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Chapter 471

Nicole then heard him calmly speaking to Mr. Riddle Sr.

"The reason I'm here today is to make it clear to the Riddle family."

"If you lot cannot protect Nicole, I won't hesitate to take her away."

His eyes were impassive, yet just by standing there, it was as if an invisible pressure piling upon everyone's head, causing them to inexplicably feel like they were suffocating.

When Chloe saw this, a strange look appeared in her eyes. Jared looked faintly at Dillon and his family. His voice was calm, yet when a chill came upon them when they heard his words.

"Mr. Riddle. Sr. if there is someone that you find difficult to teach a lesson to, allow me then."

How could Mr. Riddle Sr. not grasp the hidden meaning behind Jared's words? As he looked at Nicole, whose face bore little expression, he realized that he had been too soft all this while, that he allowed Dillon and his family to take advantage and overstepped their boundaries.

Seeing the two standing before him, he finally understood what Mr. Johnston Sr. had meant. Here he was still foolishly trying to groom Nicole to be worthy of Jared, yet by the looks of things, the two of them had already secretly had feelings for one another. Seeing how protective Jared was toward Nicole, it would be difficult for things to resolve unless he provided a response.

After all, they were saved by Mr. Johnston Sr., and all of that was because of Nicole. He could not continue defending Dillon anymore with good conscience. As he thought of that, Mr. Riddle Sr. walked toward Dillon and smacked the latter with his walking stick.

Dillon immediately fell to the ground. His face twisting and contorting because of the severe pain, with a perplexed look still on his face. "Dad, what are you doing?!"

Mr. Riddle Sr. did not say anything as the walking stick in his hand landed on Dillon again and again, each blow landing with full strength.

"Dad, stop, please! Ahhh!" Dillon begged for mercy, but Mr. Riddle Sr.'s beating got even more brutal.

Dillon rolled on the floor in pain, and soon bruises appeared all over his body as he screamed.

Karen was very distressed when she saw Dillon suffer like that. She immediately looked at Damien and Dexter as she yelled.

"Damien, Dexter, stop Dad! He's going to kill Dillon!"

Both Damien and Dexter looked at Dillon before them, but neither of them moved. They were lucky this time. If they were to allow Dillon to bring harm to them again, they dare not imagine what would happen next time.

Seeing that they were keen to simply just stand and watch, Karen gritted her teeth in anger, but there was nothing she could do.

Snow and Raine were so frightened they were hugging each other, refusing to look at that cruel scene. Yet, the thud of the walking stick beating on Dillon and his wailing still reached their ears. They gave Nicole a resentful look, but they caught Jared's impassive gaze, and they immediately looked away in fear. Mr. Riddle Sr. had only just recovered, and he had used all of his strength to beat Dillon dozens of times. Soon he was panting, but yet he gritted his teeth as he continued to beat the latter with undiminished strength. When Nicole saw him struggling, she frowned and said coldly, "Enough." Mr. Riddle Sr. looked at Jared, and upon seeing the latter's expression was still impassive, he lifted his stick to continue the beating.

Nicole gave Jared a helpless look. It was not that she was sympathetic to Dillon, but Mr. Riddle

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Jared understood her intent as he grabbed her hand and slowly said.

"Enough."

Mr. Riddle Sr. continued to beat Dillon a couple more times before putting down his stick. Seeing that the former was a little winded, Daniel immediately stepped forward to help him.

After learning that the Rogers family had kidnapped Nicole, Daniel felt no guilt about Dillon receiving that beating. 'How can I allow you lot to bully my daughter that I finally found after so long!' Mr. Riddle Sr. looked at Jared. Since he had already done what he did, Jared should know very well where he stood on this matter.

Indeed, Jared did not make things difficult for the old man as he glanced at Snow and Raine before walking out with Nicole without saying a word to anyone else.

When Chloe saw the two walking past her like that, and Jared not even giving her a glance, she bit her lips in humiliation and wanted to stop Jared.

"Mr. Johnston, you..."

Before she could even finish, Jared had already stepped out of the Riddle family manor's door. He did not leave straight away but instead brought Nicole to look at the security outposts the Johnston family had setup up across the manor. Jared did not say much, and once they were done inspecting and returned to the main gate, Nicole looked at him. When she saw that he was still looking at her using a side glance, she felt tickled as she said.

"Don't worry, there won't be the next time."

It then did Jared turn to look at her. The storm between his eyes had yet to fade away, and his expression was cold and serious when he looked at her.

"Don't allow yourself to fall into such danger. You're lucky I was in time this time; things might be very different the next time."

Nicole knew that he was just worried about her, so she nodded.

She had rarely allowed herself to be on the back foot, but this time, she had indeed been negligent.

Jared gave her one final glance before finally leaving the Riddle family manor.

When Nicole slowly walked back, she noticed that everyone was looking at her with a rather strange look. Her expression did not change. She ignored the furious gaze of Dillon and his family as she went straight to Mr. Riddle Sr. and Daniel.

"Grandpa, Mom, Dad, are you alright?"

Mr. Riddle Sr. looked at Nicole as he sighed and said softly.

"Good girl, Grandpa's fine."

Daniel and Gloria, too, indicated that they were fine. Gloria directly hugged Nicole to check on her and was only relieved after discovering the latter did not suffer any injuries.

Nicole allowed her mother to check on her, and when she noticed her father's hesitating look, she helplessly said.

"Dad, just ask what you want to ask."

Seeing that his daughter had seen through his intention, Daniel asked somewhat embarrassedly. "Nicole... what's your relationship with Mr. Johnston...?" He had thought that his girl would be slightly bashful, but instead, Nicole replied almost nonchalantly. "We are just... friends." She paused for a bit and felt that friends best suited their current relationship. After all... neither of them had deliberately made clear the relationship between them, and she did not want to be too presumptuous.

Hearing her say, Chloe gave her a dismissive snort.

"If he is just a friend, why would he move mountains and rivers just for you?"

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Chapter 473

Nicole gave her a chilly glance, her voice impassive. "Up to you to believe it or not."

When Chloe heard her seemingly provocative words, she was so pissed off that she immediately stood up and pointed at Nicole. "Don't be so full of yourself so soon! Even if the two of you have something on, it's impossible for Mr. Johnston to be serious toward you. Just you wait for the day of you being dumped to come!"

Nicole could not be bothered to respond, but Mr. Riddle Sr. violently slammed his walking stick as he yelled. "Chloe, shut your mouth!"

It only then did Chloe reluctantly shut her mouth, but her gaze toward Nicole still had resentment in it.

After seeing Jared's unusual treatment of Nicole, Chloe's mental state was out of sorts. Both Damien and Dexter looked at Nicole and did not expect her to really gain the favor of the Johnston family. By the looks of things, they are close enough that Jared would come to the Riddle family manor to support Nicole. 'How could we dare to displease her in the future?'

Mr. Riddle Sr. pondered for a moment before finally asking Nicole a rather strange question.

"Nicole, your Uncle Dillon seemed to have looked for Lyana to hold us back. How did it become Christo in the end? Without the intervention of the Johnston family, we might not have walked out of that place."

Nicole looked at Mr. Riddle Sr.. Her eyes were calm as she answered.

"Christo Rogers wanted to get a special medicine from me. He probably got word of Lyana and Dillon's plans, so he got Shawn to hijack the plan. On the one hand, he told Lyana that he would help her detain you guys, but in reality, he wanted to use your safety as leverage against

me."

'So that's the reason.'

Both Damien and Dexter wanted to say something, but thinking that Nicole had inexplicably cured Mr. Riddle Sr. and had also allowed him to recover too easily, she might really have some special medicine on her.

"This Nicole has too many secrets on her."

Snow and Raine stood back to a corner, together with Karen, helped the whipped Dillon up. After what Jared had said, their family had completely lost their place in the Riddle family and could, at the moment, only stand in the distance and not even sit. Mr. Riddle Sr. looked at them as his voice was seething with an icy chill.

"Snow, get ready to go overseas once the exam is over!"

This was an exile in disguise. Snow's expression immediately changed as she looked at Mr. Riddle Sr. and pleaded.

"Grandpa, I don't want to go overseas. Please allow me to stay and tend to you!"

Mr. Riddle Sr.'s expression did not change as he said, "I've already given you a chance, yet you dared to lay your hands on your own family members. So, separation is probably for the best."

Snow could sense the faint loving intent in Mr. Riddle Sr.'s words. Thinking of Harvey, she gritted her teeth and said, "Grandpa, I still need to go to a banquet with Harvey. You can't send me away just like that. I promise, there won't be the next time!" Raine, too, chimed in, "Yes, Grandpa, Snow was just led astray. Mr. Johnston has already warned us, so please give us one more chance!" Mr. Riddle Sr. looked at Nicole. He was indeed hesitating, and Nicole could tell that he found it hard to find the words. She gave Snow and Raine a casual glance and said nothing. It only then did Mr. Riddle Sr. finally say, "This is your final chance, Snow. If there is a next time, I'll send you away, no matter what."

Snow immediately nodded as she assisted Karen in helping Dillon up. Raine followed behind the three of them as they returned to their floor.

When she got up to the second floor, Snow's expression immediately changed. She pretended to be looking at Nicole, and when she saw the indignity her family had suffered, a raging hatred roiled within her.

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Chapter 474

Although the Riddle family was turned upside yesterday, the exam was on the next day.

Nicole and her brothers, and everyone else had come to school earlier. The moment Nicole walked into the classroom, she saw her trashed desk in the midst of the clean and tidy classroom.

An icy gleam flashed across her eyes as she coldly swept her gaze upon the people around her as she picked her desk back up. As she looked at her books on the floor, her eyes turned even colder. Even though her voice was not loud at all, it sent a chill down everyone's spine.

"Who did that?"

No one answered.

Vivian then irritably spat, "Can you keep quiet? Can't you see everyone is revising?"

Vivian looked at the mess before her with some glee. Lulu then whispered, "Vivian started it first, then a few others came to step on your books. We could not stop them in time."

Nicole nodded as she walked toward Vivian with an impassive face before tossing the latter's books into the ground and pulling her up by grabbing her hair.

Vivian did not expect Nicole to dare to lay her hands on her. The pain on her scalp almost forced her tears out. She tried to pull away Nicole's hand as she screamed. "Nicole, are you insane? What are you doing?!"

Nicole's face remained expressionless. She looked impassively at Vivian's face as she kicked her desk over. A phone then fell out of it, the screen shattering as it lit up.

"What am I doing?"

Vivian stared at Nicole; the latter's eyes were so cold that they could seemingly freeze her over.

That made Vivian shrank in fear.

Nicole looked at Vivian as she dragged the latter toward the class window and pressed her directly against the opened window. As she looked at Vivian's struggling face, she domineeringly said.

"Look at the scenery down there."

Vivian fearfully looked at Nicole. This was the fifth floor, and Nicole had pressed half her body out of the window. With a slight turn of her head, she could see the hard cement floor and the green belt down below. All of her upper body weight was held by Nicole's hand grabbing onto her hair.

'What scenery? This Nicole is straight-up insane!' Vivian dared not struggle any longer. Her strength against Nicole was like an ant trying to shake a tree. She was more worried that Nicole would let go and she would just die there and then.

Sensing the emptiness behind her back and the pain from her hair being pulled, Vivian started

crying She really regretted listening to Harvey and provoking Nicole like this. Vivian's eyes were red from crying as she screamed with a frightened voice, "It's my fault, Nicole. I'm sorry! Please let me go!"

When everyone saw this scene, they fell silent for a moment.

Gary looked at Nicole and frowned disapprovingly.

Nicole heard Vivian's pleas, and she titled her head a little. The chill on her face was still there, and her delicate face looked extremely indifferent under the sunlight.

Vivian could feel Nicole's fingers slowly letting go of her hair. Her voice was already hoarse from her screaming, yet Nicole remained unmoved.

She finally let go of her hand, grabbing onto Vivian's hair, and just as the latter truly fell into despair, Nicole grabbed her collar and pulled her back at the very last minute.

Out of danger, Vivian immediately squatted down as she trembled and breathed heavily, unable to even cry.

'I'm.... I'm still alive!'

Nicole simply just stood there as she looked at Vivian before her. Her eyes were emotionless as she whispered a question.

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Chapter 475

"Was the view nice?"

Vivian simply just nodded as she curled up and dared not look Nicole in the eyes. Nicole looked at everyone in Class B before casting her gaze back onto Vivian. "Next time, every time you provoke me, I'll take you for a scenic ride like today." Her words were spoken slowly, yet there was an unbridled coldness to them.

"You hear me?"

Vivian knew she was not joking and immediately nodded. She was like a frightened rabbit that had finally realized the difference between her and the raptor above and dared not make any provocations.

Nicole did not say much else as she turned around and walked to her seat. No one else dared to say a word.

UV

It was almost an exam already. They knew nothing about this.

Vivian gritted her teeth, and she quickly got up and ran out of the classroom, telling Ms. Emerson that she was going to take her papers to Class A. Ms. Emerson was a little surprised, but she did not ask much. After all, the papers were the same, and each class had its invigilator, so it was the same no matter where they took their papers.

Vivian nodded. When she recalled that terrifying scene again, she closed her eyes.

She still dared not go back to class for now, and she dared not face Nicole. Everyone in Class B was trying to memorize the formulas in the book when they still had time. No one went to ask where Vivian went to, as if that scene had never happened. Lulu and June were quickly going through their books, while Bradley took some time to look at Nicole and found her actually having a book out as she flipped through.

Bradley looked somewhat surprised. "Nicole, you've done your revision?"

'And here I thought she will definitely not revise!

Nicole gave him a glance and said, "Yeah, just did."

Bradley gave her a surprised look as he then whispered, "Nicole, the questions this time is done by Mr. Hancock from the next door Northon Institute, that same Mr. Hancock who did the Math Olympiad questions! You know how difficult his questions were, right? It's literally inhumane!"

Nicole recalled the Math Olympiad questions she did back then, and the corners of her lips raised a little.

"That sounds quite interesting then."

Jack's snort soon came from beside her. "Nicole, continue to boast then. The results will be out soon, and I'm interested to see what your grade is like."

alsrence was quite loud, and a few people looked over. Upon seeing Nicole's expressionless

e however, they quickly looked away.

It was almost time for the exam. They had no need to waste their time on Nicole.

Thinking of what she said, where she could not be bothered with them putting in all their efforts, a surge of dissatisfaction appeared in their eyes.

At the same time, a tinge of fear appeared as well.

It was finally time, and the teacher had distributed the test papers. Everyone put away all of the reference materials in their hands as they started to confidently answer the question.

Yes, when they got to the end, their expression gradually became one of consternation.

By the time everyone got out of the exam hall, most of them were in a daze. What is this? Why is it so different from what we have revised?!'

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Chapter 476

Vivian walked outside. Her eyes were still slightly red, but her emotions had calmed down a lot.

When she saw Nicole's empty seat, Vivian frowned a little.

'Where did Nicole go to?'

The exam was so difficult. Could she have handled it early like she did during the Math Olympiad?'

But she had to say, perhaps because of the stimuli earlier, she did well in this exam. If nothing went wrong, she should be able to get top three in the entire grade.

Thinking of this, her mood was finally better. However, when she walked to the side of her seat as she looked at Oliver, who was sitting there, and asked coldly.

"Where is Nicole?"

Oliver looked at her reddened eyes. This was the first time Vivian had spoken to him after he snitched on her to Ms. Emerson, and he said somewhat excitedly.

"Vivian, I've put your table back. Were you frightened just now? I saw you ran out just like that and could not console you..." Vivian had no patience to listen to all that as she glanced coldly at Oliver and impatiently asked him once again. "I'm asking you, where is Nicole?!"

Oliver was cut off midway, and he paused for a moment before saying, "After the exam, Ms. Emerson took Gary and Nicole to the hall to participate in the Math Olympiad's awards ceremony.

"The awards ceremony?' 'What's the point of Nicole going there?' 'What? Could she even win a prize?' Thinking of what happened this morning, a look of hatred appeared in Vivian's eyes. Many classmates came over to console Vivian. They dared not stand up for Vivian when Nicole was dealing with her, but now as if they had a common enemy with Vivian, they whispered to her.

"That Nicole was gone overboard. What do we do if something really happened just now?" "Yeah, and she's attending the Math Olympiad awards ceremony? What's she's hoping to get, the prize for last place?"

"Let's go and have a look. I heard that the province's big shots, Mr. Wyance, will be here too. I've not seen him in person before."

"I only heard my parents mention him before. If I knew he was the one giving out the prize, I would've joined the Math Olympiad even if it cost me revision time."

Many were extremely envious of Nicole's luck, and seeing how green with envy they were, Vivian suggested. "How about we go have a look at the awards ceremony?"

Many of their classmates immediately agreed as Vivian led the group toward the hall,

They were guite excited, and their pace was faster than usual.

When they stepped into the hall, Mr. Wyance was in the midst of delivering his speech. His face was gentle with a trace of genial elegance and also the authority and prestige of holding a high position for a long time.

The front row had been filled, so everyone looked for empty seats at the back of the hall. When they looked at Mr. Wyance, there was a look of deep yearning in their eyes.

Mr. Wyance spoke unhurriedly. Beside him were a few school directors of the Royal Creek Institute. Mr. Ellison and Mr. Anderson were naturally among them.

The reason the awards ceremony was held in the Royal Creek Institute was also because of Mr. Ellison

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Chapter 477

Many of the students from the neighboring Northon Institute and other schools across San Joto, too, were looking at Mr. Wyance. Mr. Anderson sat proudly not too far away from Mr. Wyance, feeling that his status had increased by leaps and bounds.

He did not see Nicole, who was said to have participated in this Math Olympiad, and he was literally very disdainful of her.

In his heart, Nicole probably did not even make the passing grade. Thinking of this, he let out a cold sneer.

He was now sitting so obviously on the stage. If Nicole was here, she would definitely see him and be very regretful.

Mr. Wyance had finished his speech and motioned for the awards ceremony to commence. Mr. Ellison led the applaud, and the atmosphere on top and below the stage was very enthusiastic.

Raine turned to speak to Gary sitting beside her, "This is the first time I've seen Mr. Wyance. I never thought that he looked like this."

Mr. Wyance had a lot of connections in the province, and it was said that he was already running to be the next governor, so no one in San Joto dared to look down on him and were even trying to form relationships with him long before he took office.

Gary did not say anything. He was taken to meet Mr. Wyance a few times by his elder brother, but he had never had a chance to speak with the latter.

Raine looked at Nicole on the other side with a look of disgust in her eyes.

'Nicole is actually acting so calm. Back then, Mr. Anderson up there said that he wanted to take her to see Mr. Wyance, and she refused him. She really doesn't know her place.' Thinking of this, she gave Nicole a cold glance before turning away.

On where Class A was seated, Norah was still staring at Nicole.

She had not gone home for so many days.

'If Nicole fails in both her exam and Math Olympiads, then Mom and Dad will realize that only she is worthy of being their daughter. If Nicole were to humiliate herself like that, even if Mom and Dad were unwilling, Uncle Damien and the others will probably still chase her out!

Thinking of this, Norah was excited and wished that the results had been announced sooner.

As she looked up, Mr. Wyance had returned to his seat, and the ceremony officially began. The Math Olympiad awards ceremony always started with the excellence award, and there were ten winners. After that, it was the third-class award with six winners, second-class awards with three people, and the first-class award, and first place in the Math Olympiad with one person.

The host called out the names of the winners of the excellence award. Vivian was listening intently as she thought no matter how good Nicole was, she could only appear on the excellence award list.

When the last of the names were announced, and Nicole's name was not there, Norah let out a sigh of relief as a mocking smile appeared on her face.

Like her, the students of Class B were equally disdainful. They knew Nicole was just spouting nonsense when she said that the questions were not difficult.

They had never thought that Nicole could even get the excellence award. Nicole was seated in front with Ms. Emerson and Gary, and beside them were Mr. Kennedy, Raine, and Noah. All of them were thinking the same as the rest, and when Nicole's name was not once on the excellence award list, Raine let out a sigh of relief.

It really scared her when Nicole handed in the paper so early. She was really worried that Nicole would get good results. But now, it looked like Nicole was just talking big again! 'If she can't get the excellence awards, then the higher awards must be beyond her reach.'

Thinking of this, she looked at Nicole, who still wore an impassive look. She then used a tone that only a few could hear as she said. "You're not on the excellence award list, Nicole. Weren't you saying that the questions were simple? It seems like you've no luck in winning anything in this Math Olympiad!"

Gary, sitting by her side, looked at Nicole. He, too, though that no matter how good Nicole did, she was at the level of the back end of the excellence award. Now that she was not on the award list, a look of deep disappointment appeared in his eyes

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Chapter 478 Gary had originally thought that Nicole would surprise him and win the excellence award. But now, perhaps Nicole was like what he saw and barely did a few questions. 'And she dared to say that Mr. Hancock's questions were not difficult?' 'I'm just speechless.' Gary was extremely disappointed in Nicole and no longer wanted to look at her as he focused on the awards ceremony before him.

When Raine saw Gary, she finally felt better.

'Only an excellent lady like me is fit for Gary!'

At this moment, Mr. Kennedy smiled at Ms. Emerson beside him. "Ms. Emerson, why did you even bring Nicole to attend this awards ceremony? You're just humiliating yourself!"

Ms. Emerson did not even look at him as she focused her eyes on the stage, but a faint trace of concern appeared in her heart.

Just as everyone was speaking, the students who won the excellence prize had already received their awards. Noah was among them, and he happily returned to Mr. Kennedy's side as he was very satisfied with this award.

Many noticed that the awards thus far were given out by the various school directors, but not Mr. Wyance.

Many of the students from Class B stretched out to look at the award ceremony and were a little puzzled when Mr. Wyance had not handed out any awards yet.

Norah was sitting by the side. Her eyes were calm, and as she looked at these ignorant folks, a look of disdain flashed across her eyes. However, she still dutifully said.

"Mr. Wyance will only present the award to the first place." "That is to say, only the first place had the chance to meet Mr. Wyance!"

Everyone then realized it. Coming to think of it, with Mr. Wyance's status and position, it stood to reason that only the best would be able to gain Mr. Wyance's favor.

However, they did not know who was the lucky one just yet.

The host quickly called out the two dozen or so winners of the third-class awards. Raine clenched her hands hard. She had seriously overestimated herself and could, at best, win a third-class award. However, that was enough. After all, Nicole affected her so much that she, who was originally aiming for the second-class award that she, ended up at this point.

'No matter what. I'm still better than that. Nicole!

Sure enough, Raine's name appeared on the second last of the third-class award. 'Since everyone all got the certificate for the third class, and there were no specific results displayed, the third-class award was more than enough.'

As she thought of that, Raine let out a satisfied smile as she stood up and walked toward the stage.

Mr. Kennedy let out a dissatisfied frown on the side. He looked at Raine and did not expect his favorite protege could only win a third-class award.

However, when he saw Nicole sitting on the side, he felt much better.

'Heh, no matter what, two of my students won an award and have done the school proud. But this Nicole and Gary... Gary, it is hard to say... His Math Olympiad results seem to be not bad, but Nicole is a straight-up grifter, and she dared to make a bet with me! Winning now doesn't mean anything, really!' 'Nicole at most can no longer participate in the Math Olympiad if she loses. That's way too easy on her. I should've asked her to drop out of school directly!' 1 As he thought of this, Mr. Kennedy glanced at Nicole with a sneering look, as if victory was already his.

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Chapter 479

He turned around and looked at Ms. Emerson as he let out a soft snort. His voice was quite loud. "Sigh, Raine sure disappointed me. She was one to aim for a second-class award, but it must be her mental state. Well, she's now only with a third-class award."

Ms. Emerson did not look at him. A teacher from the Northon Institute glanced at him but did not say anything. However, another teacher to the side complimented him with envy upon hearing that

"I never thought you were that brilliant, sir. I'm already so happy that my student got the excellence award. Yours here got the third-class award. It's incredible!"

It was rare that Mr. Kennedy had someone flatter him, so he glanced at the young male teacher and somewhat bizarrely said, "No, no. I'm not as incredible as this Ms. Emerson here. Her students are aiming for something way beyond third class. They are aiming straight for first class. Youngsters these days are so impulsive, and they even betted with me if she did not win first place, she would not participate in the Math Olympiad ever again. Tsk tsk, how interesting!"

That teacher gave Ms. Emerson an odd look, with a tinge of disbelief on his face. 'The first-class award? Isn't that first place?' 'That's an award that Mr. Hancock's students would take back every single time!' 'This Ms. Emerson looks pretty young. It's a bit too

early to aim for first place, no?' That male teacher chatted casually with Mr. Kennedy for a while, flattering the latter all the way.

After all, the latter was still a teacher at San Joto's high school. He did not lose out on anything if he flattered one anyway.

Ms. Emerson and the teacher from Northon Institute could not be bothered to entertain the two. Both of them were looking seriously at the award ceremony. The third-class award had all been awarded, and what was next was the three-winner second-class award!

Raine returned to her seat, and as she looked at Nicole, she let out a cold snort.

The host was preparing to announce the award list for the second-class award, and Gary gradually became nervous. He hoped that his name would appear on the list of the second

He had the ambition to take first place and also thought that he had the ability to do so!

Many from Class B were looking at the screen as the name list of the winners announced by the host would be displayed to allow the students seated behind to see if they were on the award's list.

Gary had put into this and knew that he was aiming for first place.

Both of them silently prayed.

Unfortunately for them, the first name the host announced for the second-class award was Gary's.

The Math Olympiad did not announce the results, but instead, one would know who scored higher based on the order of them being called. The first person called for the second-class award has the highest score, which also meant he was in second place in this year's Math Olympiad. Immediately after, he did not recognize the two names that were announced, and he thought they must be students from other schools, and they were the third and fourth place in this competition.

Gary saw his name appearing on the screen, and a tinge of disappointment appeared in his eyes, followed by a strong sense of curiosity.

He thought that he had lost no points aside from the last question, so he wondered how the first place had performed since he was only in second place.

'If I did not make it. Then the first place must be the students of Northon University's Mr.

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Chapter 480

Gary stood up and took the stage to receive his award. Seeing that the second place was a student from the Royal Creek Institute, Mr. Ellison stood up with great satisfaction as he personally presented the award to Gary and patted him on the shoulder in praise.

"You did well."

Gary thanked Mr. Ellison. When he looked at the person beside him, he was a little surprised to recognize the person as Mr. Hancock's student, Clement Atlee!

He had lost to the latter by just one point in the last Math Olympiad, so he had a deep impression of Clement, yet he did not expect the latter to be ranking behind him this time!

Seeing that Gary was looking at him, Clement scratched his head somewhat embarrassedly as he said to the former, "I didn't go around the last question and step straight on the trap. I got zilch for that one."

His teacher was so furious that he got that question wrong and did not speak to him for a good while.

Gary nodded to signal that he understood. Then did, he slowly walk down the stage in a daze. 'If the first place is not Clement Atlee, who is it then?'

He sat back in his seat, and seeing his strange expression, Ms. Emerson whispered a few words of comfort and praise as well.

'For him to get second place in the Math Olympiad, where the geniuses of the nation competed against one another, it was already very good!' Raine stared admiringly at Gary while Noah too, cast an envious gaze at him. He, too, wanted to get second place, but it seemed like Gary was still not satisfied after doing so well!

Amidst everyone's admiring gaze, Gary subconsciously looked at Nicole beside him. She was sitting on the other side of Ms. Emerson and was totally out of place with the atmosphere here.

The icy beauty always attracted wild thoughts, and Gary hesitated for a moment before walking toward Nicole.

The young male teacher who chatted with Mr. Kennedy earlier noticed the conservation between Ms. Emerson and Gary, and his eyes widened in surprise.

Could it be that what Mr. Kennedy was for real?' 'This Ms. Emerson is actually a better teacher than him?'

He then thought Mr. Kennedy said that she had a student that was aiming for first place. 'Gary is already at second place, then does that not mean that the extremely beautiful female student next to Ms. Emerson is...'

Mr. Kennedy looked at Gary, who won second place, with deep jealousy in his eyes.

He did not expect Gary to be able to get second place at all.

'However, she only had Gary alone.' Mr. Kennedy thought. 'Second place is already Ms.

Emerson's limit, and there's the freeloading Nicole who won nothing at all.'

As Mr. Kennedy thought of this, he reluctantly accepted this as he glared at Noah and said coldly.

"Enough, Ms. Emerson. Our students have all collected their prizes. We can leave now!" When Norah saw this, she could not help but feel gleeful.

Ms. Emerson took a glance at Nicole and was worried that she would be hurt by Mr. Kennedy's piercing sarcasm.

Nicole, however, just calmly looked at the stage. Her expression was peaceful. 3 Ms. Emerson, too was seemingly affected by her as she calmed down. She then glanced at Mr. Kennedy as she said, "It's not over, so I won't be leaving yet. Go ahead first, Mr. Kennedy!" 3