoughts.

"I'm done eating. It was delicious."

Isaac handed the empty bowl to Roxanna, his face radiating satisfaction.

Roxanna accepted it without a word. She shouldn't overthink things. Maybe Isaac was like this with everyone. She was just being foolish.

He would never be interested in her, and she would never be Isaac's type. Stop overthinking it, Roxanna Miller!

Isaac noticed Roxanna's low spirits but couldn't figure out why. He would have been informed if something had happened at the base.

"I'm going to be discharged from the hospital today."

After thinking about it, Isaac decided to share his decision with Roxanna.

He thought it was better to keep her in the loop.

Chapter 1437 Learning To Let Go

Roxanna's eyes widened in surprise. Was he so eager to escape her company because he didn't enjoy their time alone together?

Regardless, it was alright. There were pressing matters at the medical base that required her attention, and she had her own responsibilities to attend to.

"Sure. I need to return to the base to oversee some matters anyway. Is someone coming to fetch you?"

With this thought, Roxanna turned toward Isaac, her face adorned with a smile.

Her demeanor suggested she was genuinely pleased about Isaac's impending departure.

Indeed, if Isaac was discharged, wouldn't that be a relief for her? She would no longer be burdened with his care.

But why was she here in the first place? Was this all just a product of her wishful thinking?

Perhaps Isaac didn't need her care at all.

Roxanna's smile suddenly froze, her emotions threatening to spill over.

"How are you going home?"

Isaac noticed a change in Roxanna's expression. Did she tire herself out from caring for me yesterday? This won't do. I need to make sure she gets home safely.

"Someone will be here soon. Let them escort you home first."

"No need. I can manage on my own. You take care of yourself."

Roxanna shook her head while gathering her belongings. After uttering these words, she hurriedly left the ward.

He has been maintaining a distance from you, Roxanna. What were you thinking and hoping for? she reminded herself. He has been maintaining a distance from you, Roxanna. What were you thinking and hoping for? she reminded herself.

Isaac watched Roxanna's hasty departure, puzzled by her claim of being extremely busy.

Why is she in such a rush? Did I do something wrong? Or was his decision flawed?

Isaac pondered for a while, but he couldn't unravel this mystery.

He didn't think Roxanna harbored feelings for him. After all, he had been somewhat bothersome in the past. And so, he resolved to pursue Roxanna once his issues with Ryan were resolved.

He was confident that he could win her over someday.

Nicole suddenly remembered the matter of talent acquisition and decided to call Roxanna to clarify some details, but her call went unanswered.

This left her feeling slightly uneasy. Roxanna had been uncharacteristically silent last night. Usually,

she would update her about her day and her activities.

Only yesterday was different.

Nicole frowned slightly. Roxanna was alone in the country, and her silence was worrisome.

Beep, beep.

Soon, Roxanna returned her call.

Nicole answered immediately. "Hello, Roxanna. Let's discuss work through video call."

But after answering the call, there was silence on the other end. This was unlike Roxanna. Because of that, Nicole suggested a video call.

"Okay, Nicole. Give me ten minutes."

After Roxanna finished speaking, she hung up the phone. Judging from the tone of her voice, it seems like she isn't in a good mood, Nicole speculated.

However, she couldn't figure out why Roxanna was feeling this way. If it was a base-related issue, she would certainly be aware of it. That left only one plausible explanation.

Isaac.

Nicole suddenly recalled the message Wendy had sent her last night. Was Roxanna also involved yesterday?

With the pieces of information at her disposal, it wasn't far-fetched to connect the dots.

It seemed she would have to wait for ten minutes before initiating a video call with Roxanna. She would have to ask Roxanna about it later.

After ending the call, Roxanna secluded herself in her room. She didn't see anyone, and even her dinner was left untouched outside her door.

Her mind was consumed by thoughts of Isaac. What was she to do? She couldn't find peace, yet she had to video chat with Nicole in ten minutes. She couldn't afford to neglect her work.

The tears continuing to flow unabated on her cheeks were a testament to her inner turmoil.

She had to pull herself together. Roxanna, gather your strength. You can't afford to wallow in despair. You still have Nicole and Chloe. The medical base in the country still needs you.

Chapter 1438 Roxanna's Sorrow

Roxanna wiped away the tears pooling in the corners of her eyes, readying herself to make a video call. However, the tears welled up again before they streamed uncontrollably down her face.

This time, she didn't put on a brave face. Instead, she sobbed softly like a neglected child.

Ring, ring!

Nicole's video call punctually came through.

Roxanna sat on the floor, her body curled into a ball, seemingly still reeling from her previous emotional upheaval.

However, Nicole seemed persistent and continued to call.

Eventually, Roxanna stirred and slowly lifted her head, wiping away her tears. After ensuring she looked composed, she answered the video call.

"Nicole, I was preoccupied with something else just now. Let's talk about work."

Roxanna forced a small smile onto her face. She didn't want to burden Nicole with her worries.

Nicole, with her keen eyes, quickly noticed Roxanna's slightly red eyes. Even though it was clear that Roxanna had just cried, she didn't seem inclined to share the reason behind her distress.

I'll just not mention it.

"It's about the investment that Londyn mentioned. What do you think?" Nicole asked. Even though she didn't really have anything crucial to discuss, she wanted to check on Roxanna.

"Well, I think it's a good idea. Having an additional investor will ease the financial strain on the base," Roxanna replied after a moment's thought.

"Moreover, Londyn has been at the center for a while now. We know her. I'm sure we can trust her," she added.

"Moreover, Londyn has been at the center for a while now. We know her. I'm sure we can trust her," she added.

It was just that she didn't expect Londyn to be the heiress of a big company. Londyn had never deliberately kept it hidden, but Roxanna, too, had never paid attention to such matters before.

"Alright, you can handle this matter. How about the recruitment of new talents? How's that progressing?"

Nicole nodded in satisfaction. It seemed that Roxanna had her own thoughts on this matter, which was good because Nicole wouldn't have to worry about work-related issues. However, when it came to matters of the heart...

I wonder how things are going for Chloe.

In the past ten minutes, she had shared her speculations with Chloe, who said she would handle this matter.

Nicole checked the time and figured that she would ask Chloe more about it since the latter would be back soon.

"It'll be complete in a couple of days. Then, we can start reviewing the actual abilities and select suitable candidates to send to you."

Roxanna pondered the question, calculated the timeline, and finally responded.

"Okay. That's all from me. Take care of yourself, Roxanna. Chloe will be back soon."

Nicole nodded. Even as she looked at Roxanna with a reluctant gaze, she eventually hung up the phone.

She knew Roxanna wouldn't be able to hold herself back anymore if she didn't end the call.

As soon as the call ended, Roxanna's tears flowed freely again as though they had a mind of their own.

Roxanna placed her phone on the bedside table and returned to her initial posture, allowing herself to grieve for the night. Starting tomorrow, she would fully focus on her work.

Nicole, on the other hand, sighed as she looked at her phone. At that moment, there was movement at the door. She knew that Chloe had returned.

"I'll have a chat with Isaac in a little while under the guise of our cooperation. It's a good opportunity."

As Chloe walked in and saw the look on Nicole's face, she immediately knew that Roxanna wasn't in a good state. She continued,

"That way, we can also figure out what happened between them."

Nicole nodded upon hearing that. There was no other way. In this situation, Roxanna wouldn't share her worries with them to avoid causing them any concern.

Chloe patted Nicole's arm. She brought back their dinner—pizza—which Nicole had been craving.

She had promised Nicole that she would bring her pizza today.

"I'm really worried about Roxanna," Nicole sighed in helplessness.

Chapter 1439 Each Caught up in Their Own Thoughts

Chloe gazed at the pizza before her. She distinctly remembered requesting the staff to divide it into eight slices. Why are there only six? A frown creased her forehead.

"Just a moment, Nicole. I'll slice it again."

She picked up the pizza and pivoted toward the kitchen. The moment she crossed the threshold, the look on her face changed.

She had overheard Nicole's words earlier. However, Nicole was already heavily pregnant. She couldn't burden her with such petty concerns.

She had contemplated discussing matters with Isaac, but she still hadn't made up her mind. What if they misconstrued her intentions if she hastily approached Isaac? How would Roxanna face Isaac in the future?

After all, they were now work partners, and Isaac was a shareholder. It was inevitable that they would cross paths again.

Nicole watched as Chloe retreated to the kitchen as if she were fleeing. Nicole let out a soft sigh then. She understood Chloe's predicament. The situation was indeed complex.

Chloe swiftly emerged from the kitchen with the freshly sliced pizza and set it before Nicole, urging, "Nicole, eat while it's hot. It won't be as tasty once it cools."

Seeing this, Nicole nodded and refrained from bringing up Roxanna's situation again. With one issue cropping up after another, she hoped that Kendrick's matter could be resolved as soon as possible.

Isaac returned home with his entourage and stared at the chat box featuring Roxanna on his phone screen, uncertain of what to type.

Isaac returned home with his entourage and stared at the chat box featuring Roxanna on his phone screen, uncertain of what to type.

Roxanna had seemed out of sorts when she left today. There must have been some issue. Since he was pursuing Roxanna, should he inquire about it?

Should he ask?

For a moment, Isaac felt a wave of timidity.

In the end, he steeled himself and sent the message. Now, he was awaiting Roxanna's response.



If the other party was responding, it would display "typing..." at the top, but there was no such indication. Had she not seen it?

Should he call her?

Isaac clutched his phone tightly, contemplating other strategies while waiting for a reply.

He had never felt so indecisive. When he was courting girls in the past, he was adept at employing various tactics. But now, with Roxanna, none of them seemed applicable.

"Sigh."

Isaac hung his head in frustration, momentarily at a loss.

"I should just call and ask. After all, I'm the one pursuing her. I can't just wait for her to seek my help."

Having made up his mind, Isaac stared at the familiar number and pressed the call button.

Roxanna sat until dusk without touching a morsel. The dinner that was delivered at four o'clock remained untouched at eight.

Bzzz... Bzzz...

It had been over two hours since Nicole had called her. Who could be calling her now?

She didn't feel like answering.

Roxanna remained motionless, allowing her phone to vibrate incessantly.

But it seemed the caller was persistent. As soon as one call ended, another one began.

Roxanna's brow furrowed slightly. Could it be that Nicole had an emergency?

She made an effort to reach for her phone, picked it up, and was taken aback to see that it was Isaac's number.

Why was he calling her?

He was probably calling to express his gratitude. But she didn't want to hear his thanks.

Roxanna wasn't sure what she was feeling, but she didn't even want to hear a word of gratitude from Isaac's lips. She felt that if he thanked her, it would only widen the gap between them.

Never mind, she wouldn't answer.

She was about to set the phone down, but the persistent caller gave her pause.

In the end, Roxanna picked up the call. She slowly brought the phone to her ear, listening to the steady breathing on the other end. Neither of them broke the silence.

Isaac thought Roxanna wouldn't pick up, and his anxiety subsided. But unexpectedly, Roxanna suddenly answered, catching him off guard.

What should he say?

Chapter 1440 An Uncomfortable Exchange

"Have you had your meal yet?"

Eager to dispel the uncomfortable silence between them, Isaac found himself resorting to such a mundane question.

As soon as the words slipped from his lips, he wished he could retract them. How could he resort to such a trivial inquiry?

Fighting back her tears, Roxanna responded in a hushed tone, "Yes, I have."

She prayed he wouldn't detect the sorrow in her voice. She didn't want him to witness her in such a vulnerable state.

"Did anything unusual occur at the medical base that prompted your hasty departure today?"

Isaac, seemingly oblivious to Roxanna's discomfort, inquired softly.

Noting that he refrained from further questioning, Roxanna surmised he hadn't detected her emotional turmoil, and she let out a sigh of relief.

"Nothing of significance. Just focus on your own wellbeing and avoid fainting again."

Roxanna's words, delivered with an air of detachment, left Isaac feeling slightly unsettled, even though there was no fault in her statement.

"I appreciate your help these past few days," he responded quietly, having nothing more to add. He had called to check on her wellbeing, and he was relieved to know she was fine.

However, he had inadvertently stumbled upon something he wished he hadn't.

Roxanna hesitated, her eyes gradually dimming.

Roxanna hesitated, her eyes gradually dimming.

"Um..."

She was on the verge of breaking down at that point. She yearned to plead with Isaac to cease the conversation and disconnect the call.

"Is there something you're not telling me? If there's a problem, we can tackle it together."

Isaac's brows furrowed. Have I misheard? Her voice sounds like she is choking back tears. Is she concealing something from me, something that she is struggling to cope with?

Upon hearing his words, Roxanna instinctively distanced her phone. She composed herself before bringing it back to her ear.

"It's nothing. Don't worry about it. It's getting late, so you should rest. I'm hanging up now."

She quickly ended the conversation and disconnected the call. The moment the line went dead, she succumbed to her emotions and began to weep.

Isaac's concern for her was purely platonic, devoid of any ulterior motives.

His concern stemmed from her care for him. He simply wished to reciprocate her kindness. She shouldn't have been so naive.

She couldn't afford to wallow in her emotions; there were still many tasks awaiting her.

Despite her attempts to console herself, Roxanna couldn't suppress her tears. She allowed herself one night to grieve.

Meanwhile, Isaac stared at his disconnected phone, deep in thought.

Roxanna was clearly dealing with something, but she seemed reluctant to confide in him. Should I reach out to Chloe?

He recalled Chloe had shared her contact details with him previously.

After a moment's contemplation, Isaac managed to locate Chloe's contact. They had exchanged pleasantries once but hadn't communicated since.

'Hello, are you available? I have a few queries. If it's convenient, could you respond?'

Satisfied with his message, Isaac sent it off.

On the other hand, Chloe and Nicole had just finished their pizza. They were about to clean up when Isaac's message popped up.

Upon seeing the message, Chloe froze, her finger hovering over the screen.

How should I respond? Is it about Roxanna? Perfect!

Chloe had been meaning to contact him but lacked a valid reason. Now, she had one.

'Hi, Isaac. What can I do for you?'

'May I ask if anything unusual has happened to Miss Miller recently? She seemed a bit off today.'

'What?'

Seeing Chloe's apparent ignorance, Isaac sighed. It appeared Roxanna hadn't confided in her closest friend.

He was about to put his phone away when Chloe sent another message.

## **Right Person, Wrong Time #Chapter 1441 Inquiring About Feelings - Read Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 1441 Inquiring About Feelings Online -**

### Chapter 1441 Inquiring About Feelings

'How is Roxanna doing? If you have any information, please share it with me. We are all overseas and may not be aware of her recent circumstances.'

Isaac gazed at the text Chloe sent, concern evident even in her words. After a moment of contemplation, he began to type on his phone screen.

'I had an errand to run last night and mistakenly sent a message intended for someone else to her. Subsequently, she came over. I passed out from exhaustion, and she took me to the hospital and looked after me. She left around noon today, but she seemed troubled when she departed.'

Isaac relayed everything to Chloe, naturally excluding the affairs involving Ryan and Colton.

It was best to keep this matter under wraps. After all, Chloe and Nicole were always together. If Chloe was informed, Nicole would inevitably find out.

If Colton discovered that Isaac had spilled the beans, he would have a bone to pick with him upon his return to the country.

Chloe read Isaac's message. As Nicole had mentioned, Roxanna was also involved in Isaac's activities the previous night. However, the authenticity of the misdirected message was yet to be confirmed.

Without overthinking things, she quickly grabbed her phone to inform Nicole. It was crucial for Nicole to be aware of this so she wouldn't fret.

Meanwhile, Nicole was engrossed in reading some parenting material, but she couldn't concentrate. Her mind was preoccupied with thoughts about Roxanna.

"Nicole, I had a chat with Isaac."

"Nicole, I had a chat with Isaac."

Chloe didn't elaborate and simply handed her phone to Nicole.

"Have a look."

Upon learning that there was news about Roxanna, Nicole swiftly took the phone and read the message.

Indeed, Roxanna was part of the action yesterday.

"Reply as usual, and try to inquire about something else."

Nicole nodded. The priority now was to comprehend the nature of the relationship between the two.

Hearing this, Chloe typed a sentence on the phone screen and sent it, leaving Nicole in shock.

"Goodness, Chloe! You're too blunt."

Nicole wanted to stop Chloe, but she realized it was too late, so she ended up uttering this sentence instead.

Chloe arched her eyebrows and looked at the phone screen with a smug expression. If I am not so

forthright, when will these two realize their feelings?

Isaac glanced at the message sent by the other party, his eyelids twitching. He had to admit that he didn't anticipate Chloe to be so candid.

'How far have you and Roxanna progressed?'

Is it so apparent that I have feelings for Roxanna? Why is she asking so assertively without even attempting to probe?

'Not yet, but I intend to pursue her.'

Given the circumstances, Isaac decided to be honest. After all, Chloe would find out sooner or later. Perhaps they could even assist him.

Chloe read Isaac's message, her eyebrows lifting slightly. It seemed that Roxanna's tears and sadness were for naught.

"Oh, Roxanna's love is on the horizon." Nicole looked at the message in surprise, feeling elated for Roxanna.

Initially, she was concerned that Roxanna's love was unrequited. After all, it was not easy to win over a man like Isaac.

The mere fact that Isaac actively sought a person who only left a name for Roxanna was enough to prove that the man genuinely cared for her.

Whether it was love or not, it was still up in the air.

'You should let her know. Perhaps her mood is off because of you.'

After sending this message, Chloe switched off her phone screen and looked at Nicole with a hint of melancholy.

She was uncertain whether this relationship would be beneficial or detrimental to Roxanna.

Seeing Chloe's expression, Nicole surmised what Chloe was anxious about.

"Chloe, you must understand that Colton is Colton, and Isaac is Isaac. Isaac's family is quite approachable. While they are affluent, they won't fuss over the woman's family background."

Nicole gently patted Chloe's back and spoke softly.

Perhaps, if these events hadn't transpired, she and Colton could have lived blissfully together and wouldn't have ended up in their current predicament.

Chapter 1442 Resolute Emotions

Chloe let out a slow sigh, realizing that she could only let fate take its course. In the past, when she was unaware of Isaac's feelings for Roxanna, she might have advised Roxanna not to overanalyze things.

However, the circumstances had changed.

Isaac did have feelings for Roxanna, and given this fact, Chloe couldn't possibly intervene in their budding romance.

"Alright, don't dwell on it too much. I'm confident Roxanna will be in a better state of mind tomorrow, and our worries will lessen. With Isaac in the picture, no matter how hard you try to prevent it, destiny will unfold as it should," Nicole consoled as she patted Chloe's back.

Nicole's words held true. Roxanna would eventually have to face this situation. With this understanding, Chloe felt a sense of relief wash over her. She picked up her phone and turned to leave.

While those overseas could sleep peacefully, the one at home found no solace.

Isaac lay in bed, repeatedly looking at the last message Chloe had sent. What did her message imply? Could it be that Roxanna shared the same feelings?

This question kept Isaac awake late into the night.

He couldn't imagine Chloe making such statements without a valid reason. Roxanna must have confided something to them.

With this thought, he resolved to confess his feelings the following day.

The possibility that Roxanna might also have feelings for him filled Isaac with an overwhelming sense of excitement. Since he was unable to sleep, he decided to hit the gym.

Despite being drenched in sweat, he felt far from tired. It had been a while since he had experienced such a sensation.

Despite being drenched in sweat, he felt far from tired. It had been a while since he had experienced such a sensation.

Meanwhile, Roxanna woke up with puffy eyes and rose from her bed. She had investment discussions scheduled for the day, but how could she attend them looking like this?

She sighed as she examined her reflection in the mirror.

As long as Roxanna didn't dwell on Isaac, she didn't feel as distressed.

Forget it. I have a busy day ahead, and I need to freshen up quickly. Perhaps I can apply a cold compress to my swollen eyes later.

After Roxanna had spruced herself up, the puffiness on her face had reduced. Although it was still slightly noticeable upon close inspection, it no longer interfered with her daily routine.



After she readied, she gathered the relevant documents and headed downstairs. Today, Londyn's father was visiting the base for a discussion.

This was indeed a significant honor for her.

"Miss Miller, Mr. Sander is already waiting for you in the reception room." Londyn approached, relieved to see Roxanna returning to her usual demeanor.

Roxanna had looked dreadful when she returned home yesterday, and she hadn't even eaten dinner.

Londyn had speculated whether today's meeting would be postponed, but Roxanna had insisted that it wasn't necessary. Still, Londyn was somewhat apprehensive.

Roxanna handed the documents in her hand to Londyn and said, "Give these to Mr. Sander for review later."

"Understood," Londyn replied, accepting the documents and clutching them tightly in her hand.

Initially, her father had been skeptical about the base, doubting its potential benefits. But eventually, he had been willing to give it a shot, albeit reluctantly.

Usually, Londyn wouldn't fret when Miss Miller was in her normal state. However, seeing Miss Miller so despondent the previous day, she was slightly concerned that it might impact today's collaboration.

Roxanna seemed to perceive Londyn's anxiety and reassured her, saying, "Don't worry, we'll definitely clinch the deal today."

She knew Londyn was still concerned, but she had faith in herself. She was in a good state today and felt confident that she could handle the meeting successfully.

Londyn, who had been anxious, broke into a smile upon hearing Roxanna's reassuring words.

Early in the morning, Isaac walked out of his room. There was breakfast on the dining table prepared by the servant. After quickly finishing his meal, he hurried to get ready.

He couldn't afford to be casual about confessing his feelings today. He also made a call to his secretary to organize a few things.

Colton had received a message from Isaac in the middle of the night. However, judging from his voice, he seemed to be in high spirits.

What minor matter could make him so elated?

Chapter 1443 Three Days Later

"Is dealing with Ryan really a reason for such elation? Why does he sound so thrilled?"

Beryl expressed his disdain. His face twisted in a frown as he listened to the voice message.

"Furthermore, it must be midnight in Restrad now. Doesn't he need sleep? Didn't he collapse from exhaustion just the other day? And now he's burning the midnight oil again so soon. I guess he has a short memory."

Colton heard Beryl's words. Indeed, Isaac's behavior was somewhat unusual.

Could it be connected to the woman who was with him?

"That woman," Colton said slowly as if hinting at something to Beryl.

"Right, I'll look up her name now. I initially assumed she was a caregiver or something, but on second thought, it doesn't seem right. I remember the police left her contact details and name."

Beryl recalled the information he had received the previous day. At the time, he had speculated that this woman was either a caregiver or a casual acquaintance.

Now, the situation seemed to be more intricate than initially thought.

Colton maintained his silence, implying his approval for Beryl to continue his investigation.

Isaac's interest in this woman should be thoroughly investigated. She can't be an ordinary person,

given his choice of companions is not exactly impeccable.

Beryl wasted no time and swiftly retrieved information about the woman Isaac seemed interested in.

As Beryl looked at the information on the computer screen, he couldn't help but exclaim, "Wow, she's somehow connected to Nicole."

He was genuinely surprised by this unexpected connection.

He was genuinely surprised by this unexpected connection.

With that, Beryl turned his gaze toward Colton. Beryl's expression revealed curiosity and probing interest in the man's reaction.

Upon hearing the name "Nicole," Colton immediately stood up from his seat. However, aware of Beryl's scrutiny, he quickly concealed any visible emotions and casually walked over to view the information displayed on the screen.

Roxanna?

Colton was genuinely surprised. He hadn't expected Isaac's final choice to be someone as seemingly innocent as Roxanna.

Beryl couldn't help but point out, "So, you can't resist reacting when you hear anything related to Nicole, can you?"

His attention shifted away from Isaac and Roxanna. Now, it appeared that Colton had become more

intriguing to him.

Colton, in response to Beryl's observation, shot him a sharp look and then returned to his seat. He responded with a cold tone, "Don't overthink."

Beryl decided to let the matter rest and closed the computer.

It seemed that this woman's connection to Nicole was significant enough, and further investigation might not be necessary. He only hoped that she wouldn't cause Isaac prolonged distress, unlike the woman from the past who had come for money. She left after taking a substantial amount of money, leaving Isaac deeply wounded.

"The small company on Kendrick's side has also surfaced. It's in the information provided by Ryan, and Isaac has already forwarded it." Beryl steered the conversation toward Kendrick.

"Proceed with the operation in three days." Colton nodded as his eyes scanned the documents in his hand.

The situation of dealing with a nameless company was relatively straightforward. The previous challenge had arisen because this company had remained concealed.

"Kendrick and his secretary are now a couple, and it's all over the news," Beryl remarked, raising an eyebrow as he scrolled through the trending topics from yesterday. In just one day of not checking the news, such a significant event had occurred.

"Hmm, keep an eye on the secretary." Colton, who seemed to have also noticed the news, instructed with a cold tone.

"Alright. I've been monitoring her. But she hasn't made any significant moves. He gave the secretary a supplementary card, and now she doesn't go to the company anymore. She spends her days shopping and splurging with her friends. Kendrick doesn't seem to mind," Beryl reported.

Beryl sighed at this point, wondering when he'd find a sugar mommy to support him like this. He was tired of working so hard.

Nicole took a moment to freshen up, just enough to make herself look less worn out.

She grabbed her phone and left the house as she and Kendrick had agreed to meet at noon.

Today, she was determined to uncover something from Kendrick. If possible, it would be ideal if the secretary also showed up. The secretary seemed to have her guard down around her.

In other words, she seemed quite naive.

## Chapter 1444 The Plan

Nicole found the shop conveniently located close to her apartment, which she assumed Kendrick had chosen with her pregnancy in mind.

She settled into a private room, taking in the surroundings and listening to the noise from outside.

"I'm sorry for the delay. I was held up at the company." Kendrick entered the room. His gaze filled with concern as he glanced at Nicole. "How far along are you?"

"Mr. Hofstead, I'm seven months along," Nicole replied with a smile, placing her phone on the table and leaning back in her chair.

"Mr. Hofstead, I've asked you here today to discuss the medical base," Nicole said, glancing at the time to gauge the appropriate moment to begin.

She hoped that Darcy would soon discover her meeting with Kendrick, providing her with an opportunity to gather information.

"Alright, Miss Anderson, please proceed," Kendrick said, closely observing Nicole's subtle movements and feeling a twinge of pain in his heart.

He was reluctant to believe that Nicole was aligned with Colton, but the current evidence seemed to suggest otherwise.

"I apologize for my absence at the base due to my pregnancy. I've been reviewing reports at home since shortly after we began collaborating," Nicole said, offering a smile as she knew she needed to say something to buy some time.

"I understand; you're pregnant, after all. You can resume your supervisory role after you've given birth and had a full month of rest."

Kendrick showed a rare smile. He pushed a glass of milk toward Nicole and paused before continuing, "Coffee and such aren't advisable during pregnancy, so I've ordered you hot milk."

Kendrick showed a rare smile. He pushed a glass of milk toward Nicole and paused before continuing, "Coffee and such aren't advisable during pregnancy, so I've ordered you hot milk."

Nicole's eyes briefly showed surprise, but she quickly regained her composure and softly responded, "Thank you."

If it weren't for Kendrick's deep-seated hostility toward Colton, perhaps they could have developed a genuine friendship. Unfortunately, their opposing stances and conflicting interests destined them to remain strangers in the end.

Despite their conversation being unrelated to Colton, both of them were aware that the other had gathered significant information. It was a subtle, unspoken acknowledgment of their mutual knowledge.

Nicole found herself at a loss for words and glanced at the time, wondering if Darcy's vigilance was truly lacking.

After seeing that Nicole had nothing more to say, Kendrick remained patient, sitting quietly and maintaining his gaze on her.

"Kendrick, why didn't you inform me you were coming here?" asked Darcy at the very moment.

Upon entering the room, Darcy noticed the pregnant Nicole sitting across from Kendrick. She slightly narrowed her eyes and immediately feigned concern toward Kendrick.

"I had a meeting with Miss Anderson today," Kendrick calmly explained. His gaze never left Darcy as he held her hand. Although his expression remained affectionate, there was a subtle hint of surprise in his eyes.

Darcy was supposed to be shopping with her sisters today. How does she manage to find this place?

If it weren't for Kendrick's ulterior motives, Nicole might have believed that Kendrick genuinely cared for Darcy.

"Better late than never. Mr. Hofstead and I have finished our discussion, so I'll take my leave." Nicole suddenly interrupted their conversation.

Upon hearing this, Kendrick quickly turned to Nicole, wondering if she had revealed their secret. However, Nicole hadn't touched her phone. How could...

Suddenly, Kendrick seemed to realize something. His eyes narrowed slightly. He hadn't expected to be caught off guard here.

"Miss Anderson, allow me to walk you out. Your current physical condition isn't very convenient, right?" As Nicole was preparing to depart, Darcy unexpectedly offered to accompany her.

Nicole stopped in her tracks. A slight smile formed on her lips as she turned to Darcy, and her expression was filled with surprise. She chuckled lightly and said, "Sure."

Kendrick furrowed his brow when he heard this, sensing the potential trouble. However, if both women were in agreement, would his intervention appear suspicious?

Chapter 1445 The Real Reason

"Kendrick, I'll walk Miss Anderson out," Darcy proposed, her smile directed at Nicole. She then turned to Kendrick, seeking his approval.

Darcy's conduct was impeccable, leaving Kendrick with no room for criticism. Even if he had any, he couldn't voice it directly.

It dawned on him that Nicole's focus this day was Darcy, not himself.

"Alright, just remember to return early," Kendrick responded with a forced smile.

He had no other option but to consent. He realized he would need to tread carefully around Darcy in the future.

With Kendrick's approval, Darcy turned and followed Nicole out. They exited one in front of the other.

Kendrick remained seated in his place. Despite being alone in the room, he seemed lost in thought, sitting quietly, his gaze fixed on the floor.

Nicole and Darcy, indeed, headed to the apartment after exiting the restaurant, walking silently the entire journey.

Darcy's mind wandered back to her earlier encounter with Chloe at the mall. Chloe had informed her that Nicole and Kendrick were at this restaurant.

Initially, Darcy was skeptical of Chloe's words, but after a brief, secluded conversation, Chloe revealed something that made her rush over.

'Do you want to know the real reason Kendrick is with you?'

Darcy had always been perplexed about why Kendrick would choose her, but she had also been in denial. However, Chloe's words stirred up her underlying unease.

Darcy had always been perplexed about why Kendrick would choose her, but she had also been in denial. However, Chloe's words stirred up her underlying unease.

"Nicole, may I address you as such?" Darcy broke the silence, her expression turning serious as she looked at Nicole.

If she didn't have feelings for Kendrick, perhaps she could be a better person now.

"Of course. You used to go by your first name, Eunice, right?" Nicole nodded, unbothered by the form of address.

"Yes." Darcy nodded, acknowledging it frankly. "Chloe mentioned something today that I can't comprehend, and I hope you can clarify it."

Nicole was slightly taken aback. Perhaps Darcy wasn't as detestable as she appeared but was merely being manipulated by Kendrick and forced to act in such a manner.

After all, how could someone who had been Kendrick's secretary for so many years be blinded by such interests?

"You've been with Kendrick for quite some time now, haven't you? If he was interested in you, why did

he only confirm his relationship with you recently and at such a critical juncture?"

Nicole spoke slowly, in Restradian, keeping the volume within earshot of both of them just in case Kendrick sent someone to eavesdrop on things he shouldn't hear.

"You may not be aware of what happened recently, but that company, after so many years, suddenly resurfaced with news. Don't you find that peculiar?" Nicole observed Darcy's expressions after each sentence, and it was quite



fortuitous that Darcy's expressions perfectly revealed what she was thinking at the moment, whether Darcy knew about it or not.

"Wait, you also know about—" Darcy stopped herself mid-sentence, hastily covering her mouth, realizing that she had reacted too surprised. However, she also understood that Nicole had already learned about Kendrick's involvement in another small company. It seemed that Kendrick was destined to fail.

"Soon, Kendrick's company will face a crisis. At that time, he will sweet-talk you into taking the blame. You can choose to assist him or not, but the information you hold can also be given to me or not," Nicole said as they stood together outside the apartment building, with no one else around, only the faint sound of the wind.

Darcy frowned slightly, her gaze fixed on Nicole, not responding immediately.

She had harbored suspicions before, but now that she was privy to some information, she found it hard to digest. Should she trust Nicole? Or, to put it another way, should she trust Kendrick?

Chapter 1446 Will We Have Children?

"Chloe has already provided you with my contact information. I've arrived. Thanks for walking me here," said Nicole. She noticed Darcy's silence but didn't press her, simply offering a gentle reminder before entering the apartment.

Darcy watched as Nicole entered the apartment but didn't leave herself. She stood there, lost in thought. She understood Nicole's implication, but she needed time to process it.

Her affection for Kendrick had always been sincere. She just hadn't anticipated that he would expect her to shoulder the blame.

If that were the case...

Darcy returned to the home they shared, gazing at the villa she had yearned for all her life, now finally hers, and was overwhelmed with a mix of emotions.

The spacious villa was occupied solely by her. Despite confirming their relationship, Kendrick had never lived there, let alone shared any intimate moments with her.

The furthest they had gone was holding hands and embracing. Nothing more.

This alone was enough to confirm that Kendrick didn't love her and that his involvement with her had ulterior motives.

Previously, she would have accepted any motive as long as she could continue living this life, but if it jeopardized her future, that would be unacceptable.

"You're back?" Kendrick slowly emerged from the kitchen, his expression unchanged as he observed the familiar figure before him.

"You're back?" Kendrick slowly emerged from the kitchen, his expression unchanged as he observed the familiar figure before him.

Darcy snapped back to reality and saw Kendrick carrying something from the kitchen to the table. "Kendrick, why are you here today?" she asked, slightly taken aback, but immediately, she realized how foolish her question sounded. She quickly shut her mouth and walked forward, with a hint of embarrassment on her face, and sat opposite Kendrick.

Externally, she appeared calm, but internally, she was a bundle of nerves, hoping that Kendrick wouldn't be upset by her words.

She realized that her love for Kendrick ran deep. Despite her usual pride, she found herself humbling in his presence.

She had never been in a relationship before. Kendrick was her first.

"Did Miss Anderson talk to you about the medical base when you walked to the apartment with her?" Kendrick asked, holding Darcy's hand and pointing toward the food on the table, saying, "This is my first attempt at cooking, so it might not be up to par. Hope you don't mind. I've been preoccupied with work and have neglected you."

A hint of guilt crossed Kendrick's face as he spoke.

Darcy nodded, a smile in her eyes that didn't quite reach her heart.

Nicole was right. Even though they weren't exactly allies, some of her words held truth.

"What's wrong? You seem a bit off today," Kendrick said, patting Darcy's hand with concern.

"Kendrick, will we ever have children of our own?" Darcy asked, shaking her head slightly, her expression serious.

Kendrick was taken aback. He hadn't expected her to ask such a question. Was it because she was moved by seeing Nicole's pregnant belly?

"Yes, we will have our own children," he replied gently, a smile on his face.

Darcy looked at Kendrick's smile, her heart aching with mixed emotions. It was a smile she had yearned for but could never attain. Now, he casually offered her this smile, but behind this smile was the expectation for her to shoulder the blame. It seemed like she was nothing more than a joke.

"Today, I saw Miss Anderson's belly, but her husband has never appeared. After all this time, I've never seen him. It must be tough for her, managing the base and the child in her belly all by herself," Darcy mused.

Although she had once fantasized about such a life, she found herself disliking the reality Nicole was living.

Chapter 1447 Sensing Something Unusual

Darcy spoke in fragments as if she was revealing some inner thoughts. When she saw Nicole's pregnant belly earlier that day, truth be told, she yearned for a child of her own with the man she loved. However, it seemed like an impossible dream now. After all, the man she loved didn't reciprocate her feelings, let alone entertain the thought of having a child with her.

Kendrick didn't interrupt her; he merely listened to Darcy in silence. He had long suspected that their conversation that day wasn't solely about children.

"Alright, Kendrick, you must be busy, and I'm feeling tired. Let's call it a day."

Darcy felt a wave of exhaustion. After mulling over certain things, she realized she could no longer interact with Kendrick as she used to.

Kendrick pursed his lips slightly, nodded in acknowledgment, and without uttering another word, he turned and left the villa.

I knew it. Darcy watched Kendrick's retreating figure and chuckled bitterly. She then turned and ascended the stairs to her room, which still bore the remnants of their time together.

Nicole returned home feeling somewhat drained. Chloe had already prepared dinner and set it on the table.

"Wow, it's quite a feast today," Nicole exclaimed as she looked at the array of her favorite dishes on the table. She hadn't expected to be greeted by such a spread upon her return.

"Yes, come and eat, but first, wash your hands." Chloe nodded, and seeing Nicole reaching out to eat,

she quickly swatted her hand away.

"Yes, come and eat, but first, wash your hands." Chloe nodded, and seeing Nicole reaching out to eat, she quickly swatted her hand away.

Nicole pouted but eventually complied and went to the bathroom to wash her hands.

For some reason, ever since she became pregnant, she had been behaving more childish. However, she didn't see it as a negative change.

"You're home early today. Didn't you go to the base after leaving the mall?" After Nicole washed her hands, she took her seat and eagerly began eating.

The food was delicious, exactly to her liking.

"I made my stance clear to her today. Now I'm just waiting for her response." Seeing Chloe looking at her, Nicole knew that she was still concerned about the situation, and she reassured her. She hoped that it would put Chloe at ease.

Isaac stood at the entrance of the medical base in Restrada, clutching a bouquet of roses, awaiting Roxanna's exit. This day, he was determined to win Roxanna's heart.

The two security guards exchanged amused glances at Isaac's obvious intentions.

Roxanna had successfully secured the investment, and Seraphina happily saw her father off before turning to Roxanna with increasing admiration.

"Alright, are you relieved now?" Roxanna asked, smiling indulgently at Seraphina's obvious happiness.

"Mm-hmm!" Seraphina responded affirmatively. Before she could say anything else, her phone buzzed with a new message.

She excused herself from Roxanna and, with her permission, turned to check her phone.

In a matter of seconds, she turned back to Roxanna with a surprised expression. "Roxanna, there's someone waiting for you outside."

Roxanna quirked a brow at Seraphina, sighed resignedly, and slowly rose to leave.

She had initially planned to retreat to her room and relax, but it seemed that was no longer an option. But who could be seeking her at this hour?

Seraphina informed Roxanna that someone was waiting for her at the main gate of the base. Roxanna yawned and headed toward the gate. She vowed never to pull an all-nighter again; it was simply too exhausting.

As she neared the gate, she noticed a man with his back to her, holding something in his hand and dressed in a well-fitted suit.

Who could it be?

A name fleetingly crossed her mind, but she quickly dismissed it. It couldn't possibly be Isaac. He couldn't possibly harbor such feelings for her.

"Excuse me, do you need something from me?" As Roxanna approached, she recognized the familiar figure, but she still couldn't bring herself to believe it was Isaac, so she had to ask.

Chapter 1448 Confession

"You may."

A familiar masculine voice abruptly echoed, causing Roxanna's heart to flutter. She gazed expectantly at the man as he slowly pivoted to face her.

The visage of Isaac materialized before her, and to her surprise, he was clutching a large bouquet of roses.

Due to her previous angle, Roxanna hadn't noticed what the man was carrying. Now that she saw it, she was taken aback.

"Isaac, what are you... What's happening?" Roxanna didn't know what to say for a moment. She had never expected Isaac to come to her with a bouquet of roses that day.

"Come with me." Isaac shook his head and said nothing more. He approached, took Roxanna's hand, and led her toward the sports car parked nearby.

Roxanna was flabbergasted. She trailed behind Isaac in a daze, only snapping back to reality once she was seated in the front passenger seat.

Just as she was about to utter something, Isaac suddenly leaned in, his handsome face looming large before her.

"Isaac."

Numerous scenarios had sprung up in Roxanna's mind, but all she saw was Isaac's slightly curved lips and the seatbelt being secured across her.

"Hmm, I'm just fastening your seatbelt. What's playing in that little head of yours? You're flushed."

Isaac flashed a mischievous grin, sat upright, and ignited the car without pressing Roxanna for a response.

Roxanna gazed at the familiar scenery ahead. Even though it was all recognizable, she felt as if she was in a dream, as if she was floating.

Roxanna gazed at the familiar scenery ahead. Even though it was all recognizable, she felt as if she was in a dream, as if she was floating.

What's happening with Isaac today? Is it what I think it is? Can it be that he found out my feelings for him and wants to thank me like this? But it's not necessary.

Roxanna's expression turned melancholic, but she didn't dare to look at Isaac's face, afraid of being disappointed.

Since meeting up, Isaac had been observing Roxanna's expressions, and in just a few minutes, he had seen her go through various emotions.

It appeared that he hadn't made his intentions sufficiently clear.

"Is there anything you feel like eating?" Isaac inquired nonchalantly, his hands on the steering wheel.

"Hmm, nothing specific. You choose." Roxanna, caught off guard, glanced at Isaac and responded softly.

Isaac detected Roxanna's lack of enthusiasm, but he wasn't perturbed. She was likely puzzled by his intentions.

That said, he found Roxanna's current state rather endearing. She was incredibly adorable.

The car halted before a floral expanse.

Roxanna was already awestruck by the sight before her. She stood before the floral expanse, clearly spotting her name and photo at the center.

"Come on." Isaac took Roxanna's hand as they walked forward.

Roxanna observed their interlocked hands and his broad back. If she still couldn't comprehend what Isaac was up to at this point, she might as well stay single forever.

He likes me...

The pair stood at the heart of the floral expanse. Isaac's lips slightly parted, and his familiar voice resonated in Roxanna's mind. She had no memory of his words.

"I like you." These three words were deeply etched in Roxanna's mind.

"Roxanna, I like you. Please be my girlfriend," Isaac whispered again when he noticed Roxanna's delayed response.

Roxanna snapped back to reality, her eyes brimming with tears. She consented with a smile, "Okay."

Amidst the floral expanse, Isaac lingered with Roxanna for an extended period.

"Were you in a bad mood yesterday because of me?" Isaac glanced at Roxanna, who was resting contentedly on his shoulder, his lips slightly curved.

Roxanna blushed in response, but Isaac kept looking at her, so she had to answer.

"Yes."

Her soft response filled Isaac with delight.

"Alright, what should we have for dinner? It's our first day together," Isaac couldn't contain his excitement any longer and openly discussed what they should eat for their special day together.

It was their first day together. He had to make it special.

Chapter 1449 Together Now

Roxanna found herself in the passenger seat of Isaac's car, her mind a whirlwind of thoughts. The fact that Isaac had just confessed his feelings to her was still sinking in. Is this all merely a dream?

She swiftly patted her cheek, hoping to jolt herself awake. If this was indeed a dream, she yearned to return to reality as soon as possible.

She had intended to bury her feelings for Isaac, but now she was dreaming about him. How was she expected to forget him now?

Isaac caught Roxanna's subtle gesture from the corner of his eye, and a tender smile graced his face.

"What are you thinking about? Dinner? Hadn't you suggested pizza? Or have you changed your mind?" Isaac asked with a smile, seemingly oblivious to Roxanna's emotional turmoil.

"Sorry?" Roxanna snapped out of her thoughts, momentarily confused.



"Don't worry about it." Isaac nodded, keeping an eye on the traffic lights ahead. He parked the car smoothly, his expression subtly shifting as he asked in a soft voice, "Shall we have pizza?"

Roxanna, oblivious to Isaac's change in expression, nodded slightly. "Yes, let's go for pizza. I used to like—hmm!" Roxanna's eyes widened in surprise as the face of the man she loved loomed closer. The warm sensation on her lips made her squirm involuntarily.

Honk, honk, honk!

The car behind them honked impatiently.

Honk, honk, honk!

The car behind them honked impatiently.

Roxanna, slightly breathless, gently pushed Isaac away. "The light's turned green."

She was already dazed by Isaac's kiss. Thankfully, the light had changed. Otherwise, she couldn't predict what else might have transpired.

Isaac pulled away reluctantly, a playful smile dancing on his lips.

Mission accomplished.

As the car began to move, Roxanna touched her slightly flushed cheek. It felt as if her face was aflame.

She stole a glance at Isaac, his playful smile in full view.

Roxanna opened her mouth as if to say something but ultimately kept it to herself.

She retrieved her phone, pondered for a while, and finally informed Nicole and Chloe that she and Isaac were now a couple.

Isaac caught a glimpse of Roxanna constantly checking her phone. He surmised that Roxanna was informing Nicole and the others about their relationship. A small smile graced his lips as he silently approved.

He would never reveal to Roxanna that Nicole and Chloe were already in the know.

Nicole was dining when she felt her phone vibrate. Seeing that it was a message from Roxanna, she quickly grabbed her phone, recalling Roxanna's mood from the previous day.

The first thing she saw was a picture of two hands tightly clasped, with a caption that read, 'Isaac and I are dating now.'

Nicole excitedly viewed the message and showed her phone to Chloe, exclaiming, "Chloe, look, they're seeing each other!"

Chloe immediately set down her cutleries and took Nicole's phone, scrutinizing the content.

"That's good, that's good. Now that Isaac is there to look after her in Restrada, I can breathe easy." Chloe's expression was neutral. She simply nodded, not saying much.

She quietly returned the phone to Nicole and resumed eating.

Nicole was aware of Chloe's concerns, but this was Roxanna's decision. Besides, Roxanna couldn't possibly remain single forever.

She had to confront this reality sooner or later.

Nicole didn't say much and simply offered silent support to Chloe.

"Nicole, have you gone through the report from the base?" Chloe seemed to recall something and

abruptly asked Nicole.

Nicole was slightly startled, but she nodded and replied, "Yes, I have. Why?"

She was puzzled as to why Chloe suddenly brought up the report. Could it be that something significant had occurred at the base?

She braced herself for any eventuality.

## Chapter 1450 Had One Too Many

"Given the recent flurry of activity at the base and the rapid progress we've made, I propose we give everyone a well-deserved break this weekend," Chloe suggested, shaking her head slightly.

The team's high motivation had expedited progress, resulting in several significant breakthroughs. That would undoubtedly free up time for other tasks in the future. Once the new recruits arrived, the pace would further accelerate.

Nicole nodded, affirming Chloe's proposal. "Alright, you handle it as you see fit. I have no objections," she said, expressing her full confidence in Chloe's managerial decisions.

She had reviewed the reports and found them impressive. Allowing everyone some downtime was indeed a wise suggestion. Balancing work and rest was crucial.

"Alright, I'll inform everyone tomorrow," Chloe replied with a smile. It had been a while since they had a regular break following the last crisis. This rest would undoubtedly rejuvenate the team's spirits.

Nicole watched Chloe's expression, relieved to see her smile return, and resumed her meal.

Wendy yawned and rose from her bed. To gather useful information for Nicole over the past couple of days, she had been aligning her routine with Colton's, which was grueling, with only three hours of sleep. His relentless pace also affected Beryl, who was often dragged along.

Whenever they were together, information flowed ceaselessly, and Wendy found herself compelled to listen.

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listen.

She sighed quietly. The past couple of days had been critical, and both Colton and Beryl had finally gotten some sleep, allowing her to do the same.

Ding.

Wendy ruffled her disheveled hair and picked up her phone. It was a message from Beryl.

'Get up and come to my room.'

Despite her confusion, Wendy knew Beryl must have a reason for summoning her. She freshened up and headed to Beryl's room.

"You're here. Come in," Beryl greeted her at the door plainly.

"Yeah, what's up?" Wendy nodded, walking past Beryl to find Colton sprawled on the bed.

"My brother..." She pointed at Colton, her nose wrinkling at the strong smell of alcohol.

"He had one too many," Beryl admitted, looking at Colton with a hint of exasperation. He had intended to share a few drinks with Colton, but he had gotten drunk quickly. His tolerance for alcohol seemed to be diminishing.

"Why did you call me here then? Though I have to keep an eye on him and make sure he doesn't get intoxicated, I can't stop him either when he drank with you yesterday," Wendy retorted, her frown deepening. She couldn't believe her brother had managed to get wasted while she was asleep.

"No, I just wanted to discuss where we should dine out tonight. It's been a while since we've had a meal together," Beryl quickly changed the subject to avoid Wendy's lecture, especially when she started scolding.

"Why didn't you say so earlier?" Wendy rolled her eyes at Beryl, always finding his communication style somewhat breathless.

She sighed and began searching for nearby restaurants. It had indeed been a long time since she had dined out with her brother. The last time they had done so, they had bumped into Nicole.

Sigh. Wendy sighed again, her thoughts drifting to Colton and Nicole's complicated relationship.

Beryl looked toward the young woman, wondering why she sighed for no reason. But very quickly, he realized it likely had to do with Colton and Nicole.

"Have you decided yet?"

