

Chapter 471 Not as Important as Her

Eric's eyes were dark and sunken. He did not make a sound and saw Old Master Ferguson watching him from the second-floor railing.

He nodded slightly. Old Master Ferguson pursed his lips and said, "Come upstairs."

When he got to the study, Old Master Ferguson sat behind the desk. His face was cold and solemn.

"I've made myself very clear on the phone."

"I don't agree with it."

Eric was straightforward.

Old Master Ferguson's face was glum and ugly. "If it wasn't for the Stanton family who's backing Nicole, I wouldn't have agreed for you to get back together with her. You almost lost your life for her, yet she's still indifferent towards you. What about the Ferguson family's reputation?!"

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firm.

"The Ferguson family's reputation is not as important as Nicole."

"What did you say?!"

Old Master Ferguson raised his voice all of a sudden. He gasped violently and looked incredibly fierce.

Eric's gaze was overwhelmingly dark and dense.

"I won't be with anyone but her. That woman outside will never be able to or much less deserve to be compared to her."

"Bang--"

Old Master Ferguson was so angry that he picked up a paperweight on the table and smashed it at Eric.

Eric did not dodge, so the paperweight hit his forehead. Blood flowed out profusely.

Old Master Ferguson panicked for a moment. Seeing Eric's indifferent appearance, Old Master Ferguson was angry and anxious.

It was all because of that woman!

Eric's body swayed slightly, but he

Eric's body swayed slightly, but he managed to stand firm. He casually wiped away the blood from his wound and looked at Old Master Ferguson with a heavy gaze.

"If I can't make my own decision about my marriage, then you should change your successor to someone who you can control."

Anyway, with Eric's current status, even without the backing of the Ferguson family, those hidden forces behind him would only make it easier for him to take control over the Ferguson family than his current position.

After that, Eric coldly and calmly turned around and leaned on his cane as he left the study resolutely.

Those words were hard to hear, but he made his position very clear.

Eric would not hesitate to turn his back on the entire Ferguson family.

The old man's face was ugly as he stared at Eric's departing back. The most promising heir of the Ferguson family would risk everything just for a woman?

Eric slowly walked down the stairs with his cane. The indifferent vibe he exuded distanced himself from everyone and made him so unapproachable that no one dared to go forward to help him.

Quinn thought that Eric would more or less listen to his grandfather's words.

"Eric, you should stay here for the next few days. That way, you can also accompany Ms. Harrison for a stroll."

Ivy Harrison stood by the side looking slightly restrained. She tried to imitate Joy Harrison's appearance, to be an elegant high-society lady, but unfortunately, she still did not get the hang of it.

Eric looked at Ivy and walked out of the house without another word.

Quinn was reluctant to see him leave and called out to him again. "Eric, you don't even listen to your grandfather anymore?!"

Eric paused in his footsteps. "Do you still want to see Ingrid?"

The air froze for a moment.

Quinn's face was glum. 'My son is using my daughter to threaten me?!

Although Ivy did not understand what they were saying, she could feel the tension in the room.

She hurriedly stepped forward and eased the situation.

"Mrs. Ferguson, Mr. Ferguson is too busy. I'll go around by myself. It won't be good to delay his work."

Quinn forced a smile and patted Ivy's hand. "You're so well-behaved."

Eric did not say anything and left.

Back at Imperial Gardens.

Toto was alone in the large house walking the stupid husky.

Eric frowned. "Why haven't you sent it away yet?"

Toto said, "Young Master Ludwig said to keep it here for a few days. He'll come over personally to pick it up."

The husky wagged its tail and turned towards Eric. It mimicked Eric's gait and started to walk with a limp in front of

them.

Eric's face darkened.

Toto could not help but laugh out loud. "No wonder Young Master Ludwig said that this dog has an IQ of 120!"

Eric coldly swept a glance at him, which made Toto's laughter stop abruptly.

Chapter 472 Goddess of Wealth

Imperial Gardens.

The night was chilly and quiet.

Toto looked at Eric, who was standing on the balcony, and could not help but speak. "Ms. Stanton won't come back tonight. She just came back, so she should be resting at home..."

Eric gave him a blank look. "I know."

'Then why are you still waiting here?'
Toto thought.

"Actually, it might not be a bad idea for Ms. Harrison to stay. Maybe Ms. Stanton will get jealous and you two will make up?"

'Jealous?' Eric's face sank. He did not expect that Toto would rub salt into his wounded heart. His gaze was intimidating as he glared at Toto.

His voice was cold.

"Do you think I'm not having a bad enough time?"

Nicole would love for Ivy Harrison to stay because she even took the initiative to

because she even took the initiative to create opportunities for them back in Santos Island.

Jealousy?

Eric dared not think about it.

Should he bet the rest of his life on Nicole's soft heart?

No, he was not worthy.

Toto shrunk back. He originally thought that this trip would be a breeze, but who knew Clayton Sloan and Ivy Harrison interfered.

These two people were not easy to deal with either.

Toto felt that he would sooner or later be thrown into the Seine!

For several days in a row, Nicole did not return to Imperial Gardens.

The excuse she gave was that the company had a backlog of things that needed to be dealt with.

Nicole felt a lot more relaxed not seeing Eric for a few days.

Besides going to the office, Nicole would g

Besides going to the office, Nicole would go out with Julie and Yvette. Ian would join when he was bored. It felt like she had returned to her old life before Eric, which made her heart feel warm and satisfied.

Nicole scrolled through social media and saw many “health tips” from Floyd and his generation of friends. The high-society ladies like Yvette and Julie posted selfies and their shopping haul and complained about their rich and boring life while they continued to expand their business and family fortune.

However, Ian’s post was a little off. The usually frivolous young master suddenly changed his style!

Ian posted. [Agricultural products reform. Carrots, green vegetables, potatoes, and everything!]

Many of their friends commented on Ian’s post.

[Are they made of jade? Young Master Carter, you really are different!]

[If Young Master Carter is going into luxury decorations, will the stock market go up?]

o up?]

[Ian, did you buy land? I heard that several thousand acres in the South were recently bought. Congratulations!]

.....

Ian's reply. [There are a lot of unsellable agricultural products in mountainous areas. Whoever wants it, please make an order with me! Appreciate it if everyone can help share this post!]

Old Master Carter commented below. [I don't see you promoting your family's diamonds so enthusiastically!]

There was silence afterward.

Nicole looked at it again. She laughed and shared it on her page after some thought.

Yvette privately messaged Nicole.

[Yvette Quimbey: Why are you catering to Ian's craziness?]

[Nicole Stanton: I'm just helping to share.]

There was a notification of a reply to her shared post.

[Toto: Our kind Mr. Ferguson said that he'll order two thousand pounds.

he'll order two thousand pounds.
[Payment can be made at any time.]

Nicole raised her eyebrows and asked Ian if two thousand pounds was enough. At the same time, Clayton also replied.

[Clayton Sloan: I'll take whatever's left.]

Wow, how generous!

When Ian found out, he was jumping in joy. He coincidentally had four thousand pounds, so it was evenly distributed.

Ian called Nicole. "You must attend our celebration this evening. Invite those two big shots too so they can sign the contract and make payments. I'll wait for you!"

Nicole did not even get the chance to refuse. For a moment, she regretted being a busybody. Thus, she had to ask if Eric and Clayton had time. Who knew that these two very busy men promised that they would attend without hesitation?

Eric gave up his wheelchair to attend the occasion. He was supported by his cane and looked steady and calm.

As always, Clayton looked warm and noble.

noble.

Nicole did not expect that so many political and industry bigwigs to attend this celebration. None of the guests were ordinary people. It was not a place for the general public.

Ian Carter was inside socializing with the guests with a smile plastered on his face. When he saw Nicole coming in, he hurriedly welcomed her. "My Goddess of Wealth!"

Chapter 473 Hypocrite

Nicole had a smug smile on her face. She nodded to the others and raised an eyebrow at Ian. "Carter, this business expansion of yours is quite sudden, huh?"

Ian leaned into her and whispered. "I'm just lucky to have you! I didn't expect to clear it out so quickly..."

Otherwise, Ian would have to pay for his big talk out of his own pocket.

The two bigwigs sat in the front. The signing ceremony was simple, solemn, and quick.

This time, the main character was Ian because he was the organizer. Naturally, everyone's attention was focused on him.

Nicole sat next to Ian and stole the limelight, as always.

Ian and Nicole were surrounded by others for small talk as they talked joyously. The atmosphere was harmonious and relaxed.

The people surrounding Eric and Clayton were those who wanted to patronize them, which was a completely different scene from Nicole and Ian.

scene from Nicole and Ian.
Clayton and Eric looked restrained and calm as they looked at the other side. They both could not help but feel like they were helping a love rival.

In the middle of the reception.

Nicole frowned when she saw Eric limping over. She took a few steps forward.

“Mr. Ferguson, you can find someone to attend on your behalf if it’s not convenient for you to move around.”

Eric’s eyebrows relaxed a bit.

“I wanted to come personally to ask when you will be coming back to Imperial Gardens.”

In the beginning, she promised that she would stay with him until he was fully recovered.

Nicole paused for a moment. The corners of her lips curled up slightly.

“I don’t think it’s appropriate for me to be there. Isn’t Ms. Harrison here for you, Mr. Ferguson? If I go back to Imperial Gardens, I’m afraid the entire Ferguson family would want to skin me alive!”

family would want to sign the divorce.
Eric's eyes sank slightly. His face immediately turned glum when at the mention of that name.

Sure enough, everyone knew what the Ferguson family was going for. Nicole was so smart, so how could she not see it?

"No one else but you have any possibility of being my wife, and no one can decide for me."

Eric's tone was resolute. His eyes were extremely firm.

Nicole lowered her head and smiled as if nothing had happened.

"Forget it. The Stanton family and the Ferguson family's relationship finally eased. If we repeatedly challenge each other's patience, I'm afraid that it'll be difficult to mend it later. We should look towards common interests, don't you think so, Mr. Ferguson?"

They were business people, so of course, interests came first.

Eric held his breath for a moment. His eyes carried a hint of helplessness.

He wanted to talk to her about his

He wanted to talk to her about his feelings, but it turned out that she only wanted to talk about money.

"I'll solve this matter as soon as possible."

Ivy Harrison was an eyesore to Eric. He did not want to drag this on.

Nicole laughed and did not say anything. Ian came over from the side holding a glass of wine. He sized up Eric.

"Mr. Ferguson, thanks a lot, but I'm curious as to what prompted you to lend a helping hand?"

Eric Ferguson was not someone who did charity without a purpose.

Eric's voice was cold and deep. "If it's not for Nicole, do you think it's for you?"

Ian raised his eyebrows. This answer was within expectation.

He keenly noticed the dignified and poised Clayton on the side and hurriedly greeted him.

"Mr. Sloan, it's an honor. Thanks for your timely help, but I'm curious as to what prompted you to lend a helping hand?"

prompted you to lend a helping hand?

Nicole shot a warning glance at Ian, telling him not to stir up trouble.

Ian was completely unconcerned and ignored her warning.

Eric swept a glance at the two men. His gaze finally landed on Clayton as well.

Clayton smiled faintly and spoke.

“Isn’t it normal to do what we can for those in need? The people in those mountainous regions need our help, and as businessmen, we have the responsibility and obligation to dedicate some resources for public welfare. Mr. Carter, I’ll gladly oblige if you have more of such plans in the future.”

Ian was dumbstruck.

Nicole was also stunned with admiration in his eyes.

Eric speechlessly looked away. ‘Hah! What a hypocrite!’

Chapter 474 Guess Who

The reception ended, and everyone dispersed.

Ian Carter hitched a ride with Nicole. On the way back, he kept complimenting Clayton Sloan.

“This guy is on a whole different level. He’s so different from us mere mortals!”

Nicole nodded in agreement.

.....

The research and development project over at J&L Corporation was progressing smoothly. Within a few days, they produced some new results.

The new project assistant, Tucker, who was stationed at J&L Corporation, was a bit overwhelmed by such a huge project, so he proposed for Nicole to send some additional staff.

Nicole also agreed.

After all, the project had reached a mature stage, so the complexity and professionalism were far beyond the initial stage.

Two days later, Logan sent the list of new hires to Nicole.

Nicole took a look at it. Logan looked like he had something to say. "The people here are all graduates from top universities. Do you want to pick one?"

She picked up a stack of documents and casually asked, "Who's more outstanding in this batch?"

Logan did not answer. Instead, he reminded her. "There is someone in here that you wouldn't expect..."

Nicole raised her eyebrows. Driven by curiosity, she casually flipped through a few pages.

Suddenly, she saw a familiar photo on one page. Her hand lurched, and her smile froze.

'What the hell?'

Logan coughed slightly. "The daughter of the Chairman of Harrison Corporation, Ivy Harrison."

Nicole wrinkled her eyebrows and looked at Ivy Harrison's details. She was from an ordinary domestic university and did not

ordinary domestic university and did not have any key achievements. Such qualifications should not even appear in front of her.

Logan explained, "I heard that Chairman Harrison specially greeted our HR Department, so this resume was sent here, but the final choice is still in our hands."

Nicole's eyes faintly flickered. She snorted lightly and tapped her fingers on the desk as if nothing had happened.

It seemed that Ivy Harrison was ready to fight a protracted war.

Or perhaps she wanted to enter Stanton Corporation on purpose?

Whatever it was, it certainly aroused her interest and curiosity.

Nicole hooked the corner of her lips. "Then get her to help Tucker out."

Logan nodded. "Understood."

J&L Corporation.

Nicole received a message from Gerard Lichman to attend a project discussion for the next step of the project.

the next step of the project.

At the same time, Ivy Harrison received a n induction notice.

Ivy was temporarily living in a high-end apartment not far from Ferguson Corporation, with good facilities and a quiet and elegant environment.

When she was notified to start work, she was supposed to report directly to J&L Corporation, not Stanton Corporation.

Logan was the one who contacted her.

When Nicole arrived at J&L Corporation, Gerard Lichman was waiting at the entrance to welcome this big shot.

Luca opened the door for Nicole, who walked graciously. Gerard greeted her with a smile.

“Ms. Stanton, you’re very punctual.”

Nicole said, “I don’t have the habit of being late.”

The two of them chit-chatted and went to the elevator, just in time to meet Logan bringing Ivy, who was holding a stack of materials, around the office.

Logan stood still and bowed respectfully. “

Logan stood still and bowed respectfully. "Good day, Ms. Stanton. This is the new employee."

Ivy did not greet them and looked straight at the elegant Nicole. She thought that Nicole would notice her, but Nicole did not bother to glance at her.

Nicole did not even care about who Logan was introducing.

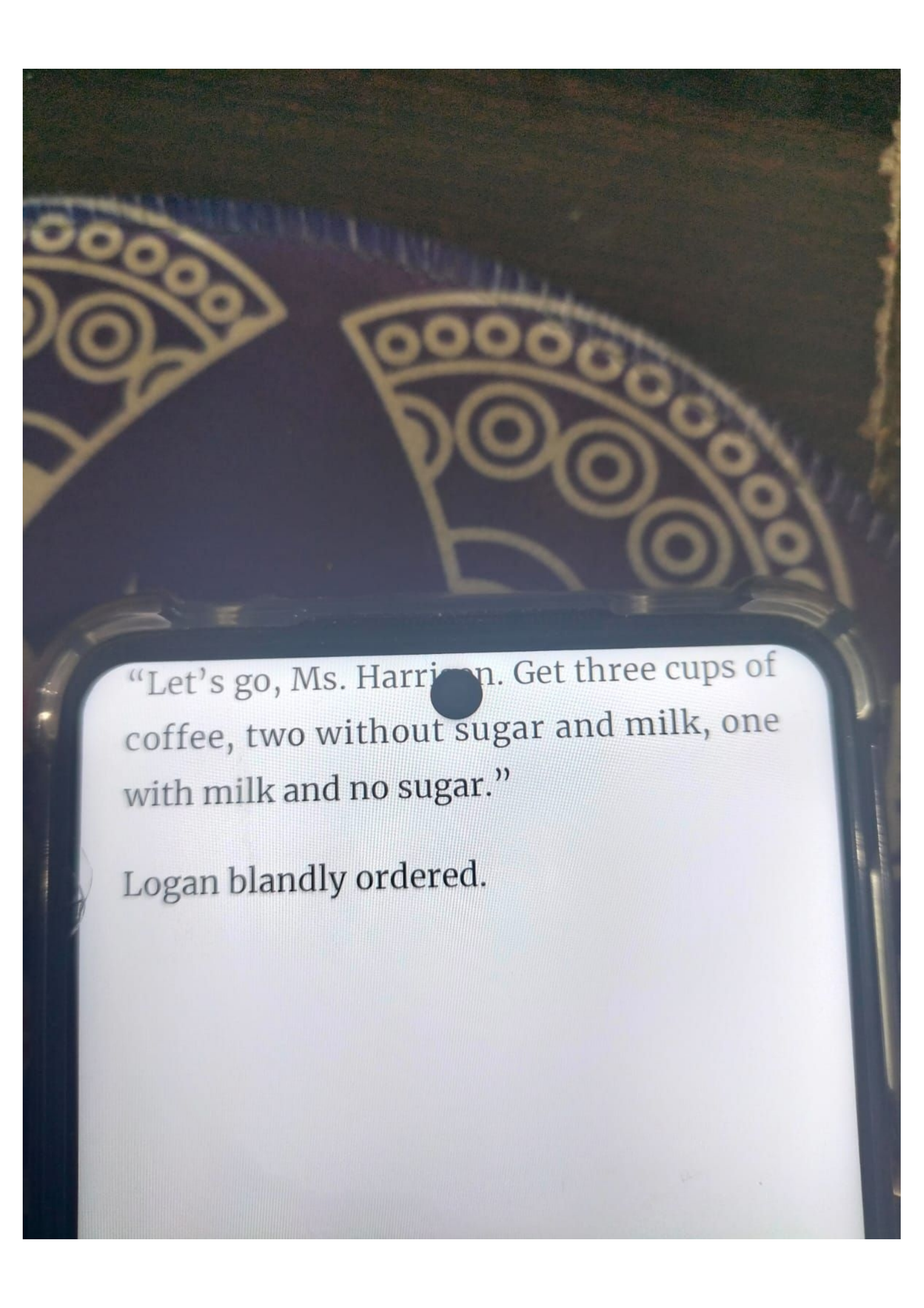
She did not stop for a moment and only nodded with a faint smile. Her temperament was noble as she followed the President of J&L Corporation, Gerard Lichman, into the conference room.

Ivy's hands clenched tightly as she stared at Nicole's back.

It felt like this was her first time seeing Nicole, but she knew it was not.

The Nicole in front of her was so refined, but it was not deliberate. The kind of aloofness and pride in Nicole's unconscious movements were something that Ivy could never get to achieve or imitate.

"Let's go, Ms. Harrison. Get three cups of coffee, two without sugar and milk, one



“Let’s go, Ms. Harrison. Get three cups of coffee, two without sugar and milk, one with milk and no sugar.”

Logan blandly ordered.

Chapter 475 Drink Mine

Ivy Harrison nodded and went to the pantry.

In her impression, Joy Harrison was the typical high-society lady. Joy could mingle around the elite circles for the family business with ease. Even Eli Harrison could not stop praising his eldest daughter.

To please Joy, Eli Harrison never recognized Ivy as his daughter. If Eli did not need an unmarried daughter for a marriage alliance, Ivy would have been stuck in that cramped and old apartment.

Ivy carried the tray of coffee to the conference room.

The moment she opened the door, she saw Eric talking with Gerard Lichman at the door. Eric was indifferent and calm, but when he glanced at Nicole across the room, his gaze became extra soft.

It was very different from the disgust and indifference in Eric's eyes when he looked at Ivy, which made her indulge in it.

Those three people at the table seemed to

Those three people at the table seemed to be in their own world, untouchable by ordinary people.

When Eric raised his eyes, he saw Ivy Harrison standing there. His face immediately became cold and ugly.

Ivy pretended not to notice and quietly walked in to put down the cups of coffee. "Your coffee."

Nicole heard her voice and looked over in silence. Before she could say anything, Eric's cold voice came through.

"Why are you here?"

Eric glanced at Gerard because this was his company. 'Why was this woman here?'

Gerard shrugged his shoulders innocently. He suddenly remembered something.

"This should be the new assistant sent by Stanton Corporation. Tucker needed more hands, right?" Gerard asked Nicole.

Nicole was silent for half a second. She nodded, looked at Ivy, and spoke earnestly.

"Since you're new here, try to adapt well.

"Since you're new here, try to adapt well. Don't let your status delay the company's work."

Ivy was tense for a moment. She did not expect Nicole to react like this.

Calm, poised, and a bit condescending.

This simple statement was like an acceptance of her existence and a warning.

Ivy nodded, suppressing the ripples in her heart.

"I understand, Ms. Stanton."

Ivy knew very well that with her qualifications and abilities, she would not get this assistant position if it was not for her father.

Eli Harrison wanted Ivy to imitate Nicole, which would bring her closer to Eric's circle.

Eric frowned. His eyes were cold, and his face was calm, but he felt uncomfortable.

He stared at Nicole, trying to get some clues from her face.

'It doesn't make sense... Stanton Corporation and Harrison Corporation

Corporation and Harrison Corporation have no dealings with each other. Was it a coincidence?’

Ivy proactively gave the two cups of plain coffee to the two men and the coffee with milk to Nicole. She then stepped aside to prepare the minutes of the meeting for them.

Nicole took a small sip and put it aside, not touching the cup of coffee again. She then continued the topic earlier.

“Mr. Sloan wants to put in additional capital because he’s very optimistic about the prospects of artificial intelligence and he’s confident in our domestic R&D capabilities, but he has one request. That is after the project matures, he wants it listed in Liberty. This move will certainly shake Wall Street and the world.”

Eric’s eyes were shrouded in gloom. He always worked objectively and kept personal matters separate from business. His tone was dull.

“He’s not clear about the situation at home because he’s been living in Liberty for too long. I think that we should expand in Mediania in the future, and I

for too long. I think that we should expand in Mediana in the future, and I don't agree to list in Liberty."

Gerard said, "Mr. Sloan's idea is good. With the current situation, if we get listed in Liberty, it'll attract more investors and more global attention, which will push our project to the top. We'll be untouchable. But... I somehow feel like it's a betrayal to our country..."

Nicole frowned and tapped her fingers on the table, seemingly thinking about something.

Seeing this, Ivy hurriedly went up to refill Nicole's coffee with a hint of caution.