

What makes a power couple

Chapter 61:

Marissa glanced sideways at Nicole. So Aidan was hiding their marriage, and Nicole didn't seem to care. Maybe things between them weren't as strong as they looked. Maybe they were already cracking.

Marissa's mouth twitched before she slipped into her act. "Squall, you won't believe this," she said, eyes wide with pretend concern. "Nicole was asking me earlier how to crash Jade's party just to see you. Who'd have guessed she'd end up arriving with Aidan instead? If he finds out she was using him, I don't know what it'll mean for my family."

Squall's lip curled with disgust. "Still clinging to old tricks, huh? Nicole's been obsessed from the start."

"Lula had indeed plotted against Nicole; if it weren't for Nicole's intelligence, it's likely that she would be the one making a fool of herself now."

"She probably did something to push Lula that far. If Nicole saw it coming, she should've just handled it like an adult. No need to drag Lula through the mud. A woman that cold? Nicole's made of ice."

Marissa lowered her gaze, smugness curling at the corners of her lips. Putting Nicole in her place felt too good.

She made up her mind right then—she was going to turn both Aidan and Squall against Nicole. Nicole wouldn't be anything but a fling to forget.

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“You disgrace!” Jade slammed her cane down with a loud crack. She shot Emil and Lula a glare that could cut steel. “Lula admitted it. She schemed against Nicole. She messed up. So the very least she can do is apologize.”

Lula's eyes were rimmed red, but she didn't dare say a word. If Nicole had come alone, Lula would've stood firm. But no one dared test Aidan—not with the Grays watching.

Eventually, Emil and Lula gave in and bowed their heads.

Lula's cheeks burned as she mumbled, “I'm sorry, Nicole. I shouldn't have done that.”

“Ms. Wilson, Lula's reputation took a blow because of all this,” Emil cut in. “Let's not drag it out. Can we leave it behind us now?”

Nicole gave a short laugh. “Your daughter’s choices are her own. I didn’t make her do anything. So don’t dump it on me. I’ve got my own weight to carry.”

Emil’s face turned ashen. He didn’t argue. He took Lula by the arm and walked away in silence.

Nicole rose from her seat, ready to make an exit.

But just as she stepped forward, a drunk man staggered into her path. “Hey—pretty lady—don’t go yet,” he slurred.

Nicole’s eyes narrowed, her patience evaporating. “Step aside.”

The man’s grin widened, his eyes glinting with mockery. “Well, now, that’s some attitude. I like it.” He took a step toward her, his hand reaching out.

Before his fingers could make contact, Nicole swiftly swatted his hand away, her patience now replaced by icy resolve. “Get out of my way.”

Undeterred, the man continued, leering at her from head to toe, his eyes dripping with sleaze. “Damn... that body, that face... You’re something else, aren’t you?”

