Skeletons Of The Marital Closet by Wen Tang Tang Chapter 851 - 860

Chapter 851

Shawn asked, "You are so high up. The sea is so deep, and the sky is so dark... Galey, aren't you afraid?"

"Didn't you have the slightest fear?"

"Didn't you flinch a little?"

Gale replied, "I was afraid. But compared to this little physical fear, what I'm more afraid of is that I will be trapped by your side and lose my freedom forever. I will become a canary that lives in your cage."

"It's because you didn't let go in time that I let you bear such fear..."

"As soon as you close your eyes, it's just like that. It only takes a few seconds."

Shawn's voice trembled a little. "What about the child? Galey, you're still pregnant with the child...

Did she ever think that maybe this jump would lead to the loss of the child?

Fortunately, the mother and daughter are safe, they were lucky

Gale replied, "I took a gamble. If I succeed, I will be permanently free If I lose, the worst is that I will maintain my original life and stay by your side"

Took a gamble, and there was still hope

However, looking back today, did Gale win?

Not at all.

She still came back to Sea City

Shawn rested his chin on her shoulder. So, the candlelight dinner on the yacht was deliberately arranged by you. You smiled so sweetly and beautifully at me on purpose. You know that you will leave me soon. You started acting like a baby in front of me for the first time...

At that time, he thought that he was in a boundless romance.

He was the happiest man.

His lover was so charming.

However, it turned out that it was just a ploy...

What awaited him was a severe pain that lasted four years!

"Shawn, I can only take risks like this to get the chance to leave you. But now, I'm in your arms, and we

still meet. You are always so effortless, you get everything you want," Gale replied.

"Effortless?"

Shawn smiled deeply. The helplessness in his laughter was so obvious.

All his hair turned white overnight.

In the past four years, he has never had a full night's sleep. He went to her grave every night.

He was like a walking dead, and he lived without purpose.

If it were not for the identity of the head of the Wood family, if it were not for the fear that Grandpa would not be able to bear it, Shawn would have left this world with Gale long ago.

What supported him to survive was the responsibility on his shoulders.

When Shawn settled everything in the Wood Group, he would definitely die to accompany Gale.

Without any hesitation!

He had already arranged most of the arrangements.

If Gale had not returned, Shawn's next step would be to use the genes of his half-brother, find another woman, and make a test-tube baby to be the next heir of the wood Group.

He was already looking for... Well, he thought that woman could be Winnie!

It was just that Gale's appearance disrupted all his plans!

Shawn replied, "If you say it doesn't take much effort, then it doesn't take much effort... Galey, I really didn't expect you and Aurum to have such a deep friendship."

Even deeper than her childhood sweetheart Sam!

"Why does Aurum do his best to help you? Huh?" He subconsciously pressed her waist.

This was where Gale's birthmark was located, and it was also where she was very sensitive!

Gale straightened her back. "Don't do that..."

"Answer my question. Aurum took such a big risk to help you. What is he trying to achieve?"

Chapter 852

Once he found out that Aurum was manipulating behind the scenes, he definitely wanted to make the entire Lefting family pay the price!

Aurum was betting the entire Lefting family!

However, how long have Gale and Aurum known each other? How long have they met?

"He..." Gale raised his head and looked into Shawn's eyes. "If I told you, I don't know, would you believe

me?"

"No."

"Aurum mentioned a reason. He said that the first time he saw me, he thought I felt very familiar, like an old friend of his. But he can't see that friend anymore, so he owed that person, and wanted to make it up

to me."

Gale was telling the truth, but she did not tell Shawn that this friend was the missing real daughter of the Yarn family.

Shawn narrowed his eyes slightly.

Old friend?

This reason... sounded too absurd.

"Aurum really said that." Gale added hastily, "I am also very puzzled, because I have a feeling that he is willing to help me like this... I also owe him a lot."

"In the past four years, have you been in touch with him?"

She shook her head. "No! Wouldn't it be easy for you to find out if he had contacted me?"

Gale was very afraid that he would think of Molly and Joshua, so she quickly changed the subject. "Aurum doesn't even know where I was, and I don't live in one fixed place."

Shawn put his arms around her waist. "Galey."

"What... what's wrong?"

Gale was still quite nervous. She should not have missed anything, right?

This man was too shrewd!

"Do you still remember what I said about the last place where Winnie disappeared near Aurum's house?"

She nodded. "I remember."

"Is there a possibility that Aurum and Winnie..."

As soon as Shawn opened his mouth, Gale denied it without hesitation. "Impossible, Aurum is absolutely not the man to do such a thing!"

"However, the last time Winnie appeared was near his house."

Gale strongly promised, "This has absolutely nothing to do with Aurum, and he wouldn't help Winnie. It's just a coincidence!"

She has a thousand percent trust in Aurum!

Aurum knew all her secrets!

Although Shawn did not doubt Aurum, he was just telling a fact, but Gale's trust and support made him...

Jealous.

"If you can trust me the same way you trusted him, that would be enough. Even if it were a little less than him, it would be alright." Shawn sighed deeply.

"Aurum never did anything to hurt me, I'm sorry."

What about Shawn?

All her injuries and pains were basically thanks to him!

Shawn's eyes suddenly became extremely serious. "Galey, from now on, can you trust me like you trust Aurum? No matter what I do or say, you will always stand by my side, always know that I will not really hurt you, will not leave you and betray you?"

He wanted to know her answer.

Because...

The method Shawn thought of to wake Nicole would hurt Gale!

So when the time comes, can she trust him a little bit?

His heart suddenly twitched, and he felt pain spread little by little, making him slightly upset.

Chapter 853

He was the one who loved her the most, and he had never given less than Aurum!

Soon, Shawn twitched the corner of his mouth bitterly. "I'm too greedy... How can I be so strict with you."

The encounter between him and her started in the name of harm!

Gale raised her hand and stroked his face lightly. "Shawn, you and Aurum are always two different people. He is my best friend. And you and I…"

Were they lovers?

She felt a surge of emotion. She wanted to say that they were destined for each other.

Gale did not continue talking.

Their lips met.

At this moment, the atmosphere was intense, and both of their breathing became short.

They obviously love each other deeply from the bottom of their hearts, but there was too much history, and there was no way to truly just be with each other.

Shawn would not marry again.

Gale... well, she was impossible to remarry.

This kiss was delicate and infinitely tender.

There was no usurpation, no wild encroachment, only two people who could not express love but loved each other, conveying their deepest love for each other through this deep kiss.

The silence spoke for itself.

Gale has felt Shawn's kiss many times.

Never once had she felt his tenderness and pity so clearly.

Gale could not help thinking, if there was no family feud when he and she met for the first time, then...

She would be the happiest woman in Sea City.

When the two lips parted, Shawn still reluctantly pecked lightly. "Galey..."

She turned her head away.

She responded to him just now, but now that she thought about it, she could not help being shy again.

Gale's skin was not as thick as his.

"Come back to work. Shawn caressed her face lightly. "If you have something to do, you won't always focus on Nicole, and you won't feel the torment of life."

"Go back to the jewelry department?"

"Right."

Gale frowned slightly. "Is this appropriate?"

The current chief designer was Peach, who was also cultivated and promoted by her.

If she came back, where should Peach be?

"As long as you want to come back, I can start to arrange for it. You don't need to put too much pressure on me, I just want you to have something to do. And... Your design talent shouldn't be wasted." Shawn pursed his lips deeply.

Gale thought for a while, "I'll go and meet Peach."

She still had to consider Peach's situation and feelings.

It had been a long time since she went back. Although she has been paying attention to the brand, she did not know how her former colleagues were doing now.

"Okay. Lovito will always welcome you."

Gale got up and walked out. Shawn's eyes followed her until the door opened and closed.

He raised his hand and wiped the corner of his mouth lightly.

Her smell.

Shawn's slightly raised lips slowly pursed, and the look in his eyes gradually became stern.

There was no tenderness at all.

For Galey, for Nicole, he must start to act.

Although he would suffer a lot of misunderstandings, this was the only way he could go so far.

He shouted loudly, "Fiona!"

"Yes, Mr. Wood."

As soon as Gale left, Fiona stood by the door, waiting.

After following Mr. Wood for so many years, she had the foresight.

Fiona asked, "What's your order? I've already informed Lovito that she will be heading over."

Chapter 854

Shawn showed a satisfied expression.

He picked up the cigarette case and asked softly, "What's the situation with Nicole now?"

"She is kept under surveillance. Winnie is acting normally, there is no abnormality, she... indeed is doing. her best to take care of Ms. Nicole. Basic food, housing, transportation, every detail, there is no sign of abuse," Fiona replied.

"Assuming she still has some brains."

Once Winnie dared to harm her, Shawn would never forgive her!

If she dared to touch Nicole, he would cut off one of her fingers in the future!

Shawn asked again, "No more? Did you find anything wrong with Winnie?"

"Mr. Wood... She behaved very normally, changing her medicine, cooking, and reading story books to Ms. Nicole."

"Cooking? She cooks for Nicole?"

"Yes, Mr. Wood."

Shawn's eyes narrowed deeply. "What did she cook?"

Fiona said, "They're all home-cooked dishes... Oh yes, Winnie made soup for Ms. Nicole every day, and made Ms. Nicole drinks a small bowl every morning, noon, and evening. Mr. Wood, I was going to report

this matter to you."

Hmm, the ingredients for the soup were from Aurum.

Gale also made soup before.

How did Winnie know there were ingredients in the ward, and she also took the initiative to make soup so that Nicole could drink it?

A clue finally showed up!

Shawn had always doubted Aurum, but Gale had always believed in him unswervingly.

However, he felt that even if it was not Aurum, the whole incident must have something to do with him!

"Hmm." Shawn played with the lighter in his hand. "It's time, let me meet Winnie."

Fiona was thoughtful and knew him very well, so she immediately asked, "Mr. Wood, have you thought of a way to make Ms. Nicole regain her sobriety?"

Shawn gave him a deep look.

"Mr. Wood, what can I do for you?"

"You don't have to do anything. Just do what you have been doing..."

Fiona was a little puzzled. "Do you want to act alone?"

Shawn said, "You don't need to ask any more questions."

He thought of a way last night, but he kept hesitating.

After meeting Gale today, he had made a decision.

He would risk everything for his wife, for his daughter...

He did not care if everyone misunderstood him!

Shawn looked out the window deeply.

As the saying goes, 'If you don't enter the tiger's den, how can you find tiger cubs?"

The first thing was to figure out what kind of demon possessed her.

Treat the cause, not the symptom.

However, only Winnie knew the cause of the disease!

Then, Shawn would start approaching Winnie step by step, make her drop her guard, find out her methods, find out the person behind it, and then directly catch them all!

How to get close to Winnie?

Very simple.

Give her what she wants.

Winnie wants Shawn's love and wants to stand by Shawn's side!

Then, Shawn will fulfill her!

There was only one way to deal with Winnie.

Shawn closed his eyes.

What he was most worried about was not that he would act affectionately in front of Winnie but what Gale would do about it.

What will Galey think, seeing that he and Winnie are inseparable, sweet and loving, and even defending Winnie?

She would be sad.

Or she would feel... that she should never have loved him.

Chapter 855

"Galey, don't misunderstand me, don't hate me. Please be sure to trust me from the beginning to the end," Shawn said to himself.

In the jewelry department.

Looking at the signboard at the door, Gale felt a long-lost intimacy.

This was the career she had worked hard for and struggled for. Now, Lovito had become a proper brand, and it had become jewelry that many female consumers wanted to have most!

Every time Lovito had a new launch, it would break the consumption record!

Peach ran over happily. "Gale! Welcome back!"

She hugged Gale.

"I miss you so much. Gale, you are here!"

Facing Peach's enthusiasm, Gale did not know how to respond. "I...

"Needless to say, we understand, we all understand!"

Immediately afterward, there was a bang, and countless shiny ribbons flew in the air, landing on Gale's

hair and shoulders.

Peach immediately jumped up, waving his hands. "Today is a good day!"

All the colleagues in the jewelry department stood up from their workstations and applauded Gale's arrival.

Summer came over with a bouquet of flowers. "Gale, I knew you would still come!"

"Of course, she is the proprietress, after all. Not just Lovito, the entire Wood Group belongs to her," Joe said.

"Um… It's Shawn's."

"If you ask him, won't he give it?"

Summer bumped Joe with her elbow. "Can we not mention Shawn on such a happy day?"

"Okay, okay."

Peach said enthusiastically, "Gale, your work station has been kept and hasn't been touched. Starting today, it has an owner again!"

Gale looked up.

Everything was exactly the same as before.

As if she had never left, as if the past four years were just a big dream.

"Peach, if I go back to the jewelry department, then you..."

"I'm still your subordinate. I was just temporarily serving as the chief designer for you!" Peach said.

She was very open-minded and did not care about the level of the position.

In her heart, Gale was her idol!

How could she haggle over every detail with her own mentor!

Seeing her being so open-minded, Gale laughed. "Silly, you have been sitting in this position for four years, how could I take it as soon as I came back?"

"No, I took yours."

Summer interrupted, "Okay, okay, let's not dally further. Listen to me! Gale, you are in charge of designing jewelry styles, don't worry about other chores. Peach, continue to do your job well, nothing has changed!" Peach stuck out her tongue playfully. "Yes! Mamm!"

Summer made a gesture as if she was about to knock her on the head. "What did you call me?"

"Sorry, it's just Summer." Peach immediately dropped the honorifics, dodging away. "Hurry up, cut the cake!"

Gale kept laughing.

She had not been this happy in a long time.

Lovito gave her a sense of the ritual of returning.

It was the flowers, ribbons, cannons, and cakes.

"Gale..." When no one was paying attention, Joe walked to her side, his voice lowered. "What exactly are you planning?"

"Mr. Winter."

Chapter 856

"Let's stop being vague. I won't talk about Nicole's situation now, but what about Joshua?" Joe was straightforward.

"He's here."

Joe was very surprised. "What? He... you, you brought him?"

"It's a long story. He lives in Aurum's house now, and no one knows that he is my son," Gale replied.

"What?"

Gale was speechless.

Joe coughed. "You have to think about it for me. Shawn and I have been brothers for so many years. We have been through life and death. I face him every day, but I keep lying to him. I feel uncomfortable."

He had helped Gale a lot.

As a result, every time he saw Shawn, he felt very guilty.

He did not dare to complain as much as before.

"Let's not talk about Joshua first. I still feel guilty toward Shawn about you jumping into the sea and feigning death. I could have told him in advance, but I concealed it, which caused you to be apart from him for four years."

As he said that, Joe made a gesture of wiping his neck. "That man, Shawn, is a smart one who hates. traitors. You are not dead, he more or less guessed that something is wrong. When the time comes, he will check and I will die!"

Gale patted him on the shoulder. "Don't worry, you won't die."

"Are you going to save me? Cover me?"

"Because, I have already told Shawn."

Joe was almost choked to death by his own saliva. "What did you say!?"

He could not restrain himself all of a sudden, and his voice raised unconsciously.

It attracted several colleagues next to him to look over.

Joe coughed and waved his hands. "It's nothing, I am just discussing something with her."

Gale replied, "I've already confessed to Shawn that Aurum helped me with the whole truth about jumping into the sea from the beginning to the end. I didn't mention you, as long as you don't tell him, he would never know. He won't know that you're hiding it from him."

The amount of information was a large bit.

Joe was stunned again.

Confessed?

Gale confessed everything?

Even Aurum?

"Then Shawn now... Isn't it a bomb? Of course, he will definitely not blow it up in front of you. Once you leave, I guess the entire Wood family will be shocked. I'm going to suffer," Joe asked tentatively.

"He won't blow up, he said he doesn't care, not going to pursue it, not going to care."

Joe pinched himself. "Am I dreaming? Has Shawn already opened up his mind to such a level? Is this still the one I know?"

"In short, Joe, you can always rest assured that the matter of my jumping into the sea has nothing to do with you. I will never out you."

Joe touched his chin.

"This matter is completely overturned. But, Boss..."

"Just call me Gale."

It sounded weird.

Joe looked at her. "You came back with Nicole, and you hid Joshua again... I also know about it. I'm still hiding this from Shawn! My second offense!"

Joe was a little jealous, thinking of Shawn having both sons and daughters.

Shawn was already a father with two children, and his wife was by his side. Why was he still a loner!

Unfair!

"I really have to ask you to keep it a secret for me. You have seen Nicole's current situation. She is only a girl, and she has already been successfully manipulated. If others know that Shawn still has a son, think how many people will come after Joshua! How much danger would Joshua be in!"

"Makes sense..."

Chapter 857

Gale sighed and said, "So, I can't expose Joshua to others for the time being. No matter how smart he is, he is just a child and has no ability to protect himself. Of course, there is also my selfishness in it. I don't want... Joshua to return to the Wood family, and no longer belong to me."

Joe nodded. "I understand... Hey, okay, I will play it by ear."

"Thank you, Mr. Winter."

"But you have to promise me, in the future, if Shawn knows these things, you have to cover for me, you must cover for me."

Gale smiled helplessly. "Yes, yes, Mr. Winter, how can I have the heart to call you out?"

Only then did Joe nod contentedly. "Okay, I'll go and see Joshua when I have time, his little devil... Is quite interesting!"

After all, Joshua really has some Shawn genes in him!

Like father, like son!

Summer greeted, "Gale, come here. The cake is here. I'm waiting for you to make the first cut!"

"Come, come, come!"

Gale walked over with a smile, blew out the candles, divided the cake piece by piece, and gave it to her colleagues around her.

The jewelry department has a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.

"You know, the jewelry department is directly managed by Mr. Wood. In the past four years, everyone has been depressed, and the work has been intense. Now that Gale is back, everything will be different!"

Mr. Wood still has to listen to Mrs. Wood!

Brighter days were coming!

The jewelry department was as lively as a New Year party, making other departments envious.

Everyone used to sympathize with them, but now... fate turned!

No one noticed that in the corner of the corridor, Shawn put one hand in the pocket of his trousers and quietly looked at Gale, who was surrounded by everyone.

She was laughing.

He rarely saw such a sincere smile on her face.

He hoped that returning her to Lovito could make her condition better, have something to do and someone to accompany her.

Be it Peach or Summer. They were all her friends.

"Mr. Wood, don't you... don't you want to go in?" Fiona said from the side.

"No."

If he went, it would only spoil the atmosphere and make everyone uncomfortable. Why bother?

"Prepare the car and go to the hospital." Shawn turned around and strode away.

"Yes, Mr. Wood."

Outside the hospital ward, there were several bodyguards standing upright, with their hands behind their backs, wearing earphones, and looking around for any suspicious persons.

Until the footsteps of leather shoes hitting the ground sounded.

Shawn was dressed in a gray suit, his eyes were cold, and his steps were steady.

"Mr. Wood!" the bodyguards shouted respectfully.

He nodded slightly, opened the door without looking sideways, and entered the ward.

Just after Nicole finished the infusion drips, the nurse took the needle.

Winnie comforted her beside her, "Be strong, it won't hurt at all, it will be very fast. Close your eyes, don't look at it, just for a second..."

Nicole tilted her head, closed her eyes tightly, and her eyelashes trembled. "Ms. Nurse, can you hurry up and take it out?"

"Okay, Ms. Nicole, don't move..."

Shawn took his steps lightly and stood quietly at the end of the hospital bed.

When the needle was pulled out, Nicole's small body trembled, and Winnie immediately hugged her in her arms. "Okay, the needle is out, Nicole is awesome, it doesn't hurt right!"

Chapter 858

"Nicole said, "Mum, am I very brave?"

"Yes, Nicole is the bravest."

Shawn looked at this scene indifferently.

Winnie treated Nicole well, but it was all staged, because she could get everything she wanted by controlling Nicole.

He wanted to see how long Winnie could act

Nicole just spotted him and said, "Huh, Dad? Why are you here? Are you alone?"

Nicole looked around curiously.

She was looking for that aunt who looked like Mommy

After confirming that Shawn was the only one, Nicole said. "Daddy, you won't see that vixen again, will you?"

"Nicole, pay attention to your language

"She's a vixen! If you're with her again, I really won't talk to you anymore

Shawn's eyes darkened.

Winnie tried to smooth things over 'Nicole is a child who doesn't know what she is saying Mr Wood,

don't take it too seriously

"Didn't you teach her to say that?"

Otherwise, Nicole has always been well-behaved and measured when speaking It was impossible for Gale to teach her such words!

Nicole blinked. "Daddy, you should stay with Mommy, don't make her angry, don't make her sad Our family is happy, okay?"

Shawn walked up to her and patted her head "Nicole.

Although he only called her name, his tone was full of tiredness.

"Daddy, I like you very much. I don't want to quarrel with you" Nicole raised her head and let him pet her obediently. "But, I also like Mommy very much. If you have to be with either Mommy or Daddy, if I had to choose one, I would choose Mommy."

"It's just that Mommy is working hard. I can't leave her, and she can't live without me."

"I really hate you for hurting Mommy all the time. Dad, why can't you live happily and lovingly with Mommy. like before?"

As he said that, Nicole tugged at the corner of his clothes. "You used to hug Mommy to sleep, but after my operation, you and Mommy never held hands again."

From Nicole's point of view, Dad just quarreled with Mommy. The cold war broke out, and they did not love each other anymore.

Winnie was her favorite mommy.

The vixen snatched away her father and left Mommy alone in the empty room.

"I always thought that after I had the operation, I recovered and my family could live happily together. I didn't expect..."

Nicole pursed her mouth.

Shawn listened quietly without saying a word.

Nicole turned to look at Winnie. "Mommy..."

"What are you talking about to Daddy?" Winnie pretended to be considerate and generous. "He is busy with work and has a lot of things to do. He just came from the company and is tired. Nicole, don't trouble him."

"Then have you been wronged all the time? Mommy, I saw you holding your mobile phone several times and wanted to call Dad, but you never called."

"This is between Daddy and Mommy. Don't worry about it, Nicole."

Nicole shook her head. "Only when Mommy and Daddy are happy, can I be healthy."

What else did Winnie say? Shawn pushed her away, bent down, and hugged Nicole.

Nicole did not want him to hug him very much and struggled a few times.

"Nicole." Shawn hugged her firmly. "From now on... You won't see me appearing in front of you with that woman you hate."

Nicole's eyes lit up. "Really?"

"When has Daddy lied to you?"

Chapter 860

She felt crazy jealousy to the extreme!

Although Nicole called her mother, and even though Nicole was worried that she would be tired and painful after giving birth, in essence, everything she enjoyed now belonged to Gale!

Why could Gale have such a cute and obedient daughter!?

Winnie opened her mouth, unable to answer for a long time.

Shawn asked in a low voice, "Does Nicole want younger siblings?"

She nodded.

Shawn asked again, "You want to, but you're afraid that Mommy will have a hard time giving birth, right?"

She continued to nod.

Shawn deeply hooked the corners of his lips. Gale's love for Nicole was unreserved.

Nicole's love for Gale had always been there.

It was just that she was confused, and she had transferred all her love to Winnie.

"Daddy won't have any more children. It's enough to have you," Shawn said.

Nicole blinked and looked at Winnie. "But, just now, Mommy said that she still wants to have a baby..

"Yes, yes, I want to have a baby. Nicole, Mommy is not afraid of pain or hard work, Winnie answered immediately.

Nicole tilted her head and thought for a while. "Well, as long as Mommy and Daddy are willing to have a baby, I have no objection!"

Winnie breathed a sigh of relief.

She was waiting for this sentence!

She could not let Nicole object to her having a baby!

Although Nicole was now her amulet and a crutch for her to climb to the heights of power, it was only

temporary.

Who knew when Nicole suddenly woke up?

Winnie must find a way to give birth to a child for Shawn, a child that belonged to her!

Only in this way could she truly stand firm!

Even if she did not become Mrs. Wood in the end, she still would have no worries about food and clothing. Women are only valuable with children!

"I'll cook Mr. Wood, why don't we eat here for lunch? Nicole also said that it's been a long time since we had lunch together," Winnie said.

"Yes, yes, Daddy, let's have a good meal together as a family!"

Shawn nodded deeply. "Okay."

Winnie was so happy that she almost lost her way.

It seemed that her provocative plan was very successful.

Shawn and Gale seemed like they were arguing fiercely now, especially since Gale has a stubborn temper, never willing to admit her mistakes easily, which angered Mr. Wood!

Then, she would take advantage of this time to try her best to curry favor with Mr. Wood and keep him by

her side!

Heh, as far as Gale's ability was concerned, it was because of good luck that she attracted Mr. Wood.

There were still methods and skills in how men and women get along. Winnie thought as long as she was given a certain amount of time, she could definitely win over Mr. Wood!

Looking at the back of Winnie, busy in the kitchen, Shawn's eyes darkened.

He saw her making soup again.

He watched as Winnie took the ingredients out carefully as if she had a treasure and put it into a pot of

simmering soup.

"Nicole, do you think Mommy treats you well from the time you had the operation to now?" Shawn asked

in a low voice.

Nicole nodded without hesitation. "Very good."

"Is there any difference from before?"

Nicole immediately shook her head again. "No!"

"Are you sure? Nicole, think about it."