

## My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 221

### Chapter 221

Nicole pulled her hand back, not batting an eye. She watched as Jared turned on a switch in the cabin, and soon a warm, cozy light filled the cabin.

Jared looked at her with a fleeting, pained expression on his face. "Are you tired these days?" he asked in a soft voice.

Nicole was puzzled why he asked such a question. But thinking about how long she had slept, he might be thinking that she had not had enough rest before this.

"I'm alright. Where is Zeke?"

There was a fleeting troubled look in his eyes when Jared heard the name.

"You mean the boy with you?" he asked faintly.

Nicole realized she had not introduced the two of them to each other, but there did not seem to be any need for that. She nodded her head gently, looking at Jared's eyes as if she could see right through inside.

"He should be next door. I'm not so sure." Jared smiled, hiding the troubling thought in his eyes.

Nicole suspected nothing. She just nodded and waited quietly for the plane to land.

Jared smiled again when he saw her reaction. He was not evasive when he took out a special communication device and said to the other person at the other end, "Come to San Joto Airport to pick up your son."

The person at the other end seemed to have said something back, and then Jared put down the device and sat saying nothing. Nicole looked over at him and found that he was looking at her with a thoughtful look.

"Are you and Zeke close to each other?" he finally asked.

Nicole shook her head. She and Zeke had been working together online for several years, but they did not know each other very well in person.

Jared said nothing further. As the plane landed, he stood up and smiled at Nicole. "Let's go," he said.

Nicole nodded and stood up. Zeke next door had come over and was about to call out her code name, which was Lucifer. But when he also saw Jared there, he immediately corrected himself, "Nicole, I have a huge discovery!" He then tried to say something with great interest, but then he saw Jared's half smile and shut up immediately as he decided to tell Nicole about his discovery in private. He did not want the man who threatened him to hear it. He would just play with his so-called top-of-the-line computer. With this in mind, Zeke snorted at Jared and disembarked.

Nicole saw this and cocked an eyebrow, then looked back at Jared.

Jared got the hint and made an innocent face. "I did nothing to him. You saw it," he said, almost in a whisper.

Nicole looked away, and the two walked side by side, following Zeke from behind.

As they walked toward the cabin exit, all the flight attendants bowed respectfully to Jared. The Mecrounian captain and co-pilot, who were much taller and standing on either side of the exit, made Zeke, who was walking in front, look considerably shorter.

They bowed with respect when they saw Jared come over, but the fleeting contemptuous look in their eyes toward her did not escape Nicole's keen eye.

Nicole glanced at them nonchalantly. Zeke was dashing out of the cabin with excitement, as he was too eager to return to his homeland. But to his surprise, he was lifted off the ground as soon as he left the plane.

Zeke saw two muscular men, one on his left and the other on his right, carrying him he cried out to Nicole, "Help me!"

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Seeing that Zeke was apprehended, Nicole's eyes flashed with a frosty look. She threw a flying kick at the arm of one of the men restraining Zeke, her movement as quick as a whirlwind.

Jared did not stop Nicole but shot a warning look at the two men. He at first wanted to lose on purpose after receiving Jared's warning, but his expression changed abruptly when Nicole did not hold any punches. Seeing that Nicole's kick had arrived, he almost immediately gave up the idea of clashing head-on with her. He let go of Zeke and retreated with a serious look on his face.

Nicole quickly changed her tactic. With the flip of her body in mid-air, she struck her right hand at the second man who apprehended Zeke.

The second man, who was taunting his companion at first for retreating so quickly when the girl attacked, dodged even quicker than the first man when Nicole came after him with a punch.

His intuition from years of martial arts training told him that if he did not dodge this punch, he could end up becoming disabled.

The two men looked at Nicole without the slightest contempt in their eyes now. They both were wary about her. She was not an opponent whom they could take lightly. If they were not careful, they could be beaten to a pulp.

Jared looked on with a hint of surprise in his eyes, as it was the first time he saw Nicole in a fight. Anyone who knew a thing or two about martial arts could tell that every move that Nicole made was neat and to the point. She was not some inexperienced amateur. Her hands and legs were steady. Apparently, she had undergone professional training. But her movement was strange, not constrained by the moves of traditional martial arts but ever

changing with measured attacks and defense. She knew what she was doing.

Nicole pulled Zeke behind her and looked at the two men with cold eyes. "Who are you two?" She could see that they did not intend to hurt her.

The two men hesitated for a second, and then they both looked back at the unassuming black Volkswagen Phaeton behind them. It seemed that someone important was in that car.

Nicole squinted at the Volkswagen Phaeton. She knew that those who drove this kind of car in San Joto were definitely not as low key as it seemed on the surface.

The person stepped out of the car as if he had seen what had happened.

Zeke hid further behind Nicole, "Help me, Nicole,"

Nicole looked at the man; he was about forty, looking upright, well-built at about six feet two. He looked like someone holding a prominent position for a long time with a natural air of

authority.

While Nicole was staring at the man, the man was also staring at Nicole. He had a keen eye and could tell at a glance that Nicole was no ordinary girl, judging just by the two moves she performed.

He shot an icy look at the two men whom he sent to snatch Zeke. As his two henchmen, he was embarrassed by their performance, in which they had retreated without a fight, simply because they were intimidated by a little girl. But what made him even angrier was Zeke. He looked at Zeke hiding behind Nicole and said in an icy voice, "Move your ass out, Zeke!"

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Nicole looked at the man and frowned. "Let's talk like a gentleman, sir."

The man looked at Nicole with a meaningful look. "Are you insisting on protecting this brat?"

Nicole looked at the man with no fear in her eyes. "If you insist on being this rude, then yes."

Zeke had been following her for two days, and she could not let someone take Zeke away without knowing what had happened.

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### Chapter 223

The man scratched his chin with interest, knowing that Nicole might have figured out something. "It's not impossible for me to be gentle with him, but you've got to fight with me.

'What?' Zeke exclaimed in his mind in disbelief.

Even Jared frowned. "This is unnecessary," he said faintly.

The man seemed to have heard a hint of threats in Jared's voice and scratched his neck in fear, but out of his belligerence, he did not intend to let Nicole go. He did not dare to look at Jared, but when facing Nicole, his voice was forceful, sounding confident. "How about that?"

Nicole saw his belligerence but knew he had no ill intention. Since the man asked for it, she happily obliged. "Yeah, why not?"

The man's eyes lit up, while Jared had a strange splendor in his eyes.

Nicole saw the man's stance and knew at once that he was a hand striker. The man motioned to her and said, "Come on, little girl. I'll allow you a three-round handicap."

"That won't be necessary," Nicole just said faintly and then took a few steps forward and looked at the man, "Make your move."

'That's arrogant!' The earlier two men looked at Nicole with resentment in their eyes, exasperated by her insensible, patronizing attitude in snubbing the commander. They looked at Nicole with displeasure.

A stern look flashed in Karlo's eyes. As someone who practiced martial arts, he was not going to hold back since his opponent did not bother to accept the handicap. He looked at Nicole with a hint of regret in his eyes, as he was expecting the girl's refusal to accept his offer of handicap would only cause her to lose in embarrassment. It was impossible for him to hurt her, anyway, since Jared was standing there watching.

Thinking of Jared, Karlo shuddered involuntarily. But soon, he quickly shifted his

attention back to Nicole. He let out a friendly smile before making a quick, fearsome move, his fist striking as powerful as thunder and lightning. Karlo shouted a warning, "Watch this!"

He struck straight at Nicole's face, Nicole subtly turned her body sideways. Karlo missed, but his other hand was already striking at Nicole's left ribcage in full force. Nicole was nonchalant as if she had expected his next move. She turned sideways again and defused the opponent's menacing attack. She was so cool, calm, and collected, not breaking a sweat.

Karlo looked slightly stunned, and he quickly changed from using punches to kicks, striking his right leg horizontally so forcefully that it created a loud swoosh in the air as if it moved

with a force of a thousand pounds.

Yet Nicole leaned back casually so that her body was in a perfect ninety-degree bent, dodging Karlo's powerful strike.

Karlo immediately turned around and hooked his left leg to kick at Nicole's waist. He was not pulling any punches now. This was obviously a desperate move. If it hit Nicole, it was going to hurt her badly.

Both the earlier two men thought Nicole could not dodge Karlo's move this time. After all, she had just completed a lean-back move, and it was impossible for her to bounce back and fight another attack in such a short time.

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But Nicole did not plan to fight back. Instead, she flipped backward, her legs running into Karlo's left kick. Leveraging on the force of the collision, Nicole bounced almost ten feet back and away.

The earlier two men watched in amazement. Nicole did not only dodge beautifully but also forced Karlo three steps back.

Karlo had a wary look in his eyes. Nicole's feet had just lightly touched his, yet her muscle reflex could produce such a high level of force. He could not imagine the consequence if she really wanted to harm him.

Karlo stopped attacking momentarily. He was not a miscreant who would take a mile when others gave an inch. Nicole never actively attacked him; she was defensive.

Besides, he knew very well that all his earlier moves had failed. He had used all his strength, but he had not even touched the corner of Nicole's clothes. This clearly told him something. Karlo looked at Nicole with deep appreciation in his eyes. "Are you interested in joining my special forces?"

Everyone looked at Karlo with disbelief in their eyes as soon as Karlo gave his powerful invitation.

Jared was the only one who was unperturbed. He squinted thoughtfully, as just now, he had seen something from Nicole's moves, which were simple and seemingly used to hide her strength. Yet her attacks and defense were neat. Jared felt she was hiding something.

Meanwhile, Karlo looked at Nicole with an expectant look in his eyes.

'Special forces?' Nicole's gaze was devoid of emotion, and she looked at Karlo and

said, "I'm sorry."

'She rejected the commander's invitation!' The earlier two men looked at Nicole, not believing that someone would reject their commander.

One of them was exasperated. "Hey, girl, you should be grateful for the offer. He is the chief commander of our First Army of Hustuaburg."

The other chimed in and said, "Exactly. Do you know what his invitation means?"

It meant that a bright future was awaiting her in the military. Nicole understood the two men's overtones. But she would not change her decision but just looked at Karlo and said, "Be nice to Zeke." She then gave way and returned to Jared's side,

Jared smiled at her and asked, "How is it?"

Nicole looked at him and nodded slightly. "Not bad."

The captain was taking all that in and was surprised by Nicole's ability. He at first thought that Nicole was just another woman with good looks, not expecting that she was so badass. He

would have been even more surprised if he knew that Nicole's evaluation of Karlo was "not bad."

Karlo stepped forward with a smile, patted Zeke on the shoulder, and said to him with a pleasant face, "Come with me. Your mother misses you."

Zeke pulled a face. "Aren't you two already divorced? How do you know my mom misses me?"

There was a fleeting sense of awkwardness on Karlo's face, but thinking of Nicole's request, he resisted the urge to wallop his son and acted as kindly as possible. "That was just said during a time of anger. We aren't divorced. Why would we want a divorce?"

Pleased, Zeke climbed into the car and looked at Karlo, who was trying hard not to whack Zeke and said triumphantly, "I already knew that you wouldn't divorce my mother. If you dare, grandpa will break your leg."

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Blue veins popped up on Karlo's forehead. He then glanced back to acknowledge Jared. "See you, Mr. Palmer."

Karlo then looked at Nicole with a look of regret for missing such a talent. "Please tell me if you change your mind," he said.

Nicole looked at him but did not respond. But the look in her eyes showed she had started to like this commander.

Karlo was a good fighter. She could take on him so confidently because she had been trained to fight against the close – quarters combat techniques of the military. He might be holding the post of a commander, but he did not coerce her to do anything, nor did he get angry after he lost. In a sense, he was a real fighter.

Karlo was not angry when he did not get a response from Nicole. Instead, he waved his hand at her before getting into the car. The low-key Volkswagen Phaeton quickly drove out of the airport parking lot toward the city center of San Joto.

In the car, Karlo looked at Zeke with a devilish smile. "You talked tough just now, eh?" he said.

“What are you going to do? You promised Nicole.” Zeke looked at him warily. “She isn’t here now. Answer my questions, or I’ll let you know that running away from home isn’t as fun as you think,” Karlo said with a sneer. Zeke had no choice but to grin and bear it, nodding involuntarily when he saw his father’s grim face. Karlo then eased up his clenched fist and looked at Zeke. “That lady just now is Nicole?” Zeke nodded. He could not help but talk back again. “Didn’t I just call her name several times? Are you so old that you’ve become deaf?” Seeing the anger in Karlo’s eyes, Zeke subtly moved back a couple of inches and swallowed hard. “You said you would only ask questions and not hit me.” Karlo took a deep breath, still looking at Zeke as he continued asking. “How did you know her?” Zeke thought for a second and said with a straight face, “We got to know each other online.” Karlo looked at Zeke suspiciously. And Zeke looked back at him fearlessly. He was not lying, as he and Nicole indeed met online. As Zeke seemed to be telling the truth, Karlo then moved his suspicious eyes away from him. His son was pretty good at computers and had high regard for himself – so much so that he even looked down upon the professors of the Academy of Sciences. He was surprised that Zeke met such a high-caliber person on the Internet. Thinking of this, Karlo scratched his stubbled jaw and smiled at Zeke. “Son, I won’t stop you from playing with computers,” If Zeke could work harder and find a few more people of Nicole’s caliber for his use, the special forces would become stronger, Zeke looked at his father with disdain and said unceremoniously, “Save it! Do you know who Nicole is? Even the prosecutor of Nottingham State has great respect for her. She isn’t going to be interested in your offer.” ‘What?’ Karlo’s eyes darkened upon hearing what Zeke said, Karlo did not rise to his current position for nothing. It was only because he had an extraordinary ability and judgment. So he quickly smelled something extraordinary.

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### **Chapter 226**

Karlo looked at the road ahead and stopped asking Zeke questions. Zeke looked at his father’s seemingly shocked face and sat quietly, waiting for the car to drive them back to the Guzman Mansion instead of gibing at him.

As Nicole watched Zeke and Karlo leave, Jared spoke with a hint of displeasure beside her. “They have left. Stop staring already. Let me send you back to the Riddle Mansion.” Nicole nodded and whispered a thank-you to Jared.

Jared cocked an eyebrow at Nicole, as she was always so courteous to him. But he said nothing, just taking out his mobile phone to make a call. Soon, a metallic blue sports car pulled up in front of them, with Claus sticking his head out and looking at Nicole in surprise. “I didn’t know you’re here, too, Nicole.”

Jared looked at the car in front of him with a frown. Claus noticed the disgust on Jared’s

face and said helplessly, "Max thought you would have gone for a few days, so he sent your car to Eperon for maintenance. It will only be brought back in a week. Today, I will be your driver."

Nicole looked at the latest Aston Martin sports car in front and then glanced at Jared. She then got into the car, saying nothing. Jared then followed suit and sat beside Nicole.

The inner roof of the cabin was low, which made the two of them sit closer to each other. Nicole could clearly smell the faint sandalwood scent on Jared's body. It smelled ascetic and cold, like a forest after a rain, emitting a clean and pure cedar aroma. She turned to face the other side, not wanting to admit that she was fascinated by the scent. Jared noticed her facial expression, and a smile gradually appeared on his face. His face looked seductively handsome in the dim light, his body seemingly floating quietly on the surface of the water with a deadly charm. Max used to say that their boss was the most perfect man in the world.

Claus glanced in the rearview mirror and then immediately looked away expressionlessly. Max was right; when Jared really wanted to capture someone, no one could escape. Unfortunately, Nicole was facing out the window and could not see his boss's face.

Claus grumbled in his mind, but his voice sounded gentle when he asked, "How did you two come bark together?"

Nicole did not look at him but said saintly, "We bumped into each other in Nottingbrook State, and we both were coming back at the same time."

Claus was a little surprised. "No wonder. By the way, what were you doing in Nottingbrook State?"

Only then did Nicole look at him, "To take care of some business. There was no emotion in her voice, but there was an unexplained hint of arrogance.

'Good lord, it's as good as saying nothing,' Claus said in his mind.

"Shut your mouth up and drive." Jared's brows were knitted together. He could see that Nicole did not want to talk, so he did not ask. It looked like Claus was getting bolder lately.

Claus shut his mouth and said not a word again. He only asked because his boss had asked him to trail Nicole before this. His boss not only did not appreciate it but was also cavalier.

Nicole threw the black mobile phone into the bag and took out the mobile phone she usually used. She did not turn on her phone for the past two days and one night. Since she was back in the country now, she powered on the phone and put it in her pocket.

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### **Chapter 227**

Nicole did not expect that her phone would vibrate in her pocket.

Nicole took it out. There were nearly two hundred missed calls, eighty percent of which were from Daniel, Gloria, and her brothers, and a few messages from Austin and others, asking her when the tuition would continue.

'What's going on?' she wondered. Just as Nicole was about to call home, the phone in

her hand vibrated again. It was Daniel. She picked up the call. Daniel was used to hearing the unreachable tone when he called Nicole. He could not react for a moment when he first got through to Nicole until she answered in a flat voice. "Nicole, you finally answered the phone," he said, sounding stupefied. Gloria, who was beside Daniel, heard what he said and abruptly looked up at her husband, her eyes full of eagerness. Nicole heard the exhaustion and anxiety in her father's voice, and she could not help but frown. "Is something happening at home?" Daniel had been in the hospital for days, feeling distressed when the doctors told him about Mr. Riddle Sr.'s increasingly deteriorating condition. Now that he heard his young daughter's calm voice, he inexplicably felt more assured and could think more clearly. "Nicole, come to San Joto Central Hospital. Your grandfather has fallen sick." Nicole frowned and could not believe that Mr. Riddle Sr., who had always been tough, was ill. It sounded as if his condition was serious. Mr. Riddle Sr. treated her well when she first came home, did not judge her based on rumors, and supported her in her study. He always had high expectations for her. Thinking of Mr. Riddle Sr., Nicole had decided and said to Claus, "I'm sorry. I'm not going to the Riddle Mansion. Please send me to San Joto Central Hospital." Jared nodded and asked Claus to turn the car around. He then asked Nicole with a serious face, "Is someone in your family sick?" "It's my grandpa." She nodded. Jared looked at her and said somberly to Claus, "Hurry up." Claus gripped the steering wheel, and he stepped on the accelerator. The high-performance sports car made a low roaring sound as it drove them straight toward San Joto Central Hospital. It took only five minutes for them to reach the hospital. Nicole got out of the car with Jared behind, comforting her. "He's going to be okay." Nicole said nothing, Mr. Riddle Sr. was on the tenth floor. The two of them hastened to the elevator, where a woman, surrounded by bodyguards, was waiting. Seeing the two of them approaching, a bodyguard raised an eyebrow and said coldly, "The elevator is reserved only for our lady's use today." Nicole did not bother to argue with the bodyguard. She shoved him aside to clear a path for herself. The rest of the bodyguards saw her ruthlessness and flinched. They stood aside, leaving a path in the middle, revealing the woman's face. The woman was aggravated, looking in Nicole's direction. "Didn't I tell you all not to let others come near?" There was a surprised look in her eyes when she saw the person behind Nicole. "Jared?" Lyana was here for a medical checkup, not expecting to see Jared here. She looked a little ecstatic and quickly walked toward Jared.

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### Chapter 228

"What are you doing here? Are you looking for me?" Lyana asked. Jared ignored Lyana and walked past her to accompany Nicole, quietly waiting for the



elevator.

Nicole did not have time for Lyana. She glanced at Jared gravely, as she still remembered he had explained to her about Lyana.

Lyana looked with jealousy in her eyes at the two standing together. She recognized Nicole as the girl who had taken Jared away from the birthday party the other day.

Jared ignored her every time she saw him. 'What makes this girl so special that she can find favor with Jared?' she asked in her mind.

Lyana was proud of her body and appearance, but she lost that sense of superiority with Nicole's presence. So she looked bitterly at Nicole's beautiful face.

The bodyguard whom Nicole shoved aside earlier came up with a sneer when he saw two random people standing in front of Lyana. "Do you know who we are? How dare you shove our lady out of the way!" He did not know that Lyana had given up her spot in front of the elevator to get close to Jared.

Neither Jared nor Nicole spared the bodyguard a glance. Meanwhile, Claus had parked the car and came. He raised an eyebrow and looked at the jealous-looking Lyana with a frosty look.

"Look after your dog, Lyana. Don't let it bark indiscriminately."

Lyana looked back and shuddered when she saw Claus. The Junkerman family was notorious in San Joto. They were as ferocious as jackals and would bite once they found a target.

The Junkerman family was not a member of the high society, but it specialized in training and delivering fresh blood to the wealthy family. Each of their generations produced the most cold-blooded and ruthless killer who would be assigned to stay beside the junior member, whom they considered had the most potential, of a wealthy family. And in this generation, Claus was that person.

This was no secret in San Joto's high society, so Lyana looked at Claus with a hint of fear in her eyes.

Thinking that Claus was just a good-looking pretty boy, the bodyguard was infuriated when he heard Claus insult him. "Miss Rogers, this pretty boy is so rude to you. I'll teach him a lesson for you." With that, he rolled up his sleeves and lunged out at Claus. Claus was nonchalant, As the elevator almost arrived, he did not want to waste time with the bodyguard, He stepped out and punched the bodyguard in the abdomen, sending him to the floor.

The bodyguard still wanted to say something, but surprise filled his eyes, and his face contorted as he groaned in pain.

Lyana looked on with fear in her eyes. She quickly rushed up to that bodyguard and slapped him in the face before Claus hit him again. "Are you blind? How dare you behave so rudely toward Mr. Johnston and Mr. Junkerman!"

She knew that the bodyguard's disrespect for Jared caused this scuffle. If she wanted to patch things up, she would have to show her determination to Jared first. After making herself clear, Lyana looked at Jared and Claus with a smile. "I'm sorry, Jared. My men are too ruthless and have caused you trouble."

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## Chapter 229

Lynana completely ignored Nicole, as if she did not exist.

Jared glanced at Lyana apathetically. Blood instantly drained from Lyana's face, and she looked in an unspeakable fear.

She knew very well who Claus was—he was just following and serving Jared. He was basically a knife in Jared's hand. She was afraid no matter how much Mr. Rogers Sr. pampered her, if she angered Jared, Mr. Rogers would turn against her.

Lyana still thought of saying something, but the elevator had arrived. Nicole and Jared walked in. Claus glanced at Lyana with a smirk and followed Jared into the elevator. The bodyguard finally got his due. He was struck dumb after getting slapped by Lyana. He had been acting like a bully all this while with Lyana's connivance. Lyana wiped her hands with a handkerchief handed over by the others and said coldly to the bodyguard on the floor. "Get the hell out of here. I don't want to see you again."

The bodyguard looked sorry and dumbfounded, not knowing why Lyana's attitude had changed all of a sudden. He was just doing the same thing as he usually did. But he knew he could not afford to offend Lyana. So he had to endure the pain and crawl away. Lyana looked at the closed elevator door with resentment. She blamed Nicole for all the disdain Jared had shown her today.

She tore the handkerchief in her hand into pieces. Mr. Rogers Sr.'s warning gradually faded from her mind, and only the sound in the air came from the gritting of her teeth. "Nicole!" Lyana was not in the mood for the medical checkup now, so she turned around and left with her men.

Nicole did not know what Lyana was thinking. She came to the tenth floor, where the VIP wards were. Daniel was sitting in front of a ward door, looking depressed and thinner than before. Gloria was leaning on his shoulder, and her rosy cheeks now appeared a little pale. They were whispering something to each other when the elevator door opened, and Nicole appeared. Their eyes brightened up, and they immediately stood up and walked toward Nicole.

"Why didn't you answer the phone? You almost scared me to death." Gloria looked at Nicole with reddened eyes.

Nicole opened her mouth, wanting to explain herself. But she ended up just saying, "I'm sorry."

Daniel did not want to say anything reproachful but just whispered, "It's okay as long as you're back."

Nicole looked at the two of them, who had a rare worried look on their faces, and asked softly, "How is his condition?"

Daniel turned his head, seemingly to calm himself down, before saying, "The doctor said that surgery is needed, but the risk of complications is high, and he may not survive."

Nicole understood and looked grave. It was even more serious than she thought.

At this time, Samuel and Spencer had also come. They ran toward Nicole in front of the elevator as soon as they saw her. "You're back at last, Nicole!"

Steve and Stanley followed from behind them with surprised looks in their eyes when they saw Nicole.

As so many people showed their concerns for Nicole, Norah could not help but ask,

“Where have you been, Nicole? Why didn’t you attend the family banquet the other day? Grandpa was angry because of this.”

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### Chapter 230

No wonder she had been feeling like missing something. It turned out that she had forgotten to go to the family dinner every Friday night. But Nicole did not give Norah a damn, knowing that Norah was deliberately looking for trouble.

Just then, Steve had come to Nicole’s rescue. “No point talking about it now. Grandpa has fallen sick. We are all family, so there is no need to fuss about it.”

He looked at Nicole understandably, and Nicole gave him a grateful nod. “Steve, I understand. Dad, Mom, I’ll go see grandpa first,” she said and then walked into the ward calmly as if nothing could affect her.

Norah looked jealous as Nicole went. She then set her eyes on Jared, who had come with Nicole. She thought Nicole had been fooling around with some random men for the past two days, not expecting Nicole to see Nicole coming back with Jared.

After not seeing Jared for so many days, Norah immediately went up to say hello.

“Jared, I didn’t expect you to come. Are you with Nicole?” She was really eager to know where Nicole and Jared had been for the past two days.

When everyone heard that Jared and Nicole had probably been together for the past two days, they felt it too awkward to ask. Nicole had just come of age, and Jared was an adult; they tried not to interfere if they were in a normal relationship.

But what puzzled Daniel was that Jared had agreed to cancel his engagement with Nicole. They had not mentioned this matter recently.

Steve saw his parents remain silent. He pushed his gold-framed glasses up his nose and gave Jared a friendly smile. “Hello, Jared. I didn’t expect that you would know and come,” he said apologetically.

“Mr. Riddle Sr.’s condition is serious?” Jared nodded gently. Daniel had talked about Mr. Riddle Sr.’s condition just now. Jared was just puzzled why Mr. Riddle Sr. suddenly fell ill.

Steve saw Jared’s doubts and said frankly, “It is a sudden heart attack. Conventional medication and treatment didn’t work. He requires surgery, so we are looking for the best doctor.”

Nodding his acknowledgment, Jared looked thoughtfully into the ward, but no one knew what he was thinking. He then turned around and walked toward the elevator calmly.

Claus caught up with him and asked, “Are you leaving?” Nicole was still here, yet he was leaving

“I’m looking for Michael,” Jared said,

Claus immediately got what Jared meant. He then followed Jared and took the elevator up to

the top floor, not noticing the shocked expression of Steve and Stanley behind him.

Michael Richman was the CEO of San Joto Central Hospital.

They had never met the hospital CEO, and no one knew who this elusive CEO was, only knowing that he had some government background. 3

