

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 395

Chapter 395 I Hope Our Partnership Can Bring Us Success

“Yes, I did.” Nicole chuckled and nodded directly.

The next second, Kylie abruptly rose to her feet and charged at Nicole, raising her hand as she was ready to slap her in the face. However, Nicole was no pushover who was about to let others take advantage of her as she caught Kylie’s hand in the air just in time before it hit her face.

“Why are you doing this to me, Nicole?!” Kylie questioned Nicole.

Nicole looked Kylie in the eye with an indifferent expression and puckered her lips with a smile. “Why don’t you ask yourself what you did to me earlier, Kylie?”

An annoyed Kylie gritted her teeth in response. “You left F&M Apparel yourself. I didn’t make you do that, so you can’t blame that on me!”

Hearing the lady’s words made Nicole chuckle and react with a sweet smile on her face. “Kylie, get over yourself, would you? You only could be the chief designer of F&M Apparel because I left. If you had behaved yourself ever since you came to Gardner Corporation, I wouldn’t have done anything to you. So, you’re a fake hypocrite, and that’s what exactly causes your downfall.” She shook off Kylie’s hand as soon as she finished her words.

In the meantime, Kylie blanched in her face but didn’t seem to have a choice besides embracing her fate. At the same time, she could hear buzzing in her head, overwhelmed by a strong wave of dizziness. Deep down, she was picturing her pathetic ending when she returned to F&M Apparel after everyone knew she was cast away from Gardner Corporation. “No... You can’t do this to me...”

Nevertheless, Nicole took a step back and decided not to argue with Kylie any further. Instead, she turned her attention to Jaxton and said, “Alright. I suppose you won’t have any trouble handling the rest of the matters, will you, Director Kidman? I shall get going now. Once the contract with F&M Apparel has been terminated, you’ll receive some good news.” Nicole walked away upon finishing her sentence.

When Kylie saw Nicole leaving, she immediately caught up to Nicole and seized her hand, but the woman did not stop in her tracks. Instead, she ignored her and shook her hand in an unkind way.

Not long after that, Gardner Corporation paid a penalty sum to F&M Apparel as soon as it terminated the deal with the latter, whereupon Aimee International dropped the charge

as promised. Then, Aimee International's president even swung by Gardner Corporation to pay Colton a visit.

On the other hand, Colton was sitting in the president's office and leaning on his chair in a casual manner while gazing at the gorgeous lady in front of him with a smile. "Thank you so much for your help, President Phoenix."

Nevertheless, Emily didn't react to the man in a friendly manner. Instead, she squinted and gave him a harsh reply. "The reason Aimee International has decided to work with your company is because we believe the potential 'Ann' has in penetrating the domestic market. Besides that, our company has chosen yours to work with because of one woman—Nicole Anderson." She sized up Colton and added, "In fact, you have her to thank because it was her who persuaded me to drop the case against Gardner Corporation!"

However, Colton continued to smile without showing any signs of anger, although he didn't seem to show any other types of emotions. Soon, he nodded and replied, "I know that. I heard Nicole is one of the shareholders of Aimee International, and I bet she must be someone who's been through a lot with you."

In response to his sweet-talking, Emily only grunted in a nonchalant manner. "It was obvious that someone tried to set her up this time."

Placing his hand on the desk, he responded with a rather submissive attitude. "I'm aware of that, but you can be rest assured knowing that I took care of it, President Kidman."

Meanwhile, Emily knew how little weight her every word carried in front of the handsome man as she kept her eyes on his good looks. Although Colton's words sounded like a spoilsport that ruined her mood, she restrained herself from rubbing him the wrong way, knowing it wouldn't do Nicole any good.

After all, Nicole was probably going to stay in the country, where she would likely continue working in Gardner Corporation.

At the thought of that, Emily stood up and shot a gaze at Colton before taking her eyes off him. "President Gardner, I'm going to pretend that this incident was a misunderstanding. Aimee International will continue its cooperation with Gardner Corporation. I hope our partnership can bring us success."

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On the other hand, Kylie left Gardner Corporation as soon as the company stopped its deal with F&M Apparel. Before leaving the building, she confronted Nicole, not thinking the latter would humiliate her so badly, even though she had already left F&M Apparel.

In fact, she insistently flew all the way from home to Gardner Corporation because she wanted to demonstrate her authority and took advantage of Nicole. However, she was dismayed because not only did her plan fail, but she also had to leave Gardner Corporation with no choice.

As F&M Apparel was considered one of the best few companies in the fashion industry, Kylie was embarrassed about the way she had to leave Gardner Corporation. At the thought of that, she felt so exasperated that she almost had a heart attack. "Nicole, why won't you leave me alone even after you left F&M Apparel?!" Kylie gave Nicole an evil stare, glaring at her with a pair of eyes full of hatred.

However, Nicole only stared at Kylie in an amused manner, finding her words funny. How am I the one who won't leave her alone? She then raised her voice with a sarcastic smile on her face. "Get off your high horse, Kylie! You and I both know why you came to Gardner Corporation."

While Kylie and Joanna had been colluding with each other to secretly plot against Nicole all the time, she wasn't so dumb that she didn't realize what they were up to.

"Stop acting like a coward, Nicole! I dare you to face me fair and square!" Kylie gritted her teeth, denying what she had done before, as her hatred had blinded her from seeing her mistakes. Deep down, she still couldn't get over the fact that she was about to become a laughingstock the moment she returned to F&M Apparel.

Thanks to this idiotic lady, I'm now out of Gardner Corporation before I even have the chance to reap the benefits during my time here. Damn it! I'm going to have a hard time living that down.

Nevertheless, Nicole was tired of arguing with Kylie since the latter would no longer be in Gardner Corporation anyway. Happy about the peace she was finally going to have in Kylie's absence, she calmly replied, "Every word that comes out of your mouth right now doesn't mean anything at all. So, the door is right there, and please leave the place as soon as possible." She then walked away without even bothering to look at Kylie.

Damn you, Nicole! Kylie had her eyes glued to Nicole, who was disappearing from her sight, gritting her teeth in a mad manner, yet there was not a single thing she could do besides returning to F&M Apparel.

Not long after Kylie was gone, Aimee International dropped the charge against Gardner Corporation just as Nicole and Joanna returned to the company as usual.

Although Joanna thought Nicole would seize the opportunity to cast her away from the company too, she was surprised that she was allowed to stay. The moment she arrived in the office, she heard her colleagues discussing Kylie's departure, as well as the end of the cooperation between Gardner Corporation and F&M Apparel. However, even without a single hint, she could tell that Nicole was behind the recent happenings.

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After taking care of the matter with Aimee International, Nicole immediately got prepared for her next target—Pierre—although she hadn't seemed to identify anything wrong with him thus far.

Earlier on, Nicole managed to make a name for herself following the successful surgery that she performed on Benedict. After all, no medical team that was hired had ever come close to finding a cure to the older man's illness, but Nicole surpassed the adversities and rose to the occasion all by herself.

After the successful surgery, she was widely known as a skilled doctor, no longer living in White's shadows. Little did she know that the fame that her surgery gave her, coupled with the fact that she was White's disciple, would later help her earn a place in a medical research project team.

When Pierre learned about the news, he was angry and frustrated. After all, he had always wanted to be involved in the medical research project but failed to do so even though he had pulled many strings.

Therefore, he promised Bryan to orchestrate Benedict's death, not just for money but also to do Bryan a favor so that he could help him join the medical research project team.

However, his plan was thwarted when Nicole was the one who got into the project team. Thinking about that, Pierre felt his heart beating like a jackhammer while cursing Nicole deep down.

If it hadn't been for Nicole, I would have been White's disciple long ago, and if that had happened, I would be the most famous doctor by now instead of being stuck in a state like that.

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Chapter 397 The Hacker

While there was a horrible pandemic in Espad, the medical research team, which was tasked with inventing the vaccine, didn't have to visit the country. Instead, they were only required to collect some samples to carry on with their studies.

Thus, it was only a matter of time before the vaccine could be successfully synthesized and created. For that, any new member who joined the research team would technically be entitled to the credit should the vaccine turn out to be a success, even without having to do anything.

What has she done to deserve a place on the research team?! What has she done?! Why did Nicole get to join the team while I didn't?! This isn't fair at all! I should have dragged Nicole down back when my reputation was ruined.

In fact, Pierre spent a huge amount of money to bribe those who were rescued by White in order to pressure the great doctor into accepting him as his disciple. He then visited White and made it clear to the old man that he could help him take care of his problem if he agreed to accept him as his disciple. However, White didn't give in to him and gave him a harsh lecture instead.

While White was a dead man now, Nicole was the only person left standing in Pierre's way. Thus, he swore to himself that he would get rid of the lady. Hmph! I smeared White's name and caused his death back then, so I could do that again to bring you down, Nicole. Pierre curled his lips and smiled sinisterly at the thought of that. Soon, you'll have a taste of a fate worse than death.

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Meanwhile, Nicole had been traveling between her company, the medical research facility, and her home ever since she joined the medical research team. While she had already submitted her draft for 'Ann', there was nothing much she had to be busy with other than attending a few meetings about the project.

When Nicole was still under White's tutelage, she had the privilege of studying many different medicines. Although she hadn't been in this line of work for years, she was somehow able to pick it up fast as soon as she returned to the medical field.

While the medical research team was full of elites and talented people, Nicole was treated with respect instead of disdain since White was a highly revered figure in the medical world. Therefore, they respected Nicole just as much as they respected White.

As Nicole had been living her life at a faster pace recently, she unknowingly neglected her son, Hayden. Realizing that, she began to wonder if Hayden was acting strangely because she neglected him. Not only was her son seen around his laptop all the time, but he also didn't show any response at all sometimes when she came back.

Eventually, Nicole grew increasingly worried about her son and decided to ask Whitney about it. "Why does Hayden always appear to be carrying his computer? What's wrong with him? What did you teach him recently?"

Upon hearing Nicole's question, Whitney knew what Hayden was probably doing but found it hard to explain it to Nicole. After all, she couldn't tell Nicole that her son, Hayden, was actually the legendary hacker known as 'Nick', fearing she would blame her for that.

In fact, Whitney was merely just giving it a shot when she first started teaching Hayden about hacking, only to be surprised at how outstanding progress the boy showed in his learning.

Before she knew it, Hayden had already surpassed her level and become an extraordinary hacker who could even search for something that Whitney couldn't.

Whitney soon responded with an awkward look on her face, pondering for a while before she replied, "Well, maybe Hayden just wants to play some games." Deep down, she knew Hayden was probably handling some assignments, which were mostly international projects that involved many shady deals.

When Whitney first found that out, she was so shocked that she nearly screamed at the top of her lungs. Oh, dear! If this goes on, this boy is going to be a guy for hire in hacking for any crime lord. If it weren't for his exceptional hacking skills, I bet the assassins would have discovered his whereabouts and shot him dead.

Knowing how complicated it was to be involved in those shady deals, Whitney was well aware that things could go awry with one wrong move.

After all, Hayden could easily make himself the target of his employer's enemy by simply accepting the task. Therefore, she was convinced that no one was to be trusted in the underworld.

Nevertheless, Nicole stared at Whitney doubtfully, her eyes filled with distrust and skepticism.

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Chapter 398 Caught Red-Handed

Soon, Whitney quickly realized that her feeble excuse wasn't going to fool Nicole, but since she couldn't think of anything else to say, she rubbed her nose and said, "Miss Nicole, perhaps it's better for you to ask Hayden himself..."

Noticing Whitney's hesitation, Nicole was starting to think there was something serious both of them were hiding from her. She then squinted and glared at Whitney, who felt goosebumps running all over her scalp. Since Nicole used to be a leader in her company, her gaze was so commanding and intimidating that Whitney began to feel panicky. She then spoke with a soft voice. "Miss Nicole..."

“Fine,” Nicole responded glacially as she continued to stare at Whitney.

“Miss Nicole, I think it’s better for you to ask Hayden yourself because I’m not really sure what he’s been doing either.” Whitney’s words gave away the guilt in her heart. If I had known this would happen, I wouldn’t even have thought of teaching Hayden how to hack. How gutsy of that guy to work for anyone from the underworld?! If anyone finds out about him, he could pay the price with his life.

Meanwhile, Nicole could tell from Whitney’s stammer that her son had something he was hiding from her. “Tell me what you know, and I’ll let you off, or we can do this the hard way until you talk. Think carefully before you choose.” Nicole glared at Whitney.

While Whitney was helpless upon hearing Nicole’s response, the reason she was hesitant to reveal what Hayden had been up to was not because of her reluctance but because she had no idea where to start. However, she soon made up her mind and answered, “Miss Nicole, I taught Hayden how to hack earlier, but he’s proven himself to be rather exceptional and talented in that line of work. A few months later, I ran out of things to teach him, and he now does everything by himself, much to my surprise.”

It was only when Nicole heard Whitney’s words that she realized how talented Hayden was in hacking. Although she had always known how exceptionally smart her son was, she didn’t know Hayden had a hidden talent for hacking. As soon as she heard Whitney’s words, she turned around and walked away.

In the meantime, Whitney was left behind, watching Nicole leave just as she was about to say something. Nevertheless, she swallowed the words that were forming at the tip of her tongue when she noticed how hasty her footsteps were. Fine, I guess I’d better stay out of their hair. After all, that’s a business between Miss Nicole and her son.

Not long after that, Nicole arrived at Hayden’s room and opened the door, whereupon she was greeted by the sight of the boy with his eyes glued to the computer screen. Besides that, Hayden appeared to be typing really fast on his keyboard, seemingly handling something pretty urgent. At the same time, Hayden was shocked when he heard the door open. At the sight of his mother, he frantically tried to switch off the computer, only to have his hand caught by Nicole, who squinted and looked at him bewilderedly. Seconds later, Hayden smiled and gazed at his own mother. “Mommy, why didn’t you knock before you came in?”

Staring at Hayden’s fake smile, Nicole was speechless as she shifted her gaze to the computer, only to see nothing but the wallpaper. With a glacial expression on her face, Nicole ordered her son with a soft voice to show her what had been keeping him so occupied until she came in. “Show me what you were doing.”

On the other hand, Hayden was seen with a stiffened look on his face, trying to play dumb in front of his mother. “Mommy, what are you talking about? How come I don’t understand a single word you’re saying?”

Noticing the innocent look of the boy, Nicole reckoned she would have been fooled by Hayden’s childish appearance if she hadn’t heard Whitney’s words. She then grunted and folded her arms. “Hayden, I didn’t know you’re such a good hacker. How come you didn’t tell me anything about it?”

When Hayden heard his mother, his face changed. Oh god! I’m so screwed up. I guess Mom knows everything. At the thought of that, he kept his head down without saying a single word. Nevertheless, Nicole continued to stare at Hayden for a short while before she reacted with a soft voice.

“Hayden, I don’t have a problem with what you’re doing. Do you know that? You could have told me about it instead of keeping me in the dark.”

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Chapter 399 The Rich Boy

As Hayden heard Nicole’s words, he looked up and gazed at her for a while before he confessed, “I was afraid you wouldn’t like what I was doing.”

Nicole let out a sigh and slowly sat down beside Hayden. She then wrapped her arms around her son and caressed his head, explaining seriously, “Of course, I won’t interfere with what you like doing, Hayden, but at your age, I’m worried that you may not be careful enough to foresee the consequences that follow your actions. So, if you let me know ahead, I could at least do something to back you up should anything go wrong.”

Upon hearing his mother’s clarification, Hayden was overwhelmed by his guilt. In fact, the reason he had been keeping Nicole in the dark about his identity as a hacker was that the assignments that he had been working with involved confidential intel, which was enough to spark a gang war in the underworld. Therefore, one wrong move could invite disasters that cost a life.

Nonetheless, Hayden was confident with his own capability that he wouldn’t expose his whereabouts to his enemies. “I only accepted these assignments because I wanted to become a really, really rich boy and give you a good life. In that case, you won’t have to work anymore,” Hayden answered.

Nicole fixed her gaze on the child for a minute. “Are all these assignments complicated?” she asked, to which Hayden nodded in response. Helpless, Nicole pondered for a moment and added, “You must stay safe, Hayden. If you can promise

me that while doing what you're doing righteously, I will not interfere with your business."

When Hayden heard Nicole's reply, he suddenly felt a lump in his throat. Back when he was younger, Nicole always left home early and came back late. Thus, he knew his mother had sacrificed a lot for him, which was why he started making money as soon as he picked up his hacking skills from Whitney. After all, he wanted to make enough money to live a comfortable life with his mother. While he thought Nicole wouldn't understand his situation, he was stunned to realize that Nicole didn't mind what he was doing at all.

Therefore, he instantly felt guilty, thinking he shouldn't have kept her in the dark about his secret. With his head kept down, he began to reveal everything to Nicole honestly. "Mommy, I've actually been accepting jobs since a year ago. The name that I go by is 'Nick', but no one else knows about that besides you and Miss Whitney."

Nick?! Nicole couldn't believe her ears. Although she was not familiar with the line of work in which her son was involved, she had heard about Nick's name as the person behind the name was deemed to be the best hacker there was. Then, Nicole was reminded of the time that Zachary tried to search for more information about Hayden when she was still in F&M Apparel.

Oh, man! I wonder how old those elite hackers would be after all the time they spent learning to hack.

At the thought of that, Nicole was stunned when the person she had been wondering about was, in fact, her son. With her eyes wide open and her mouth largely agape, she couldn't seem to calm herself down and asked, "Hayden, tell me how much you've made so far."

Hayden looked down and roughly went through his balance, eventually calculating his revenue to be approximately ten billion. He then turned his attention to Nicole and answered, "About ten billion."

Wait, what?! Nicole was left with her mouth wide agape when she heard the boy's answer. After all, she had always thought she had a successful career that paid her well and was sure she could live comfortably for the rest of her life with her son, but when Hayden revealed how much money he had been making, she realized her son was better at making money than she was.

It's only been a year, but he's already made so much money. Nicole sat on the bed for a few moments before she could accept the truth. She then covered her forehead helplessly and let out a sigh, finding it ironic the fact that her son was richer than she was.

With a brittle smile on her face, Nicole wasn't sure whether she should be happy or sad about that.

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Chapter 400 Surprise

"T-That's awesome, Hayden." Nicole eventually spoke the words that were forming at the tip of her tongue, complimenting her son begrudgingly.

In the meantime, Hayden seized his mother's arm and scrutinized her reaction for a while before he asked, "Are you sure you're not going to be mad, Mommy?"

Nicole reacted by hugging Hayden, speaking in a serious manner, "Of course not." While Hayden had always been a mature child to her since he was younger, Nicole didn't come by her success overnight. Instead, she went through a lot before she got this far, sailing through many hardships even when she had to raise Hayden all by herself.

Despite all the challenging adversities, Nicole was proud of herself for having surpassed every single one of them to create a better life for herself and her son. "Why would I be, Hayden?"

"I'm happy to have such a brilliant son like you, on the other hand," Nicole smiled and said, finally understanding why Hayden was seen to be around his laptop all the time. So he's been accepting jobs lately. No wonder he was always with his laptop.

"I'm glad that you're not mad, Mommy. Actually, the reason I didn't tell you that was because I was afraid that you would get worried. I didn't hide it from you intentionally."

Hayden acted like a kid who had just been caught red-handed for misbehaving, speaking carefully with every word that came out of his mouth while looking at Nicole.

Nevertheless, Nicole didn't berate her son but was instead calm upon learning about Hayden's secret. "I'm happy that my son is such a genius." After knowing her son was a talented hacker, Nicole went ahead and asked Hayden to search for the patients White got in touch with when he was being framed.

Meanwhile, Hayden's face turned sour when he heard about the assignment his mother gave him. While it wasn't a tough job, it was troublesome for the child to search for the information Nicole wanted, which could complicate the searching process. However, Hayden agreed to help his mother, who rewarded him with candy. Thus, Hayden put the candy in his mouth and proceeded to start typing on his keyboard.

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For the next few days, Nicole was busy doing her work in the medical research facility. When she was previously under White's tutelage, she had many experiences studying various types of drugs and medicines. Therefore, her presence in the research team largely contributed to the progress. After all, she was able to offer a lot of insights and advice to the team as the members struggled to keep up with their schedules.

While the vaccine was expected to be created in three months, they hadn't even reached 10% of the progress after a month. Nevertheless, Nicole's contribution helped the team speed up their progress by prompting them to run tests in the direction she suggested.

To everyone's surprise, the result they obtained was positive. Impressed with how Nicole's opinion could benefit them so much, the research team members were even happier to have her on board. Because of the huge breakthrough, the atmosphere in the research facility was lightened up as everyone was permitted to take a day off.

When Nicole returned home, she spent her time going through the information Hayden found and compiled for her. In fact, Hayden had managed to identify the person whom White's patients met before the protest with the help of some data surveys.

While the person was not Pierre, it was instead a man who was tall and skinny. Hayden then found a video of the man and showed it to Nicole, whose face turned pale when she made out his face.

This man! He is my mentor's junior—Norman Clancy! Unable to believe her eyes, Nicole struggled to convince herself that Norman would do something like that because he was close to White back then.

No way! How can this be?! As her lips shook, she squinted and pondered for a second, whereupon she shivered and speculated about why Norman was seen there. "Perhaps he was there to do an interview or something..."

Upon noticing the pale look on his mother's face, Hayden quickly went through the other videos until he found a few shots that could seem to give her some useful clues. In the video, Norman was seen holding a huge paper bag in which the content was unidentified before he gave it to the patients' family members.

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Chapter 401 Scheme

Nicole's heart seemed to quiver as she looked at the scene. Could it be that it really isn't Pierre, and is Norman instead?

After thinking about it for a while with her lips pursed, she spoke again. "Hayden, try going along the same direction and see if you can help me find out if there is any connection between Norman and Pierre."

The boy nodded upon hearing her request as his fingers flew across the keyboard.

As he searched for information, he commented, "Sure thing, but it is going to take some time, Mom. You can go and take a rest. I will let you know when I find something."

Hayden had a focused gaze as he stared intently at the computer that didn't look like it belonged to a child at all.

She felt somewhat emotional looking at her son's serious appearance. She never would have thought that she had such a capable son.

At the same time, Pierre was starting to get agitated because of the rapid progress the research base has now achieved.

He quickly made a call, and it was answered by a low and matured voice that didn't sound too pleased.

"Pierre? What are you calling me for?"

Pierre then jokingly replied, "I haven't seen you in so long, Doctor Clancy. What's the matter? Does getting a call from me annoy you?"

Norman was a man in his fifties. Even though he didn't want to have anything to do with Pierre now, he had no choice but to keep his anger at bay as they had their hands on each other's weaknesses.

"Just spill it. I don't have so much time to be listening to you talk about anything unimportant," Norman warned, his voice low.

Pierre chuckled upon hearing that, and he immediately got straight to the point.

"Do you remember who Nicole Anderson is?"

Norman froze when he heard the name. "Isn't she White Nicholson's disciple? What about her?"

"I bumped into her. She has now joined the vaccine team in Espad."

A frown appeared on Norman's face after he heard Nicole's name. Even though no one knew that the two of them had plotted against White back then, he was the one who put a face to the crime after all.

He knew Nicole. In fact, he was familiar with Nicole. She might seem like a gentle sheep, but she had the temperament of an ox.

She definitely would cling to Norman if she ever found out the reason White died.

"What do you plan to do?" Norman asked, making Pierre's eyes dim.

In a glum voice, Pierre hissed, "Of course I am going to ruin her reputation."

This made Norman feel conflicted. The reason why he and Pierre teamed up back then was to obstruct White because he was always a step ahead of Norman. He never had any chances to make something out of himself wherever White was.

That was the reason Norman committed the sin back then. However, Nicole now posed no threat to him. He didn't want to be involved in something like this anymore.

"Nicole is not a doctor anymore. We don't have to keep going after her. It has been so long. If we continue trying to hunt her down, neither one of us can dream of a peaceful life if someone were to find out what happened in the past," Norman persuaded in a hushed voice.

Norman only joined hands with Pierre because the former was displeased with how White was appointed to be the next director at the hospital by the director who was retiring.

All he wanted was to smear White's name so that he himself could legitimately become the director. Things had unfortunately taken an unexpected turn when White fell gravely ill from it, and died on the hospital bed.

This was a guilt that Norman would never be able to get over.

He had killed a fellow apprentice!

"Nicole is already researching drugs, and she is known to be White's apprentice. If she really succeeds, White's name will be made known to the public again. Don't you think someone will be curious enough to try to find out how White was framed?"

Pierre's tone was ominous as he uttered those words.

Even Norman's gaze hardened after he heard Pierre speak.

Pierre wasn't wrong. If the vaccine researched by Nicole turned out to be successful, it would definitely be a matter worthy of a national celebration. And if her reputation rose, they could only imagine what would happen when White's story was dug out.

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Chapter 402 Scheme: Commence

Norman's grip on the phone tightened after he heard Pierre's words.

As both the leader of the industry and the director of a big hospital, he couldn't afford to make any mistakes now. The medical school had even been inviting him back to the school to become a professor these few years.

Norman was at his prime now.

If the truth about what happened back then to White was found out, Norman might be treated like a street urchin that everyone turned their backs on.

He couldn't possibly let that happen!

After thinking about it for a moment, he finally asked, "What are you planning to do?"

A wide smile spread across Pierre's face when he noticed how Norman was starting to get concerned about the issue. In a loud voice, he mentioned, "Easy. Now that the research for the vaccine is about to be completed, don't you suppose it will raise some sort of reaction if it is lost at a time like this?"

"You want me to steal it?" Norman questioned him as soon as he heard his words.

I won't do something like this!

Pierre naturally knew that Norman wouldn't do so. Even a dog could jump over a wall when cornered, let alone a human being.

"Just get me the access card to the research facility, and I will handle the rest." Pierre didn't want to put too much pressure on Norman for now.

Norman hadn't lost his mind like Pierre had. Being the more sensible one of the two, the former knew what should and shouldn't be done. After thinking for a while, he still hesitated.

"You can ruin her reputation with other things. After all, the vaccine does affect many people..."

There was a full-scale outbreak in Espad. Thousands, or even tens of thousands of people, could die if the production of the vaccine was delayed.

He couldn't possibly do such a conscience-striking thing.

Seemingly aware of Norman's worries, Pierre reassured, "Just relax. I know when to stop. The blame will be put on Nicole when the item is stolen. And when they find that it is with her, her reputation will go down the drain without anyone else being harmed. We will be hitting two birds with one stone."

Norman took some time to ponder over it, and came to the conclusion that this seemed like the only way after all.

"Alright. I will get it for you, but whether or not you succeed has nothing to do with me!"

It was obvious Norman wanted to draw the line between him and Pierre.

Pierre eventually couldn't help but laugh out loud when he heard the aloofness in Norman's voice.

"Oh Norman, I admit it when people say that I am both a bad person and doctor. After all, I am blatantly, unabashedly cruel. It is actually dirty dogs like you who act differently behind people that are harder to guard against."

Pierre's unceremonious provocation made Norman's face turn pale. However, Norman had no choice but to hold himself back since Pierre had his hands on his weakness.

"Watch your mouth, Pierre Toth! Don't expect my help otherwise!" Norman gave a stern warning.

Upon hearing his words, Pierre wiped off the smile on his face, but his eyes were still filled with disdain.

"C'mon, it was just a joke. No need to get your knickers in a twist. Don't forget what you promised me."

He swiftly hung up after throwing that out.

Back at the research institute, the whole process was now going smoothly because of a major breakthrough.

"It is all thanks to Nicole that we are no longer stuck there. We might not complete it in even half a year, let alone three months."

"Exactly! If this keeps going so smoothly, the vaccine will be successfully produced in just another month."

“Mhm. We will be able to save more lives as well if the schedule is brought forward!”

As the problem had been resolved, everyone had a somewhat relaxed smile on their faces. The atmosphere in the institute was harmonious.

Hearing that, Nicole humbly replied, “It is what I should do.”

Other than wanting to bait Pierre, she also wanted to help in the way she could.

“We are almost done here. Let’s come back after we have a meal. We have to both work and rest. It will make things tougher if our bodies fail us.”

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Chapter 403 Commencement

Nicole had a slight hesitation on her face as she stared at the unfinished work she was holding on to. After thinking for a while, she told them, “I still have a little something to finish up. It will be done in an hour. Why don’t you all go ahead and eat? I will come when I am done.”

Instead of forcibly bringing her with them, they only patted her on the shoulder. “Alright. We will be going first then. Good work, Nicole.”

She shook her head and smiled. “It is my duty. Go ahead. I will be there when I am done.”

The researchers then walked out together, leaving Nicole alone at the wide research table.

Now that she was alone, she stared intently at the thing in her hand, and bent her torso slightly as she started fiddling with it.

Some time must have passed by the time she was done, as her waist felt sore when she straightened it.

Even her neck had started hurting as she had lowered her head for an extended time. She only felt more relieved after she reached out and bent her neck while she lightly pounded her waist.

She then wrote down the result of the research she had just done in her notebook.

After letting a relieved sigh at the completed work, she tidied up the desk and left.

Just as she went out the front foot, the entire medical base behind her suddenly had a power outage.

Not that Nicole realized it.

The location of the medical base was on the more remote side. Built against a mountain, the medical base initially had a canteen and dormitory to give the researchers easy access to rest and meals.

However, due to the heavy rain the day before yesterday, the canteen and dormitory were partially damaged by rocks that were washed down from the mountain.

Even though the building wasn't completely destroyed as it had a solid build, no one stayed there for safety's sake. The base had arranged two shuttle buses to pick them up and send them home to rest.

After Nicole left the medical facility, she looked up at the sky to gauge the weather.

It was still the afternoon, but the sky had already turned dark and was showering a dense, yet light drizzle.

There was hardly anyone in the medical base when she came out because of the drizzle. It looked like Nicole was the only one here at a glance of the huge base.

She then quickly jogged back to her car to drive off to the nearest restaurant, which would take her about 20 minutes to arrive.

She would often forget to have her meals while researching the vaccine.

With her stomach empty, she started the engine and headed to the restaurant.

There was only a narrow road leading to the outside, but a layer of cement road had been paved for convenience going in and out.

After she drove out for less than 10 minutes, she suddenly hit the brakes when she saw the tree trunk blocking her path in the middle of the road.

She couldn't help finding it bizarre.

Why would there be a tree trunk in the middle of the road when it is only drizzling?

On the other side of the tree were the other people from the base. After seeing them, she finally realized why they weren't back after being out for such a long time. It turned out they were blocked by the tree trunk.

They started waving at Nicole when they saw her. “Nicole!” They then yelled, “We can’t drive over with the tree in the middle of the road. We couldn’t move the trunk at all when we tried earlier.”

As Nicole stepped forward and looked at the root of the tree, she could tell that something was wrong after she glanced at it. The tree didn’t fall naturally—someone had put it there.

After thinking about it for a while, she suddenly seemed to think of something, and she quickly suggested, “Do you want to climb over so that I can take you back to the research facility? We can get an excavator to remove the tree afterward.”

The people on the other side mulled over her suggestion for a moment before they agreed with what she said. Seeing as to how the rain was only getting heavier, they would be drenched if they continued to stay here.

Nicole then took them back to the base, and that was when they found that the power had gone out at some point. The fingerprint door lock couldn’t be opened as well.

When they asked the security guard guarding the place, he also only said that he didn’t know the reason for the sudden power outage. He did reassure them that he had been staying by the door the whole time after the electricity went out, and that no one had entered nor left the place.

Right Person, Wrong Time Chapter 404

Chapter 404 Labelled

One of the facility’s personnel went to check the electrical box and found that a wire had been cut, but all it took was some knocking and twiddling for the power to resume again.

When they went in, they noticed that the place was still as neat and tidy as it was before they left. The only difference was that all the reports they had made before had disappeared.

Not only that, even the data on the computer had been erased.

The data on the computer were all encrypted. It was impossible to gain access to the file without typing in a password.

The theft of data at the research centre was no laughing matter.

Its severity even alerted the SWAT team.

Colton, too, hurried over after he heard the news. He was let in as the Gardner Family was an investor of the entire research base.

Colton stood beside Nicole, and the people beside them all spotted a solemn look on their faces. They couldn't believe that the result of the research they had been conducting for over a month had been stolen just like that.

The theft would lead to serious consequences. They would have to waste at least another month if they were to start from scratch.

"What is the matter?" Colton asked in a soft voice.

Nicole lowered her eyes and frowned. She seemed to be thinking about something before she eventually answered, "Someone must have come in and cleared all the data. They even took away some handwritten materials."

After hearing her words, Colton couldn't help but let out a frown of his own. He then raised his eyebrows and his eyes swept across the crowd. Thoughtfully, he reached out and brought Nicole out of the room with him.

Instead of resisting, she quietly went out with him.

It was only after they left the crowd that he asked, "Is it Pierre Toth?"

Nicole had already guessed who was the culprit before Colton even asked her. She blinked a few times, and only nodded after making sure there was no one else around them.

"That is my guess as well. But he hasn't given himself away yet. We will plan the next step when he does."

Even though Nicole was sure of herself, Colton couldn't help but worry. "How sure are you about this?" he asked.

She looked up at him and beamed confidently, stretching out her hands to the side. "100%."

He slightly curled the corners of his lips as he looked at the woman in front of him and chuckled. She was always so confident, as expected of the woman he fell for.

"Alright, but you can tell me if there is anything you can't do by yourself. I am willing to lend a helping hand, Miss Nicole."

The situation could no longer be taken for granted because the data was stolen and intentionally deleted.

All the staff of the medical base were all detained in the research institute. To make matters worse, even the SWAT team had started their investigation on the issue.

The most likely suspect now was Nicole, as she was the only one left in the laboratory before it happened.

However, Nicole wasn't at all surprised to find herself being labelled as the culprit. She only laid it bare by telling them, "It wasn't me. Furthermore, I have no use for this information."

The investigation reached a dead end because of how there were no surveillance records in the research institute when the theft happened as the power supply was cut off.

The last video from the surveillance camera was the one where Nicole left the door.

This research was extremely important, and yet the people who were sent here hadn't been successful at finding the key information. The only way to the research institute was blocked by a tree, and the last person to leave and re-enter after the power outage was Nicole.

It only took about a minute after she left for the power outage to happen.

Later, due to the pressure from upper management, Nicole had to be detained as a suspect.

She didn't resist them either. She didn't even say a word to stop them when they brought her straight to jail.

Nicole had become famous overnight, and was supposed to have a bright future ahead after the operation she conducted on Benedict. However, her being charged with data theft had immediately sent the public into a frenzy as anger consumed them.