

Chapter 276 How Much Is She Worth?

In that moment of confrontation, the situation changed. Dark clouds hung heavily above the sea, and the sea seemed exceptionally calm despite the storm brewing.

It seemed to foreshadow the intense situation that was about to occur.

In the dead silence of the stand-off, the cold and heavy atmosphere was extremely tense and dangerous, as if it would ignite at the slightest spark.

These were trained pirates who would kill without batting an eye.

Nicole was just a survivor stranded here.

However, she did not have the slightest fear, and her hands wielding the gun did not tremble. She pointed the gun at the pirate she was stepping on to make sure that he did not dare to struggle!

Raising her eyes, she looked at the dozens of guns aimed at herself with a firm and composed gaze.

Nathaniel's face went miserably white when he saw this scene.

when he saw this scene.

His legs could not help but go limp as he involuntarily slumped to the ground.

Nicole glanced at him and whispered in a voice that the pirates could not hear.

“Don’t be scared. Stand behind me. Once you hear the gunshot, turn around and run, and don’t look back.”

The jungle was right behind them. They would have a greater chance of escaping there!

Nathaniel froze. He was an explorer. What dangers had he never encountered?

He had overcome the endless difficulties brought by nature, such as having no food, no water, and no fire...

Whether it was being attacked by indigenous people, falling off a cliff, or getting robbed at sea by pirates, Nathaniel had experienced all of it before.

However, right now, he was terrified. He trembled with a bone-chilling fear.

It was a suffocating feeling of impending death that made his scalp numb and his feet cold.

Humans were always scared and powerless in the face of death!

Not even Hollywood would be able to film such a scene.

However, what did this dainty and melodramatic woman say?

'Don't be scared? Stand behind her? Don't look back?'

Nathaniel gritted his teeth and stood up stiffly, gradually suppressing the panic in his eyes.

How could he let a woman stand in front of him?

"I won't run. I told you that I'll protect you!"

Although he just said it casually at that time, he still remembered that promise.

Nicole wanted him to run so at least one of them would be able to survive.

However, before she could speak, the pirate on the other side impatiently barked out an order.

"Cut the crap and shoot!"

"Cut the crap and shoot!"

Nicole's expression changed dramatically as she cursed in her heart.

This man under her feet must not be an important figure.

Otherwise, the pirates would not be so indifferent to his well-being.

For an instant, she could feel the steadfast murderous intent in the movements of those pirates opposite them.

She sharply noticed something in her peripheral vision.

A few dozen meters to their left was a rock that would act as a good place to take cover.

Once the fight started, she would not have many bullets with the gun in her hands.

The other side had many people, and Nicole's chances of winning were slim to none.

How long could they stall?

Either way, she was sure to lose!

"Wait..."

Nicole took a deep breath and spoke to

them.

"Let's negotiate..."

The pirate opposite her was bloodthirsty and furious. He did not look like he was in the mood for negotiation at all.

The chill permeated the air, which was eerie and terrifying.

Nicole continued, "State your terms. I crash-landed here and didn't come here of our own accord. We don't have any conflicts of interest, so let us go. Just state your price."

The man looked at Nicole with disdain, his fierce face grim and angry.

"State a price? How much do you think you're worth?"

Nicole was just about to speak when the man who was pinned on the ground suddenly got up. He broke free and fought back, swinging his fists at Nicole.

She was forced to take two steps back and took the opportunity to kick Nathaniel behind the other side of the reef.

"Cut the crap! How can I be insulted by a woman? Hurry up and shoot!"

“Cut the crap! How can I be insulted by a woman? Hurry up and shoot!”

The slightly shorter and thinner pirate ordered.

At those words, Nicole reacted at the same time the shots were fired.

She instantly ducked and quickly hid behind some rocks.

“Bang bang bang—”

Countless bullets rushed at her, the sound piercing the skies!

The bullets shattered on the rocks and stray bullets whizzed past her ears. Her blood surged, but her body went cold, and her scalp grew numb.

Death was extremely close to her...

Chapter 277 I'll Take Him Away

Amidst the hail of bullets, Nicole suddenly recalled the terrorist attack in the streets of Europe four years ago.

The originally peaceful and romantic streets were suddenly bombed by terrorists.

They attacked countless civilians, and Nicole had rushed out of the safe room to save a three-year-old child whose parents had died on the scene.

The bomb exploded beside her. No matter how fast she was, she could not run away.

Nicole and the child were flung into the air by the blast and were just about to be reduced to cannon fodder...

The next second, a tall and strong man shielded her body.

That was the first time Nicole met Eric Ferguson.

From that moment on, she owed him her life.

He wore Mediania's military uniform, and his back was stained with blood, but his

He wore Mediania's military uniform, and his back was stained with blood, but his expression was steely and calm.

When he saw that Nicole and the child were safe, he immediately left to save the next person and helped the local police to catch many of the fleeing terrorists.

That attack made the terrorists target Eric Ferguson, a soldier of Mediania.

Revenge came too quickly.

The second time she met him, it was in an underground fight club.

Countless fighters surrounded Eric. He was covered in blood and full of wounds, and he seemed to be at the limit of his consciousness.

As soon as he stood up, he would be attacked brutally and knocked to the ground.

They wanted him dead!

The spectators cried foul, but none of them protested,

In the darkness, someone laughed maniacally,

"Look at this self-righteous Medianian!"

"Look at this self-righteous Medianian!
You think you're a hero? You're just an
arrogant fool!"

"Hahahaha! What a show! Keep fighting if
you can..."

"Well, as long as someone takes you out, or
as long as you can walk out alive, we'll
let you go. Hahaha..."

They were certain that no one would dare to
meddle.

However, Nicole heard it. In the darkness,
no one bothered to pay attention to a
woman.

Without hesitation, she rushed up and
attacked the crotch of the boxers as fast as
she could.

They screamed miserably, and the
situation changed in an instant.

Nicole held Eric up by her shoulders and
took him away step by step under the
watchful eyes of the crowd.

As the large door in front of them opened,
the light from outside penetrated in and
pierced through the darkness.

Eric had already lost consciousness by the

Eric had already lost consciousness by the time Nicole handed him over to his companions.

This time, she finally repaid her debt to him.

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Nicole's eyes blurred. She did not know why she thought of Eric at this juncture of life-and-death.

He would probably never know that they had already met even before they got married.

She fell in love with him way earlier than he imagined.

Bullets whizzed around, the cold sea wind howled, and the situation had become irreversible. Every second was filled with danger.

Nathaniel saw her space out and shouted at her, "Nicole— Just hide!"

"Bang bang bang—" The sound of gunfire was incessant.

The drawn-out victory was more like torture, making her feel like every second of life was worse than death!

Nicole closed her eyes and took a deep breath. Then, she suddenly lifted the gun in her hand.

To hell with it! Even if she was going to die, she would die fighting.

She abruptly turned around, ambling from under the reef, and moved to find a suitable vantage point. Then, she opened fire without hesitation.

“Bang—”

Nicole was sure that the shot she just fired must have hit one of the men in the shoulder.

She was different from them. She would not kill anyone because she was restrained and prideful.

After all, she was someone who had learned to shoot professionally.

Nicole’s counterattack only angered the pirates more, eliciting an even more intense barrage,

The bullets cut through her side as easily as rain,

She dared not use up all her bullets at

once.

Nicole gauged how long she would last.
One minute... Or two minutes?

Her life was about to end...

Nathaniel cursed at them, getting more
into it the more he screamed, taking off
some of the heat from her.

Nicole gave him a pale smile and pulled
the trigger without hesitation!

“Bang—”

It was accompanied by a piercing scream!

The second shot hit the leg of a pirate who
was about to jump over.

Their anger came with a vengeance. They
scattered around the surroundings,
shooting from all sides.

There was no way out. Nicole knew that
what awaited them was unavoidable
death!

Nathaniel gave up cursing and turned his
head to praise her. ●

“You’re awesome, Nikki! Your talent and
ability overshadowed your beauty.”

“You’re awesome, Nikki! Your talent and ability overshadowed your beauty.”

Even at the brink of death, he did not forget to suck up to her.

Nicole only responded with a smile, a bleak and miserable smile.

“No, I still mainly rely on my beauty.” ●

As Nicole pulled on the trigger for the third time, only a soft click sounded...

Chapter 278 She Heard Him Come

Nicole closed her eyes. She clearly wanted to cry, but no tears came.

She thought about it many times before. There were many things she wanted to say before she died, but right now, her mind was blank.

The rock fragments beside her that chipped off scratched her hand, making it drip with blood.

Old and new wounds intermingled, so grisly that its original appearance could not be seen.

The footsteps right in front of them sounded like they came from the Grim Reaper.

If only there was one bullet left. She would have saved it for herself...

She spotted the black muzzle of a gun from the corner of her eyes, then closed her eyes in despair.

Suddenly, there was a rumbling sound in the air, approaching extremely quickly from a distance.

from a distance.

It was dozens of giant helicopters hovering densely overhead, covering the sky.

The pirates' gunfire stopped. They realized that the danger at this moment did not lie with the woman.

Rather, it was the sudden appearance of these giant helicopters.

Their muzzles turned swiftly to their new target.

The giant helicopters were painted in military camouflage, and each one was filled with people.

The Medianian flag!

In rehearsed movements, the soldiers slid down the hanging ladders with their rifles and quickly surrounded the dozens of pirates below.

The situation reversed so quickly.

The well-trained troops carried such a magnificent aura as they approached Nicole.

Nicole did not have the strength to see who those people were, but she heard

Nicole did not have the strength to see who those people were, but she heard Nathaniel's surprised cry.

"Eric! Uncle Eric! It's me, your favorite nephew..."

'Oh, it's Eric Ferguson. He's here!'

Nicole struggled to open her eyes. She saw the beach in front of her and the giant helicopter that was the closest to her.

The man wore a black trenchcoat. His figure was tall and well-built, and his eyes were frightfully cold.

He stepped down from the hanging ladder with the raging sea behind him and the giant helicopter above him as he held a gun in his right hand.

Even when facing the pirates and dangers behind Nicole, he still walked towards her without hesitation.

The man in front of her seemed to have less of his usual elegance and dignity. His unrestrained eyes were filled with madness and killing intent.

Nicole was in a trance as images began to overlap. It was as if she saw her hero from the streets of Europe.

the streets of Europe.

However, her whole body's strength drained away, and her consciousness gradually blurred.

When he picked her up and saw the gunshot wound at her chest, he cried out her name in a hoarse voice.

Nicole thought to herself, 'Huh... Even Eric Ferguson is capable of feeling so anxious...'

The next second, darkness completely engulfed her.

A cold tempest surged, and the battle was bitter and confrontational. Both sides were uncompromising.

They did not show mercy like Nicole, who cherished human life.

The people brought by Eric were used to battlefields. A place like this only stimulated their desire for victory.

Back in the helicopter, Kai took Nicole from Eric's arms. Only a few days had passed, but she was as light as a feather.

Eric stood there, looking at a pirate that was a little shorter and thinner than the rest. The pirate was infuriated when he

rest. The pirate was infuriated when he saw Eric take the woman away.

Eric's sharp eyes recognized him.

It was the captain of the pirates!

"David, you'll scare my girl if you do this to her."

Eric's voice was as cold as ice.

The pirate captain was stepped on by Nicole and held as a hostage. With how much she humiliated him, how would he easily let her go?

He was hysterical with anger as he gnashed his teeth.

"F*ck her! She almost blew my brains out!"

The curvature of Eric's lips was cold and dangerous.

"Is that so? Then you deserve it..."

Disdainful, frivolous, supercilious.

'My girl's really amazing!'

The pirate captain pointed a gun at him angrily. "I spared you a few years ago, and you dare to come back?"

"Sure I do..."

The two sides confronted each other and refused to budge.

The sea breeze swept over the strong smell of smoke. A confrontation was imminent!

The pirates had one-sidedly suppressed them in the firefight earlier since Nicole did not have the power to fight back.

However, Eric had more manpower now, and all of them were well-trained soldiers.

They were fully equipped with weapons, so the pirate crew did not have it easy. However, they still managed to stand their ground.

They were evenly matched.

The pirate's ferocious face twisted as his hawk-like eyes narrowed.

He ordered his men to put away their guns. For the sake of their interests, they could only negotiate.

"Ferguson, let's talk. Otherwise, even if you win, you won't be able to get out of the Atlantic Ocean. That woman hurt two of my brothers, so I have to get even with

you will, you won't be able to get out of
the Atlantic Ocean. "That woman hurt two o
f my brothers, so I have to get even with
her."

Eric was silent for a few seconds before
chuckling.

"Sure. State your price."

The pirate grinned, reckless and wild,
then extended five fingers.

He also pointed at Nathaniel, who was
hiding behind the reef.

"And that wimp. Double for both."

Eric glanced at him and spoke with an icy
tone.

"He's worthless."

Chapter 279 She's the Person Who Saved You

Before the giant helicopter took off, Eric stood on it, facing the chilly breeze and looking at the pirate captain below.

He enunciated the words clearly and coldly, "Fifteen billion dollars, three times the amount you asked for, has been wired to your account."

One person was worth five billion dollars, but he gave three people's worth.

It was not an ordinary kind of generosity!

The pirate captain was extremely surprised, and his dark hawk-like eyes suddenly flashed with a greedy smile.

This trip was not in vain.

However, the next second.

"Bang—"

At the sound of the gunshot, the slightly shorter and thinner pirate captain's smile stiffened. Everyone looked in shock as blood poured from the wound in his chest.

Eric's attitude was insouciant. He did not care about whether or not this move

care about whether not this move would anger the pirates.

His indifferent eyes were cold and gloomy.

Eric lowered the gun and looked at the pirate captain.

His voice was frigid. "This bullet is free for you."

No one could take Nicole's life. Someone had to pay it back for that bullet in her chest!

Three people, including the pirate captain, for fifteen billion dollars. No more, no less.

This shot made the relaxed situation tense again.

Everyone looked nervous and vigilant as they raised their weapons again.

However, the pirate crew's weapons and manpower simply could not compare to those brought by Eric.

More than a dozen giant helicopters hovered in the sky, surrounding them.

Dark shadows covered the sky, and dense air shrouded the whole island.

No matter how reluctant the pirates were, they could only watch as Eric's helicopters disappeared from sight.

Two thousand nautical miles away, on a huge ship.

Nicole did not sleep well on the wobbly sea.

In her mind, she was still hiding from the pirate attack. It was as if countless bullets were still flying overhead.

Under the rain of bullets, she kept running and running without end...

Suddenly, she lost her footing and fell into the abyss.

She shuddered and woke up with a jolt.

However, her head was groggy, and she was still in a state of semi-consciousness. She was unable to resist the heavy drowsiness.

Vaguely, she heard an unfamiliar voice talking outside.

"Eric, your girl's pretty awesome! Even under such a dangerous situation, she dared to point the gun at the pirates. She

under such a dangerous situation, she
dared to point the gun at the pirates. She
even wounded two of them! If not for the
fact that both the pirate captain David and
your nephew said it, I wouldn't have
believed that... She's really impressive!"

Eric's lips curled in an imperceptible arc.
"She has always been this brave."

It was not Nicole's character to beg for
mercy on her knees.

Back when her car was tampered with,
her first reaction was not to cry, and when
she faced the thugs hired by Chloe Snyder,
she did not even flinch in fear either.

Eric knew that Nicole was a brave and
proud woman with courage in her bones.

However, that had been a ferocious
situation. If he had not arrived in time and
his Nicole actually died in the rain of
bullets, he did not dare to think what the
scene would look like!

If that was the case, he would rather she
not be so brave.

The military doctor saw Eric's gaze dim
and suddenly thought of something. "
Don't you think that she looks like that

and suddenly thought of something.
Don't you think th she looks like that
girl? The one who saved you when you
were beaten up by those boxers in Europe
before disappearing. By the way, I found a
picture some time ago. She really looks
like that girl!" ●

The military doctor scrambled to find the
photo, not noticing that Eric's face had
gone white. Monstrous waves of emotions
surged in his eyes.

.....
The noisy voices were instantly silenced.

Nicole scratched her ears, thinking that
the noise outside was from a dream, then
fell unconscious again when it became
quiet.

She did not know how long she remained i
n a coma, but she could feel someone
holding her hand the entire time.

The hands were rough but warm, and the
person kept chattering away. However,
Nicole could not hear what was being said.

On the deck.

The waves crashed constantly on the
sides of the ship, and the afterglow of the

The waves crashed continuously on the sides of the ship, and the afterglow of the sunset scattered in the misty sea. It was already dusk.

The large ship had been traveling at full speed for almost ten days and would return to Medania in the shortest time possible.

There were less than two days to go.

Maverick held Tigger in his arms, enjoying the scenery with a bottle of sparkling water.

When the sound of heavy footsteps came from behind, he did not look back because he was already used to it.

"Don't worry too much, Mr. Ferguson. The doctor said that Nicole is fine. The bullet just hit her shoulder."

Eric had lost a lot of weight in the past few days, and the somber aura on his body was even colder.

Maverick's attitude towards Eric also changed greatly.

Chapter 280 Do You Wish It Was Her?

Maverick remembered the moment Eric got on the helicopter, he held the unconscious and bloodied Nicole and refused to let go of her. He even shed silent tears.

The helicopter was filled with Eric's army buddies. When they saw this scene, they were so shocked that they were at a loss for words.

Fortunately, one of them, Jackson, was a military doctor. He performed some first aid and operated on her after they reached the cruise ship.

During the operation, Eric observed the entire process. He stared at Nicole's face without blinking as if he was afraid that this was all just a dream.

When Jackson removed the bullet, Eric was more nervous than anyone. His tight expression had been beaded with sweat, but no one knew if it was from anger or sadness.

After the surgery was completed, Jackson smiled coldly and looked at Eric.

shined brightly and looked at ERIC.

"I've never performed such an annoying surgery before! Every time I made a cut, it was like you wanted to eat me alive. Did you want to cut me back?"

Eric glared at him silently with bloodshot eyes.

Jackson left in a huff. If not for the fact that they had a good relationship, he would have fallen out with Eric!

Maverick had been watching from the side. What Eric had done gave him no reason to continue to target the person who had saved his sister.

Kai competed with Eric over who would take care of Nicole. Relying on his advantage in numbers, Eric drove Kai out every time, making him so angry that he cursed up a storm.

Only Maverick did not stop Eric from approaching Nicole.

That was because he knew that Eric's feelings for Nicole were deeper than anyone could have imagined.

Eric stood on the deck with a complicated look.

look.

In his hand, he held the photo that was taken by a passerby on the streets of Europe. His fingertips were white from pinching it so hard.

Perhaps this scene was too shocking, so the photographer kept it on the wall of the cafe opposite the underground fight club.

In his mind, he only remembered a woman with her back to him, leading him to the large palace-like gates. The sunlight that pierced through the darkness brought him back to life.

In the picture, it was the front side of the woman. The beautiful red dress made her look noble and bright.

However, the darkness behind her shrouded his back.

Behind her, Eric was unconscious and covered in blood, looking as wretched as ever.

Despite that, she looked determined as she took him out of the underground fight club, and every step she took was particularly firm.

When Eric saw the picture, his eyes were

When Eric saw the picture, his eyes were shocked and reddened. Bravery and brightness intertwined in this woman. Did he really know her?

"Is the person in the picture really Nicole?"

His voice was hoarse, mellow, and magnetic.

Maverick gave him a sideways glance. With a faint gaze, the corners of his lips curled up into a smile.

"Do you wish it was her, Mr. Ferguson?"

Eric's lips were pressed into a thin line. There were too many questions twisting in his mind. It was an utter mess.

'Why was she there?'

'Why was she the woman who brought me out?'

'Why did she never mention this before?'

Eric could not find the answer, but he seemed to feel that the answer carried more weight than his life.

He opened his dry mouth, but before he

He opened his dry mouth, but before he could speak, he heard Kai shouting from inside.

"Nicole's awake! Where's the doctor?"

Eric's body froze. Without thinking about anything else, he quickly rushed in.

Maverick smiled faintly as he stroked Tigger's fur and walked in slowly and leisurely.

Tigger squinted its eyes comfortably and nestled in Maverick's arms.

"Mama doesn't like him. Mama doesn't want to see him when she wakes up. Eric Ferguson is a douchebag!"

Maverick patted Tigger gently. **"Don't talk nonsense."**

Suddenly, he remembered something and said, **"Oh, Molly changed your program which made you hate him. Let me change it back.."**