

My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 231

Chapter 231

That was not much of a surprise. After all, Michael could not have built such a hospital in San Joto had he come with no background. Steve's face looked a little grave while he was thinking of this. He knew it; there was more to Jared than met the eye.

Meanwhile, Nicole was in the ward, looking on as a doctor was instructing two nurses to do a routine check on Mr. Riddle Sr., who was hooked up with tubes to some medical instrument. Nicole leaned casually against the wall as the nurses were doing their job. She waited for them to finish before asking calmly, "How is his condition?": Hearing the crisp, bitter voice, the doctor looked at the beautiful girl in front of him and replied involuntarily,

"He needs surgery as soon as possible because we have observed signs of heart failure. The coronary instability has caused plaque rupture, affecting the blood supply to the heart. More delay may affect the normal function of certain parts of the body.

According to our observation, it is likely to be the brain." Nicole nodded and asked, "Where's the location?"

The doctor hesitated as if he did not understand why Nicole wanted to know in such detail. But he still said, "It's in the worst probable location. The occlusion of the left anterior descending branch has caused anterior wall myocardial infarction. If he does not undergo an operation in time, it will cause extensive anterior wall myocardial infarction, which is the most serious and dangerous situation. The right surgeon has to be found within three days to perform the surgery. Only then the patient has a chance of recovery." He was afraid that Nicole would not understand the medical jargon, so he specifically told her how dangerous the condition was. Nicole nodded gently and thanked the doctor. She then picked up the stethoscope from the doctor's instrument tray, put on the medical gloves, put the stethoscope directly on Mr. Riddle Sr.'s chest, and calmly adjusted the position of the ventilator. The doctor saw her seemingly chaotic yet professional and skillful technique and became baffled, wondering if she was not a family member of the patient but a medical student.

A nurse thought Nicole was pretending to be a doctor and could not tolerate it. She looked on with a sneer and then reached out to snatch the stethoscope from Nicole. But Nicole's reaction was ten times faster than the nurse's hand. She grabbed the nurse's arm and blurted out, "Don't."

The nurse burst into tears as the force of Nicole's hand was too much for her. She quickly nodded at Nicole to signal that she would do nothing. Only then did Nicole let go of her hand and listen intently to the heartbeat of Mr. Riddle Sr. After determining his heart rate and strength, she put down the stethoscope and left the ward without saying a word.

The nurse looked at Nicole from behind and said indignantly, "What is she? She shouldn't have played with the medical gear. She doesn't respect the doctor at all."

The doctor pulled back his eyes and stared back at the nurse. "First, you're not a doctor, and she didn't disrespect me. Second, if I remember it correctly, it

was you who put the ventilator on the patient. Had she not corrected the tube in time, the oxygen might have flowed in a reverse direction. You know what would have

happened, right? ” the doctor said in a stern voice. The nurse’s face instantly turned pale. “I–I didn’t mean it.” The doctor did not look at the nurse again. He conveniently rated an F on her appraisal report. “Had you not been my sister-in-law, I would have sent you back to school to study another four years,” he said. The nurse looked at the F with indignation. She did not dare to show that on her face but kept saying, “Thank you. Thank you.” The doctor shook his head helplessly and then left the ward without looking at her face. After the doctor left, the nurse looked up and clenched her right hand with the slightest look of remorse on her face. She had only made a minor mistake, but the doctor reprimanded her so harshly. She could not understand why he also gave the good-for-nothing girl so high regard.

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The nurse looked at the appraisal report marked with an F with an icy glint in her eyes. She took off her gloves and threw them on the ground, and then tore the appraisal report to pieces before leaving with her chest held high.

Nicole came out the door with Daniel and Gloria looking at her outside. “You’ve been with Jared for two days?” they asked softly. They could only ask Nicole since they could not ask Jared.

“Sort of,” Nicole said as she kneaded her forehead, but she could not say anything about her going abroad. Gloria hinted at Daniel not to ask again, thinking Nicole was shy. Steve, too, had the same thinking and gently interrupted Daniel. “Nicole, we plan to arrange grandpa for the operation in three days, but we haven’t found a suitable doctor. I think Jared is seeing the hospital CEO now,” he said. Nicole was a little surprised and felt touched, as Jared had not left but found someone to help her.

Gloria saw Nicole was absent-minded, so she asked questions she was most concerned about. “It’s okay to go out with Jared, but you should’ve told us. We have not been able to contact you.” Nicole felt a little guilty. “I’m sorry, Mom. I turned off my phone and didn’t receive calls.” Her profession was destined to worry Gloria, so she had better not tell her. Daniel and Gloria glanced at each other. Since Nicole had admitted her mistake, they should not harp on it anymore. Daniel coughed to clear his throat and said, “Nicole, I’m not against you getting into a relationship, but you must let us know. Otherwise, we would be worried when you disappear all of a sudden.”

“You’re in love?” Samuel was wide-eyed. He had been at school and did not know about Nicole’s personal life. Spencer pinched Samuel’s arm from behind and looked at Nicole, saying nothing. Nicole was not as embarrassed as they thought. She just nodded gently and said, “I will. Don’t worry.” Nicole was apparently their youngest child. Gloria and Daniel had no hesitation in believing what Nicole had said. The two said nothing more just smiling and nodding.

Norah felt indignant when Nicole was not reprimanded, even after spending two days with a man outside. She stepped up and said, “Mom, Dad, you’re still so indulgent toward Nicole. It will only spoil her. If she hadn’t been away from home this time, how could grandpa have gotten sick? It’s all because of her.”

Norah's five brothers immediately looked at her. She had always been a good girl in their eyes. They did not expect that she would say such a thing.

"How can you say such a thing, Norah? Grandpa fell ill because of the Rogers family. What does it have to do with Nicole?" Samuel thought Norah had gone overboard.

"Exactly. How can you simply accuse Nicole?" Spencer also thought Norah had gone too far.

Seeing that her brothers were all siding with Nicole and no one was supporting her, Norah pushed Samuel away. "You all are biased toward Nicole! Is it just because she is your biological sister? I have been living with you all in this home for so many years, yet I'm nothing to you all!"

Norah had been keeping these words in her heart for a long time, and now she could no longer stand it and said them out loud. But what awaited her was not an answer but silence from all of them. Norah had finally understood it all. She looked into the eyes of her parents and five brothers and could not help but laugh sarcastically. "You all acquiesced to it, didn't you? It seems that no one in this family is treating me as one of you. I'm not going to come back again!"

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Norah could no longer stand it. She gritted her teeth and turned to leave. Only then did Gloria come to her senses and call out to Norah, wanting to chase after her. But Daniel stopped her. "If you chase after her now, it would only give her a false hope and hurt her even more." Gloria suddenly hesitated, not knowing what to do. Sean, who had not spoken all this while, stepped forward and comforted his mother. "Don't worry, Mom. We've found who Norah's biological parents are, and we will be able to locate them in a few days."

"Really?" Gloria looked at Sean in surprise. It was hard to tell whether she was sad or delighted.

"Tell us immediately when you have located them. We have to make the best arrangement for, Norah," Daniel said with a sigh. After all, Norah had been living in the Riddle family for so many years. He wanted her to live a good life. "I will." Sean nodded solemnly. Nicole looked at her parents. Daniel had not been feeling well and had lost a lot of weight since a few days ago. He looked a bit too skinny. Gloria used to have rosy cheeks, but now she looked pale. Perhaps she had been spending time in the hospital with Daniel because she could not bring herself to see Daniel stay alone here. But Norah did not understand them. She instead made a big fuss out of everything. Perhaps her leaving was a good thing for everyone. She came out of her thoughts and looked back at Steve and Stanley. "I need to leave now because I've got something to take care of. You two take care of dad, mom, and grandpa."

Steve did not know what she was going to do, but he still nodded his head. "Go, but come back as soon as you can. If grandpa wakes up, he will be keen to see you."

Speaking of Mr. Riddle Sr., they all had worried looks on their faces. Mr. Riddle Sr. had been in a semi-coma since yesterday. The doctor said Mr. Riddle Sr. could hear people talking, but he could not respond to it. Nicole had examined Mr. Riddle Sr. She could

not know his condition better.

“Okay,” Nicole said. She then walked out to the hallway, tapping the fingers of her right hand on her pants with a forbidding look on her face. Nicole went out and stood opposite the hospital, looking at the bustling crowds passing. She then took out her phone and sent a message.

Soon, Nicole received a video call from someone who was desperate. Nicole hung up expressionlessly. Three seconds later, she received a message on her phone. [I'll arrange) She put away her mobile phone and looked back at the busy traffic in front of the hospital with a saint expression. On the top floor of the hospital —

Jared sat in the sunny office of the hospital CEO, studying what could be called a lavish decoration with an obscure expression.

‘What is going on with Michael? How dare he ask me to wait for him for so long! He must have been sitting in this position for too long and lost his sense of direction,’ Jared thought to himself.

Just then, hurried footsteps came from the outside, and then the door was pushed open. A person walked in with sweat on his forehead.

“I’m sorry, Mr. Johnston. I’m late.”

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Jared said not a word. He got up and walked to the balcony, leaning against it to look downstairs with his fingers gently rubbing on the white-marble windowsill. “Long time no see, Michael. You seem to be putting on airs now,” Jared said.

Michael wiped the sweat from his forehead and apologized repeatedly. “I was on an inspection round downstairs. When I heard you were coming, I immediately came back.” Constantly staying under Jared’s shadow, Michael became resentful of him. But he dared not show it in front of Jared. Instead, he smiled and said, “But an emergent patient was suddenly brought in. I had to attend to it. Otherwise, I’d never dare to make you wait, Mr. Johnston.”

Jared looked at his chubby body and said coldly, “You’d better be.”

Toil, he said. S

He then let out a faint smile. “Let’s talk business now.” He turned to look at Michael with an obscure expression in his eyes. Michael was intimidated and almost immediately lowered his head. Despite that, he was flattering. “At your service, Mr. Johnston.” Jared looked at him with an icy look on his smiling face. “You must have known Benjamin’s condition,” he said.

Mr. Riddle Sr. was the titular figure of the Riddle family. Michael was startled for two seconds before replying, “Yes, I’ve examined him as soon as he was brought in. His condition isn’t looking good. The surgery is risky with many uncontrollable variables.”

“Get your best doctor. How are the chances?” Jared asked, with no emotion in his eyes. The best doctor under his command was now studying in the Yamenia, and it took last a day of travel back. Besides, he would have to interrupt his study. As reluctant as Michael was, he had no choice but to call the doctor back. “There is a sixty percent chance,” he said.

Jared frowned thoughtfully, as the sixty-percent chance was too low. "So much for the best doctor in your hospital. You are keeping a bunch of useless people in the hospital. How about you retire early?"

Michael's expression changed abruptly. He knew Jared meant what he said, and he quickly said, "I'll call Martin later and see what he says, maybe over sixty percent."

Jared could tell that Michael was pretending. He sauntered up to Michael with a frosty face and looked condescendingly at him. "That's what San Joto Central Hospital is capable of? Not even one-hundred percent?"

Michael was frightened, with cold sweat all over his body. He quickly explained, saying, "Please don't be angry, Mr. Johnston. Benjamin is old, and the location of his myocardial infarction adds more difficulty to the operation. It is difficult to tell what complications would arise during the surgery. We have taken all these factors into account to give a more conservative sixty percent chance. If you aren't satisfied with it, we really can't do anything about it." He looked at Jared with fear in his eyes. Jared did not get angry with Michael for saying such a thing. Instead, he let out a faint smile.

Really?" he asked. He looked at Michael, said nothing further, and walked straight out of the CEO's office.

"You'd better shape up, Michael," Jared suddenly said as he left.

Claus caught up with Jared. Looking at Jared's expressionless face, he asked softly, "Do you want to..." Jared did not look back at him but rubbed against the index finger of his right hand and said with a languid, indifferent voice as usual, "I have no time for him. Contact Lloyd and ask him to come over to Hustuaburg." Claus whispered a yes. He then stepped aside, quickly dialed a number, and whispered something in Esperian. But quickly, he raised his voice in surprise. 2

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"What did you say?" He then realized his gaffe and quickly and clearly clarified something. After hanging up, he looked at Jared with a hint of confusion in his eyes.

"Boss, Lloyd said someone would come and perform the surgery on Nicole's grandfather. The doctor is of high caliber and has surpassed Lloyd two years earlier. He asked us not to worry," Claus said.

"But how did he know about this?"

With the Riddle family's stature, they should not have been able to contact Lloyd at all. There was a glimmer in Jared's eyes. He pressed the elevator button, hurried in, and soon reached the ground floor.

Claus was following behind him, looking at his back in puzzlement, not knowing what his boss was thinking. But when the elevator doors opened, and he saw Nicole's beautiful and indifferent face, he seemed to have figured out something. It turned out that Nicole was downstairs. No wonder Jared was staring out the window when he was in the hospital CEO's office. Thinking of this, he looked at the two of them and smiled ambiguously, then walked outside with a key in his hand.

"I'll go get the car. You two talk," Claus said.

Jared looked at Nicole in front of him, her face as calm and composed as ever, looking

as if nothing could affect her judgment. Even if there was a landslide in front of her, she would still not bat an eyelid. There was a knowing look in his eyes when what Claus had just said came to mind. His eyes sparkled in the light as if lights were refracted through his pupils. Nicole looked at him, but there was no emotion in her eyes.

“Did you see your grandfather?” Jared asked, his smile gentle and his voice soft. Nicole nodded and stepped into the elevator. “You go back first. Thank you for sending me here today.”

Jared said nothing more, just watching as the elevator doors closed and Nicole disappeared from his sight. He stood where he was and gently clenched his fingers. He thought that after what they had been through together abroad, she would change her mind about him. But he was wrong; she was still so distant. He even felt a bit of frustration. 1

Nicole was back on the tenth floor. When Steve saw her back, he let out a gentle smile. “That’s fast.”

Nicole acknowledged him as she went into the ward first to take a look at Mr. Riddle Sr. After confirming that nothing had changed, she came out and said to Daniel and Gloria, “The equipment and medical service here are not up to snuff. I plan to transfer grandpa to another hospital.”

“Transfer grandpa to another hospital?’ Daniel and Gloria glanced at each other with a baffled look in their eyes. They thought this was the best hospital in San Joto. If Nicole did not even

think it was good enough, they did not know where else to go.

Nicole looked at their faces and let out a gentle smile. “Don’t worry. Leave it all to me,” she said.

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Gloria and Daniel looked at the smile on Nicole’s face and nodded involuntarily. Daniel then stood up. “Then I’ll go through the discharge procedures.”

“Stay here, Dad. Let me do it,” Stanley said and then gave a meaningful look at Nicole before walking toward the hospital’s service counter.

Nicole felt it heartwarming to see the way her family trusted her unconditionally.

As they were waiting for Stanley to return, a somewhat icy voice came from behind them. “Daniel, how dare you make a decision without consulting me! Why do you want to discharge your father from the hospital? Are you trying to kill him?”

Nicole did not look back but could already tell whose voice it was. It was Dillon, her second uncle. She knew the doctor would notify these people once she asked the hospital to discharge his grandfather. So she was not surprised at all that Dexter had also come. The problem with Dillon was his tone of voice.

Nicole looked at Dillon with a frosty look in her eyes. “It’s my idea to discharge. Come after me if you have a problem with that,” she said in an icy voice. When Dillon saw her return, he sneered. “It turned out to be you, Nicole. You started to create trouble as soon as you returned. You might as well not come back. How can you be so evil at such

a young age? Your grandfather is dying. Why can't you let him get treatment?" Nicole frowned, knowing that her behavior was abnormal in his eyes, so she explained to him. "I'm here to get him better treatment."

Before Dillon could say anything, someone suddenly sneered and said, "I'm surprised you have the audacity to say that, Nicole."

Nicole looked back and saw Damien staring at her with icy eyes. He had apparently just arrived and heard her conversation with Dillon. She ignored him, just sat, and waited for Stanley to return.

Dillon was infuriated by Nicole's behavior. He looked back at Daniel and scoffed, saying, "Look what a wonderful daughter you have here. She is a jinx. As if hurting isn't enough, she now wants to get Dad killed. Why don't you condemn her?"

After Mr. Riddle Sr. fell ill, Daniel saw his brothers' attitude and resented them. Now hearing Dillon's questioning voice, he silently turned to look at Nicole. After getting an assuring look from Nicole, he became less worried. He would not censure his daughter simply because of his second brother,

At first, Gloria was worried that Daniel would side with his brothers. But seeing his response, she was no longer worried. She had always been a gentle person, but now she looked icily at Dillon. "Stop accusing Nicole of this and that. She at least rushed over to see her grandfather as soon as she got off the plane. In contrast, you have only come once for the two days, but have you ever cared to take a look at Dad? Now that we're transferring Dad to another hospital, you stop us. I wonder what you're up to."

Of course, Dillon was afraid of Gloria. He sneered and questioned her. "Stop finding fault with me; I was just tied up with my job. But you, I wonder if you know what you're talking about. Don't you know that this is the best hospital in San Joto? You're blinded by the lies of your daughter. I wonder if she even knows which one is the best hospital in San Joto. It is ridiculous of you all to believe what she says."

Nicole looked at Dillon. "So you know a lot, don't you? Have you found a doctor who has a hundred percent confidence in curing grandpa?" she flatly asked.

Dillon was choked by what she said. He still could not find any good doctor, and he had not even met the hospital CEO. But Nicole, as a junior, should not disrespect him, he thought.

He looked at Nicole and was exasperated. "Can a stink brat like you find a better doctor when even I couldn't find one?"

Dexter looked at Nicole. "You don't even have Riddle as your last name. Will you be able to find a better hospital and doctor?"

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Nicole looked at her uncles with a wry smile. "What if I can find it?"

Dillon burst into laughter, almost shocked by her unashamed remarks. "If you can find it, I will kneel to you."

Dexter looked at Nicole's calm face and quietly frowned. He would never say something so reckless without thinking as Dillon did.

Nicole looked at Dillon with a calm look on her face, a stark contrast to Dillon's hooting of laughter. "Challenge accepted."

“Uncle Damien, you heard it, too,” Nicole said as he looked at Damien. Damien did not approve of the transfer, but Dillon’s reaction had aroused Nicole’s suspicions. So he had a complicated feeling when he looked at Nicole. After thinking about it for a while, he asked, “Are you sure your grandfather will get well after he is transferred to another hospital?”

Nicole looked at him but said nothing. She then sat back down with her parents. “What is that attitude of yours?” Dillon shouted.

Dexter frowned at Nicole’s disrespect for Damien.

Damien knew that there was more to Nicole than met the eye. Instead of getting angry at Nicole like Dillon did, he smiled softly and said, “Since you insist on doing so, then do you as say. Get the transfer done.”

“Damien!” “Are you out of your mind, Damien?” Two voices rose in unison as Dillon and Karen looked at Damien with disbelief in their eyes. They thought Damien must have been bewitched. If not, he would not have supported Nicole.

But Damien ignored the two of them and still looked at Nicole. “Is the doctor you can find related to the Rogers family in some way?”

Nicole glanced at him faintly. There were many people at the Rogers family’s birthday party the other day. She did not know that Damien was also there and where he got the fake news that she had something to do with the Rogers family

Dillon felt strange, too. He remembered Mr. Rogers Sr. had come to the Riddle family, asking them to hand over a girl. Only Nicole and Chloe were not present that day. Since Mr. Rogers Sr. was not looking for Chloe, then... he looked at Nicole and could not accept this conclusion.

Nicole could not give a damn about what was going on in the minds of these people. She looked back at Damien with an obscure expression. Even people like Damien, who had gone through ups and down the business world, felt intimidated.

“I don’t know any of the Rogers family members,” she said. Her expression was genuine, and it did not look like she was faking it. Indeed, Nicole did not know any of the Rogers family members. She had just met them once at the birthday party that day.

Damien looked at her, not very convinced. But Dillon believed what Nicole said. Dillon did not go to the Rogers family’s birthday party and did not know what Damien had seen. So he quickly dispelled the idea that the person Mr. Rogers Sr. was looking for was Nicole because it seemed almost impossible.

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Dillon looked at Damien and then at Nicole again. He had not forgotten that Nicole had just laughed at him for not being able to find a good doctor to treat his father. He sneered and said, “Who is the Rogers family? Why did you ask like this, Damien?” “Of course, I believe you, Nicole, that you don’t know the Rogers family. But I’m curious now who the doctor you’re looking for is,” Dillon said. Nicole looked at Dillon with a smirk. “You don’t have to know. You just need to remember what you’ve agreed to.” Her voice was soft but with a hint of contempt.

Dillon had just said that he would kneel to Nicole if she could find a doctor who could cure Mr. Riddle Sr. Everyone had heard it, and Dillon did not deny it. Even San Joto's best hospital had only a 50% chance of curing Mr. Riddle Sr. He did not believe that Nicole could do anything to guarantee Mr. Riddle Sr.'s treatment to be successful. No matter who she was looking for, the chances of this operation would still be below 50%. That was less than half the chance.

Dillon was not afraid at all as he thought about this. "Of course, if you can cure your grandfather, and he suffers no subsequent sequelae, I will not hesitate to kneel to you. But if you can't," there was a sinister look in his eyes, "you will be the sinner of the Riddle family."

Nicole was not intimidated. She nodded in agreement. "If the doctor I find can't cure my grandfather, I'll leave the family."

At first, Daniel and Gloria were observing, but when they heard Nicole say this, they became anxious. "You shouldn't have said that, Nicole." Nicole was burning her bridges. They wondered what kind of doctor Nicole was looking for, but Nicole was so confident. Steve and Spencer frowned. As they were about to say something, Nicole motioned them to calm down. She then looked at Dillon with a glacial expression.

Damien looked at Nicole and could hardly recognize she was the Nicole he used to know. He was almost certain that Nicole had something to do with the Rogers family and that it was possible that it would be the Rogers family that helped her find the doctor, who was likely better than the current hospital could offer. Otherwise, with less than a fifty-percent chance, Mr. Riddle Sr. could probably not survive the operation. His eyes glinted behind the glasses as he thought that was not bad either. He then glanced up at Nicole with a meaningful look in his eyes.

Stanley returned. He looked at Nicole and said softly, "They said that a surgeon named Dr. McCarthy was ready to come back to operate on grandpa. They asked if we wanted to transfer grandpa to another hospital." Nicole's expression remained unchanged after hearing what Stanley said. "How confident she is of the operation?"

Stanley hesitated, "They said that what they told us at the beginning was the doctor's ability, which was about fifty-fifty,"

"Get grandpa discharged immediately," Nicole said without blinking an eye.

"Okay." Stanley looked at her and smiled gently.

He turned around and strode toward the service counter. The doctor there was waiting for him to come back and apologize, saying that they would wait for the doctor to return and operate on Mr. Riddle Sr., But Stanley just squinted at her. "We want the patient to be discharged immediately."

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The doctor was wide-eyed. "Are you sure? of all the doctors in San Joto, only those from this hospital can achieve this success rate. If you recklessly transfer the patient to another hospital, he likely won't be able to open his eyes again."

Stanley, who always had a gentle expression, looked frigid now, as he felt Nicole could not be more right, the quality of medical care here was outrageously awful. He smiled

politely and insisted on getting his grandfather discharged. The doctor looked at him with mouth agape. "Be rational. What makes you so unhappy about the hospital that you want to transfer the patient to another hospital? Don't forget that this is the best hospital in San Joto." The doctor's voice contained a sense of superiority. So instead of dissuading Stanley, it pissed him off. 'Maybe this is the best hospital to treat bruises,' Stanley thought expressionlessly. Seeing that Stanley insisted, the doctor reluctantly refunded a large amount of paid money. She glanced at these people, whom she saw as knowing nothing, and then went aside to make a phone call.

Mr. Riddle Sr. was finally going to be transferred to another hospital. Daniel and Gloria were nervous.

Nicole looked calm. She went to a corner to make a video call. A gentle – and elegant-looking Esperian man appeared on the screen. He was about fifty and looked very gentlemanly in a white coat. Seeing that Nicole finally called him, the man broke into a bright smile. "You are finally willing to call me."

Nicole did not have time to reminisce with him. "I want to take the patient to your lab in San Joto in ten minutes," she said rapidly.

The man's face turned serious. As he nodded and before ending the call, he did not forget to mime an okay with his hand to Nicole.

Dillon watched with cold eyes as Nicole came back. "If something happens to your grandfather because of the hospital transfer, you will have to take full responsibility for it," he said with a sneer.

But Nicole ignored him and went straight into the ward to check on Mr. Riddle Sr.'s condition to make sure that the move would not cause any harm to him. Only then did she come out and give Daniel and others a reassuring look. She then sat down and checked her watch nonchalantly. One minute had passed. And then two. As the minute hand pointed at six, she heard some kind of extremely noisy sound. She broke into a faint smile and said, "Here it comes."

Samuel looked at Nicole in confusion, not knowing what she was talking about. Meanwhile, Dillon looked at Nicole with disdain, thinking that she was trying to gaslight them.

Damien was looking at the other end of the hallway curiously, while Daniel and Gloria also looked in the same direction. As they heard wheels rolling, they could vaguely see the faces of the people who came.

Everyone, including Dillon, who taunted Nicole earlier, was wide-eyed as a group of people dressed in special forces uniforms strode over. They were pushing a special stretcher and hurried toward them. Following behind them was a doctor dressed in a white robe. Everyone looked on with their mouths agape.

They thought the Riddle family did not have any military or political background. So how could it mobilize such elite special forces? Nicole squinted and recognized at once that the special forces had the First Army insignia on their flanks.

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The doctor led the special forces to come in front of the ward. He had a very handsome, mixed race face, his expression brightening up at the moment he saw Nicole. He held up a hand and then lowered it consciously halfway as he walked toward Nicole. "We are ready. May I ask where the patient is?" Nicole looked back at the ward. "He is in there."

The doctor nodded solemnly. "Got it." His Hustuaburgian accent was a little odd as if he seldom spoke the language.

"Go ahead." Nicole nodded.

The special forces soldiers saw how respectful the doctor was toward Nicole, and they all had a solemn look on their faces. The leading man gestured with a hand, and they all went into the ward. Half a minute later, they were carrying Mr. Riddle Sr, who was lying comatose, out of the ward without making a sound.

Nicole was pleased to see that Mr. Riddle Sr. was undisturbed. The stretcher was fully unfolded, and all the vital signs-sustaining instruments were readily available.

The scene had drawn a lot of attention. Almost everyone in the building poked their heads out to rubberneck. When they saw those frosty-faced special forces, many people were frightened and quickly pulled their heads back in. The entire floor fell into an eerie silence when people saw how respectful the special forces soldiers were toward Nicole.

Even those from the Riddle family looked surprised, not expecting Nicole to get help from the special forces. A few special forces soldiers from The First Army of Hustuaburg were equivalent to the combat strength of a regiment.

Even Daniel looked at Nicole in disbelief. "Who are they, Nicole?" he asked.

When Nicole saw the frightened look in their eyes, she realized that the special forces soldiers might have scared them. She hesitated for a couple of seconds and then said, "They are actors I hire."

Probably only Gloria and Dillon would believe what she said. Steve nudged his glasses up the nose. "Stop fooling us anymore," he said with a you-got-to-be-kidding-me kind of look. They could tell if the stripes on the soldiers' uniforms were military-issued or not,

Nicole looked at Steve, who seemed to have seen through everything, and said, "That doctor is my friend. But I don't really know who the others are."

"Your friend?" Everyone was still amazed. Nicole did not know Mr. Ellison only but also had a friend like this. Damien had become silent. Other people were struck dumb and could only pull back their shocked gazes

Meanwhile, Dillon believed those people were the actors whom Nicole hired. So he could not help but taunt her. "I can't believe a girl as young as you are playing this charade, which is a shame for the Riddle family."

As soon as he finished speaking, he received strange glances from everyone, which made him

a little confused. He wondered if he had said something wrong.

Damien looked at Dillon and sighed. Only Dillon would believe Nicole's narrative. Certainly, there was more to Nicole than met the eye. Thinking of what he had said to Nicole previously, Damien felt a strange sense of remorse. He was thinking of taunting Nicole earlier, not expecting that she was capable of mobilizing such elite forces. He glanced at Nicole with a hint of imperative look in his eyes.