

My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 211

Chapter 211

Chloe had been away from home and had no idea that Nicole and Mr. Ellison knew each other. She thought that Nicole dared to snub Harvey only because of her relationship with the Riddle family. "This country bumpkin hasn't even figured out the situation in Northon!" she secretly sneered. 'She offends everyone she meets. She is a fool, only good at looking for trouble.'

Chloe crossed her arms and stood in Nicole's way. Nicole's eyes turned stern when she saw Chloe push Zeke away. Zeke was her partner on the Internet for years. She treated him like her brother, and she would allow no one to bully him.

She helped Zeke up and then looked Chloe in the eyes with icy eyes and said in an icy voice, "It's your business to flatter Harvey, but it doesn't mean I'm afraid of Harvey. Apologize to Zeke immediately."

Her stare frightened Chloe, who involuntarily stepped back behind Harvey.

Nicole still stared at Chloe with an icy indifference in her eyes, as if her stare could freeze the blood.

After being exposed, Chloe was ashamed and infuriated. She looked up at Harvey, but he instead was staring at Nicole, not sparing her a glance.

A tinge of bitter look flashed in her eyes. Chloe thought Harvey would help her when she had spoken up for him.

But the turn of events disappointed Chloe. When she had just stepped back behind Harvey, expecting his help, Harvey took a step forward and walked up to Nicole instead. He took out a plain black box from his pocket, gently opened it, and said softly to Nicole, "Don't be angry, okay? Here's an apology gift for you."

As soon as the box was opened, the glittering light from the box dazzled Chloe's eyes. It was that ten-carat pink diamond. It turned out that Harvey was the buyer of the pink diamond worth a hundred million dollars, and now he was giving it to Nicole. Chloe clenched her teeth in anger. Indignation and jealousy almost overwhelmed her sanity as she looked at the pink diamond.

Nicole was looking at the pink diamond, but no one knew what she was thinking. Harvey gazed at her expression, the look in his eyes oscillating between anticipation and disappointment.

'Will she accept it? Do I want her to accept it?'

Nicole looked up at Harvey with an impassive look after two seconds. "I'm thinking about what you're trying to pull here, Harvey. This isn't going to work on me." Her voice was lukewarm.

"This isn't going to work on me."

Nicole avoided Harvey's hand and looked straight at Chloe. "Apologize to Zeke."

There was a flash of cold light in Nicole's eyes when she looked at Chloe, but to Harvey, it appeared even more brilliant than the diamond in his hand. He still maintained the gesture of handing out the diamond, but with a broader smile on his face. Harvey realized Nicole was not someone whom he could bribe with expensive things.

Nicole did not notice Harvey's expression, as she was still looking at Chloe. "If you, as a

public figure, don't want to embarrass yourself, apologize to Zeke immediately." Nicole's words struck Chloe's soft spot. Chloe looked at the diamond in Harvey's hand and then at Nicole's spotless, beautiful face. Chloe's face contorted involuntarily. A strange thought came to her mind for a moment. She looked at Harvey's attitude and wondered if he and Nicole had some kind of indescribable relationship. 'But doesn't Harvey have a thing with Snow? What the hell is happening during my absence?'

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When Chloe looked at Nicole, there was a hint of surprise and jealousy in her eyes. She worked so hard in the showbiz because she wanted to find a stepping stone that could make her an instant success. She wanted to be the woman who stood on the top beside those top celebrities. But Harvey and Snow seemed to be hooked on each other at the time. So, Chloe could only change her target at that time. However, little did she expect Nicole, who came from the countryside, to steal Harvey from Snow and make him her patron. No wonder Chloe hated Nicole.

Chloe quickly gathered herself together. Her target now was Jared, and she would humble herself in front of Nicole for the sake of Harvey. But after she got Jared, she would want Nicole to kneel on the ground to apologize and pay back the humiliation she suffered. She quickly put up a sincere face and smiled softly at Zeke. "I'm sorry for pushing you down. I was too desperate just now."

Zeke was used to hearing Nicole's glacial voice, so when he heard Chloe's soft and cloying voice, he had goosebumps all over his body and felt disgusted. He was thinking of finding a bigger and better diamond for Nicole when he saw the pink diamond in Harvey's hand. Looking at Chloe's face now, he waved his hand and did not want to make a big deal out of it.

Nicole saw Zeke did not mind and cocked an eyebrow. "Let's go," she said to Zeke. As they left, Harvey looked at Nicole from behind and said, "Let me send you." He looked at the pink diamond in his hand with an obscure expression in his eyes. At first, he bought the pink diamond to please Nicole, but now it was of no use, and he did not need it. There was a look of contempt in his eyes, but because there were many people around, he first put away the diamond.

Chloe looked at the diamond, the covetousness in her eyes unmistakable. She wondered what made Nicole so special that Harvey was treating Nicole so well. She looked back at Nicole. Unable to hold back her jealousy, she said bitterly to Harvey, "I'm surprised that you would want a woman who has been arrested by the police before."

Chloe's words seemed to have reminded him of something. Harvey suddenly hesitated. But Nicole did not look back because she did not care what the two were saying. After all, Chloe would soon know who would be arrested. She ignored Chloe's provocation and walked ahead without looking back. Just then, a familiar voice came from behind her.

“Who does Harvey think he is to deserve Nicole?” A hint of snickers accompanied the lazy voice. It came from a distance and was heard by everyone present.

Nicole looked back, her eyes lighting up with surprise as she saw Jared walk toward her.

Jared looked at Nicole, his extremely charming upturned eyes filled with smiles, looking indescribably clear as if spring ice was melting in the distant mountains. He was wearing a retro Esperian attire of red and black, which obviously were the most difficult-to-match colors, but it looked so harmonious on him. The slight raise of his eyebrow was bewitching.

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Nicole looked at Jared; she had not seen him for only a few days, but it seemed like a century had passed. She did not even realize that a smile had crept across her face.

“What are you doing here?”

Jared also looked at her, the surprise in his eyes hard to ignore. “I have some business to take care of here,” he said in an uplifted voice, despite his conscious effort to suppress it.

Dino, who was following Jared, looked at him in amazement. He was accustomed to his listless and indifferent gaze at everything; he had never seen him so enthusiastic about someone.

There was a crack and a look of disbelief on his glacial face when Dino found out that the person to whom Jared was showing affection was Nicole. He did not know that Nicole actually knew his boss.

Harvey looked at Nicole, who was now having a genuine and beautiful smile on her face and was stupefied and a little lost in thought.

Jared thought, ‘I must be missing this girl after not seeing her for just a few days.’

Looking at Jared’s attitude toward Nicole, Chole’s face contorted, and she forced herself to calm down before stepping forward and complaining to Nicole, saying, “Why didn’t you tell me you knew Jared?” She could clearly sense that their relationship was not so ordinary. ‘So how about Harvey?’ she asked in her mind.

As Chloe suddenly came toward her, as if they were close buddies, and the thought of seeing Chloe sitting across from Jared in the café the other day came to mind, something started to dawn on Nicole. She looked at Chloe with a smirk and said, “Why should I tell you?”

At this time, Luka had also come in. He thought Jared was with Chloe, and when he saw Nicole standing there, he quickly said, “Mr. Johnston, it was this woman who looked for trouble with Chloe and me the other day. You have got to do something about her.”

Chloe was looking at Jared with anticipation, as she had always felt that she was special to Jared. Even if she had seen what happened just now, she was still not willing to admit that she was deceiving herself.

- Jared looked at Luka nonchalantly. “Really?” he said.

Seeing Jared’s attitude, Luka thought Jared was going to stand up for Chloe and quickly

said flatteringly, “She intimidated and forced us to apologize to her underling because of a misunderstanding.”

Chloe, who was standing at the side, frowned because she felt that what Luka said was an understatement. “Jared, she thinks because of her relationship with Harvey, she could do whatever she likes, openly threatening me and saying that the police will come after me. I think you should stay away from such a person.”

Nicole looked at Chloe and almost wanted to laugh, saying in her mind, ‘She is lower than a – snake’s belly!’

At this moment, Dino came over to Jared and whispered something to him. Jared frowned, his eyes turning frosty as he looked at Chloe.

Zeke could not bear to see Chloe smear Nicole, and he stood up.

“It was obvious you guys who provoked us first. You lied when you said that I stole from you, and now you’re trying to stand the truth on its head. What an evil wench you are!”

There was a stern look in Chloe’s eyes upon hearing that. She shot a look at Luka, who got the hint and quickly raised a hand, wanting to slap Zeke. “I’ll teach you a lesson, brat!”

Luka might be sissy, but he was still a man, had strength, and was using all of it. He glared at Zeke triumphantly. He had long been disliking this guy, who looked better than he was. How could he not seize the opportunity to slap him now? There was a fleeting sense of malice flashed across Luka’s face.

Chloe looked on triumphantly at seeing Luka about to slap Zeke. With Jared there, she was not afraid at all, even if Nicole had Harvey’s backing.

At the moment when both of them felt they had succeeded, Luka’s hand was intercepted by another hand in mid-air, twisted ninety degrees with a crisp cracking sound. Luka screamed in pain, with cold sweat popping up on his forehead.

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Luka took two steps back, the eyeliners on his small eyes covered with sweat. As Nicole had broken his hand, he looked at her with hatred and a hint of uncontrollable fear in his eyes.

Chloe looked at Nicole with a fleeting hint of jealousy in her eyes. But she quickly thought of something again, and a mysterious smile appeared on her face.

She quickly looked at Jared and said desperately, “Look at how defiant she is! You have got to teach her a lesson.”

Jared’s eyes turned grave when he saw what unfolded in front of him. He walked briskly toward Nicole, grabbed her left hand that she used to stop Luka, and asked in a deep voice, “Are you hurt?”

Nicole shook her head.

Chloe looked on at what had happened in disbelief. It was not at all what she had imagined. She thought Jared would be furious with Nicole. But she was wrong. Instead of teaching Nicole a lesson, Jared was siding with Nicole.

Her face turned pale as Chloe looked at Jared and then at Harvey, who was watching her coldly, doing nothing. She felt an unspeakable fear inside her.

Jared did not even spare her a glance. He looked at Dino behind him with anger brewing in his eyes.

Dino immediately fell to his knees. "It is my fault," he quickly said. It was he who did not take Nicole seriously, and what happened between her and Chloe was just a minor episode, so he had ignored it and did not report it to Jared. "Tomorrow, I will go to the ordination hall to receive my punishment."

Jared did not look at him again but shifted his attention to Nicole. "What do you want to do with her?" His voice was soft, his eyes gentle. He then gazed over at Chloe.

Nicole had not much response. She just replied lazily, "Let her be punished according to the laws of Nottingham State."

Zeke glanced at Nicole as Nicole sounded like William, the public prosecutor.

Nicole looked at Zeke and raised her chin slightly as if saying, "Any problem with that?" Apparently, she had read his mind.

Zeke had no words, 'No problem at all, of course. You're the boss and can do anything you like,' he said in his mind.

Jared watched the interaction between the two of them. He was paying attention to Nicole and did not notice Zeke just now. Now that he saw his face, he hesitated for a while. Seeing Zeke so young, handsome, with so much tacit understanding with Nicole, Jared's face turned bitter.

How should I deal with this guy?' he asked himself in his mind.

Chloe looked with indignation and hatred at Nicole, who did not seem to take her seriously. At first, Chloe was not too concerned when Harvey sided with Nicole. But now, even Jared was siding with Nicole. They might not have explained their relationship, but they seemed to be very close to each other.

Her fingernails had dug into the flesh of her palm, but she still maintained a smile.

"Nicole, I may have misunderstood you, but you don't need to call the police because of it." After all, they were all from the Riddle family. Nicole should not be so unforgiving.

But to her surprise, Nicole said nothing further. She just glanced at her, turned around, and left. "Follow me, Zeke," she said.

Jared raised an eyebrow and looked at Nicole from behind. "Going back to Hustuaburg?" he asked faintly.

Nicole nodded with her back to him.

A smile crept across Jared's face. He stepped forward to hold Nicole's hand, looked into her puzzled eyes, and whispered, "Why don't we go together?" 1

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Since she was so unfeeling, he might as well take the initiative.

Dino looked at how his boss treated Nicole with a thoughtful look, wondering if his poker faced boss finally was in estrous.

Jared and Nicole did not walk out of the hotel but went back into the lobby.

"I will leave things to you here, Dino," Jared said with an obvious hint of blissfulness in his voice.

Dino sighed and stood up in acknowledgment. His heart skipped a beat when he saw

Chloe about to chase after Jared. He quickly stood in Chloe's way and stopped Luka, who was trying to escape.

Chloe angrily looked at Dino, who always stood between her and Jared. "Get the hell out of my sight!" she barked with a little shrill voice. She must not let Nicole take Jared away.

Dino was cool and looked at Chloe with nonchalant eyes. "I'm sorry, but I'm afraid you will have to stay here until the police arrive." There was a subtle coldness in his voice. Chloe angrily reached out, trying to shove him away. "You really believe Nicole's nonsense?"

Dino did not trust Nicole, but he trusted Jared unconditionally. So, he was not swayed by Chloe. "That's Mr. Johnston's instruction."

Seeing that Dino did not let her go, Chloe was infuriated and struck at Dino's eyes with her long fingernails.

Dino reacted by dodging to one side at once and then struck Chloe's waist, immediately paralyzing her on the ground.

There was a hint of fear in her eyes. She had forgotten that all of Jared's men knew how to fight. Thinking of her recklessness in attacking Dino, cold sweat started to trickle down her forehead. Now that she could no longer move or speak, she could only endure the stares of surprise and ridicule from passers-by with anger inside her.

Dino stood behind her with a straight face as he waited. He had just used half of his strength, but it could inflict enough pain on Chloe. This woman definitely deserved double the punishment. Thinking of this, Dino somewhat regretted that he had pulled his punches.

He looked ahead and saw Harvey standing there, watching as Nicole and Jared left. His gut feeling told him that there was something amiss with Harvey.

Harvey's mind kept playing the scene where Jared reached out to hold Nicole's hand, and she did not refuse. The thought of it made his eyes redden with jealousy. 'Why? Because Jared is better than me?' he wondered.

He thought about what Jared had said earlier, "Who do you think you are to deserve Nicole?" and felt miserable as if his chest was going to explode. He said he would send Nicole, but Nicole just went away like a wind. But when Jared asked to go with Nicole, she was not resenting Jared at all.

Harvey tittered. He ignored Chloe, who was still lying on the ground, turned around, and walked upstairs. There was no point in staying here. The light had left Harvey's eyes.

He came in front of Room 403 and saw the door of Room 401 wide open. It had only been a moment, but new guests already checked into the room. He did not bother about it but closed the door behind him and started to pack his things.

A group of police officers had surrounded Chloe and Luka downstairs. Chloe refused to be taken away, while Dino looked on with an indifferent expression.

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The police shoved her and Luka into a patrol car and took them away while Nicole followed Jandd to the manor.

Zeke looked thoughtfully at Nicole's face, then at Jared's. Jared did not mind Zeke's scrutiny. He brought Nicole to walk out of the castle, behind which was a well-groomed lawn covering a sizable area, and in the middle of which was parked a private jet that was on standby.

rati à mare

Nicole was not surprised. She had realized something when Jared invited her to leave together. Only Zeke behind her was wide-eyed.

"My god, who is Jared, really? He even has a private jet that was much more advanced than that of his father.' Zeke wondered. The aircraft was extremely safe. Nothing could cause damage to it unless there was a missile attack. 'Wait a minute, Jared.' It was the Jared whom he had imagined. Zeke silently looked Jared up and down and had no words because he was great looking. For his face alone, Zeke could not have any ill feelings toward him.

Jared looked at Nicole's impassive face with bright eyes and then said a few words to the tall foreign captain before bringing Nicole toward the plane.

Nicole looked at the silver fuselage of the plane and raised an eyebrow. The plane had been modified, and it cost a bomb.

As the three of them got on the plane, Zeke was stunned.

The inside of the aircraft was spacious, made into a separate living room, with LED displays embedded in the walls of the fuselage and two soft chairs that seemed comfortable. Another space was installed with sophisticated electronic equipment, where most high-end computer operations run on land could be performed here.

It was worth mentioning that there was even a small wine cabinet in the lounge. Nicole looked at the wine cabinet and raised an eyebrow.

Jared was keeping an eye on her expression, and when he saw her interest, he explained," Sometimes I will drink a little when I cannot sleep."

It was the first time Nicole heard him talking about himself. She looked up with her upturned

eyes and waited for him to continue.

Jared looked at her expression and felt she was adorable. Even the things that he thought to be too embarrassed to tell previously were no longer so. He looked at Nicole with a pair of glassy eyes and whispered, "My parents died when I was still small, leaving me to grow up under my grandfather's care."

Jared paused, his pupils gradually gushing with an indescribable emptiness, his voice seemingly floating in the air with no place to settle down. "I have an awful relationship with the rest of the family. They hated me, saying that I was a jinx who would get everyone around me killed." A faint smile, indescribably cold, crept across his face.

Nicole looked at him and knew he had reached a certain point of limit. So, she gently held Jared's hand and said, "Enough, Jared."

Jared looked at her and blinked as if a beautiful and hazy dream was enough. Nicole nodded, and her voice was filled with an unmistakable affirmation. As if thinking of something again, she looked at Jared with a beautiful smile. 3

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“Thank you for telling me so much.” Jared seemed to wake up from a dream after hearing what Nicole said, his smile on his face saying that he felt appreciated, and his expression looked much warmer now.

The light in the cold ice had finally been lit up. He looked at Nicole’s beautiful face, and his fingers felt like wanting to touch her involuntarily. He did, and he gently stroked her cheek with his fingers with a dream-like expression on his face. “Thank you, Nicole,” he said.

Nicole did not refuse his touch. She calmly raised her hand to take his somewhat cold hand in hers. “In reciprocal, I will tell you something about me,” she said. “Before returning to the

Riddle family, my adoptive parents cared little about me. I grew up in the company of my grandma. We were poor, and she sold junk scavenged from the garbage to make a living and pay for my tuition fees. Because the clothes I wore always did not fit me, I was laughed at and looked down upon, and because I was skinny, I was always bullied by those who were younger than me.”

Nicole looked at Jared. She was talking about her unpleasant memories, but the look on her face was nonchalant as if it did not affect her at all. She continued. “But I still grew up well. Those people are now far away from my life, and my childhood may follow me all my life, but I will never cocoon myself and live in those painful memories because of those people and things that are not worth it.” There was a hint of sadness flashed in her eyes, as if she had thought of something.

Jared looked at her with some kind of unspeakable emotion in his eyes. Her composure and calmness in her soul were the things that attracted him. He let out a gentle smile with spirit in his eyes as if they were stars that would never fall. “I feel you,” he said, looking at her beautiful face and feeling as if something had lit him up inside.

Just then, Zeke, who was checking the electronic instruments earlier, had come back with enthusiasm. “Lu— Nicole, guess what I just saw!” Nicole forbade him from calling her Lucifer in front of others. But he was too excited and almost made that slip of the tongue.

Nicole and Jared looked at Zeke. They did not look embarrassed. Just that there was a not-too happy look in Jared’s eyes. He wondered if Zeke had deliberately picked this time to come back

Zeke looked at Jared, whose hand was on Nicole’s face, and then at Nicole, whose hand was holding to Jared’s. He was kind of struck dumb for a second. “You guys...” Nicole pulled back her hand and walked toward Zeke with a straight face. “What’s wrong?”

Zeke’s excitement had subsided, but he still said as it was, “I saw a JW3000.” The JW 3000 was the model number of the world’s most advanced computer. Only thirty units had been made, and almost all of them were used by weapons research laboratories in various countries. He did not expect to see one on Jared’s plane, Nicole could not help but be surprised at hearing that. There was an imperceptible excitement in her eyes, but she pretended to be calm. “Show me where it is.”

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Zeke looked hesitantly at the expression of Jared, who was leaning against the wine cabinet, looking at him with stern eyes and a smirk, behind Nicole.

After seeing what Jared was playing with in his hands, Zeke immediately said, "No, no. It's okay. I can handle it."

Nicole was stupefied, not knowing what was wrong with Zeke, but she did not insist. "If you have a problem, find me." Before the two worked together, Specter had been mentoring him personally. Fiddling with a computer should not be a problem for him. Zeke nodded and headed back next door absent-mindedly. He shuddered involuntarily when he thought about the look in Jared's eyes. He also thought about the toy-like, sharp dagger that glinted in Jared's hand. The light reflected off the blade was hurting his eyes. He wondered who Nicole was messing with now.

Zeke turned on the JW3000. It was a little larger and thicker than those portable laptops. Probably because of its high-end processor, its chassis looked a little bulky. For some reason, he felt this machine, which was the most powerful computer in the world, looked somewhat familiar. It looked as if his father had shown him the picture before. Shaking the thought from his mind, he started to run a series of testing programs on the machine.

A flight attendant looked at Zeke's somewhat baby face with a look of disdain. 'Mr. Johnston is the only person who can handle this machine.

'It's remotely connected to a local machine in the headquarters of JJ Johnston Group in Mecrounia. He often handles transactions directly using it.

'Now, this half-grown brat is blatantly fiddling it. What's even more ridiculous is that this brat is just an underling of the girl whom Mr. Johnston has brought with him,' the flight attendant thought as she rolled her eyes impatiently. She then went out to rant to her colleagues about Nicole. After all, this was the first time Jared had brought a girl onto his private plane.

Zeke did not know he had been despised, along with Nicole. He was looking at the computer in front of him with his brows gently knitted together. He was not sure if it was his delusion; it seemed that this computer was slower than he thought.

Zeke had complained about how slow his computer was, and it could not keep with the movements of his fingers, So Nicole had asked for his address and sent him a new one a year ago. And that was the only time they had a bit of interaction other than this time. The address he gave was the convenience store at the entrance of the Northon Institute. When the parcel from Nicole arrived that day, it was a black bag with his address and code

name hanging on it without the sender's name and address. Zeke complained of it upon receiving the parcel. But after taking the packaging apart, he was speechless. The computer's beautiful silver streamline chassis had conquered his heart, and its speed was so fast that his fingers could barely keep up. That made him fall in love with the machine. But that computer that Nicole gave him a year ago was obviously still much faster than the JW3000, which claimed to be the fastest in the world.

Zeke looked thoughtfully at the running scores shown on the screen.

Nicole looked on as Zeke went. She looked back at Jared helplessly. Jared was looking at her with a straight face. As Nicole came over, he let out a gentle, charming smile with two shallow dimples on his cheeks.

If Browning and Dino were here, their eyes would have widened in shock. Never Jared had ever smiled at anyone like that.

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It was like spring water brought a warm current to melt the ice at the river that had been frozen through the years.

His smile melted Nicole's helplessness, and she came to sit down on the soft chair beside him, and so he did.

The plane had taken off. The flight was smooth, with no turbulence. There was a faint scent of wood inside the plane, the freshness of dry amber and the spice of vetiver, with a hazy sense of comfort. Nicole looked through the window at the sky outside the plane and sighed softly.

Jared heard her sigh and turned his head to look at her silently as if asking her what was wrong.

Nicole's gaze was shallow. She stared at Jared but said nothing. Nicole did not know how to tell him that she just suddenly realized one thing: she felt really comfortable by his side.

Jared seemed to have figured out something. There was a tender smile in his eyes. Instead of asking questions, he stood up, went to the wine cabinet, and took a bottle of red wine out.. After aerating the wine, he poured each of them a glass.

Nicole looked at the bottle in his hand and raised an eyebrow at the nineteenth-century Pétrus. She felt Jared was generous.

Jared seemed to have read her expression and said nonchalantly, "It's only proper to treat our gold guests with the highest level of courtesy. Isn't it, Miss Doggie Anderson?" Nicole glanced at him and saw the teasing look in his eyes. She said nothing but just picked up the wineglass and took a gentle sip.

She then looked at Jared again with a faint smile in her eyes, raising her glass to make a toast to him, "I like the taste of this wine," she said softly, but her interest was apparent. After all, it was twenty-thousand-Esperian-dollar red wine. It tasted slightly astringent at first but quickly turned sweet in the mouth. The extremely full-bodied taste made Nicole squint slightly

Jared looked at her, feeling a powerful attraction toward her. 'She is so adorable,' he said in his mind. He also raised his glass and made a toast to Nicole with an apparently amorous look in his eyes. His eyes upturned carried a hint of languid charm. "Glad that you like it."

The bottle was quickly emptied, and a flight attendant came in to clean the table. Both Jared and Nicole were still sober, So Jared looked at Nicole and challenged her for another round." How about another bottle of whiskey?"

No way Nicole would concede She looked up at Jared in front of her as if returning to the time when the two first met and nodded unequivocally

The co pilot was standing outside the door, just about to knock on the door. When he heard

what seemed to be a drinking challenge inside, his mouth twitched, and he had no words. He was exasperated because this woman was a bad influence on his employer,

who had been leading a clean and healthy life all this while. With this in mind, he walked in with a sour face but said respectfully to Jared, “Mr. Johnston, Dino would like to talk to you.”

Jared looked at him with a smile still in his eyes. “Bring the things in. I’ll deal with it here,” he said in a gentle voice.

The co-pilot looked at Jared’s expression, feeling surprised to see the other side of his boss.

Hearing Jared’s gentle voice, the co-pilot was flattered and quickly went out. He then came back with a communication instrument and an extremely thin tablet and handed them to Jared with both hands.

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Nicole understood Jared had to work, so she did not want to bother him. She turned her head to look out of the window at the twilight outside. The person sitting next to her gave her a sense of security.

The half-bottle of red wine gradually fermented and precipitated in her body, making her feel warm. Nicole unconsciously closed her eyes.

Jared was making a video call. He seemed to have felt something and took off his headset, then looked over at Nicole. The ray of sunset fell on her face, making a beautiful picture of her in his eyes.

On the other end of the video call, Dino saw the side profile of his boss’s face and was wide eyed. His boss looked so gentle as if a boat drifting at sea had finally found a harbor to dock. It was also as if a drowning man had seen a lighthouse in the vast sea. His boss had landed on an island that belonged to him alone.

Jared took a thin blanket from beside him and gently covered it over Nicole’s body. He then turned his face around expressionlessly and cut off the video call with Dino.

Dino stared at the black screen, still wide-eyed. Suddenly, a window popped up along with a concise line of text.

(She has fallen asleep. Send the message now.)

Dino looked incredulously at the message, realizing that the relationship between Nicole and his boss was indeed unusual.

Still, he told Jared about the unfinished business. Mecrounia had held an election recently, and the new president seemed to have a lot of opinions about the Hustuaburgian; business in the Mecrounian market was tough, with many projects facing problems. He asked Jared what he should do and whether he needed to adjust their strategy.

Jared looked at Dino’s messages expressionlessly. He then casually replied, (Wait a little longer.

Dino raised an eyebrow. He was in the middle of a mountain range, and when he received this message, he immediately understood Jared’s meaning and replied with a confirmation.

(Onderstood.)

Jared put his things aside and sat there, quietly looking at Nicole’s face while she slept. There was a look of hesitation in his eyes as if a traveler stumbled upon a treasure,

Wait a little longer

it was said not only to Dino but also to himself

He did not want to put some kind of an irresistible burden on Nicole. He was happy as long as the two of them felt comfortable with each other, and she would smile at him without having

to guard herself against him constantly.

Jared stared at Nicole for a long time, unaware of the time, the setting of the sun, and the rising of the moon outside. He was as if a carving, also as if an unknown guardian spreading his white wings and half-wrapping the girl in front of him in his arms.

Nicole only slowly woke up when the plane landed. She looked at the closed porthole, heard the beeping sound of the plane landing in her ear, and let her eyes adjust to the dim light in the cabin before she stood up straight.

The busy work these two days had exhausted her. But her long-term habits allowed her to go on unaffected. Nicole did not expect to be able to get such a long, good sleep.

Upon waking up, Nicole looked around. Her vision at night was good. The dim light hardly affected her. Soon, seeing Jared sitting with his eyes closed beside her, she took the thin blanket that covered her, wanting to put it on him. Just then, Jared opened his eyes and looked at her with very awake eyes, as if he did not sleep at all just now.

"You're awake," he said.

His gentle voice sounded as if a mountain spring flowed through her heart, bringing with it a kind of icy reverberation. .