

Chapter 466 We're Not Familiar

Ivy Harrison was drenched and shivering. That pitiful look was really unbearable.

The air was silent for a moment.

Keith breathed a long sigh of relief. ' Luckily, it's not directed at me...'

Eric's gaze was cold and heavy. His eyes were not at all focused in the direction of that woman.

His thin lips were tightly pursed. His face was dark and cold, but his expression had a hint of sadness. His soul was long gone with a certain someone.

The banquet hall was lively with laughter.

Who could have known that such a scene happened at this place?

Keith subconsciously touched Eric's back and wondered what he should do.

Eric frowned slightly. Keith coughed.

"Ferg, look at this..."

Ivy Harrison's sobs were incessant as she looked at Eric mournfully.

Eric's voice was icy cold.

"This is your party. Don't ask me."

Keith froze. "No, but wasn't she just with you?"

Eric cast a warning glance at Keith.

"We're not familiar."

With that, Eric wheeled himself away without an expression, leaving them behind.

Keith froze in place. He did not know what to do for a moment.

Ivy cried louder and seemed even sadder.

"Can you give me a jacket? I need to dry my clothes."

"Okay. There's an empty room upstairs. Go up and sort it out."

Keith could not find a waiter anywhere, so he could only take off his suit jacket for her. He stood at the end of the long corridor and threw the jacket over.

He dared not get close because he could tell that this woman was not a simple person.

Keith did not want to get into trouble.

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Nicole lowered her head and was speaking with Clayton about the next step in their project.

Clayton clinked her glass and lowered his voice.

“Mr. Ferguson is coming this way.”

Nicole looked up and saw Eric alone in the wheelchair.

Ivy Harrison was not by his side.

It seemed that Eric threw her to Keith.

It was a pity that Ivy did not seize the opportunity.

Eric's gaze was cold and angry.

Keith quickly caught up. He pushed Eric's wheelchair to Nicole's side and looked at Clayton, who was next to Nicole.

He smiled and said, “What a coincidence, Mr. Sloan! I'd like to ask you for advice on some things. Why don't we talk over there?”

there?

Keith pointed in a direction.

Since this was Keith's party, it would be rude to refuse him, so Clayton agreed after two seconds of hesitation.

Nicole sat on the sofa and swirled the grape juice in her glass. She looked at Eric and smiled as if nothing was wrong.

"Mr. Ferguson, is there nothing going on over there?"

She casually asked, seemingly concerned.

Eric's eyes darkened.

His fingers clutched the side of his wheelchair. He held his breath as he tried desperately to suppress the rage in him.


"Nicole, did you do it on purpose?"

Nicole blinked, not quite understanding his question. "Do what on purpose?"

"Out of so many people, why did you ask me to go over there?"

Eric suddenly became aggressive.

He knew that the answer was not something he would like to hear, but he somehow wanted to run into the tip of the

somehow wanted to  into the tip of the knife and hurt himself again.

Nicole lowered her eyes slightly and smiled gently.

“I thought that you and Chairman Harrison are acquaintances, so naturally, you won’t ignore his daughter. Moreover ...”

Her eyes sparkled as she hooked the corners of her lips into a meaningful smile. “I heard her mentioning you. If not for you, why would this happen in the first place?”


Although Nicole did not say it explicitly, Eric obviously did not want to hear further.

“I’m not familiar with her!” He emphasized word by word.

Eric looked at Nicole with astringent reddened eyes.

He suddenly laughed. “Nicole, you’re really good at torturing people...”

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Chapter 467 The Start of a New Relationship

Before Nicole could say anything, she watched out of the corner of her eye as Ivy Harrison quickly went upstairs with Keith's suit jacket draped over her.

The way Ivy scurried away was really quite pathetic, but no one noticed.

Nicole looked at Eric with a calm face. His eyes were dark like ink.

She suddenly felt a dull pain in her chest, but she took a deep breath.

After the pain eased, she spoke in a low voice, "Eric Ferguson, I don't want to torture you. I want you to be relieved sooner."

Her voice was light, calm, and serious.

"It's not that I haven't thought about our relationship during this time. Mr. Ferguson, thank you for the efforts you've put into me, but... I'm sorry. I just can't fathom being with you again."

Nicole was overly calm as she spoke.

Eric's face was extremely cold. His eyes

Eric's face was extremely cold. His eyes were still and his body was tense. His fingers were white from clenching the armrest tightly.

Somehow, Nicole also felt a twitch of pain, but it was just for a short moment.

She quickly regained her composure.

It was better to rip off the band-aid.

Instead of getting entangled in this endlessly, it was better to make a clean cut. That way, both of them could be relieved.

During this time together, Nicole could finally see the situation with the most peaceful state of mind.

Nicole was not touched by Eric. Rather, she pitied her past self and wondered why she did not get his serious treatment at the beginning.

The more she thought about it, the more uncomfortable she felt, and the more she wanted to escape this feeling.

Seeing the pain and suppressed emotions in Eric's eyes, Nicole felt a little heartbroken. It felt a little suffocating.

heartbroken. It felt a little suffocating.

Nicole lowered her eyes and was silent for a moment. She looked up and smiled.

“It’s late. Thanks for bringing me here. I’ll go back first.”

With that, she stood up and left.

“Nicole...”

He called out to her and smiled with a pale face.

“You friendzoned me? I don’t accept it!”

Eric’s gaze was complicated as he looked at her. His voice was low and raspy.

“No matter what you say, I won’t give up on you. Whether you’re happy or not, I’ll keep waiting for you.”

Nicole left the party early without greeting anyone.

Eric looked at her departing back with narrowed eyes. He suddenly noticed that his body was tense. The moment he relaxed, he was drenched in cold sweat.

His pale face was in the shadows as he leaned back against the back of the wheelchair.

Nicole told Clayton that she was leaving. She did not call for a car and intended to walk back to the hotel.

The villa was not too far from the hotel. Getting some fresh air could also alleviate her mood.

Not long after she walked out, Clayton caught up to her.

Nicole was still a little surprised.

“Mr. Sloan, the party isn’t over yet, right?”

Clayton chuckled. Even after running to catch up to her, his face was not red, and he was not panting. He still looked poised with a steady temperament.

“It’s okay. I can’t let a little lady go back by herself, right?”

‘Little lady?’

Nicole paused for a moment. She liked this title.

She chuckled and felt relaxed.

“Then thanks for walking me back, Mr. Sloan.”

“It’s my honor.”

Clayton’s eyes were bright and glimmering, and his smile was decent.

“This trip that Mr. Ferguson planned is quite memorable. I think that this should be the last stop. Do you find it a pity that it’s ending soon?”

Nicole looked at him seriously and laughed. “I think it’s more of a pity not to make money.”

Clayton nodded. “Indeed.”

They were both business people after all.

The two of them walked in the faint evening darkness with neon lights flashing in the surroundings.

Nicole squinted her eyes and enjoyed the comfortable soft breeze on her face.

Clayton, who was next to her, softened his gaze when he saw her like this.

“Ms. Stanton...”

“Hmm?”

“Have you ever thought about starting a new relationship again? With me?” 1

Chapter 468 Interest First

Once Clayton's words fell, the atmosphere between the two of them instantly became silent.

The silence entwined with the light breeze.

Nicole paused in her footsteps and looked at him quietly.

Her eyes were slightly cold.

Clayton waited for a few seconds and did not get an answer, so he naturally did not let the situation become awkward.

He chuckled and said, "You didn't mishear me, and I won't take back my words."

His gaze was serious and frank. His tone was relaxed.

"As I said before, I'm very happy for you to take me as your new love to deal with Mr. Ferguson and the others. It's not out of courtesy, Ms. Stanton. It's more so my feelings for you..."

Clayton curled his lips into a decent smile that was not too humble nor too arrogant.

Nicole's eyes flashed with a trace of

Nicole's eyes flashed with a trace of incomprehension and bewilderment.

"Did this matter cause you to have some misunderstanding? I didn't mean to..."

"Of course, I know that you won't deliberately create trouble and hype about this. I just thought that it's the right timing to bring it up and thought that I had a chance to get in your favor. Although I won't use such forceful and eccentric ways as Mr. Ferguson did to pursue you, I am very serious about my feelings for you."

Looking at Clayton's sincere eyes and frank face, Nicole froze for a moment.

She lifted her head slowly to look up at him. Under the streetlights, their shadows were stretched and still.

Clayton's seriousness and humility suddenly made her feel a warmth in her heart.

If Nicole married Clayton, their evenly matched background would be a win-win situation. Perhaps Clayton was someone that Eric could not stop.

However, Nicole did not want to use

However, Nicole didn't want to use herself as a trade for interests, nor did she want to use Clayton to get Eric to give up on her.

That would be unfair to Clayton.

Nicole was silent for a few seconds. Her heart felt a little heavy, but her face was calm as she spoke.

"Mr. Sloan, thank you very much for your ..."

"Ms. Stanton, don't rush to friendzone me just yet. I'm not in a hurry to get into a relationship. I just want you to know my intentions, that I'm going to pursue you."

Clayton held a faint smile in his eyes that seemed to reflect the millions of stars in the galaxy.

Nicole's heart trembled slightly, but she quickly regained her composure. She smiled courteously.

"Mr. Sloan, we're both business people, so don't let personal matters affect our partnership..."

'Don't cancel our cooperation if I reject you! I'm out to earn big bucks!'

you! I'm out to earn big bucks!

Clayton could not help but laugh with some helplessness in his eyes.

"Of course. Interests come first."

Nicole agreed with this point of view. "Interest first!"

The two of them reached a consensus, and the pressure Nicole felt dissipated.

In one night, she had friendzoned two men, but she did not feel good about it.

Back at the hotel.

Nicole packed up and prepared to go back to Atlanta the next day. Floyd also agreed.

After all, if Floyd did not go back soon, all his fish would be eaten up by Kai.

The next morning.

Lil Michael ran over in his pajamas. He looked so cute and tender that Nicole's heart melted.

Once he heard that Nicole was leaving, he insisted on taking the same flight as her. No one could persuade him otherwise.

Clayton had some urgent matters to tend to, so he had no choice but to leave Lil

o, so he had no choice but to leave Lil Michael with Nicole and take a flight alone.

Nicole was not sure if it was intentional.

She did not see Clayton early in the morning, but she was relieved. After all, the man confessed his love to her so suddenly last night. If they met in the morning, it would be a little awkward.

Eric arranged the flight because he wanted to go back together. He had long been waiting in the hotel lobby.

He was no longer in a wheelchair. He sat on the sofa with a cane propped up next to him. His face was cold, and his aura was imposing and unapproachable.

Toto was trembling as he stood at the side, holding a husky.

‘What’s going on?’

Nicole nodded politely at Eric with no extra emotion.

Eric silently took his cane and struggled to stand up. He said in his usual tone, “Let’s go.”

Toto greeted them. “Good morning,

Let's go."

Toto greeted them. "Good morning, Chairman Stanton and Ms. Stanton. This is Young Master Ludwig's dog that he asked to transport back to Atlanta. If you don't feel comfortable, we'll leave it here."

The husky shook its head and stared blankly at Toto with its tongue sticking out. It looked shocked as if it understood what Toto was saying.

Chapter 469 Let Her Stay

Lil Michael looked at the dog that was as tall as he was and felt that it looked stupid and ugly.

“Pets aren’t allowed on planes!”

Eric glanced at him and smirked. “My private jet allows it.”

Lil Michael paused for a moment and suddenly felt that he was outclassed. No way!

He shook Nicole’s hand and looked at her with a firm gaze.

“Pretty Lady, when I get back home, I’ll order you a plane made of gold and studded with precious gems!”

‘I can’t let my pretty lady be lured by Mean Mister!’

The corners of Nicole’s lips stiffened. She smiled at Lil Michael.

“No, I don’t like planes.”

Lil Michael let out a very dejected “oh” and felt disappointed because it was yet another day that he did not successfully give his pretty lady a gift.

give his pretty lady a gift.

When everyone walked out of the hotel, the husky suddenly barked.

“Woof!”

At the same time, Nicole saw the woman standing in front of the hotel, shivering from the cold.

She was very familiar. It was Ivy Harrison.

Ivy was still wearing Keith’s suit jacket, but her dress was already dried. She was shivering because of the early morning chill. Ivy looked so fragile and pitiful as she stood there.

The husky smelled Keith’s jacket and thought that Keith was here, but seeing that it was not, it lazily walked behind Toto.

When Ivy saw Eric, her eyes lit up because she was happy to see him. She went over to him, but when she saw the person behind him, she stopped in her steps and retreated a little.

Nicole’s eyes flickered. It seemed that Eli Harrison had made up his mind to give his daughter to Eric Ferguson.

his daughter to Eric Ferguson.

Floyd did not recognize Ivy and frowned. "Who's this?"

Eric's gaze turned cold.

Toto hastily spoke. "We don't know her. I don't know and Mr. Ferguson knows even less!"

He sounded anxious to cut off all ties with Ivy, but they clearly recognized her.

Ivy looked at Eric with wounded eyes. She hesitated to speak.

"Mr. Ferguson, Old Master Ferguson invited me to Atlanta and asked me to go with your flight."

Eric's face was cold and sullen. Floyd was thinking on the side.

A few seconds later, Nicole smiled. "That's really a coincidence. Let her follow then."

Nicole took Lil Michael's hand and went over to the car.

Floyd did not say anything and followed suit.

Eric took a few steps with his cane. Ivy

Eric took a few steps with his cane. Ivy followed them happily when Eric suddenly stopped in his tracks.

He instructed Toto with a surprising coldness in his voice, "Get the hotel to buy a plane ticket for her."

Toto answered loudly, "Yes, Mr. Ferguson!"

Ivy froze in place. Her body was stiff as she felt the blood in her body clot.

She felt humiliated like she was slapped in public without an ounce of respect.

Nicole could take Eric's private jet, but Ivy was only deserving of a commercial flight.

Toto hurriedly called the hotel manager, who ran over. He looked at Ivy and said, "Book a ticket for Ms. Harrison back to Atlanta."

After that, Toto quickly got into the car and left.

On the plane.

Nicole and Floyd were discussing the company's affairs, so they were sitting face to face.

face to face.

Toto took care of the husky.

Thus, Eric could only sit face to face with Lil Michael.

The flight attendant politely put down a cup of coffee for Eric and gave Lil Michael a glass of milk. She could not help but look at Lil Michael a few more times and cooed. "What a cute little kid!"

Lil Michael was upset. "We're all men, so why did you give me a glass of milk?"

He wittily rolled his eyes and saw that Nicole did not have a drink, so he cleared his throat like a tiny adult.

"Give me a cup of coffee. I want to give it to my pretty lady."

'Nanny told me that all girls like sweets.'
Lil Michael thought.

Eric raised his eyebrows and chuckled. "Put less sugar. She doesn't like it."

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Chapter 470 Why Not?

Lil Michael grunted. "Bring over the sugar. I'll put it in myself!"

He could not trust the people on Mean Mister's plane.

What if they did not put any sugar and gave Pretty Lady bitter coffee?

The flight attendant brought him a cup of coffee and a jar of sugar.

Eric hooked his lips meaningfully and deliberately teased him.

"Don't add too much sugar. Pretty Lady doesn't like sweet drinks."

Lil Michael stuck out his tongue and did not believe Eric. He did the exact opposite because he thought that Pretty Lady must love sweet things!

Without a word, Lil Michael scooped huge spoonfuls of sugar into the coffee until it was about to spill over from the cup before he stopped and looked satisfied.

'Pretty Lady must be able to feel my love for her!'

Eric raised his eyebrows and smiled at him but did not stop it.

He reached out and slowly sipped his bitter coffee. 'How aromatic!'

Lil Michael jumped off the chair and carefully carried the sweet coffee to Nicole.

"Pretty Lady! I made this coffee especially for you. You're the only one in the world that gets to taste this..."

Nicole paused and spoke with a smile. "Aww, thanks. Just put it here. I just had a cup, so I'll drink it after a while."

Lil Michael cheerfully nodded and bounced back to his seat.

Floyd reached out and said, "I'm thirsty. Can I have it?"

Of course, Nicole did not refuse.

She handed the cup of coffee to Floyd, who took a sip with anticipation, but he quickly spat it back out.

Nicole was startled and got him a tissue. "Dad, are you okay?"

Floyd had a complex look when he glanced at Lil Michael. He looked at his

Floyd had a complex look when he glanced at Lil Michael. He looked at his daughter and was hesitant to comment on the sweet coffee.

“It’s nothing. I suddenly remembered that I need to control my blood sugar.”

If he finished this cup of coffee, he would most likely die of sweetness.

Lil Michael was a smart and perceptive child and noticed it.

Nicole got the flight attendant to take away the coffee, which Eric and Lil Michael saw. One of them was gloating, while the latter gnashed his teeth.

Lil Michael knew that he was duped and was exasperated.

“Mean Mister, you shouldn’t bully children!”

Eric smirked slowly and deliberately teased him.

“We’re all men, no? How are you a child?”

Lil Michael grunted heavily and looked away from him.

‘When I inherit Daddy’s estate, I’ll stomp
all over this Mean Mister!’

'When I inherit Dad's estate, I'll stomp all over this Mean Mister!'

.....

The plane landed.

Eric sent Nicole and Floyd back to the Stanton Mansion.

He then went to Ferguson Villa.

Old Master Ferguson was waiting for him at home.

Quinn seemed to be in a good mood because Old Master Ferguson finally changed his mind and was willing to give up on Nicole and the Stanton family. Thus, she would not need to put up with Nicole. ①

She would willingly accept any woman but Nicole as her daughter-in-law because Quinn thought that she could control those women.

This time, Eric risked his life for Nicole and even disregarded the company's affairs just to accompany Nicole on a tour. Old Master Ferguson was pissed off because of this and finally made up his mind to give up on a marriage alliance

mind to give up on a marriage alliance with the Stanton family.

As soon as Eric entered the villa, he saw that Quinn was talking nicely to a woman in the living room.

Surprisingly, it was Ivy Harrison.

Ivy also looked like she had just arrived. When she saw Eric, she stood up in a hurry.

“Mr. Ferguson, you’re back!”

Quinn was satisfied with Ivy because this girl was good-tempered, soft-natured, and easy to control.

Eric wrinkled his brows. “Why are you here?”

His voice was harsh and cold.

He held a cane on one side and his face became gloomier.

Ivy’s face stiffened. Quinn, who was on the side, smiled as she said, “I was the one who invited Ms. Harrison to our home. Our families are old partners and should interact more. Ms. Harrison is here to sightsee, so she’ll stay for a few days here. Eric, you have to accompany her and

one who invited Ms. Harrison to our home. Our families are old partners and should interact more. Ms. Harrison is here to sightsee, so she'll stay for a few days here. Eric, you have to accompany her and make sure she enjoys her time here."