Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 11

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 11 Making an Appointment With Gardner Corporation's President

Nicole curled her lips into a smile while stroking Hayden's soft hair in gratification. She didn't really take offense to Joseph's words. After all, although she had slept with Joseph that night, she had never thought of becoming a couple with him. "I'm not angry. I'm content with having you." It's just that I've come for nothing today. I've thought that Joseph is only an ignorant and incompetent playboy, but I didn't expect this playboy to also be a narrow-minded good-for-nothing. She quickly left the mall with Hayden in her arms.

Meanwhile, Queenie was talking and joking with several young ladies nearby as they came shopping here. When she saw Nicole, she had wanted to walk up to her and taunt her a little. However, upon seeing the features of the kid in Nicole's arms, she was completely stunned. That boy looks just like the miniature version of Colton! He seems to be about four or five years old, which happens to match up with what happened five years ago... C-Could he be Nicole and Colton's son?!

For a moment, Queenie froze on the spot, as though she had been struck by a thunderbolt. Colton will definitely get suspicious if he sees that boy. If he continues to look into it, will he find out what actually happened five years ago? Once he learns about everything, not only will the Andersons lose the great wealth and glory that we're currently enjoying, but we'll be offending the Gardner Family thoroughly! No one dares to fool Colton like this... She couldn't help trembling at the thought of how harsh Colton could be.

"Queenie? Queenie!"

"Huh?" Queenie came to her senses, only to see her friend next to her looking at her with concern. The friend asked, "Are you alright? You look so ghastly."

"I-I'm fine." Queenie pulled herself together. By the time she turned to look at Nicole again, the latter had gotten into her car with the boy and left.

Queenie's expression was ferocious as she watched the car drive off into the distance. To think that Nicole, that damn b*tch, was secretly pregnant with Colton's child and even gave birth to the boy! No one knows what happened five years ago except Dad, Mom, and I. The matter's supposed to be over, but now there's a boy popping up from nowhere! I'd never let Nicole destroy everything I have now—never!

...

After returning home with Hayden in her arms, Nicole thought back on what had happened, but the more she thought about it, the more she felt that something was amiss. Why would both Queenie and Joseph not believe that I'm Lisa? Not only that, but they both think that Lisa is a middle-aged woman in her forties! After turning it over in her mind, she figured that this could only be Zachary's doing.

Zachary Yates was the president of F&M Apparel. Having assumed the position at a young age, he was a man with extraordinary means, only that he had bad taste. Nicole had no idea what had gotten into him, but three years ago, he fell in love with her at first sight and began courting her aggressively, disregarding the fact that she already had a child. Nicole rejected his advances in an uncompromising manner without giving him the slightest opportunity, but the more steadfast she was in turning him down, the more aggressively he courted her.

At the thought of Zachary, a hint of helplessness crept over Nicole's face. She took out her cell phone and dialed his number.

"Hi, babe! Why do you have time to call me today? Is it because you miss me?"

Nicole summoned up her patience as she listened to Zachary's voice, which sounded like he needed a spanking. She asked, "Why are there rumors going around that I'm a middle-aged woman in my forties? Is that your doing?"

Zachary's voice took on a hint of puzzlement. "Are there such rumors? How come I don't know about them?"

Nicole gnashed her teeth in anger. "Who else could have spread the rumors if it weren't you? Now no one believes me whenever I go around telling people that I'm Lisa!"

Upon hearing Nicole's furious voice, Zachary pretended as though he had finally remembered what had happened. "Ah!" he exclaimed softly. "I forgot about it. It was probably because those in the country were asking about you two years ago. Well, you're F&M Apparel's Chief Designer, and I was worried that you might get headhunted, so I came up with that dumb idea," he explained nonchalantly.

Nicole shot back, "Do you know how much your dumb idea is hurting me? People come to me, asking if I could work with them, but they don't believe me when I say I'm Lisa!" She was boiling with anger. No wonder Joseph and Queenie don't believe that I'm Lisa. Turns out Zachary was the one spreading the rumors!

Noticing how more and more agitated Nicole sounded, Zachary hurriedly reassured her, saying, "No matter whether they believe it or not, you're F&M Apparel's one and only Chief Designer. I'll personally testify for you at F&M Apparel's annual dinner a week later, okay?"

Nicole rolled her eyes. It wasn't like she cared much about her status as Chief Designer; it was just that she was angry because they wrote her off as an impersonator. "Don't spread the rumors around anymore. Otherwise, you're gonna screw up your own company's business," she muttered. Even if she did end up striking a business deal with the Mann Family, the deal wouldn't be worth more than scraps to F&M Apparel. Still, she couldn't help getting furious when she heard Joseph speaking of her and her son like that.

"Okay, okay. Whatever you say is right, Miss Anderson." Zachary laughed in a deep and attractive voice.

Nicole asked, "By the way, are we supposed to close the deal with Gardner Corporation before the turn of the year?" She recalled what she was supposed to do. Her life had been in a mess since she returned to the country several days ago. Firstly, there was Colton, because of whom she then ran into Queenie. And lastly, there was the incident with Joseph... She was so tied up by these matters that she had almost forgotten the real purpose she had returned to the country.

Upon speaking of work-related matters, Zachary finally began to sound more serious. "There's no need to be in such a hurry. Our collaboration with the Gardner Family this time will begin after the turn of the year, and the Gardners are invited to the annual dinner. Still, you can visit Gardner Corporation tomorrow to take a look first."

Nicole pondered for a moment. Indeed, I need to go to Gardner Corporation to meet with the person in charge before the collaboration. Otherwise, with little to no knowledge of the company, I might not be able to come up with satisfactory clothing designs. "Okay then, help me make an appointment with Gardner Corporation's president tomorrow. I'll be going to take a look."

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 12

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 12 That Weirdo Is Gardner Corporation's President!

The next morning, Nicole spruced herself up before changing into black formal wear. She had a great curvaceous figure, and her tight-fitting suit hugged her voluptuous curves in all the right places, making her look mature and somewhat businesslike from a distance. She waited for Hayden to get up. After they had breakfast together, she told him to stay home and be good; only after that did she leave home in a hurry.

Unbeknownst to her, however, as soon as she left home, Hayden took out his cell phone and dialed Colton's phone number...

. . .

On the top floor of a tall building, a man dressed in a black suit was sitting in a brightly lit office, giving off frosty vibes with a hint of restlessness in his narrow eyes. Tapping his cold and pale finger on the table, he said in a voice as chilly as the piercing cold wind of winter, "Is this how you guys are doing your job?"

Those before him lowered their heads without making a sound.

As time went on, the chilliness in the air became even more apparent. Finally, someone bit the bullet and stepped forward, saying in a timid voice, "President Gardner, it was Miss Anderson who did it. W-We didn't dare to stop her." They had fixed on a manufacturer to order this batch of materials from, but Queenie insisted that they order from another manufacturer. Knowing about her relationship with Colton, everyone dared not stop her.

Queenie, huh... Colton pressed his thin lips together before waving his hand. "Ignore her decisions from now on. Just throw this batch of substandard materials away and reorder the materials."

Upon hearing Colton's words, everyone finally sighed with relief. It's fine as long as he doesn't blame it on us, they thought. Now that Colton had given the word, they replied, "Roger that, President Colton," in relief. Then, they left right away, fearing that he would go back on it.

Colton closed his eyes for a small break as he was left alone in the office. His skin was cold and pale, and his fingers were slender; he placed his fingers gently around his eyes, massaging them slowly. Five years ago, he had been drugged by a business rival, but Queenie saved him at the critical moment. That was her first time, and I've spent five years returning the favor since then. Over the past five years, I've gratified all her vanity by granting her every wish. Still, I didn't expect that not only was she not content with that, but she even pushed her luck by ordering goods from another manufacturer without permission! Since that's the case...

Just then, his cell phone suddenly rang; it was an incoming call from an unfamiliar number. His eyes lowered, he picked up the phone and answered the phone call.

On the other end of the line was a child's clear voice, which sounded a bit like an adult despite its childish quality. "Hello, are you Mr. Colton Gardner?"

"Uh-huh," Colton mumbled. If I remember correctly, this voice belongs to the boy at the airport, he thought. He was somewhat curious about what kind of tricks this boy would play—or what kind of tricks his mother would like to play, to be exact.

"I'm calling to tell you that my mom is arriving at your company soon. She'll give you a document, and the third-to-last page of the document has my hair on it," Hayden said quickly; he had sneaked his hair into the document without Nicole's knowledge. "I'm

your biological son. If you don't believe me, you can get a DNA paternity test done on my hair."

Colton was amused deep down, but just as he wanted to speak, he was interrupted by Hayden in a cocky manner. "You don't have to say anything. Just listen to me. I'm now four years old. You can think about whether you've come into contact with a woman five years ago, especially during the period between December and February. If you have, please do the DNA paternity test," he said while flipping through the document in his hands, which was written in scrawls and scribbles.

"You're Gardner Corporation's executive director. Owning 51% of the company's shares, you have full ownership of the company. We've met before, and I'm satisfied with your looks. And besides, we're related by blood, so I consider you qualified to be my dad," Hayden continued. Worried, he added, "It won't take you much time to do the paternity test. Regardless of whether I'm lying or not, isn't it great to be able to dispel your doubts?" With that, he quickly hung up without giving Colton the opportunity to answer back.

Looking at his cell phone, Colton couldn't help being amused. This is the first time I was instructed how to do things—and by a boy, of all people? As far as I recall, the kid's mother is called Nicole, huh?

. . .

Meanwhile, having arrived at Gardner Corporation, Nicole looked up at the building that towered into the sky. The company deserved its reputation as the leading enterprise in the country. The fact that it could buy such a tall building in downtown Goldwick—an area where property prices were sky-high—as its premises was enough proof of the company's enormous potential.

When Nicole walked up to the front desk with the contract, the front desk receptionist asked politely at once, "Good morning, miss. May I help you?"

Nicole nodded slightly, saying, "I'm Lisa from F&M Apparel, and I have an appointment with President Gardner today. Please tell him that I've arrived."

As soon as Nicole revealed her identity, a look of surprise flashed across the front desk lady's face.

Recalling the rumors spread by Zachary, Nicole had no choice but to hand over the work badge in her handbag. Bringing her work badge everywhere she went wasn't her style usually, but because of what happened last time, she decided to bring it with her for this trip.

Seeing that the work badge was indeed bearing F&M Apparel's logo, the front desk lady finally greeted respectfully, "Nice to meet you, Ms. Lisa. President Gardner has

specifically told us that you may take the elevator to the 28th floor directly. The president's office will be on your left."

"Okay. Thank you very much," Nicole said with a smile before taking back her work badge and heading upstairs.

Although it was around the rush hour, the elevator Nicole took was the president's private elevator, which could arrive at the president's office directly, making her the only person in the empty elevator. After reaching the president's office, she put on a businesslike smile and knocked gently on the door.

"Come in." From inside the room came a familiarly deep and husky voice.

Nicole frowned slightly; she couldn't help feeling that she had heard the voice somewhere. However, she didn't think much about it, and she opened the door and walked inside.

As soon as she entered the spacious and brightly lit office, she saw a reddish brown desk, of which sitting behind was a man dressed in a suit who projected the aura of an elite from every pore. At this moment, he was handling documents with his head down, allowing Nicole to see his stylishly cut black hair and chiseled jaw.

"Hi, I'm Lisa from F&M Apparel. I'm here on behalf of F&M Apparel this time to discuss our upcoming collaboration with Gardner Corporation next summer," Nicole said, introducing herself.

As soon as she finished introducing herself, the man finally looked up, revealing his dashing eyebrows, inky eyes, pug nose, and thin lips. Surprisingly, it was a face Nicole was all too familiar with. It's Colton Gardner, the weirdo I met at the airport the other day! To think that he's Gardner Corporation's president!

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 13

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 13 Doing the DNA Paternity Test

Nicole's entire body froze. Is this what it means when they say, "It's a small world"?

Colton looked up at the woman before him, who looked a little astounded. Dressed differently from the previous two times, she wore light makeup while standing gracefully erect, looking somewhat more refined than when they last met. "Lisa?" He raised his tone of voice slightly with a note of interest. I remember that little kid telling me his mom was coming just now. Could this woman be Lisa? How interesting. Now they've ganged up in an attempt to fool me!

Upon hearing his voice, Nicole hurriedly composed her features. "Yes, I am. Nice to meet you, President Gardner."

Colton rose from his seat. His figure was tall and slender, while his skin was pale and even a little translucent in the sunlight. Curling his lips into a meaningful smile, he replied slowly, "You don't have to be so courteous. We've known each other for a long time, after all." No sooner had the kid called than she showed up, impersonating Lisa. Well, I have to say that this woman is indeed quite resourceful; I didn't expect her to be able to learn that Lisa will be coming to Gardner Corporation today!

Uh... Nicole was somewhat lost for words. I didn't expect him to be Gardner Corporation's president. Curses! I should've done my homework upon returning to the country!

Colton asked, "You said you're Lisa, but do you have any evidence to prove it?" His voice was somewhat cold, and his tall figure made him lower his gaze while looking at Nicole.

Nicole numbly took her work badge out of her handbag and handed it to Colton. "This is my work badge. You may take a look." Inwardly, though, she said to herself again and again, This is a customer, and the customer is always right. Calm down, Nicole. Don't lose your temper...

When Colton saw how the pretty woman before him went slightly red in the face with a look of repressed anger, his heart lifted all of a sudden. He lowered his head, darting a look at the work badge before saying languidly, "Such a thing can be forged, no?"

What the heck? Nicole stared at the man in astonishment. If it weren't that she was representing F&M Apparel at the moment, she would have slapped Colton across the face long ago. "You're so good at joking. Why would I fake my work badge? To make my way up here for the special purpose of flirting with you?" Her lips curled into a strained smile. However, as soon as she looked up, she saw a pair of fathomless eyes staring fixedly at her with a chilly and intense gleam in them.

"That's hard to say," Colton replied, answering Nicole's question. He raised his chin slightly, his face expressionless, but his whole body exuded a chilly aura. Firstly, it was our chance encounter at the airport; then we met again after she picked up my wallet. Finally, her son called me, claiming to be my son, and now she came and claimed to be Lisa right after that. What a cunning woman! For a moment, I actually believed it. "Just leave the document on the desk. We'll talk after I confirm your identity," he said impassively. I'm not gonna have too many dealings with this flirt. That'd be a bother.

What a f*cking dumb*ss! F*ck you, you *sshole! Stupid tw*t! Son of a b*tch! Nicole cursed Colton inwardly with every profanity she knew despite the modest and gentle

smile on her face. Holding the document with both hands, she placed it neatly on the desk. "Please take your time and read it carefully without overlooking any details. Now if you'll excuse me, I'll be taking my leave."

Colton's eyes flickered as he looked at the woman, who still assumed a gentle demeanor despite being already pissed off at him. For some reason, he found her somewhat interesting.

Nicole wasn't in the mood to play along with him, though. After putting down the document on his desk, she turned around and stormed off in a huff.

It wasn't until Nicole had left that Colton laid eyes on the document on his desk. At first, he wanted to ignore it, but upon recalling what the boy had told him, he subconsciously opened the document and turned it to the third-to-last page. And sure enough, there was a strand of fine hair on the innermost part of the page.

Colton's eyes darkened. Indeed, the night I spent with Queenie was within the period that kid mentioned. Queenie? Nicole? They both bear the surname Anderson. Could there really be such a coincidence? Well, it's not that difficult to have a DNA paternity test done. I'd be interested to see what else this woman could do. At the thought of this, Colton picked up the strand of hair from the page and made a phone call. "Have a DNA paternity test done for me and someone else. Uh-huh, have it done within three days." F&M Apparel's annual dinner will take place three days later. I have to know the answer before that!

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 14

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 14 That Bastard Son of Nicole's Must Die

Upon returning home, Nicole thought back on what had happened, which made her even angrier. To think that he still refused to believe me after I showed him my work badge! In the end, though, she decided to forget about it. After all, she would be meeting Colton again at F&M Apparel's annual dinner several days later. With Zachary testifying for her by then, there was no way Colton would still be doubting her identity.

Compared with the angry Nicole, Hayden was in an unusually bright mood today. He was sitting on the sofa, watching TV with all smiles on his face.

Curious, Nicole darted a look at her son. "What's the matter? You look so happy."

"Nothing." Hayden shook his head while shifting his gaze from the TV to his mother. What I said today will definitely make Colton do the DNA paternity test. That way, I'll have a father—and a handsome and powerful father at that! Most importantly, I've looked into Colton's relationships over the past few years. He's never had any woman

around him other than Queenie Anderson, whom he's always kept at arm's length regardless of the occasion. I'd say that such a chaste man is barely good enough for Mom.

Nicole didn't think much about it either; she just assumed that Hayden had just watched something interesting on TV. Looking at her son, she asked, "Zachary will be coming in a few days. You wanna meet him?" She remembered Zachary telling her that he would arrive in the country a day before the annual dinner, and Hayden had always been on friendly terms with him.

"Zachary? You mean Mr. Yates?" Hayden's eyes lit up, and he sat up at once. "Is he coming here specially to see you, Mom?"

Nicole corrected him, "Nope, he's not coming here to see me; he's coming here to attend F&M Apparel's annual dinner."

"Oh." Hayden's face fell with a hint of disappointment, and his initially glittering black eyes dimmed. Sinking back into his seat, he looked at Nicole with his cheeks puffed up, muttering, "It was all your fault, Mom. It's been two months since Mr. Yates left after you turned him down so resolutely last time."

Seeing how her son spoke for Zachary, Nicole wanted to laugh and frown all at once. Pressing her hand down on his head, she replied in all seriousness, "That's plain nonsense! Zachary went abroad to study the market!"

Hayden snorted childishly before whispering in an almost inaudible voice, "I'm not talking nonsense!"

Nicole decided to be the bigger person by not arguing with her son. She grabbed her son, asking, "Do you wanna attend the dinner with me, then? If you don't, then I won't be taking you with me."

"Yes, I surely do!" Hayden quickly replied. It's a must to keep on good terms with such a rich and powerful guy, of course, he thought. In reality, in the eyes of Hayden, Zachary was his No. 1 candidate for his father. Even though Zachary wasn't his real father, the former was outstanding in all respects. It's too bad that Mom is as obstinate as a mule; she keeps thinking that she isn't good enough for him because she has a child. But now that I've found my real dad, who is in no way inferior to Mr. Yates, I'd consider him qualified to be my dad.

. . .

Meanwhile, Queenie had been in a state of tumult these days, having heard from one of her acquaintances that Colton wanted to do a DNA paternity test for him and a kid.

The first thing that came to her mind was that bastard son of Nicole's. Did Nicole find out that the boy was Colton's son?! She only felt her head being hit directly by a dizzy spell. Everything went black before her eyes, and her limbs went cold. If the results of the DNA paternity test come out, my happy life will be coming to an end!

Holding a bowl of freshly prepared lobster bisque in her hand, Lydia York, Queenie's biological mother, took a step forward and asked with concern, "What's wrong with you, Queenie? You look so pale."

Queenie turned to look at her mother. Well, with things as such, I guess I have no choice but to tell Mom the truth...

After Lydia listened to Queenie's story, her eyes widened, and the bowl of lobster bisque in her hand dropped to the ground with a clatter. "What?! You mean Nicole bore a son for Colton?!"

"What should we do now, Mom?" Queenie was so anxious that she nearly burst into tears. "You know how things are for the Andersons. Without the Gardner Family, our debtors would definitely pile on and demand that we pay off our debts. Once that happens, it'll be the end of us!"

Of course, Lydia knew about that as well, which was why she was so panicked at the moment. The Anderson Family had been reasonably wealthy in the past, but three years ago, William had been duped by his business partner, causing him to be debt-ridden. However, since Queenie was Colton's fiancée, the debtors dared not go to the Andersons to demand that they pay off the debts, leaving the matter in a precarious state of equilibrium.

Lydia panicked immediately at the prospect of losing everything she currently owned. Shortly after that, however, she regained her composure, saying, "Don't worry. It's not too late as long as Colton hasn't seen the test results." Her eyes narrowed with a flicker of sinister malice. "However, that bastard son of Nicole's must die..."

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 15

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 15 I'd Like to Bring a Friend With Me

Due to a rainstorm, Zachary's flight had been delayed, making him unable to arrive ahead of time for F&M Apparel's annual dinner. As the representative of F&M Apparel's fashion design team, Nicole couldn't be late for the annual dinner, so she had no choice but to head to the venue in advance for the annual dinner.

Straightening her evening dress, Nicole looked at her adorable son before her, saying, "I'll probably be home late tonight. Eat some snacks if you're hungry, but don't overeat, and don't open the door for strangers."

"Mom, aren't you sick of saying this every time you leave home?" Hayden replied while looking at the gorgeously beautiful Nicole before him. Then, he urged, "What you should really do right now is hurry to the dinner and be the center of attention at the event!"

Nicole's radiant face relaxed into a gentle smile as she was amused by Hayden's remark. "Alright. In that case, I'll be leaving first."

For the occasion, Nicole dressed in a royal-blue evening dress that was slightly tight-fitting to outline her curvaceous figure, as well as a pair of matching high heels. Since the weather was chilly at the moment, she wore an overcoat of the same color over her dress. The long evening dress was designed to reach down to her ankles, lending her the graceful air of a young maiden when she walked.

On her way to the hotel, Nicole's phone rang; it was a phone call from her assistant in the country. After returning home for so long, I'd almost forgotten that I had an assistant, thought Nicole.

Queenie's voice was gentle with an obsequious note to it. "Hi, Ms. Lisa."

"Uh-huh. What's the matter?" Nicole asked. Now that I think about it, it seems that I've never met this assistant of mine even once.

Queenie replied in a tactful way, "Uh, well, it's just that I'd like to bring a friend with me to F&M Apparel's annual dinner. Could you let him join us at the annual dinner, Ms. Lisa?"

F&M Apparel's annual dinner this year would be a gathering place for the upper-class people in the country. Most importantly, Lisa would also be present at the annual dinner. As F&M Apparel's Chief Designer, Lisa was fawned on by countless people across the country, and Joseph was one of them. After all, for a clothing company like Mann Clothing Co., knowing Lisa—F&M Apparel's Chief Designer—in person would elevate it to a higher rank. At first, Joseph had wanted to find his way into the annual dinner by spending some money, but all the money he had spent didn't yield him any results. Left with no other choice, he could only put on a bold front and ask Queenie for help.

As it happened, Queenie also had a favor to ask of Joseph, so she braced herself and pleaded with Lisa.

Nicole had just wanted to turn Queenie down when she recalled that this assistant of hers was the future Young Madam of the Gardner Family. She pondered over it for a moment. Colton looks annoying, but he's the business partner who I'll be working with, after all. As a result, she nodded and replied in a husky voice, "Okay."

"Thank you so much, Ms. Lisa!" The assistant's voice took on a hint of delight as she thanked Nicole before hanging up.

Queenie put her cell phone away with a radiant smile on her face before turning to look at Joseph next to her. "See? Told you I'll get you into the annual dinner."

Dressed in a well-ironed reddish brown suit, Joseph curled his lips into a groveling smile. "As expected of you, Queenie. You managed such a difficult thing with just a few words."

Queenie was very pleased by the man's flattery. As she walked inside, she said, "Just don't forget what you've promised me." She couldn't keep Nicole's son alive, but she couldn't make an attempt on his life herself, thus could only get someone else to do so on her behalf, which was why she had brazenly helped Joseph.

Joseph nodded. "No problem. Everything's been taken care of."

. . .

It was already past 7:00PM when Nicole arrived at the Crown Hotel, and the annual dinner would begin at 8:00PM sharp. Let's hope that Zachary will make it on time.

The Crown Hotel was a seven-star hotel of the highest class in Goldwick. As F&M Apparel took this year's annual dinner very seriously, they spent a lot of money to book the entire hotel for the event. As soon as Nicole arrived at the entrance, someone came to show her the way. When she handed out her invitation card, the person led her all the way to the banquet hall on the top floor.

Right now, the annual dinner hadn't begun yet, but many guests had gathered in the banquet hall. When Nicole ran her eyes over the crowd, she noticed the presence of many reporters. Seems like the annual dinner will be a grand event, she thought. She had never been in touch with any of the employees of F&M Apparel's branch in the country, so she knew none of the people coming and going around her. After pondering for a moment, she decided to find a random seat and sit down to wait for Zachary's arrival, for she didn't know who she could go to otherwise.

However, as soon as she found a seat in the corner and seated herself, a shrill female voice sounded. "Nicole, why are you here?!"