My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 321

Chapter 321

She looked at the charming man in front of her and nodded her head gently.

"Okay." Harvey's smile grew at her agreement. He stood up, and the seductive tone he used was gone." Let's go," he said in slight indifference. It was time to meet the powerful and alluring "devil" who did not give Harvey the time of day. His footsteps were urgent on their way to Class B, and Vivian was having a hard time catching up.

"Harvey, slow down. I... I can't keep up," she said in a soft voice..

His eyes flashed in impatience as he heard that. He did not slow down, nor did he look back at her.

"I have class later, Vivian. Can you please hurry up?"

She did as she was told. She started jogging behind Harvey just to keep up. Her mind was in complete chaos. She completely forgot that Ms. Thompson had mentioned to Harvey that class was canceled today.

Students were still crowding around Nicole during recess, waiting to apologize. Nicole frowned in slight frustration and said to Bradley, "I'm taking a walk."

"Okay," he nodded. He then got up to leave with Nicole. As soon as they walked out of the classroom, they heard a familiar voice. "Stop right there, Nicole!" Many students gathered around as they heard this.

Nicole turned to look at Snow, who was rushing toward her with a raging fire. At that point, Snow did not care about her usual image. She gnashed her teeth and said, "Give me back my diamond, you b*tch!" Nicole looked at her with a puzzled look. It seemed like she was being serious.

"What diamond?" Nicole asked. Snow became angrier at the sound of that question. She raised her hands with the desire to slap Nicole right across her face. Raine, who tagged along with her sister, was also furious at Nicole. There was a glimmer of light in her eyes when she saw her sister raise her hands.

'It's best for my sister to do it herself. After all, Gary is sitting right over there. I don't want to leave a bad impression,' she thought.

Nicole looked at Snow in indifference and grabbed her hand, "What in the world has gotten into you?!" she said.

The crowd was baffled by Snow's behavior. 'She has always been gentle, generous, and dignified. Now she's stooping as low as to hit someone? What has gotten into her? She's insane.' Everyone thought as they compared her with Nicole, who was calm and collected at that time.

The pink diamond she lost was not only the best thing she owned but also a testament to Harvey's affection for her.

How can she stay calm in this situation?

My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 322

Chapter 322

Snow was struggling to break free from Nicole's grasp as she said with a sneer, "Alright, Nicole. So you want to play dumb? I'll tell you what you took away from me!"

"You never know when to give up, huh?" Raine added.

Nicole looked at them in impatience and pushed Snow's hand aside. "If you have something to say, just say it. You don't have to go around circles," she said coldly.

Snow glared at her with hatred. "You stole the ten-karat pink diamond that Harvey gave to me!

"What?!" An uproar began when the crowd heard what she had said.

A ten-karat pure pink diamond is worth hundreds of millions. None of them expected Snow to own such a diamond. But as they heard that it was given to her by Harvey, the crowd quieted down.

No amount of money was too much for the Ellison family.

Everyone started to look at Nicole in suspicion.

"To own a diamond like that is indeed a very tempting idea to ordinary girls. Plus, Nicole and Snow are related. It's possible that Nicole really stole Snow's pink diamond,' they thought.

The students started to look at Nicole differently. However, there was still some sympathy for her in the crowd.

They no longer questioned Snow's drastic change in attitude as such a valuable thing was stolen.

As Raine heard the karat count of the diamond, she lowered her gaze.

'That's why the pink diamond was so huge! It's ten karats! Harvey's so generous,' she thought. Nicole felt a sense of familiarity as she heard about the diamond. Almost immediately, she remembered the diamond that Harvey was going to give her when they were in Nottingbrook State.

'He gave it to Snow?'

She looked at her acting like a madman, and said, "I do know the diamond you're talking about, but I didn't know that it was in your hands. How could I steal it if I didn't know where it was?"

At the same time, Harvey arrived at the door of Class B. His eyes darkened as he heard what Nicole had said.

"This lunatic actually suspected that Nicole was stealing from her?"

'If she really wanted that diamond, she would liave accepted it when I gave it to her!

'Why would she want to steal from her?'

Nicole thought that she had cleared things up, but Raine looked at her with malicious eyes.

"What are you talking about, Nicole? My sister and I went back to see our grandfather at the family home last night. She left her purse in the hallway. When we went back downstairs, the diamond was gone! I asked around, but no one had seen it. You and Stanley were the other people there that night. You even left early because you're guilty!" Raine walked toward Nicole and said, "I've asked every single person working in that house, Someone saw you wander around the hallway with Aunt Gloria. What do you have to say for yourself?!"

Nicole frowned upon hearing this. 'Could this be when I was escorting Mom back to the living room? But I didn't see Snow and Raine there... She said they were visiting grandfather... But wouldn't we have met? Maybe they didn't stay in his room for long. After all, Uncle Damien and Aunt Miley live there too."

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Chapter 323

Dillon and his family would always butter up Damien and Miley. Although they claimed they were there to visit Mr. Riddle Sr., they had only spent a brief time with him.

Nicole suspected that it was just a show to frame her for theft.

The bystanders were skeptical at the beginning. But when they heard what Raine and Snow had said, they became suspicious. After all, knowing Nicole came from the countryside, they assumed that she must have never seen those expensive jewelry pieces.

Among them, those who deemed themselves from wealthy backgrounds looked at Nicole, who denied the allegations, with disdainful eyes. 'Just how stupid she is for leaving so much evidence behind when she committed theft?!'

Nicole's eyes were calm when they swept over Raine. There was no trace of anxiety in them.

"The sole reason I went home was to visit Grandpa. My mom was with me. There was no way the maid would see me alone at the entryway. Or did you imply that my mom and I had stolen your diamond?" Nicole had never given a sh*t about that diamond.

Snow got furious and yelled, "Enough, Nicole. You refuse to hand it over, huh?"

She grabbed Nicole's wrist, her eyes filled with madness. But the moment she thought of Nicole's combat skills, she slightly flinched. However, a satisfying smirk crept on her face as she thought of something else.

"I want to see it myself whether you had stolen my diamond!"

Snow dashed into the classroom and flipped Nicole's desk. All Nicole's belongings fell off. Among the books, there was a plain black box. It fell and landed on the corner.

Snow's emotion finally became stable when she saw that familiar box. When she turned her gaze at Nicole, her eyes filled with pity and disdain.

"Nicole, If you like my diamond, I can let you take a look or even touch it. But dreaming of owning it or stealing it is the last thing you should do!"

Nicole remained indifferent to what Snow had said. Instead, she stared at her belongings scattered on the floor, and her face gradually turned cold. "Pick them up!" Her tone was frosty. However, Snow acted as if she had not heard Nicole. Instead, she ran her hand through her own hair before walking slowly toward the black box.

While she was approaching it, she did not stop talking.

"My diamond is beautiful, right? But too bad that you will never have the things that aren't meant to be yours!"

"Beg me, and I'll consider not filing a police report since we're from the same family. Or else, you'll have a hard time in the future when you have a criminal record." Snow swore in her mind, 'How dare you steal my stuff. I won't let this slide!'

When she said that, the black box was already in her hand. She directed her gaze to Nicole, looking composed, and showed it to Nicole.

"So, what do you think Apologize to me and admit you're the diamond thief in front of every student in our school, and I'll let this slide. Or else, I'll go to the police, and you'll face a criminal penalty

"What are you going to do?"

Gary was staring at Nicole, who said nothing. There were mixed feelings in him as he clenched his fist tightly. 'Just what's wrong with her? She's one of the Riddles, but she stole her cousin's diamond?! Even if it's expensive, she shouldn't have done it. Just how shameless is she?!

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Chapter 324

Gary's eyes filled with disappointment as he looked at Nicole. But never did the thought about who was he to judge Nicole cross his mind.

Raine also looked at Nicole. When she noticed Gary's disappointed eyes, she was elated. She echoed her sister with a sarcastic tone, "What are you going to do? You should just apologize to my sister sincerely. After all, having a criminal record is far worse than losing your face!"

When the bystanders saw the box and the confidence on Snow and Raine's faces, almost all of them believed that Snow's diamond was inside that black box.

Hence, there was a drastic change in the look of their eyes when their gaze landed on Nicole.

Those who had initially come to look for Nicole to apologize to her despised her now and planned to leave the scene. In their opinion, Nicole was despicable, so they did not consider what they had done as defamation, and the one who was going to face legal action was her instead of them.

Vivian, who was not in the crowd, gloated as she said, "I didn't expect Nicole to steal from others. She's no doubt a country bumpkin who has no shame!"

She thought Harvey would agree with her. However, he did not say a word but gave her an impassive look. No one knew that Harvey Ellison used to be the so-called "country bumpkins." He grew up in the countryside too.

When Harvey saw that black box, there was a pensive look in his eyes. However, he did not plan to choose a side.

Nicole did not spare those people in front of her a glance. Her face was unsmiling, as cold as winter's storm, her coldness shrouding Snow entirely. With her glare directed at Snow, she said, "I repeat. Pick them up." Her voice was icy cold.

Gary could no longer stand Nicole's persistent "denial" to admit the allegation. He swiftly approached her and spoke to her in a deep and cold voice, "Enough, Nicole! Snow is kind enough. Apologize to her, quick!"

Gary felt that trying to persuade Nicole to apologize was all he could do for her sake.

After all, being brought to the police station was a consequence far direr than losing face.

Raine dug her nails into her palm when she saw that. She went to Gary, wanting to pull him away as she said angrily, "Gary, she's despicable. You should just stay away from her!" She thought, 'I'm the one who is supposed to be Gary's girlfriend in the public eye!"

Snow was taken aback in the face of Nicole's furious glare. But she immediately recollected herself. Her face gave off a hint of fluster. Despite Gary's interference, she sneered as she said," Fine, Nicole. You're about to be in great trouble now, yet you're acting stubborn. Or do you want me to make everything in plain sight? Well, you ask for it!"

After she said that, Snow opened the black box. A hint of smug satisfaction crept into her expression as she did that. "Look closely. I have enough evidence to prove you guilty of stealing

my diamond. Follow me to the police station now!"

Fully immersed in her joy, she was oblivious to the expressions of the surrounding people that had become rather strange.

It was as though someone had pushed the pause button, everything froze. No one was moving at all. Instead, everyone was dumbstruck upon staring at the item in the box. Even Raine was wide-eyed when she saw the item in her sister's hand. She rubbed her eyes, wondering if she saw things because she had been too tired recently.

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Chapter 325

After a few seconds of silence, Snow then realized she did not hear any response echoing her remarks from the surrounding people. She felt odd and wanted to say something further, but Raine gently pulled her sleeve.

Snow was startled. The moment she looked down at the item in her hand, her face turned grave.

There was no pink diamond in that box. It was a crystal-clear purple diamond more than double the size of Snow's diamond!

'What on earth is happening?!' Everyone finally came to their senses. Murmurs could be heard from the crowd:

"Didn't she say it was a ten-carat pink diamond? But that's obviously a twenty-five-carat purple diamond."

"Exactly. It's different from what Snow claimed. Could it be the color of the diamond has changed?"

When they were puzzled, a derisive voice came from behind.

"What are you, stupid or something? That's the default packaging method for this kind of unique and exquisite diamonds when they are sent across the borders to our country. Look at the serial number below that purple diamond, and you'll know it's a high-rated one. So, there's no way its color would change!

"Fine. Let's assume, even though it's unlikely, the color changed due to some methods. It's impossible that its purity would change, let alone its size, which became more than double overnight!

To everyone's surprise, the one speaking was Jack Pearson!

It was known that the Pearson family had gained wealth in the jewelry industry, so his words were highly credible.

After listening to his words, there was a strange look in everybody's eyes, including Jack, when they looked at Nicole.

'In other words, Nicole has a purple diamond, which is far more valuable than the pink diamond Snow claimed to be hers?

'Who would have gone after a smaller diamond if they had a topmost diamond in size more than double the smaller one?'

When they thought of that, they turned to look at Snow, wondering why Snow would accuse someone like Nicole, who already had a purple diamond with a quality far higher than hers.

Snow stared at the magnificent purple diamond before her in disbelief. "Impossible!"

Snow directed her gaze at Nicole, her eyes bloodshot. She no longer looked like the decent girl with the poise that everyone had thought her to be. She asked, "Where did you get this diamond?"

She snarled in her mind, There's no way Nicole can own a high-grade diamond. Even I could only get it from Harvey!'

A cold glint filled Nicole's eyes when she was looking at Snow, who did not show any remorse. She radiated an intimidating beauty.

She bypassed the stupefied Gary, who was blocking her way. Gary was looking at that purple diamond. He could barely conceal his shock. However, what followed next was a pensive torpor. 'I should've known it. Nicole and Jared Johnston are in a relationship, and that kind of guy can buy Nicole any top-grade diamonds anytime!' He parted his lips. But eventually, nothing came out of his mouth.

At that moment, Snow was the only one Nicole glared at. Standing gracefully tall in front of Snow, Nicole looked down at this cousin who had been messing with her since her return to the Riddle family.

Snow shuddered in response to Nicole's icy stare. The black box fell off her trembling hand and hit the ground. The magnificent diamond came off and rolled, radiating a blinding dazzle.

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Chapter 326

Unlike many who could not bear to see the purple diamond bouncing on the ground, Nicole did not give a sh*t about it. She gently grabbed Snow's chin with her two fair fingers, lifting the latter's face. One could barely sense her emotions through her eyes, but an unsettling smirk was visible on her face.

"You enjoyed messing with me, huh?"

Fear gradually enveloped Snow in place of jealousy as she looked at Nicole's beautiful face close to hers. She tried hard to suppress her anxiety while maintaining her gaze, but there was a faint trembling in her voice when she said, "I have no idea of what you're saying. The only thing they told me was you took my diamond...";

'They? Who else is part of this?' Nicole's eyes remained on Snow, who looked

miserable. In a pleasing-to-ear but icy cold voice, she said, "Snow, I warn you. Stop messing with me!" Apparently, Nicole had had enough of Snow this time. She could not guarantee what she might do to Snow if Snow messed with her again.

Suppressing her fury, Nicole gently patted Snow's face before loosening her grip. She pointed at the floor and said, "Tidy up the place now." Her emotionless voice was full of authority.

Nicole then walked out of the classroom. She paid no heed to all eyes on her. Nobody dared to stand in her way, so the crowd parted, clearing a path for her. Only then did she see Harvey. He seemed to have wanted to say something when Nicole walked past him, but she did not even spare him a glance. A cold breeze swept past him.

All she left him was the sight of her back – the same sight when they met for the first time – and the chilly, fragrant scent lingering.

'What an annoying day.' There was a stern look on Nicole's face. Faint irritation rose within her.

Not far from a distance, someone was watching her leaving with malicious eyes. It was Norah. She gritted her teeth in rage while holding a black box.

'Snow and Raine are useless!' Norah cursed silently.

Norah had returned home yesterday, wanting to mend her relationship with the Riddle brothers. She only found out about Mr. Riddle Sr.'s health condition when she was at home. So she tagged along when everyone in the family went to visit him.

As soon as she entered Mr. Riddle Sr.'s residence, she saw Snow putting away a big diamond. So, she came up with a plan.

Norah waited until Nicole got into the house before she sneaked in again and stole the diamond.

Snow and Raine had always looked down on Nicole, so Norah bet that they would see Nicole as the first suspect. On top of that, Nicole was the first who left the residence. That would make them even more suspicious of her.

Nevertheless, Norah did not expect that Snow and Raine could not handle Nicole in spite of her

efforts!

Her failed attempts to chase Nicole out from the Riddle family and Royal Creek Institute had driven her to the verge of madness.

"Nicole, just you wait and see. I'll make your life a living hell!"

She swore inwardly, 'At worst, I'll do it myself!

Meanwhile, in the classroom

Bradley and Lulu took the initiative to watch Snow and Raine tidy up the place. June handed her wet tissues to Snow and Raine and said calmly, "Nicole hates when someone dirties her books the most. Make sure to wipe it clean."

Snow clenched her fist when facing the three of them. When she saw Harvey, she seemed to be caught off guard for a second. Once she recomposed herself, she immediately tossed June's wet tissues away and ran to Harvey.

"Harvey, what brings you here?""

Raine was looking at Gary. But he seemed to be contemplating something with his head low, his handsome face cold.

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Chapter 327

Raine pulled Gary's sleeve gingerly and whispered, "I don't want to tidy up the place. Could you take me away? Please, Gary."

She thought, 'No one will dare to say anything if Gary takes me with him.'

However, Gary completely ignored her. He loosened her grip on his sleeve, one finger after another. After taking his bag from his seat, he left the classroom without looking back.

'Once again, I've made a fool of myself for acting smart!' Gary thought to himself. Raine felt so humiliated as she watched Gary leaving.

This was the first time Gary made her look bad in the public eye. She stood up angrily and wanted to follow Gary. But two voices came.

"Stop right there!" said Bradley and Jack simultaneously.

Bradley looked at Jack next to him in surprise. He did not expect Jack would be on the same side as him.

Raine shot Jack a resentful look, feeling annoyed. "Get out of my way, Jack! I want to follow Gary! If he knows what you're doing, he'll make you pay!"

Jack did not budge. His eyebrows arched. "I'm afraid Gary will feel indebted to me for what I'm doing."

"What are you trying to say?" Raine's face turned grave.

As one of the school tyrants in the Royal Creek Institute, Jack was unafraid of Raine. She was nothing to him.

Gary, who was trying to be gentle to her initially, said with a stern face, "What am I trying to say? Raine, do you really think things are still the same as before? Don't make me do this the hard way!"

Raine looked at Jack, who was facing her. She felt that his countenance was different from what it had been before and that he had no regard for their "friendship" in the past. If Jack knew what she was thinking, he would laugh aloud.

When Raine had been on good terms with Gary, she took advantage of it, bossing Jack and Wayne around. Hence, if she tried to talk him out of it by using "friendship" as an excuse, it would be a big joke.

The two boys watched Raine like guards on duty.

Bradley did not treat her friendly either. As a sports club committee member of Class B, he had the strength to lift her with a hand.

Raine lowered her eyes in resentment. She had no choice but to start cleaning the mess.

Snow, on the other hand, was still staring at Harvey with a pitiful look on her face. But he ignored her. As his deep gaze remained on Nicole from a distance, he gave off the vibe as if a storm was

coming.

'Who gave her that diamond? No wonder she refused to accept mine. She already received one that is of higher grade,'Harvey thought.

Harvey's indifference made Snow's face turn grave. "Harvey, Nicole bullied me. Don't you have anything to say?"

When a similar event happened back then, Harvey would stand by Snow unconditionally.

Harvey directed his gaze at Snow, his eyes gentle as usual. But there was coldness within them.

He noticed Snow's hair and skirt were disheveled, and her eyes reddened. Usually, he could not stand seeing Snow in such a state. However, he no longer felt bothered about them.

As Harvey thought of that, he chuckled. Instead of touching Snow's hair like he used to, he took a step back away from her. It was as though Snow had some contagious germs on her.

"Stay away from me, Snow."

'What?!' Snow seemed to have heard him. But she stared at Harvey, stupefied as if she did not hear it clearly

'Did he just ask me to stay away from him? How did this happen?!'

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Chapter 328

Snow looked at the guy before her in disbelief. Her face went pale in a second. She asked cautiously, "Harvey, wh-what did you just say?"

Harvey did not reply to her. Instead, he looked at her fair chin attentively. A faint regret rose within his eyes. But it did not seem to last long and disappeared without a single trace.

Snow was full of anticipation when, upon seeing Harvey's attentive gaze. Nevertheless, his response was different from what she had wished.

Harvey did not spare her a glance. Before he made a graceful exit, he gave Vivian, who was next to him, a courteous smile.

Snow wanted to follow him, but Wayne and Lulu stood in her way without mercy.

Instead of struggling further, she shot Vivian a glare with her reddened eyes,

"Why did Harvey treat you that way?! How could my Harvey possibly treat you that way?!

When Vivian saw Snow's reaction, she was secretly pleased with the thought of the way Harvey treated her differently. She sounded indifferent and haughty as she replied, "Well, I have no say in what Harvey does. You should ask him instead."

After saying that, she turned and left the scene.

Many who witnessed the scene were secretly shocked

Snow let out a hysterical scream, which ruined her image entirely. Everyone present felt unbelievable.

'How did someone as gentle, beautiful, and decent as Snow become hysterical?!".

Many had come looking for Nicole to apologize to her but ended up watching a show instead. They felt their time was not wasted. The crowd slowly dispersed.

June picked up the purple diamond that had rolled to the ground without a slight change in her expression. She wiped it clean and put it into the black box it belonged to. After a few seconds of hesitation, she put it back on Nicole's desk.

The news about Nicole having that diamond would soon spread like wildfire. It would do Nicole's favor because, from now on, no one would have the audacity to steal it even if it was placed in plain sight on her desk.

After that, June turned around and gave Snow and Raine a cold look. She did not

budge upon seeing their resentfuces

"I'll watch you wipe every single book clean till the end.".

June's eyes were calm. Although she did not show discontent in her voice, it sounded so distant." You should learn how to respect people, right?"

Nicole, who had left, took a stroll. Before she knew it, she was already at Jared's café. When she pushed the door to enter, the exquisite iron wind chime in front of the door jingled as it shook

gently. Claus looked up, feeling a little surprised to see her. "Miss Riddle?"

He thought, 'Isn't it a class hour? Why is she here?'

Nicole greeted him with a nod. After taking her usual seat at the comer, she propped up her chin, pondering about something..

Claus noticed that her expression was a little different than usual. As he brought her a cup of coffee, he asked, "Miss Riddle, what's wrong? Did something happen at school?" Nicole looked at him with an indifferent face and said, "Nothing happened. Where's Jared?"

Claus was a little surprised to hear her call Jared by his first name. "He's away to take care of something. You can let me know if you have something urgent."

Nicole shook her head. It was not a big deal. It was just that she was slightly irritated. "He still owes me a cup of coffee."

Claus smiled the moment he heard her. He volunteered and said, "How about I make you coffee?"

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Chapter 329

Nicole gave Claus a silent stare. Her reaction told him that the answer was obviously a "No."

She just wanted to have the coffee Jared made for her.

At this moment, the wind chime of the café suddenly jingled again.

Someone opened the café door with brute force. The person who entered the premise walked toward Nicole's table in big strides.

It was Gary. His face was full of anger. He acted as though he was someone's husband who was here to catch his cheating wife.

Nicole frowned at his behavior.

"What now?"

What Gary did in the classroom just now was utterly stupid. She did not place any on him, nor did she feel anger toward him

Gary looked at Nicole in front of him. When he entered the premise, he saw her sitting there, having a good time talking to another guy. She looked stunning. However, she would smile at anyone except for him. She would only give him the cold shoulder.

A fit of anger rose within Gary. He gritted his teeth as he asked, "Nicole, just how many guys you've been fooling around?"

Nicole was staring at him, wondering why he was furious. However, that question was

rude. It was an insult. Her attitude turned icy cold.

"It has nothing to do with you." Before she turned her head away from him, she rolled her eyes.

Claus went back to the bar counter when he witnessed the scene and hurriedly took out his phone to send Max a message.

Gary's face turned grave when Nicole ignored him. He said in a mocking manner, "Jared might be able to buy you diamonds, but can he sit exams for you? Give me your word. As long as you don't fool around with other guys in the future, I can teach you all the math problem solutions I know! You can even get first place in the monthly exams and the Math Olympiad!"

There were only a few days left before the Math Olympiad. Gary thought he was the only one who could help her win the bet she made against Mr. Kennedy.

Deep down, although Gary claimed he would teach Nicole everything he knew, he looked down on her.

'I thought she was confident because she had put effort into it. But now that I see it, Jared

Johnston must've given her some assurance!'

When Gary thought of that, he could not help but show a trace of disdain in his eyes. There was even a hint of joy in them.

'If you really want to be a gold digger, why not you consider me?'

Gary was the second young master in the Finley family, a family that did not lack power and money. Although his family could not rival the Johnston family, he could guarantee he would hold Nicole dearly. He strongly believed that Jared Johnston, whom he thought to be eye candy, would not be able to do that.

Gary clenched his fist gently at the thought of this.

To his surprise, Nicole did not feel grateful. Contrary, his remarks had made her mood even worse than before.

Her eyes were filled with deep annoyance.

"Get lost!"

Gary was wide-eyed upon hearing Nicole's answer. He looked at her in disbelief. "What did you say?!"

He snarled inwardly, 'I'm the only one you can rely on in the Math Olympiad. I'm even willing to forgive your indecent conduct. But you give me the cold shoulder?! 'Nicole, you're beyond saving!'

My Wife is a Hacker Chapter 330

Chapter 330

Gary's chest heaved in anger. He stretched out a hand, trying to grab Nicole's wrist, but Nicole pinned him to the table with his hand at the back. She stood up, and she looked at him, who was in shock.

Gary knew that Nicole was good at self-defense skills. Nevertheless, he had not believed that she was more skillful than him. After all, he had never fought her. But now, the subtle pain in his hand told him to admit that Nicole's self-defense skill was

better than his.

Nicole, on the other hand, showed no changes on her face. As her gaze remained on Gary, she pondered. She found the odd things he had spoken to her on multiple occasions annoying.

"If this is all you want to say, from now on, leave me alone."

After giving Gary a piece of mind, Nicole shook his hand off. She took her seat, wanting to stay focused on solving math problems.

Gary was in disbelief. There was a hint of embarrassment and anger on his face. 'She's really ungrateful!' he snarled inwardly.

But Nicole had made it clear, so he did not have the face to stay there.

"Nicole, your audacity is unbelievable. I was a fool to even-Fine, you're on your own now. I'll wait and see how much you can score in this Math Olympiad!"

The hostility Nicole gave Gary had made him want to leave the café. Before leaving, he shot a glare at Claus and said in a mocking tone, "Did Jared Johnston know you're with this guy?" What he meant was, 'Will he still want you if he finds out you're messing around with someone behind his back?'

Claus was baffled. He frowned at Gary and put on a false smile as he said, "Kid, what Mr. Johnston has in mind, is none of your business. You can save your tracks." He could not help but think, 'Are kids nowadays this annoying?!"

Gary's gaze on Claus was indifferent. He thought Claus was a server who could only talk glib. 'Why does Nicole hang out with this guy?'

Before Gary turned to leave the premise, he gave Nicole a deep look.

Outside the café, Gary was angrily walking toward the car that was waiting for him. Suddenly, a black sedan glided into the campus. He was startled for a few seconds before he realized that it was Jared Johnston's car.

As he saw that sedan on its way to that café, Gary could not help but think, 'Is Jared Johnston here to catch Nicole flirting with other guys?' He then shook his head. 'Nicole has treated me with nothing but insolence. So, anything that happens to her has nothing to do with me!' Hence, instead of returning to the café to find out what had happened, Gary turned and got in the car.

Meanwhile, Jared walked into the café. When he saw Nicole, who was sitting in the corner, there

was a subtle spark in his eyes, and he strode toward Nicole.

Although he took a fast pace, he did not make a sound. As usual, he walked forefoot, so there was less friction against the ground surface. Like a cat, he was ready to accelerate his speed anytime.

Nicole was in a deep daze. She did not even notice Jared's presence. It was until a familiar scent of cedarwood came to her did she look up at Jared in surprise.

When Nicole thought of how she had almost completely let her guard down, she slightly raised her head, her eyes deep. "Didn't Claus say you had something to take care of?" Jared sat next to her. His lips curled into a breezy smile when he heard her question. "He said you were harassed."

"What?!" Nicole looked at Claus, who was at the counter, in disbelief. Claus, on the other hand, waved at her in a friendly manner and even mouthed a "you're welcome."