

Chapter 105 No Room to Talk

Floyd Stanton kept cursing as he walked, but he still did not feel relieved. When the father-daughter pair walked out of the VIP area, they saw Grant walking over with his head held high.

"Why are you here?" Floyd grunted.

"I was worried, so I had to come over to pick you guys up."

Grant reached out and took over the suitcase from his father's hand, then looked at Nicole. "Be prepared. The reporters found out about your whereabouts, so there are now quite a few of them gathered at the entrance of the airport..."

Nicole coldly snorted. "I'm no coward!"

Floyd stroked Nicole's hair and let out a satisfied grunt. He was extremely protective of his princess. "Yeah, you guys follow behind me."

'Let's see who dares to come forward and pick a fight with me!' Floyd thought.

Grant was still worried, so he protected Nicole by his side and held her hand. Once

Nicole by his side and held her hand. Once they got out, a flurry of camera flashes bombarded them. Nicole subconsciously looked away. In the eyes of reporters, Nicole was trying to nestle into Grant's chest.

One second, the headline was: "Nicole and Kai suspected of living together."

The next second, there was another headline: "Nicole meeting Grant Stanton's family."

"Nicole, are you and President Stanton dating? What's your relationship with movie star Kai?"

Grant covered Nicole's eyes to keep the flash from blinding her. He put his arm around her shoulders and walked out with firm steps.

"Nicole, will you marry into the Stanton family?"

"How does it feel to marry into a rich family for the second time?"

"Nicole, do you feel very proud that so many men are surrounding you?"

"Nicole, is Ian Carter also one of your backups?"

The countless questions were hard to hear as if those rumors online were factual.

“Chairman Stanton, tell us what you think about Nicole’s ugly past...”

The reporters did not spare Floyd Stanton, the Head of the Stanton family, either. It was as if his attitude would determine Nicole’s life and death.

When Floyd heard those words, his already glum face turned even more sullen. He walked forward without any intention to comment.

Grant also did not make a sound. The surrounding bodyguards blocked out the reporters. Nicole just walked out calmly in her black dress without making a word of explanation.

The facts would prove everything eventually.

Suddenly, someone threw a mineral water bottle from the opposite direction, which smashed onto the back of Nicole’s head. Nicole shuddered from the impact. Grant coldly turned his head in that direction and instructed, “Logan, find that person and call the police!”

"Yes, sir."

The bodyguards raised their vigilance and formed a solid wall on both sides, no longer giving anyone the chance to throw objects. The Stantons then got into the car, which slowly merged into the traffic.

They had prepared six of the same cars in the front and back, so the reporters had no way to identify them and lost their car shortly after.

Nicole finally let out a breath of relief when they got into the car.

Grant rubbed her head and looked at her worriedly. "Does it hurt?"

Nicole shook her head. "No, it doesn't."

She was just stunned.

Floyd took out the red wine from the small refrigerator, poured himself half a glass, and chugged it with his head tilted back.

"The Fergusons are too much! Since they dare to touch my daughter, don't blame me for not being polite!"

Grant nodded. "Yeah, it's time we show them the repercussions of their actions,

them the repercussions of their actions,
but there's no rush.

"Dad, don't get mad. They don't deserve
our attention."

Nicole smiled and felt a trace of bitterness
in her heart. Her family only had to face
these embarrassments with her because
she was too stupid and stubborn back
then to fall for the wrong man.

'I was just asking for it...' Nicole thought.

Floyd was heartbroken and stroked her
hair as he sighed lightly. "It's good that
you thought it through. It's never too late t
o turn back."

Nicole nodded and felt her eyes getting a
little moist.

As soon as they left, the picture of the
Stantons at the airport immediately
became a hot topic of discussion among
netizens.

[Look at Chairman Stanton's face! It looks
like he won't recognize Nicole as his
daughter-in-law. Her dream of marrying
into a rich family is shattered!]

[How could Grant Stanton fancy such a
gold-digger like Nicole? He must be

deluded by her!]

[Nicole has such skills... I really should learn from her...]

.....

The phone suddenly rang.

Floyd looked at his phone and picked it up with a cold and solemn face.

“Chairman Ferguson, something wrong?”

“Chairman Stanton, I just saw the news online. I should give you a proper welcome since you’re back! Why don’t we grab a drink together tonight?”

Chapter 106 Give In

Grant and Nicole looked at their father in unison. Old Master Ferguson was really anxious to call their father right after Floyd had just gotten off the plane.

Floyd Stanton sneered. “That’s not necessary. My family’s a mess right now, s

necessary. My family is a mess right now, so I'm not in the mood to go out for a drink."

Old Master Ferguson said, "It's only because of a woman, so what's there to be upset about? I actually have a favor to ask of you."

"Chairman Ferguson, Stanton Corporation's anniversary is coming up in a few days, so how about I invite your whole family and we can talk then?"

The other party paused. "Great, then I'll see you then."

After hanging up, Floyd Stanton's eyes emitted a chill. "Just watch how I'll clean up those Ferguson scumbags!"

Grant laughed. "Then I'll take these few days to reorganize our company's shares and decide which directors to keep or kick out so that our Lil N can have a clean environment."

Floyd nodded. "Good, it'll save us a lot of trouble later."

Nicole deliberately sighed. "Oh no... What should I do? I'm about to have too much money that I can't finish spending..."

money that I can't finish spending...

Floyd paused and suddenly remembered something. "Speaking of spending, the bank president called me yesterday saying that Kai spent \$800 million in one afternoon. It's not for investment or stocks, so he's afraid that it's an abnormal transaction. What is Kai up to?"

Grant could not help but laugh. "Dad, that money was spent by Lil N."

Floyd said, "Oh, then I'm relieved."

If Kai heard about this, he would probably go crazy.

When Nicole got back, she received a call from an unfamiliar number. She thought that it might be a spam call, so she ignored it. However, it rang incessantly, so Nicole finally caved.

"Nicole?"

It was Keith Ludwig's voice.

She raised her eyebrows. "Mr. Ludwig, something wrong?"

Keith was looking for her, so it was most likely nothing good.

After less than two seconds of silence,

After less than two seconds of silence, Keith pursed his lips and said, "Nicole, I didn't take this opportunity to add fuel to the fire this time, so you can't push me out to be your shield..."

Nicole snickered. "Turns out he knows what fear is?"

"Mr. Ludwig, did you forget how you offended me that night?"

Keith panicked, but he did not want to give in either.

"That's just a misunderstanding. I've deeply reflected on myself, so just let me off this time..."

This was the first time Nicole heard such panic in Keith's voice. It seemed that those nude photos had traumatized him greatly.

"I'll think about it. Don't call me again. I don't want to hear your voice."

After that, Nicole was about to hang up when Keith hurriedly spoke, "Hey, wait! Someone's looking for you..."

Nicole froze for a moment, then heard a familiar cold voice.

"Nicole, it's me."

It was Eric Ferguson.

Hearing this voice, Nicole's eyebrows twitched slightly. She let out a light laugh. "Mr. Ferguson, do you also want to warn me?"

Eric was stunned for a moment. "My grandfather looked for you?"

"Didn't Chairman Ferguson set this whole thing up to make me learn my lesson?"

'He's just playing dumb!' Nicole thought.

"Nicole, just give in to him. Return the pipe and I'll take care of the rest. I'll handle everything online."

Nicole forced a laugh. Her eyes were a little moist.

The other side was silent.

"Eric Ferguson, I know you're both playing good cop, bad cop. Do you take me for a fool?" Nicole could not help but sneer. Since they already had such a falling-out, Nicole made her stance clear.

"Your family is so underhanded to sling mud at me, insult me with the nastiest

n her eyes.

'Tears mean weakness... I'm so useless!' Nicole thought.

Nicole used three days to wear out all the affection she had for Eric from the past three years. She finally understood that she should never have any expectations of a person who did not love her back.

'What does it matter if Eric Ferguson did it or not? What's more, he's waiting for me to kneel to them and beg for mercy? They even act like they are such angels, granting me so-called mercy right before they stab me to death? What a joke!'

After Nicole removed her love goggles, she could see the whole situation with extra clarity. She could finally see it objectively and found that all of this was based on their condescension of her.

Even if she was surrounded by gentries like Grant Stanton and Ian Carter; even if she had exceeded expectations and stunned everyone with her actions and character; even if she was the Vice President of Stanton Corporation that was impressive enough to make people notice her, nothing seemed to matter.

her, nothing seemed to matter.

In the eyes of the Fergusons family, she was still the weak pushover with no background, money, or power. To them, Nicole was just a gold-digging, scheming woman that only wanted to marry into an affluent family.

Thus, the Fergusons were unscrupulous and used their power to force her to the wall, trying to make her life so dull that she would seem like a complete failure.

Eric's heart sank when he heard Nicole's words, which pricked him like a thorn in his heart.

It was painful and suffocating.

Eric knew that every word of insult Nicole received was unjust.

These days Eric had been attempting to turn the situation around, but Old Master Ferguson used all his contacts and resources so that the matter would continue to worsen, thus increasing its impact on Nicole. Moreover, Eric had to deal with an issue with a client in France, so he was too busy to handle Nicole's scandal.

Since things had come to this point, there

falling-out, Nicole made her stance clear.

“Your family is so underhanded to sling mud at me, insult me with the nastiest words, and deliberately distort the truth. Yet you still want me to beg for forgiveness on my knees and even want me to be grateful to you? Don’t you feel like you’re all so repulsive?”

The atmosphere was sullen and oppressive.

Keith’s voice came through. “Nicole, Eric didn’t do this.”

“So what? Isn’t he a Ferguson? Is he that innocent? Do you think every single word of scolding I’ve received today has nothing to do with Eric Ferguson?”

Chapter 107 If I Don’t Like You

Nicole desperately suppressed those surging emotions in her heart. She took a deep breath as she held back the sourness in her eyes.

Since things had come to this point, there was no way to please both parties. The only way was for Nicole to compromise.

Eric wanted Nicole to hand over the pipe to his grandfather to appease him and divert his attention. Then, he could take the opportunity to gain back control over the media. He wanted to clarify the facts for Nicole to clear her name and minimize the damage.

“Nicole, let’s talk about the rest later. What’s more important is solving the matter at hand.” Eric spoke again with forbearance.

Nicole sneered. “Don’t bother. I’m used to being scolded, so it doesn’t matter to me. Eric Ferguson, you’d best remember that the most regrettable thing in my life is being so blind to fall for a jerk like you! Thank God it’s only been three years... I’ll just consider this a nightmare! Also, tell Chairman Ferguson that I will find a good home for the emerald pipe.”

After that, Nicole hung up the phone without hesitation. Her eyes were already blurred with tears.

Nicole remembered when she first got

Nicole remembered when she first got divorced, she wanted to know if Eric had once felt moved or touched by her affection for him. However, she could not and would not ask him this because asking would mean defeat.

That was because Eric Ferguson had never acknowledged her as his wife.

Nicole did not want to debase herself any longer.

Now, the answer was no longer important, and Nicole just felt that the question itself was simply ridiculous.

'How absurd! The past three years of marriage is just a self-abasing nightmare!'
' Nicole thought.

Keith looked at the call that was disconnected and saw that Eric's face was glum and tense. He let out a nervous laugh and said, "This woman doesn't know any better. Ferg, don't bother with her. Just wait for the heat to pass."

He had not seen any woman who dared to scold Eric Ferguson so blatantly and did not even give him the chance to retaliate.

'Nicole's really something!'

'Nicole's really something!'

"By the way, I received an invitation to Stanton Corporation's anniversary party. I heard that they've also invited many mainstream domestic and foreign media for the grand gala. Perhaps they intend to take advantage of this opportunity to explain the matter about Nicole, so don't worry about it."

Eric's eyes were indifferent. His face was icy, and his voice was cold as he said, "I'm not worried. Forget it... She doesn't appreciate it anyway."

Eric did not know what Nicole was thinking. The situation was clearly very tense, but Nicole was still not willing to accept the olive branch they offered her.

'Did she really think that Stanton Corporation would take her in? Or will Grant Stanton really marry her? In her situation, anyone who gets involved with her will be in big trouble. This stupid woman!' Eric thought. ①

Chapter 108 @RichBaby

Grant Stanton personally sent out the invitations for the anniversary of Stanton Corporation. Every famous and influential person in the country was basically on the guestlist.

What was most shocking was that they had rejected all brand sponsorships for this anniversary gala. They had also hired the top event planners to make sure that everything, from place settings, drinks, and meals, was of the best standard.

Everyone could see the degree of importance this anniversary gala was to the Stantons.

After a few days, Nicole's online beratement was no longer as intense as before. From time to time, there would be a hired keyboard warrior that would hurl some insults at her. What replaced Nicole's scandal as the hottest topic was the search for @RichBaby, the mysterious rich woman from that live-streamed shopping spree.

In that live stream, @RichBaby bought luxury items worth \$800 million without asking for the price of anything. Thus, the

asking for the price ● anything. Thus, the identity of @RichBaby was hotly debated for a while.

Everyone still did not know anything about this mysterious person except the chat records from that day's live stream.

The netizens speculated that since @RichBaby had bought out the live-streamer's merchandise for that session, which was worth \$800 million, she would have to pick them up somehow. They just had to pay close attention to the pick-up process to find out more about this @RichBaby.

Nicole happily watched the show online. She did not reveal herself or make a sound and let the crowd run wild with speculations.

After all, Nicole was not in showbiz, so she did not have to expose all her information to the public.

Stanton Corporation's anniversary gala was held in the largest banquet hall in the business district that could accommodate a thousand people. It was a semi-open venue, and from the upper floors, one could overlook much of the bustling city.

From there, they could see a river that ran through the north and south ends of the city, as well as a few famous landmarks. The huge digital screens on those buildings were advertising space that was usually billed by the second. That night, Stanton Corporation had bought out all those digital signboards to place congratulatory text about their anniversary.

It was an expensively low-key display of wealth.

The businessmen, celebrities, and media who attended the event marveled at the hefty costs of this gala. They all thought it astonishing that Stanton Corporation would celebrate a mere anniversary in such a grand way.

Nicole arrived early at the venue's lounge. Grant Stanton was outside, while Floyd Stanton had to help his daughter pick out the best clothes and jewelry. Everything must be perfect.

Even those who were accustomed to luxury brands were startled when they arrived at the venue because these gowns were all unique haute couture tailor-made

were all unique haute couture tailor-made for Nicole. Several top international designers discussed for a few days to come up with the concept and design of these dresses. All thirteen of these dresses were stunning collectors' items, and this scene was a unique precedent in the world.

"Ms. Stanton, which gown do you prefer for your first appearance?" The designer asked with a smile.

Nicole looked at the thirteen gowns in front of her that were all so gorgeous and exquisite that she could not shift her gaze.

Before she could say anything, Floyd waved his hand and said, "Just wear whichever that's most expensive!"

Nicole was speechless.

The designer spoke meekly, "Chairman Stanton, these dresses can no longer be valued in terms of money..."

Nicole smiled and pointed to the light gray drop-shoulder gown that looked simple, elegant, and noble. It was meticulously inlaid with hexagonal-cut diamonds and was beyond beautiful.

"This one?" The designer nodded

diamonds and was beyond beautiful.

"This one?" The designer nodded approvingly. "Ms. Stanton, you have a good eye! The first appearance should leave the deepest impression. If the dress is too extravagant, it'll take away from the main character, so it won't seem appropriate. Although the color of this dress is understated, it has a very chic design. Each diamond is carefully selected for its clarity and the location of the inlay brings out the best of your figure. It'll show off your slender figure and fair skin even more! With these heels, it's simply perfection!"

The person next to the designer came forward holding the pair of high heels, which were just as expensive, exquisite, and flawless.

Floyd nodded repeatedly, but no one knew if he actually understood what the designer said. Anyway, those were words of appraisal for Nicole, so he liked it!

"Where's the jewelry? Where's the stuff I had someone buy from the European royal family?"

The person on the side hurriedly carried it over carefully with both hands.

The person on the side hurriedly carried it over carefully with both hands.

“Chairman Stanton, here it is. It just got off the plane and is in perfect condition.”

Floyd swept a glance, nodded, and looked at his daughter. “Nikki Baby, see if you like it. If you don’t, I’ll get someone to change it. I bought you other jewelry too, but this is the most expensive one!”

Nicole laughed helplessly. She swept a glance at the jewelry and knew that it was very well preserved by the collector. The diamond’s clarity was dazzling.

Fortunately, the design was not too fancy and cumbersome. It was just a simple necklace in the shape of a lily, which was fitting for this dress.

“No, it’s nice. This will do.”

As soon as Nicole said this, Grant knocked on the door and came in. “Dad, the Fergusons are here.”