

Chapter 476 You Don't Need To

Nicole was indifferent and never touched the cup of coffee that had milk froth on it.

Eric, who was sitting across from her, noticed this and pushed the untouched coffee in front of him to her.

Nicole raised her eyes quizzically.

Eric chuckled. His flirtatious gaze in the eyes of outsiders looked so gentle.

"I haven't touched it yet. This cup doesn't have milk."

Gerard laughed lightly and looked at the cup of coffee in front of him. "Oh, Ms. Stanton's cup is mine. This isn't negligence on J&L's side, right?"

Ivy's heart thumped. She felt like a boulder crushed her chest.

Earlier, she did not ask for the bosses' preferences and assumed it herself.

Ivy had to admit that she was a bad assistant.

Nicole smiled gently. She was indifferent as she carelessly spun the pen in her hand.

"Fine. It's my assistant's fault. To make amends, I can invite you to the opening of my brother's play tonight. Are you interested?"

Gerard clicked his tongue. "Of course! Kai's tickets are hard to get. Can I bring a plus one?"

Nicole said, "No, just yourself."

Eric's voice was clear. "I'm going too."

Nicole nodded and packed up her things as if nothing had happened. "Let's stop here first. As to where to list, let's get Mr. Sloan here next time to continue the discussion. I'll go first."

Gerard called out to her. "Let's eat together?"

"No thanks." Nicole refused.

When she was about to walk out, Nicole glanced at Ivy. "Logan is going on a business trip, so you can come with me tonight."

Nicole did not ask for Ivy's opinion.

Ivy subconsciously glanced at Eric. She was cautious and delighted. "Yes, Ms.

Stanton.”

There were plenty of opportunities in front of her. Sooner or later, Eric would notice her.

Nicole did not care to look at their expressions and walked straight out.

Inside the large and solemn conference room, Gerard and Eric were the only two people left.

Gerard looked at Eric’s dark and sullen face and could not help but laugh gloatingly.

“Mr. Ferguson, I thought you had a wonderful trip, but it seems like there are still some rough patches, huh?”

Eric’s sharp gaze pierced Gerard. There was no warmth on his face.

“Curiosity killed the cat.”

Gerard was silent for a second. He stood up with a faint smile and shook his head.

“Tsk tsk... Do you think that Ms. Stanton kept this little assistant around intentionally?”

Gerard’s question was exactly what Eric

was wondering.

However, Eric looked unmoved. He raised an eyebrow. "Why don't you ask her?"

Gerard did not get a reaction from Eric, which was expected.

After all, not everyone could have the pleasure of watching Eric's drama, much less see him lose his temper.

Eric calmly stood up and leaned on his cane as he limped out. He had a natural unapproachable aura.

Once he left the conference room, he went to the elevator lobby and waited for the elevator.

Ivy Harrison, who was waiting on the side, took the initiative to press the elevator button for him. "Mr. Ferguson..."

She wanted him to notice her presence.

Eric did not respond.

The elevator came up, but Eric did not go in.

He asked, "Where is Ms. Stanton?"

His tone was like talking to an ordinary subordinate.

subordinate.

Ivy's face stiffened. She pointed to the office at the side.

"In the office with Tucker."

Eric did not say anything and went to the opposite office to wait for Nicole.

Ivy lowered her eyes to hide her disappointment. She then went to the pantry to bring over a cup of coffee for Eric.

Eric wrinkled his brows. "You're not my assistant."

He implied that she had mistaken her identity.

Ivy pursed her lips. She looked soft and gentle, with a hint of ingratiation.

"Mr. Ferguson, it's also my first time attending the opening event of a play. Is there anything I need to pay attention to?"

Eric said, "You don't need to do anything."

She was merely an assistant, so what did she need to prepare for?

Ivy smiled with embarrassment.

Chapter 477 What Are You Doing?

Capital Grand Theater.

Nicole had front-row tickets.

She got out of the car in a light-colored dress. Although the design was conservative, it made her look tall and slender, with curves in the right places.

Nicole paired it with beautiful stilettos. Her temperament was bright and outstanding.

Logan brought back the dress from the boutique and passed it on to Ivy to hand it to Nicole.

The theater was surrounded by reporters and fans. It was extremely crowded.

It seemed that Kai the superstar really lived up to his title.

When Nicole walked down the steps, she slipped and broke the heel of her stilettos.

The reporters' cameras kept flashing below. If she walked over like this, her odd look would definitely be on tomorrow's headlines.

tomorrow's headlines.
Nicole secretly cursed and quickly retreated into the car.

Luca asked, "Miss, what's wrong?"

Nicole said, "The heel of my shoe is broken. Find me a new pair of shoes."

Luca's eyes widened in a dilemma.

Ivy Harrison, who was next to her, hastily spoke.

"I have a spare pair of heels here that's about the same size as yours. Ms. Stanton, why don't you wear this pair?"

Nicole looked at her silently.

Ivy maintained a stiff and careful smile.

Nicole said, "Sure, thanks."

There was no other choice anyway. If she waited for her new shoes, it would delay the opening of the play.

The good thing was that the spare heels were new. Although it was not from a luxury brand, it was still passable.

As soon as they got out of the car, countless flashes gathered around Nicole, more enthusiastic than an actress walking

the red carpet.

Nicole maintained an elegant stance and a decent smile. When she was halfway through her walk, the front strap of her heels suddenly came loose and broke.

She subconsciously bent down to fix it when she suddenly felt a chill down her spine.

The zipper of the dress came undone!

The weather was not too cold, but it was still slightly cooler at night compared to the day.

When Nicole realized this, her body stiffened.

Everything from the shoes to the dress seemed like an accident, but countless thoughts flashed through Nicole's mind. All of them pointed to Ivy.

Nicole was kind enough to offer Ivy this opportunity, but Ivy was ungrateful.

The camera kept flashing. Nicole knew that as soon as she stood up, someone would immediately notice that her zipper came undone.

She could even feel the cold air starting to

She could even feel the cold air starting to invade her every pore from the waist up.

The reporters were a little surprised by her actions and felt that something was wrong.

Nicole took a deep breath and was ready to be mocked by everyone in a few seconds.

She had no choice but to accept this miserable loss.

The moment Nicole gritted her teeth and straightened up, a tall and broad figure suddenly loomed over her. A black suit jacket was draped over her tightly.

It felt warm and comfortable.

Nicole was stunned for a moment, so she turned her head and was surprised to see Clayton Sloan standing there. 2

Clayton smiled and did not back down from the flashing cameras, nor did he make any inappropriate moves. It just looked like he was worried about her being cold.

Everyone saw Clayton and recognized him as the man in the picture that Nicole posted that day which caused a big buzz

online.

Soon, the reporters raised their cameras with excitement.

“Ms. Stanton, may I ask if he is really your new love interest?”

“Are you two really together?”

“Mr. Ferguson will also be present today. Do you have anything you want to say to him?”

“Are you two on a date? Ms. Stanton, can you introduce this man beside you?”

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The countless hustle and bustle seemed to be distant from Nicole.

All she saw was Clayton's gentle smile that soothed her restless heart like fresh spring water.

Clayton did not speak and only smiled at the camera. He then turned around and led her into the theater.

There were no reporters inside the theater, so Nicole instantly felt relieved.

She sat on the sofa in the lounge.

She sat on the sofa in the lounge.

Clayton's gaze was fixed on her shoes with a heavy expression.

Suddenly, he knelt on one knee next to her and took off her shoes.

"These shoes don't match your dress today."

Her dress was a custom-made premium collection, while these shoes were common off-the-rack heels.

Clayton looked up just as Nicole looked down.

Their eyes met, and time seemed to freeze.

One second...

Two seconds...

Three seconds...

"What are you doing?"

Eric's icy cold voice broke the intimate silence.

Chapter 478 Lead a Horse to Water

From Eric's perspective, Nicole was sitting while Clayton was kneeling in a posture that looked like he was proposing to her. Clayton's gentle actions when he took off Nicole's shoes for her made Eric feel extremely uncomfortable. They looked like a couple in love!

Eric's face was cold and ugly. His eyes were frosty as he glared at Clayton dangerously.

Clayton heard Eric's voice, but he just put the shoes back on for Nicole as if nothing happened and straightened up.

"Ms. Stanton, you should get someone to change a pair and wait in the lounge upstairs."

Nicole thanked him and stood up naturally. She then sent Kai a message to prepare a new dress and shoes for her.

Kai was the only one who was of any use here.

After all, Nicole did not trust her bodyguard Luca's sense of fashion.

bodyguard Luca's sense of fashion.

Eric's face was cold and stern as he walked over. His gaze was dead set on Clayton.

Seeing his things coveted by others made Eric feel possessive and gave him a sense of crisis. He was losing his mind! 4

The man limped with the cane in his hand, but his gait was cold and imposing. Eric's inherent powerful aura was commanding.

Clayton did not avoid Eric's gaze and stood there like a gentleman. His temperament did not lose to Eric in the slightest.

The two men stared at each other with a fiery spark that was uncompromising.

"What were you doing just now?"

Eric repeated. His voice was extremely cold, deep, and gloomy.

His gaze gently landed on Nicole's body, which was wrapped in Clayton's suit jacket.

Eric found this extraordinarily piercing.

The man's gaze flickered slightly with

The man's gaze flickered slightly with forbearance and restraint.

Nicole walked over. When she was next to Eric, she paused in her footsteps and spoke in a low voice, "There's no need for us to explain what we do to you, right?"

She was dissatisfied with Eric overstepping his bounds. He should remember his identity.

What was more, if this was done by Ivy Harrison, then it was only because of Eric. 2

If Eric had not caused this trouble, Nicole would not have had this mishap that almost made her get humiliated in public. 2

After that, Nicole went upstairs to wait for Kai upstairs without caring about Eric's reaction.

Eric's face became gloomier. His gaze also darkened.

Clayton walked over with a faint smile and no extra emotion on his face.

"Mr. Ferguson, you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink. Some things just can't be forced."

Eric's sharp and cold eyes narrowed

slightly.

“Regardless, it’s still my horse. No one is worthy to touch it.”

The temperature instantly plunged to freezing point.

The reporters and fans outside naturally did not know about this confrontation. If they did, it would have caused another frenzy.

In the upstairs lounge.

Kai came in with a new dress and shoes for Nicole. He was speechless when it came to his troublesome sister, but he was quick to serve her needs.

“Fortunately, the sponsors have your favorite brand, but these are off-the-rack. Don’t you always wear custom-made dresses and shoes when you participate in these events?”

Nicole sighed in relief. She took off Clayton’s suit jacket and turned her back to Kai.

“Look...”

Her back zipper was broken, revealing a large patch of her sexy back. Although she

Her back zipper was broken, revealing a large patch of her skin on her back. Although she had a nice back, this dress was not designed to be backless, so it was somewhat unfitting.

Nicole had been working with her favorite brand for many years, so they would not make this kind of low-level mistake.

Kai looked shocked and wrinkled his eyebrows.

“Holy sh*t! Who did this? Logan can’t even do his job?!”

Kai was infuriated because he knew that this was done on purpose.

Nicole picked up the clothes he threw aside and went to the room inside.

“It’s not Logan. It’s someone else.”

“Who then? I’ll beat them up!”

Kai was fuming because someone dared to bully his baby sister.

Nicole laughed lightly and closed the door. “I’ll take care of it. You can go first.”

Kai left in a rage.

Chapter 479 Can't Explain

Nicole changed into a long black dress. She looked noble and aloof. The high heels were also her favorite brand and style. She let out a sigh of relief and remembered what just happened.

She picked up the phone and called Luca. "Tell Ivy Harrison to come up."

Luca responded, "Yes, Miss."

Nicole took a deep breath. As soon as she came out of the room, she saw Kai's assistant, Demi, waiting at the door.

"Ms. Stanton, Kai was worried about you being alone and asked me to follow you around tonight."

Nicole agreed since she was short of staff anyway.

She smiled. "Great! Wait here for Ms. Harrison, I'll come up later. I have something to say to her."

Demi nodded. "Don't worry, Ms. Stanton."

"It's almost time, so I'll go downstairs first."

first.”

Nicole smiled faintly and went downstairs. She was not someone who would put up with unreasonable people.

The lighting arrangements were ready in the theater hall. There was only one seat left in the front row, which was between Eric and Clayton.

Nicole paused in her footsteps. ‘Great, what a suffocating seating arrangement.’

During Nicole’s hesitation, Clayton spotted her and waved at her, so Nicole walked over naturally and sat down.

Eric’s gaze was unchanged, nor did he greet her gently as he usually did. He seemed like he was still angry at what happened earlier.

Nicole breathed a sigh of relief. ‘Awesome!’

Clayton smiled and spoke in a low voice, “Kai has a really strong appeal. The whole audience came for him.”

Nicole was very happy to hear someone praising her brother, but she was still modest.

modest.

"My brother is just good-looking, acts well, and has a nice personality."

The corners of Clayton's lips stiffened, then he nodded approvingly as his smile deepened.

Eric, who was on the other side of Nicole, did not speak. His face just became increasingly glum.

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The last scene of the act ended.

An assistant handed over three cups of coffee.

Clayton handed it to Nicole, who passed it on to Eric.

Eric froze for half a second. His expression eased as he reached out to take it.

In the next second, the cup somehow leaked before he could hold it steady.

The coffee spilled on his clothes. Eric wrinkled his eyebrows. He had OCD and simply could not tolerate his soiled clothes until the end of the play.

clothes until the end of the play.

When Eric stood up, the assistant was faster than Eric and took his cane. "I'm sorry, Mr. Ferguson..."

Eric swept a stern glance at the assistant and took his cane, then looked at Nicole. "I'm going to get changed first."

Nicole nodded and sat back down again.

The assistant looked somewhat familiar.

Not long after Eric left, Nicole stood up and quietly went out of the hall.

Toto had informed Eric of his room number in the lounge.

Eric stepped out of the elevator and found the room. When he walked in, it was dark inside.

He casually turned on the lights and saw a lady's purse and dress on the large soft sofa.

His eyes were cold and stern.

In the next second, the bathroom door opened.

A drenched woman wrapped in a bath towel came out from inside. The small

towel came out from the side. The small towel barely covered the vital parts. It was quite a sight.

This woman was none other than Ivy Harrison.

Eric's face was extremely glum. His eyes were cold, sharp, gloomy, and frightening.

"Who told you to come?" His voice was surprisingly cold.

Ivy was startled and froze for a few seconds. She then grabbed the bath towel that looked like it was about to fall off with reddened cheeks. "Mr. Ferguson... W
-Why are you here?"

Eric's gloomy eyes carried extreme disdain and cold indifference.

"Get out..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Ivy suddenly covered her chest and screamed. She then hid behind Eric's body.

A group of reporters with their equipment suddenly appeared at the door. The camera flashes were incessant.

Chapter 480 Get Lost With You

Eric and Ivy's intimate embrace at this moment was such an explosive and astonishing image.

Those reporters were like hungry wolves hunting for food. They were clicking away at their cameras and filming this scene.

Ivy Harrison cowered behind Eric, shivering with fear, looking so pitiful.

The reporters did not expect that both Nicole and Eric had new love interests.

In the next second, Eric pushed Ivy away like she was a piece of trash stuck to his body. The disgust in his expression was not hidden at all.

He did not even care if Ivy was naked in front of the cameras.

Eric walked up to the reporters with a sullen and oppressive gaze.

His tone was threatening.

"I don't care who told you to come. If a word or a photo about this gets out, all of you will be unemployed by tomorrow."

In an instant, the clicking sound of the

you will be unemployed by tomorrow."

In an instant, the clicking sound of the cameras stopped abruptly.

It was completely silent. Not a sound could be heard.

Those reporters looked at Eric with fearful eyes.

Eric always appeared in financial news. Besides that, his name would also appear in the tabloids that were related to Nicole. Since these were never suspended as Eric allowed it, the reporters gradually forgot that Eric Ferguson was untouchable. The President of Ferguson Corporation had deep connections in every industry and was very powerful.

Back then, Eric's name appearing in the tabloids was very rare and almost blasphemous.

Now, these reporters even rushed to dig up Eric Ferguson's scandals.

The audacity!

For a time, the reporters unconsciously trembled as fear invaded their every pore.

Their eyes unconsciously shifted to the

Their eyes unconsciously shifted to the wretched woman on the floor inside the room.

Ivy Harrison.

She was the one who informed them to come, saying that there was shocking information.

Eric sensed the direction of their gaze and instantly understood what was going on.

‘She dares to scheme against me?’

All of a sudden, his eyes darkened as he exuded a dense chill.

He stood there with an indescribable cold and stern aura. His voice also carried an inexplicable sharpness. “Get the hell out of here!”

The reporters jolted up and scurried away. They were afraid that if they lagged behind, they would be made an example of.

The doorway instantly quieted down. Eric looked back at Ivy, who was pale and shivering on the floor.

Her shoulders were bare as she trembled slightly. She looked so soft, weak, and

innocent.

Eric was not in the mood to appreciate her. All he felt was disgust and disdain, as well as coldness and anger.

'How dare this woman set me up?!'

The door was not closed.

Eric did not care that Ivy could be seen like this.

On the contrary, Ivy was a little shy and reticent. She lifted the bath towel slightly and looked uncomfortable.

"Mr. Ferguson, let me get changed first..."

Ivy felt regretful that her plans did not work out. She originally wanted to take advantage of this to expose their relationship to put Eric in a difficult position.

This way, she would be able to stay by Eric's side in a dignified way.

Who knew...?

Eric's gloomy gaze swept over Ivy coldly.

"Ms. Harrison, I hate it when people scheme on me."

scheme on me.

Ivy's face paled as she subconsciously denied it. "It's not me!"

Eric knew at a glance and shifted his gaze indifferently.

He did not want to take one more look at her because it would just pollute his eyes.

"It's too easy to find evidence, but I don't want to waste time on you."

His voice was compelling and left no room for maneuver.

"You can either get lost and scamper off to wherever you came from, or I'll have Eli Harrison come and get lost with you."

Ivy's face turned miserably pale, and her heart sank.