

"I'm off to bed as well," Nicole placed her cutlery down and made her way to one of the bedrooms.

Jared followed Nicole with the thought of sharing the bed with her, but she whirled around and glared at him upon entering the room.

"I wish to sleep alone tonight. There should be other rooms prepared for you, as you are a regular here."

After saying that, she slammed the door in his face. Jared stood in front of the door of Nicole's room with a frown. Her sudden outburst had left him puzzled.

'She was fine earlier when we were having dinner, so I wonder, what caused the sudden shift in her mood?' He knocked on the door, but as nobody answered, he had to make do with the other rooms for the night.

The next morning, after bidding goodbye to Uncle Ronnie, Jared drove Nicole back to the villa, with Carl departing for his hotel.

As they drove, Nicole kept looking out the window, not wishing to speak to Jared. He glanced at her and said, "Did you sleep well last night?"

"Yeah I did."

Nicole offered a faint reply without making eye contact.

Noticing that she did not turn around, he pressed on.

"Why did you ride so far out yesterday?"

When the topic was brought up, the mental image of Jared and Fiorella together in the cart surfaced, and her fury sprung to life.

"The scenery was breathtaking," Nicole said with her voice raised.

Jared knew that she was unhappy, but he did not specifically know why.

"The next time I visit that place, I'll take you there," he replied.

"I've already seen it once. I don't wish to see it again."

Nicole blurted out bluntly, as they were the only people in the car.

"It is okay, next time, I'll take you to a place with a better view." Nicole smiled in an attempt to lighten the mood, regardless of how angry Jared was.

"Where are you going?" Nicole asked upon noticing that they were not headed in the direction of the Sea View Villa.

"Back to my place."

"I wish to go to the Sea View Villa to visit my grandma. If you return to the villa, pull over and leave me at the side of the road."

Nicole said, not wanting to go back there for the time being. She needed a change in scenery for a few days in order to recuperate, and ease the tension between the both of them.

In response, he darted her a glance and said, "Okay, I'll take you to your grandma's."

Instead of facing him, she glared at him from the corner of her eye.

Soon after, the car pulled up in front of the Sea View Villa, and Nicole was about to get off the car when Jared noticed that she still did not want to talk to him.

He stopped her, "Nicole, I'll pick you up later tonight."

"There will be no need for that. I'll be staying here for a few days."

After having said that, Nicole got out of the car and stormed off to the gate, with Jared watching her in a state of confusion.

'What have I done to upset her?' He clenched the steering wheel and took along breath, whereupon he floored the accelerator and left the Sea View Villa.

Jared was still in a daze, even after he had arrived in his office, working on something at his desk. It was then that Max walked in.

"Mr. Johnston, as requested, these are the documents detailing the money that had been spent."

Max placed the documents in front of him.

"What have you uncovered?"

Jared looked at him and asked.

"A lot of the funds have been withdrawn under the pretense that they would be used for important projects, but in actuality, none of these projects were real or have been carried out," Max reported.

"Have you found out who was the one who had applied for them?"

Jared eyed Max with a solemn look on his face.

"They were all applied by Murphy Johnston."

Jared slammed the documents on the table, "It seems that the father and son duo are up to no good."

"What do you want me to do?"

"There is no need to do anything just yet. For now, we'll let him have it, but once this quarter of the year is over, we'll make him answer for the grand total that he has embezzled," he said, as his eyes glinted with a spark.

'If you are going to embezzle from the Johnston Group, you better be competent enough to do so'

[MY WIFE IS A HACKER BY SUMMER](#)

"How was your trip to the hospital?"

"It was alright. The chairman is having a speedy recovery, and I can see that he is feeling much better now," Max reported.

"That's good, but I need you to be vigilant."

"Certainly."

"By the way, have you found Conrad?"

"I'm afraid not," Max said.

"The man I've hired for the job hasn't returned, but I'm pretty sure we'll hear from him soon."

"Give him a call, so that we have an idea of what's going on," Jared ordered.

"Yes, Mr. Johnston."

As soon as Max took his phone out, the person whom he was about to call sent him a text message.

"I had Conrad secured and was about to bring him back to us, but I was assaulted by someone I couldn't recognize. We were both captured and thrown into a warehouse where they sliced my tongue. I was released, but I think they've taken Conrad away by now."

"Do you know where they're taking him? Have you managed to identify them?" Max texted back with his brows furrowed.

"No, they were all wearing masks," the man replied.

"They released me after they've sliced my tongue off, but I think the person who roughed me up had a pentagram tattoo on his arm. The other one looked

like a ringleader of some sort.He was wearing a suit and a pair of expensive Leonardo shoes."

"Retrieve your tongue from the warehouse and get it reattached,"ισνελεβσσκ.φσmMax advised.

"Then, go home and recuperate.I'll transfer the money to your bank account in a while."

After replying to that man's text messages, Max turned to face Jared with a solemn look.

"What happened?" Jared asked with his brows creased.

"One of our men just sent me a text, telling me that he was assaulted when he had finally managed to get his hands on Conrad.As for the latter, he is now being taken to God-knows-where.Our man got his tongue cut off too, but they released him.Thankfully, he was very observant.His attacker had a pentagram tattoo and the person who appears to be the one who had hired him was wearing a suit and Leonardo shoes," Max reported the entire incident to Jared.

Jared clenched his fists in anger.

"That pentagram tattoo and Leonardo shoes again.Here is the first order of business.Make sure that our man is well taken care of, and get some money transferred to him.Then, follow the lead that he has given us.I want to know who these two men are."

"Yes, Mr.Johnston."

"Be sure to get more people in for the job this time."

"Yes, Mr.Johnston."

"By the way, is there anything urgent for me to take care of in the office today?" Jared looked at Max and queried.

"No."

"Very well, In which case, you'll be following me to the hospital," Jared ordered.

"Yes, Mr.Johnston," Max replied.

Back in the Sea View Villa, Nicole was taking a rest in the bedroom when her phone buzzed as she received a message from Ike.

"Are you busy right now, Miss Riddle? Our research and development term has begun working on their tasks for quite some time now.Will you be able to pay us a visit anytime soon?"

Nicole was rather delighted to have received Ike's message.

"Hello, Ike.I have a lot on my plate right now, but I'll definitely be seeing you some other time.Besides, I really want to know your progress."

"Sure, we'll bring you over whenever you're available," Ike replied.

"We're already done with our initial preparations, so we're now moving onto the developmental phase in small teams."

"You're really quick and efficient.By the time I'm there, you've all probably already made tons of progress" she responded.

[MY WIFE IS A HACKER BY SUMMER](#)

Chapter 1109

"Fingers crossed.I hope you'll be able to pay us a visit soon."

"Sure, all the best to you!"

A smile crossed her face as she did not expect Ike to be this excited to see her.

Jared opened the door to his grandfather's ward and walked in as the physician was administering the routine check-up on his grandfather.

"Mr. Johnston," the doctor greeted.

"How is my grandfather doing?" Jared asked.

"His condition is improving in a slow and stable way, which is good."

"Okay, but how long will it take for him to recover from being bedridden?"

"Most likely in two months or so. Besides, it's advisable for him to get as much rest as he can, so that he achieve a faster recovery," the doctor advised.

"Thank you very much, doctor," Jared said.

"How's the company doing right now, Jared?"

Mr. Johnston Sr. asked. It had been some time since Maximillian last enquired about the company, and so, it was only natural that he was concerned about it as soon as he could muster the energy to do so.

As much as he knew that Jared was more than capable of managing everything well, he could not help but miss his company.

Jared noticed that his grandfather had made mentions the company multiple times, and so, he figured that he should offer him a few trivial updates to put him at ease.

For starters, The Beacon factory that we've invested in is achieving progress at a steady pace and has begun mass-production now.

"Oh, I didn't expect it to make this much progress while I'm in the hospital!"

Maximillian's eyes widened.

"Thank you for your hard work, Jared."

"No, it is my duty," ισνελεβσσκ.φσm Jared replied humbly.

Maximillian nodded with satisfaction and smiled at him.

"It seems that I've made the right decision by entrusting the company to you.

"What about the sister company that your uncle is managing? Did anything go amiss?"

Maximillian asked, as he was well aware of Henry's capabilities and disposition, and that was why he had only allowed him to manage the subsidiary company.

"No, he has been conducting himself appropriately these days, but there aren't many projects going on in his company," Jared lied, knowing that he needed to conceal the truth from Maximillian.

Maximillian would nag, but his concern would not lead up to the point where he was furious at Henry.

"I knew it. He was fortunate enough to land himself a partnership, so I'm not even expecting him to have his hands on a large number of projects," the old man said.

Maximillian was rather upset when he scolded Henry. However, he was not angry, as he had already anticipated that something like this would occur.

"Don't get mad at him, grandpa," Jared said.

"You should be taking good care of your health right now. That's all that matters."

"Alright, I won't be aggrieved. I'll just forget about it once I'm done complaining. I have nothing to worry about as long as you're around."

Maximillian looked at Jared with a smile.

"By the way, why isn't Nicole with you today?" Maximillian asked.

Jared had to lie about this again, and thus, he said, "Nicole was out riding horses at Uncle Ronnie's racecourse, but the wind triggered a headache in her.

That's why she is unable to pay you a visit today.

"Oh, ask her to take good care of herself, even when she's out having fun," Maximillian said, his tone full of concern.

"I was the one who hasn't really been taking good care of her.I'll get her some medication later," Jared said, starting to feel guilty as he recalled the incident last night.

"Jared, I'm not trying to intrude, but you can't neglect Nicole's feelings.I know you've been breaking your back for the company, but you must still make time for her.Don't make her feel lonely, alright?" Maximillian reminded him.

"Yes, I understand, grandpa.Anyway, you've been sitting up for quite some time now.Aren't you tired?" Jared asked, concerned about his grandfather.

"Iam, actually," Maximillian replied.

"Just lay me down so that I can catch some rest, please.Anyway, you should go back to work now.I'll be sleeping soon, so you won't have to sit around to keep me company anymore."

[MY WIFE IS A HACKER BY SUMMER](#)

Chapter 1110

"Sure, please rest well, grandpa.I'm leaving now, so I'll pay you a visit as soon as I can," Jared said, after which he stood up and left the hospital.

While he in the car, his mind was racing with the advice that his grandfather had imparted, and after a while, he ordered, "Bring me to the Sea View Villa, Max."

Following a long drive, Max pulled up right outside the gates of the Sea View Villa.

"We've arrived, Mr. Johnston," Max informed.

Jared took a look at the villa and wondered, 'Should I enter or should I just sit here and look?'

"Mr. Johnston?" a voice called out, whereupon Tia's petite figure appeared from the mansion's garden.

Then, she sauntered toward Jared's car and greeted him.

Jared's face was flushed with embarrassment when Tia spotted him, but he could only act as if nothing had happened.

"Hi, Tia."

"Aren't you coming in?"

Tia looked at Jared with her head tilted.

"Of course I am."

Jared smiled as he stepped out of the car and slammed the door shut.

"I'm making a move now, Mr. Johnston. Please just call me if you need me," Max said, helping him out with the decision by removing the other option, and that was to stay in the car.

Jared glared at Max while Tia gave the former a warm welcome, "Let's head inside, Mr. Johnston."

"Sure, let's go," Jared said, after which he proceeded to enter the villa with Tia.

"Have a seat, Mr. Johnston,"

Tia said, "I'll get Miss Riddle to come down here."

As Tia was sensible, Jared offered her a smile and remained silent as he sat down on the couch in the living room.

He looked around, and saw that Mrs.Riddle Sr.was nowhere to be seen or heard, and so, he waited patiently.

After a few minutes, Tia, who was all alone, approached him.

"Mr.Johnston, Miss Riddle said that she was not feeling well, so she won't be coming down, but I think you may head upstairs to check on her."

Tia looked at Jared with a smile and a wink.

Jared nodded at Tia, whereupon she took the hint and left.

Then, he sat still for a while longer, thinking to himself, Wouldn't it be even more embarrassing if I go upstairs and knock on her door just for her to keep me out? Oh well, I guess it's probably better for me to just sit here and wait for her in the living room"

After that, he turned the television on and watched the news.

This continued until Nicole made her way to the lower floor to get herself a cup of water, and she was about to do so when she heard noises from the television in the living room.

As soon as she walked over, her eyes met Jared's, who happened to be looking over at the same time.

For a moment, both of them were stunned, much like deer caught in the headlights, until Jared decided to flash her a smile.

"You're awake."

Nicole nodded, holding a cup in her hands.

Then, she took a seat on the couch and glanced over at Jared before turning her gaze to the television.

'Why is he even here? He hasn't been sitting around, watching the news while I was asleep all this while, has he?'

"Have you...been sitting here the entire time?" Nicole asked with a frown.

"Yeah, there's a lot going on in the news today," Jared said, using the news as a shield to avoid further embarrassment.

Nicole stifled a chuckle before asking in a stern manner, "What brought you here?"

"Nothing much, I just...came over to pay Mrs.Riddle Sr.a visit," Jared lied, unable to cast his ego aside.

"Well, then I think you've already seen her," she said.

"You may leave, now that you have nothing else to do here."

"Sure," Jared replied, still unwilling to swallow his pride to say what he meant to say.

The next day, Nicole went to the hospital to pay visit Mr.Johnston Sr.a visit, and because she had not seen him in a while, she brought him some fresh flowers.

"I've come to see you, Mr.Johnston Sr.," Nicole greeted after she opened the door to his ward.

"Ah, you're here, Nicole." Mr.Johnston Sr.set the book he was reading down and looked at Nicole, who was standing at the entrance.

"Are you feeling better today?"

"What do you mean by that?" Nicole asked, confused as to what Maximillian had meant.

"Jared told me that you were feeling unwell after a session of horse riding. Are you feeling better today?"

Mr.Johnston Sr.repeated.

"Oh, I'm much better now," Nicole said as she thought, 'It seems that he didn't tell Mr.Johnston Sr.about what had happened that day"

"How have you been feeling these days, Mr.Johnston Sr.?" Nicole sat on his bed after she was done arranging the flowers.