

## Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 385

### Chapter 385 This Is a Deal

Nicole pondered for a moment and said, “Hmm. Well, there is nothing in particular I’d like to wish for, but you should know that I resigned from my job in F&M Apparel...”

She fixed her gaze on Jaxton before her just as the director wondered what she was trying to tell him. Then, she calmly added, “To be honest, what I want is simple. Terminate your cooperation with F&M Apparel and kick Kylie out of here. I don’t like that lady very much.”

When Jaxton heard her firm tone, he was annoyed yet speechless. The next second, he gritted his teeth and replied, “Our cooperation with F&M Apparel is bound by a contract until a month later. Thus, any violation of the contracted terms will subject us to a heavy penalty.”

When Nicole heard the man’s words, she didn’t seem to panic. Instead, she played it cool and said, “In that case, it’s either you pay the penalty to Aimee International or F&M Apparel. Your choice.”

In the meantime, he was surprised by her adamant attitude after hearing her reply. However, he soon realized it wouldn’t cost much to terminate the deal with F&M Apparel either since the cooperation didn’t require a high sum of penalty for violation due to it being small-scale in nature.

Despite that thought, he was aware that Nicole had to take care of the problem with Aimee International first before the termination of the deal with F&M Apparel could take place or the organization could end up losing the deal with the two giant corporate entities while finding itself in huge financial trouble.

“Alright, you’ve got a deal, but you have to take care of the issue with Aimee International first.” Jaxton made up his mind after a brief contemplation. After all, he was merely hoping to cooperate with Lisa on the company’s behalf through the deal with F&M Apparel.

While that was something he was willing to give up, he was also ready to let go of Kylie whom he thought didn’t contribute much to the team anyway ever since she joined the company.

In the meantime, Nicole responded with a nod and a smile on her face before confidently saying, “Great. For now, you should prepare whatever you need to terminate the contract with F&M Apparel. Meanwhile, once Aimee International’s president arrives tomorrow, I’ll pay her a visit and have a word with her. However, I want you to know that

nothing is guaranteed until I see your contract termination agreement with F&M Apparel.”

Jaxton’s face darkened when he heard that, for it was his first time being threatened by someone. He squinted and retorted in a low voice, “No. We will only terminate our deal with F&M Apparel after you make Aimee International drop the charges.”

She chuckled, stopping in her tracks as she turned around and smiled at the man. “I’m not discussing this matter with you. Instead, I’m making a deal with you, so it’s up to you to put your faith in me. If you don’t terminate your deal with F&M Apparel, you can brace yourself for what Aimee International is going to do to your company.” She walked away as soon as she finished her words.

On the other hand, he could only watch angrily as she walked out of the place, yet there was not a single word he could say to express his frustration. After all, he was the one who needed her help.

When Nicole came downstairs, she heard a familiar voice amidst a commotion, but when she took a closer look, she realized the voice came from none other than Joanna. At that moment, Joanna was seen with an irritable expression on her face while clenching her teeth. “I’m the director of the Design Department, and I’m here because I need to retrieve something. What reason do you have to stop me from going in?!”

The receptionist bitterly revealed the reason in response to Joanna’s intimidating reaction. “President Gardner said no outsider is allowed to enter Gardner Corporation’s building.”

When Joanna heard the receptionist’s answer, she was angry yet surprised, for she had never thought that she would be stopped at the door with her access to Gardner Corporation denied.

While she was still getting over her frustration, she saw Nicole stepping out of the building, and the sight of that made her even grumpier. She then pointed at the lady and asked the receptionist, “She is not someone from Gardner Corporation either. She is an outsider as well, but why was she allowed to go in?!”

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### **Chapter 386 What Goes Around Comes Around**

At the same time, the receptionist also noticed Nicole’s presence but was too intimidated to refute the exasperated Joanna. Fortunately, Nicole soon decided to step in and help defuse the situation. “That was because I was invited to be here. Do you have a problem with that?”

Glaring daggers at Nicole, Joanna held a strong grudge toward the former as she blamed her for her job termination. Thanks to you, I'm not even allowed to enter Gardner Corporation's building! "Nicole, why did you tell the directors to lay me off?!" Joanna questioned Nicole irritably, wishing she could just beat her to death deep down.

Unlike Joanna's agitation and anger, Nicole demonstrated total opposite emotions by reacting calmly. She then fixed her eyes on Joanna, glimpsing her as she teased, "Well, we all have to take responsibility for our actions, which is the case because you and I are responsible for what went wrong this time. Besides, you're not the only one who got terminated. I suffered from the same fate as you did. Thus, you and I are not so different from each other, actually."

Shaking from head to toe, Joanna struggled to keep her emotions from taking over her because they were still out in the open in the lobby of Gardner Corporation. Knowing she would be shown in a bad light if she succumbed to her temper right away, Joanna glared at Nicole without blinking before dragging her elsewhere without asking.

However, Nicole didn't show any signs of resistance to Joanna at all and instead let her take her wherever she wanted. When both of them got to a place where there was no one else, Joanna finally let go of Nicole's hand and asked, "Why did you do this to me, Nicole?!" After all, she learned from the directors that Nicole was the one who suggested that Colton should terminate her from her job.

Nevertheless, Nicole was amused when she heard Joanna's unreasonable accusation. With an unconcerned smile on her face, she fixed her eyes on the lady in a casual manner. "What're you talking about, Director Schmidt? You'd better be careful what comes out of your mouth. What did I do to you?"

Seeing how Nicole was playing dumb, Joanna was irked even more. "If you hadn't plotted against me, President Gardner wouldn't have fired me! I'm unemployed right now, all thanks to you! Should I be thanking you for dragging me down?"

Meanwhile, Nicole was speechless with Joanna's unreasonable attitude, feeling sorry for her lack of shame in blaming her even though she was in the wrong herself. Soon, Nicole curled her lips upward and asked, "You were the one who collected the drafts, Joanna? So, don't tell me you don't know what's going on. Did you really forget what you did back then? Or do I have to initiate an investigation and list all of them down for you?"

Joanna's face changed, but at the same time, she knew she must keep her lips sealed. "I didn't know the draft was plagiarized."

However, Nicole didn't bother to expose Joanna but reacted with a smile instead. "I don't care if you were aware of it, but what's done is done, and you can't get away with

the mistake you made. So, I don't see anything wrong with you being responsible for the action you took."

Joanna was tongue-tied upon hearing Nicole's argument. Despite her reluctance to admit defeat, she had no choice but to yield to Nicole in silence. Although she initially thought she would be the winner in her infighting with Nicole, she was dismayed and embarrassed to find herself on the losing end, with nothing she could say to refute the lady.

On the other hand, Nicole merely wanted to teach Joanna a lesson instead of kicking her out of Gardner Corporation. After all, she was indebted to Colton, who once helped her and wouldn't want to repay him the favor by doing something ungrateful.

Upon shooting a cold gaze at Joanna, Nicole continued to say, "Think twice before you act next time. Some actions are followed by serious consequences that may be far too much for you to bear, so unless you want to get yourself into trouble, you need to think before you act." As soon as Nicole finished her sentence, she walked away before Joanna could even say anything.

Meanwhile, Joanna was left behind, with her anger gnawing at her mind while watching Nicole disappear from her sight. At the same time, she clenched her fists tightly, looking back at the sacrifices she had made for Colton in the past seven years.

In order to gain the man's favor, she spent seven years staying in Gardner Corporation. While she initially thought Colton was finally hers after Queenie left, she was caught off guard by Nicole's sudden appearance, as well as their two children.

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### **Chapter 387 Worrying About It Later**

In that instant, bigotry and hatred flashed across Joanna's frantic gaze. With her eyes glued to Nicole's silhouette, Joanna was overwhelmed by her exasperation and anger. I should have listened to Queenie and showed no mercy! Nicole, you have just made yourself an enemy from now on!

...

The next day, Nicole took Whitney to a high-end restaurant, where they saw a gorgeous lady there upon arrival. The lady was seen with long dark hair and heavy makeup on her face. At the same time, she appeared to be wearing a formal suit and a pair of black high-heels with red soles. With a teacup in her hand, she sat at the table and gracefully took a sip of her tea until she noticed Nicole's arrival. As she waved at Nicole and

beckoned her over, the latter walked closer to her and chuckled at the sight of how she looked like a successful and tough businesswoman.

Soon, Nicole seized Whitney's arm and approached the table before taking a seat. "Shouldn't a corporate president like you be busy? How come you could find time to fly all the way here?"

When Emily heard Nicole's cheeky question, she coldly grunted and shot an annoyed gaze at her. "I came here to remind you that you still have a company to run."

Nicole awkwardly rubbed her nose and smiled in embarrassment. "Well, I didn't know I would have to stay in Gardner Corporation for so long. After all, I didn't have a choice because I had a favor to repay."

While Emily looked askance at Nicole without saying a single word, Whitney, who was sitting aside, found Emily's voice somewhat familiar to her. With a frown on her face, she couldn't help but wonder where she had heard Emily's voice before.

"By the way, I'm absolutely sure that there is a snitch in Gardner Corporation now. It appears that whoever is behind this isn't happy with you because anyone could just get to the bottom of this entire plagiarism scandal easily," Emily said, seemingly thinking of something as she looked up. "Wait a minute. Even if there wasn't anyone else who knew what was going on, couldn't you have noticed something was fishy? After all, every single draft got through you."

Nicole smiled helplessly, curling her lips upward in response. "Well, I wasn't around at that time; otherwise, you wouldn't have gotten the goods on me."

Emily nodded. "Well, whoever did this to you chose to strike when you were away. That move seemed personal if you ask me."

Nicole heaved a sigh of relief without explaining further. Instead, she asked, "What're you going to do then? Don't tell me you're really going to press charges."

Emily appeared unconcerned, curling her lips upward. "Why not? The litigation will help us secure a sum of money from Gardner Corporation, which is a good thing for Aimee International."

Meanwhile, Nicole let out a sigh in the face of Emily's unfazed attitude. "Let's just put this behind us and move on. After all, now that I'm the 'person in charge' of the company's brand, Ann, its future could be at risk if it's compelled to pay such a huge sum of money."

While Emily had no intention of suing Gardner Corporation as well, she kept her head down slightly and said, "This time, I knew someone in Gardner Corporation was probably up to something against you. After all, it was your name that was signed on the

contract. That was the reason I decided to take this opportunity to teach them a lesson for you.” Emily paused for a second and added, “In fact, I’m trying to warn Gardner Corporation with the litigation and let them have a taste of their own medicine.”

Meanwhile, the reason Nicole was so confident that she could take care of the problem with Aimee International was because she knew how things would likely turn out before she met up with Emily. “Alright, now that we almost had them, I suppose it is time for us to stop,” she said.

Emily nodded her head, fixing her gaze upon Nicole for a moment before she asked, “Nicole, are you seriously going to stay in Gardner Corporation instead of going back to Aimee International?”

Nicole looked down, setting her eyes on her teacup while fiddling with it. Then, a helpless smile showed on her face. “Emily, there’s still a lot I have to deal with here. So, now that I’m here, I’m planning to take care of all of them once and for all before I start worrying about something else.”

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### **Chapter 388 Bothered by Something Mentally**

When Emily looked at Nicole and noticed the bitter look on her face, she gave up the idea of persuading Nicole to return. She then nodded and pursed her lips in an indifferent manner. Meanwhile, Nicole pulled herself together and seized Whitney’s arm to introduce her to Emily. “Em, meet my assistant, Whitney Campbell. Whitney, this is Aimee International’s president, Emily Phoenix.”

While Emily had long noticed Whitney’s presence, she couldn’t help but find the latter’s face familiar like she had seen her before. Nevertheless, she quickly disagreed with that idea, thinking her good memory would have allowed her to recall their last encounter if they had met before. In spite of that, Emily still reacted politely to Whitney out of respect for Nicole. “Nice to meet you.”

Whitney nodded and replied with an affirmative hum. “Nice to meet you too.”

“By the way, how is Lucy doing?” After talking about business, the ladies began to discuss their personal lives.

When Emily heard her daughter’s name mentioned, a heartwarming smile appeared on her face. She then nodded and replied, “She is fine. It’s just that she always catches a cold when the seasons change, but fortunately, Douglas took care of her well this time when the weather turned cold in the past few days. So, she is in good health.”

“Yeah, as the kid grows older, her immunity system gets stronger too. So, don’t worry about it too much.”

In the meantime, Whitney felt as if her blood froze around her body when she heard the other two ladies talk about Douglas. At that moment, she finally understood why Emily’s voice sounded so familiar because she was the one who answered Douglas’ call back then.

“I’m not worried about Lucy. After all, Douglas said he would take good care of her so she won’t fall sick later.” Emily looked as if her heart melted when she talked about Douglas.

On the other hand, Nicole praised Douglas for his thoughtfulness after hearing what he had done for Lucy from Emily. “Douglas is such a kind and thoughtful man. I have no doubt he will treat you right and make you the luckiest woman in the world.”

Emily responded with a smile when she heard the way Nicole complimented Douglas. She then grinned and said, “Well, actually, I didn’t think I’d meet such a good man like him ever.”

Meanwhile, Whitney, who was listening to their conversation, felt chills running down her spine, her blood freezing in every vessel within her body. As Nicole was about to say something, she caught a glimpse of Whitney’s unusual expression from the corner of her eye. Thus, she seized her hand before she was shocked to find how cold it was, asking her in a concerned manner, “Are you alright, Whitney?”

Upon hearing Nicole’s voice, Whitney began to pull herself together from her disturbing thoughts. She then blinked and reacted with a brittle smile. “I-I’m fine.”

However, having known Whitney for a long time, Nicole was able to instantly tell that something was wrong with her assistant. Staring at the former’s pale face, she asked, “Are you feeling unwell or something?”

Needless to say, Whitney could tell that her pale expression must have given her away, so she decided that she might as well make the best out of Nicole’s concern to cover up her actual feelings. “Yeah, I’m having a gastric condition, which I believe must have been something I ate earlier.” She then stood up and said, “Miss Nicole, please enjoy your time with Miss Phoenix without me. I’m afraid I need to excuse myself right now.”

Sensing something very wrong with Whitney, Nicole was bewildered by her reaction. She then paused and took a second to think before making a suggestion. “Perhaps I could give you a ride back home.”

Nevertheless, Whitney immediately rejected Nicole’s offer. “It’s okay, I’m good. I’ll find my own transport back, and I’ll be fine after some rest.” She turned around and walked away as soon as she finished her words, giving Nicole no chance to offer her help.

At the same time, Emily couldn't help but find it strange to see Whitney leaving in a hurry as she knitted her eyebrows and gazed at Nicole. "It seems to me that she is bothered by something mentally rather than her gastric condition."

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### Chapter 389 Stand Up for a Friend

It was only when Whitney disappeared from sight that Nicole took her eyes off the former. In fact, she noticed the same strange thing about Whitney as Emily did. At the same time, Whitney's strange behavior reminded Nicole of the exact same way she behaved when she first joined F&M Apparel three years ago.

However, Nicole didn't ask Whitney about that, thinking she should respect her wish to keep her secret. "I think she'll be fine. She is probably just not feeling well now," Nicole said as she didn't expose Whitney. In the meantime, Emily didn't press on with any more questions regarding Whitney because she wasn't close with her after all.

On the other hand, Whitney could no longer fight back her tears when she left the café in a hurry. Her eyes and nose began to turn red as she wiped her tears off with her hands and continued to make her way outside.

Soon, her vision became blurred by the tears shortly before she bumped herself onto someone while making her way out of the café. Reactively, she quickly apologized, with her head kept down. "I'm so sorry. I wasn't looking."

"Beauty Whitney?" Whitney heard a magnetic voice from above her head. Finding it familiar, she looked up and saw Mason. She then wiped off the tears on her face in a panicky manner and looked down slightly. "President Schumacher..."

Meanwhile, Mason reacted as if his heart melted when he noticed the tears on Whitney's face. He then fixed his gaze upon her and caressed her cheek, sympathetically saying, "You shouldn't be crying, beauty. Your tears are going to ruin how you look."

Despite hearing Mason's cheeky reply, Whitney gave a rather rigid response, taking a few steps back while blinking. "I'm fine. Thanks for your concern, President Schumacher."

Hearing Whitney's indifferent response, Mason decided not to ask her about that. Instead, he looked down and showed his concern in a euphemistic way. "Why are you crying? Is there something that's bothering you?"



Whitney took a step back, seemingly unwilling to interact any further with Mason. "President Schumacher, I'm just feeling unwell now, so please don't worry about me. I called the cab, which is currently on the way, so I should probably excuse myself and get ready." She finished her words and walked away without a single thought of hesitation. In the meantime, Mason watched the lady slowly disappear from his sight, his smile fading from his face before he walked away as well.

When Whitney flagged down a cab and got it, she finally had all the privacy she wanted for herself. Sitting in the backseat, she then allowed her emotions to take over her while her tears gushed down her eyes like a waterfall.

Deep down, she was overwhelmed by a stab of pain in her heart at the thought of her past with Douglas. After all, she was the one who wronged him and suggested that they broke up; but when she learned he was already married to another woman with whom he had a child, she somehow struggled to embrace the truth, feeling suffocated by the pain.

Soon, she sobbed and sniffled, berating herself for her selfishness and coyness. After all the suffering I put Douglas through, he is finally enjoying his new life now. So, shouldn't I feel happy for him? She looked outside the window, allowing her tears to continue trickling from her eyes.

Meanwhile, at the restaurant, Nicole and Emily went on to talk about their work. In fact, the idea of building Aimee International first came from Douglas and Emily, but since they didn't know well about the industry, neither of them deemed themselves fit to run the company.

However, Emily happened to know Nicole, whom she later approached to invest in the company so that they could both watch Aimee International grow together.

Since Nicole was already the chief designer in F&M Apparel at that time, she didn't think she would lose anything by accepting Emily's offer either.

Thus, she agreed with her friend, only to be surprised at how well Aimee International had grown over the next three years. In fact, the company had expanded so well that Nicole could just quit her job while still making money.

"I'll swing by the office for a negotiation. After that, I'll give you a call when I need you to drop charges," Nicole said.

Emily had no objection to Nicole's idea. After all, the reason she attempted to sue the Gardner Corporation was that she wanted to stand up for Nicole, knowing someone was trying to mess with her friend there.

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## Chapter 390 Her Greed Knows No Bounds

Queenie had spent five years staying by Colton's side, which the latter allowed because he thought she was the person who had saved him earlier. For that, he arranged a position for her to work in middle management.

Nonetheless, the fact that she was Colton's fiancée enabled her to access many classified documents despite her limited authority and power. Because of that, she was able to help the Anderson Family gain a lot of profit. Although Colton was aware of what she had been doing, he closed both eyes about it, thinking that was how he could repay her for saving his life back then.

Bryan was rich, but despite his wealth, he was nowhere near as handsome as Colton was. Nonetheless, the Kohlberg Group was among the few biggest corporations in the country, so he was a powerful and influential man whom many women would dream of being with. However, he chose Queenie because she used to be Colton's woman, merely wanting to get over his insecurities as his company was far outmatched by Colton's.

Due to his belligerence and ego, Bryan felt a strong desire to surpass Colton in any aspect possible to satisfy his superiority complex, including dating his woman. Secondly, he deemed Queenie his valuable asset, considering her history of working in Gardner Corporation, which could be useful for the Kohlberg Group.

"I heard that F&R Enterprise is recently looking for companies to work with. While word about that started circulating around town six months ago, Gardner Corporation didn't seem to take any action about it. What do you know about that?" Bryan sat on the couch, asking casually.

Although F&R Enterprise was not a huge corporation, the technology it possessed was unparalleled around the globe. Thus, Bryan was hoping that the Kohlberg Group could work with F&R Enterprise so that his company could outperform Gardner Corporation by the end of the year.

After all, Gardner Corporation had shifted its focus to the fashion industry despite its impressive internet technology. For that, it seemed to Bryan that the company was now in a state of stagnation.

"I saw this in the files earlier. It appears that Colton isn't going to rest until he gets his hands on F&R Enterprise."

As soon as Bryan heard Queenie's words, his eyes lit up. "Tell me more about it, baby. What does Gardner Corporation plan to do about that?" He placed his arm around the lady and pulled her closer to him, thinking she was about to make herself useful to him.

On the other hand, Queenie knew what was on Bryan's mind, which was why she didn't reveal what she knew right away. Instead, she winked at him ambiguously and said, "Don't worry about it, Mr. Kohlberg. Now that I'm on your side, I'll be sure to help you all I can. If anyone from Gardner Corporation finds out that I'm a snitch here, Colton will be sure to come after me."

Sensing Queenie's wariness, Bryan pinched her chin and rubbed her lips with his while speaking in a deep voice. "I'll pay you five million if you can show me the result. When it's done, I'll pay you another twenty million. What do you say? I bet that kind of money is enough for you, isn't it?"

Nevertheless, Queenie looked away, as she didn't seem to be satisfied with what she had been offered. "I'll give you a proposal to help you get in touch with the people from F&R Enterprise. After that, I want a payment of ten million before I go on and tell you everything about Gardner Corporation's plan, which will cost another ten million. Then, when everything is over, I want five million."

In response to Queenie's greed, Bryan chuckled and asked, "What makes you think you're worth this much?"

However, Queenie didn't flinch in the face of Bryan's intimidating doubt. After all, there was no turning back for her ever since she got on the wrong side of Colton.

Deep down, she needed money very badly in order to survive. "Well, think about the deal you're going to get with F&R Enterprise. Don't you think it's worth it?"

She squinted, straightening her body as she added, "If F&R Enterprise works with Gardner Corporation, the Kohlberg Group is going to lag behind by a lot.

More importantly, an opportunity like this may never come again, so the money I want is actually a small price to pay, considering what you're going to get in the grand scheme of things; but if you won't pay me the money, why would I risk rubbing Colton the wrong way to help you?"

With his eyes fixed on the lady before him, Bryan realized he was wrong about her when he thought he could take advantage of her. Well, this lady's greed knows no bounds. I bet she learned a lot from Colton back then.

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### **Chapter 391 Douglas' Story**

Bryan eventually gave in to Queenie, keeping his head down slightly. "Alright, if you could help me secure the deal with F&R Enterprise from Gardner Corporation, I'll pay you the money you want!"

Queenie put on a malicious smirk before she stood up and looked at Bryan. "You're too kind, Mr. Kohlberg. I'll be sure to help you." Colton! I'm not to blame for my decision to do this to you. In fact, you have no one else to blame but yourself for what's coming to you. If you hadn't treated me coldly in the past five years, the thought of betraying you wouldn't even have crossed my mind. Thus, this is all your fault, Colton!

...

Meanwhile, Nicole returned home after she was done meeting Emily. When she headed upstairs, she found Whitney crying in her room. At that moment, the latter was seen curling up in the bed, apparently sobbing. In the meantime, Nicole stood in front of the bed and gazed at the tearful lady, not knowing how to comfort her, as she swallowed the words forming at the tip of her tongue.

Soon, Whitney seemingly sensed someone's presence in her room and showed herself from beneath the blanket. As soon as she saw Nicole, she stopped crying, but her obvious sobbing voice still gave her away. "Miss Nicole..."

The next second, Nicole stepped forward and approached Whitney. While it was the afternoon at that moment, the curtains, which were not drawn, allowed the bright sunlight to shine through the window. Thus, she was able to see Whitney's red and tearful eyes clearly.

She then hugged Whitney's head and gently rubbed it, as if she was a poor child. "I'm not going to ask you what happened, but you can cry all you want. It should help you feel better that way."

As Nicole's words seemingly hit her in the soft spot, Whitney wrapped her arms around the former and broke into tears. On the other hand, Nicole did the same thing, placing her hand on the back of Whitney's head without saying a single word. It wasn't until a few moments later that Whitney finally looked up and revealed her red and swollen eyes as she looked like she had cried for a long time.

Nicole then let out a sigh and comforted Whitney with a gentle voice. "It's alright, girl. Just let bygones be bygones."

After crying in Nicole's embrace for a few moments, Whitney eventually stopped shivering and sniffled, responding with a sobbing voice. "I'm fine, Miss Nicole."

Soon, Nicole let out a sigh and sat on Whitney's bed, leaning on the headboard. "Douglas hit rock bottom a few years back, but things took a turn for the worse when he suffered from a serious injury. He was later found by Em in the rain and sent to the hospital by her," Nicole said while observing Whitney's expression. "As time went by,

the two of them spent a lot of moments together and eventually fell in love with each other.”

When Whitney heard Nicole mention Douglas’ name, her face turned pale, her lips shaking. Then, when she looked at Nicole again, she seemed as if she had lost her confidence. “You knew everything, Miss Nicole?”

Nicole smiled in embarrassment and nodded. “Come on! I was not so dumb that I failed to notice your strange reaction back in the restaurant. After running through a few possibilities in my mind, I figured it was probably because of Douglas.”

Meanwhile, Whitney decided not to hide her secret anymore when she realized Nicole could sense something wrong with her. After all, she had been suffocated by the secret for way too long and was relieved that she could finally confide in someone about it.

“Miss Nicole, Douglas and I...” She looked down a bit, pursing her lips before she managed to muster the courage and continued her story. “Douglas and I met each other in university before we became a couple...”

Judging from the expression on Whitney’s face, Nicole knew her suspicion was correct and continued to ask, “And? Did something happen subsequently?”

After all, when Nicole first saw Douglas, the man was in a terrible state. Even when he was admitted into the hospital by Emily, he still appeared to be dispirited, like he had no desire to live.

Not long after that, his condition worsened as he caught a high fever and even lacked the will to battle his illness. While the doctor told them that he would likely not make it, Douglas somehow recovered, having emerged victorious in the fight against his illness with Emily by his side.

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Chapter 392 Aren’t I a B\*tch?

Whitney looked down, feeling a lump in her throat before she went on and said, “I betrayed him, set him up, and ruined his reputation completely, Miss Nicole. The Lane Family later fell apart because I had to sacrifice it for the sake of my family.” Whitney clenched her teeth, describing herself as a sinful wrongdoer.

However, Nicole knew Whitney was not the kind of person she made herself sound like, having known her for quite a while. “Whitney, I know that’s not who you are.”

Surprised to hear how Nicole trusted her, Whitney was overwhelmed by her emotions as tears started to gush down from her eyes once again. Nevertheless, she only cried for a short while before she quickly pulled herself together. Upon a brief contemplation, she replied, "It was my father, Miss Nicole. He threatened me with my mother's life. She was sick and bedridden at that time, and I was left with no choice."

Whitney answered with a heavy heart but was still confused about how her father could bring himself to threaten her with her mother's life, considering the fact that both of them were soulmates. While it had been five years since Whitney's mother was bedridden, her father had already had an affair with another woman two months after she went out of action.

Besides that, when Whitney was still dating Douglas, her father wouldn't stop threatening her to make her do his bidding, or he would undermine her mother's life support. Because of that, she was forced to sacrifice her relationship with Douglas to save her mother despite her love for him.

In the meantime, Nicole was stunned after hearing about Whitney's checkered past. Oh gosh! I didn't know she's been carrying so much weight on her shoulders. It looks like her outgoing attitude had been fooling me into thinking she was an optimistic person all along. "It wasn't your fault, Whitney," Nicole comforted the sad lady, thinking she would have done the same thing as well if she had been in Whitney's position.

"B-But, it was me who ruined his life, Miss Nicole! I destroyed the future he could have had. He used to be so outgoing and kind. It was all my fault!" The emotional floodgates within Whitney opened once again, not long after she calmed herself down.

Meanwhile, Nicole sympathetically looked at Whitney and rubbed her head with her hand. "Whitney, Douglas is living a good life now, so you should probably put it behind you and move on."

At the thought of the conversation between Nicole and Emily back in the restaurant, Whitney nodded understandably but could barely hide her bitter smile. Yeah, she is right. Douglas now has a good life with a happy family. He has a good wife and a lovely child. With a happy life like that, what more could he ask for? "I heard you, Miss Nicole. I just need more time to get over it, probably because my guilt is still playing tricks with me in my head. Maybe... I still have feelings for him... Oh gosh! I'm such a b\*tch, aren't I?" Whitney bitterly asked Nicole, having little respect for herself due to her love for Douglas even though she was the one who gave up on their relationship.

"You need to pull yourself together right now because you're going to have to move on one way or another. Furthermore, I have faith that you'll meet someone better in the future." Nicole consoled Whitney but refused to give her false hope by telling her that

she could still work things out with Douglas. After all, Douglas and Emily seemed to be living a happy life at the moment.

On the other hand, Whitney felt so much more relieved upon revealing the secret that she had been buried inside of her for so long. At the same time, she realized she should move on with her life happily since Douglas had already found happiness for himself. She then shed a drop of tear from her eyes and blinked, her eyelashes shaking for a second before she pulled herself together and hid the sad look on her face. "You're right, Miss Nicole. I should move on with my life now. Douglas is now leading a happy life, which is all the more reason I should leave him and his family alone."

Noticing the gloomy look on Whitney's face, Nicole let out a sigh and comforted, "I can assure you that Douglas is living the best time of his life. Not only is he one of the shareholders of Aimee International, but he is also the president of F&R Enterprise."

The president of F&R Enterprise? Whitney was stunned to hear Nicole's words. Although F&R Enterprise was not known to be a huge corporation across the globe, it somehow managed to make a name for itself with its advanced technology.

## **Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 393**

### Chapter 393 The Moment of Truth

But if my memory serves me right, F&R Enterprise is an established company with decades of history.

Nicole explained after noticing the surprised look on Whitney's face. "Douglas is a capable man who proved his own worth to get where he is in F&R Enterprise today." Although Douglas couldn't have succeeded without Emily's help, Nicole approved of the man's talent and competence.

Whitney said nothing, thinking she shouldn't continue the topic because she was afraid she would lose control over her emotions once again. Thus, she wiped her tears and looked at Nicole. "Miss Nicole, are you going back to Gardner Corporation once you take care of the problem with Aimee International?"

Nicole nodded in response. "I still have work to do for the brand, Ann, and I don't like to leave my business unfinished. Besides, there are many other things I need to take care of here, so it's a good excuse for me to stay here longer. Otherwise, they're going to get suspicious."

With everything else settled, Nicole reckoned it was time for her to do what she must. After all, she still hadn't found the evidence about the death of her mentor, White,

although she was sure Pierre was involved in it. While she was determined to have her revenge, she was also not going to give up on investigating her mother's death.

When Nicole's mother passed away, Lydia was seen around the hospital, which made her wonder if it had anything to do with Lydia. I'm going to get to the bottom of these two matters. I will find out the truth and seek justice, not just for myself but for my mentor and mother as well.

On the other hand, Whitney was relieved after revealing her secret to Nicole, as if a heavy boulder that had been pinning her chest had been removed. She then pulled herself together and said, "Thank you so much for the comforting words, Miss Nicole. I guess I feel a lot better and know what I should do now." Whitney looked down and added, "I might have wronged Douglas in the past, but I'm happy that he is enjoying his life now."

The next moment, Nicole responded with silence when she noticed Whitney's upset expression. Not knowing what she could say anyway, she gave Whitney a pat on the shoulder. "I'm glad to hear that. If you want to know more about Douglas, feel free to ask me. For now, what you need the most is rest." Upon hearing that, Whitney nodded just as Nicole walked away without saying a single word more.

It was only until Nicole was gone that Whitney snapped herself out of her trance. Upon staring at her laptop for a few moments, she eventually summoned the courage to type Douglas' name in the search box. While news about Douglas' past could barely be found on the internet, most of the articles were news about him as the shareholder of Aimee International and the president of F&R Enterprise. Over the years, Whitney had been held back by her fear of learning more about Douglas. Whenever she stumbled upon any news report about him, she would do nothing more than taking a glimpse of it before she moved on.

Soon, Whitney went on to search for more news about Douglas, eventually learning more about his stories in recent years. Even so, she failed to discover any news about the man when he seemingly went missing for almost a year.

When Douglas was wandering in the street amidst the rain three years ago, he caught a high fever and could barely hold on any longer until he met Emily, who sent him to hospital.

While that incident gave both of them an opportunity to meet each other, they subsequently got married and started a family with a child, whereupon Douglas became the president of F&R Enterprise later that year.

When Whitney read the news and discovered that Douglas was indeed a married man, her hope was crushed by the harsh truth, as if the universe had collapsed around her. Seeing the family of three in the picture, she could see Douglas carrying a little girl in his arms while Emily was seen wrapping her arms around the man's waist.



At the same time, Douglas' eyes were fixed on the child lovingly. They look like a happy family. Whitney continued to stare at her monitor screen in an absent-minded manner until she brought her wandering mind back to reality moments later.

## Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 394

### Chapter 394 Termination of the Contract

It's time to put the past behind me and move on. Douglas is living a happy life now, and I should stay out of his hair. I did what I did back then, so I should have thought that this would happen one day. Whitney turned off her computer and lay in bed with her eyes closed. No matter how she tried to convince herself to forget about Douglas, she couldn't stop her tears from rolling down her cheeks.

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The next morning, Nicole arrived at Gardner Corporation wearing a decent-looking formal suit, which was unlike her usual dressing style. In fact, she had a phone call with Jaxton the night before and arranged a meeting with him that day.

Since Aimee International hadn't dropped the charge, those people could only rely on Nicole because she was the only one who could seemingly turn the tide for them. When Nicole got to the meeting room, she was greeted by the sight of Kylie, whom she raised her eyebrows and smiled at.

With a stern look on her face, Kylie turned her attention to Jaxton and asked, "Is this what you summoned me here for? I have no business with this lady."

In the meantime, Jaxton knew the situation would be a little intense between Nicole and Kylie, considering their opposing positions as the former and current chief designers of F&M Apparel. Nonetheless, he had no choice but to go ahead and handle the matter with precaution because of his priority to make Aimee International drop the case.

"Director Kidman, I believe you must have made up your mind by now. So, what would be your answer then?" Nicole smiled and looked at Jaxton with a mischievous expression on her face.

Despite Jaxton's hatred for Nicole, he hid his emotions well without showing them at all because there was nothing he could do besides putting up with the lady. He then stared at Nicole and asked, "Are you sure you took care of the matter with Aimee International's president? Does that mean they've agreed to drop charges?"

Nicole smiled confidently in response. "It's up to you to believe me. If you don't, you're always welcome to confront them for an explanation."

Upon hearing the lady's words, Jaxton appeared to be a little hesitant. After all, when Nicole confidently guaranteed that she could persuade Aimee International to drop the charge, he sent his men to secretly stalk her, only to be told that nothing was wrong during the negotiation between the lady and the company.

Thus, it seemed to him that the situation would likely go in his favor in spite of his doubts and disbelief. "I trust you, of course, Miss Anderson," Jaxton said.

Meanwhile, Kylie knitted her eyebrows in confusion when she heard the conversation between the two of them. "Why did you tell me to come here when you both were only going to talk about the case with Aimee International?" Already unhappy with her powerlessness in Gardner Corporation, Kylie was even more annoyed when she realized she had been dragged here to hear something that had nothing to do with her. I wouldn't have come here if I had known this was what this meeting was about.

Without saying a single word, Nicole shot a gaze at Jaxton, hinting to him about the wiser choice to make between Aimee International and F&M Apparel. Therefore, Jaxton turned his attention to Kylie and apologetically said, "I'm sorry, Miss Simmons. Gardner Corporation will terminate the contract with F&M Apparel, so please pack your stuff and leave the building right now."

As soon as Kylie heard that, her face changed because she reckoned she had been patient and tolerant enough of her limited powers in Gardner Corporation, after all. Therefore, when she was told to leave the company, she was bitterly resentful and exasperated. In fact, she was counting on the deal to consolidate her position as the chief designer of F&M Apparel since she was still new.

However, she was now dismayed when her plan was thwarted. Oh, gosh! Not only did my plan fail, but I was also cast away from Gardner Corporation before I could see my plan succeed. If word about this gets to F&M Apparel, I'm going to become a laughingstock. "You can't do this, Director Kidman.

The deal between F&M Apparel and Gardner Corporation is bound by a contract, and there is still a month more until it expires. So, your decision is going to constitute a violation of a legal contract."

Despite Kylie's warning, Jaxton couldn't care less about that as he replied, "Gardner Corporation will pay the damages to F&M Apparel as per the terms and conditions stated in the contract. So, you can rest assured about that, Miss Simmons."

Exasperated and unhappy, Kylie glared at Nicole and gritted her teeth. "Is this your doing, Nicole?!"