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Soon, Kelly replied. (Chloe will be going to a bank this afternoon. I guess it has something to do with the diamond. I will try to tag along.] (Okay, stay in touch.)

_

(Okay.)

Chloe had been very cautious, and Kelly had gotten no information yet after so long. If Kelly could get nothing by this afternoon, Nicole would decide to take matters into her own hands.

She was lying on the couch looking at her phone leisurely when a piece of news came into Nicole's sight.

Nicole stared at the news of McCarthy Corporation going bankrupt.

'What happened? How did McCarthy Corporation go bankrupt?' Nicole was surprised.

'Could it be because it lost the Aegis Corporation project?' Nicole found Sean's telephone number and was about to call him about it when a face appeared in her mind. She immediately called Martin. "Do you know that McCarthy Corporation has gone belly up?"

"I know."

When she heard Martin's response, which did not sound surprised at all, something dawned on her. "Where are on

vou?"

"I'm having a meal outside." Martin was talking to Nicole on the phone as he cut the steak.

"I will go find you." Nicole grabbed the medical instrument and drove to the restaurant where Martin was having his meal.

In the restaurant, Martin was sitting in the same spot where he and Nicole had eaten steak to celebrate the success of the experiment. A figure slowly approached him from a distance.

"How are you, Nicole?" Martin smiled at her.

"I'm great. You're eating here alone?" Nicole sat down across from him.

Martin nodded. "What have you been busy with recently?

"I attended a product launch abroad. Did your experiment go well?" Nicole asked.

"It is going on smoothly. Speaking of experiments, I have got to thank you. Those materials must be difficult to find. "When Martin told Nicole about the materials last time, someone delivered the materials to him a few days after that. He knew it must have been Nicole who had done it.

"It was really hard to find, but it was Sean and Jared who helped find it. Credit goes to them," Nicole said.

"I didn't know that. I really appreciate their help." Martin felt embarrassed. "By the way, what product launch did you attend abroad? "Martin looked at her curiously.

"It was a tech and medical product launch."

"Tech and medical?" Martin became interested.

"Yes. They showcased an Al robot called Brave. This robot can help humans do dangerous work, and to a certain extent, it can also play a protective role," Nicole said.

"That's life-changing. Automation is common now, but in some industries, many jobs are still labor-intensive. If this Brave robot can help humans with those dangerous jobs, it is great news for society." Martin was both excited and emotional to hear it, his face beaming with exhilaration. "After listening to what you have said, I really want to witness it with my own eyes. We should also have such a wonderful invention. What is another medical invention?" Martin looked excitedly at Nicole,

full of anticipation.

Nicole took the medical device out of her bag and placed it on the table.

Martin's expectant look faded from his face as he saw the medical instrument. He frowned, his pupils shrinking. He

picked up the instrument to take a closer look and then looked at Nicole. "How is this instrument identical to my first experiment? Is this a coincidence?" Martin looked at Nicole in disbelief.

"If I'm not mistaken, this is your experiment result." Nicole looked at Martin with serious eyes.

"What did you say?" Martin looked at the instrument more closely.

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"You're right. When it was made, I made a very inconspicuous mark on the back of the instrument, and this one also has one on it." Martin looked at the mark and said seriously. "How did you get it back?" Martin frowned and looked at Nicole because he knew Joyce had sold the instrument abroad.

"I knew the boss and took it back. "Nicole could only lie. She could not have said she snatched it.

"Certainly not as easy as you say, but thank you anyway. With it as a reference, making The Beacon will be much easier." Martin looked at Nicole. His gratitude toward Nicole was beyond words. "Don't mention it. After The Beacon is successful, remember to get me one," Nicole casually said.

"No problem. Cheers." Martin picked up his glass to toast Nicole.

"There's one more thing I'd like to know." Nicole put down her glass and looked at Martin.

"What is it?"

"How exactly did McCarthy Corporation go bankrupt?" Nicole looked him in the eyes.

Martin put down the instrument and looked at Nicole."

The McCarthy family has done a lot of bad things over the years. It would just take the leak of one thing, and there would be tons of companies ready to retaliate against them."

"Where is Joyce now?".

"I heard they moved abroad to avoid revenge ," Martin said as he took a sip of red wine.

"Let's not talk about them. Would you like to see The Beacon?" said Martin, inviting Nicole.

"Why not?" In the lab, Nicole looked at The Beacon, which was now in the testing stage. "It looks like you're going well."

"Yeah, thanks to your materials."

"Is the experiment successful?"

"I have just completed once, and the success rate was fifty percent."

"Oh, could you tell me what The Beacon can do?" Nicole asked.

"The Beacon is a portable medical device that allows for rapid repair and regeneration of damaged cellular tissue, resulting in rapid wound recovery."

"Rapid wound recovery?" Nicole looked at Martin with surprise. "Can The Beacon really do that?"

"Yes, theoretically, it is possible, but it needs to be proven in more trials." Martin's eyes lit up when talking about The Beacon.

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"Great. This experiment is awesome. If it succeeds, it will create miracles. I'm very much looking forward to The Beacon." After hearing Martin's idea, Nicole thought the advent of The Beacon would benefit many people.

"If you need any help, I will throw my full support behind you." Nicole looked at Martin earnestly. "Thank you."

"I don't want to keep you from your work. I will go now. There you go!" Nicole made a cheering gesture and left.

"I will see you out."

"No. This experiment is more important. I want to see it sooner rather than later." Nicole spun around and left.

Nicole's encouragement motivated Martin. He put on his lab coat and immediately got to work.

Since she had come out, Nicole went straight to the sea view villa. Coming into the courtyard, she saw the eye catching flowers.

"You're back!" Tia saw Nicole in the courtyard from upstairs and rushed down.

"Hey, Nicole." Tia opened the door for Nicole.

"How are you doing, Tia?" Nicole asked.

Tia nodded and looked at her in surprise. "Great. I thought I'd have to wait until tomorrow to see you. I didn't expect to see you today. I'm so happy."

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"I'm happy too. Where's Grandma?" While Nicole was abroad, she missed Mrs. Wallace Sr. just as much as she missed Jared "Grandma is sunbathing on the balcony. I will take you there," Tia said and led Nicole to the balcony.

Mrs. Wallace Sr. was lying in a rocking chair with her eyes closed. Nicole came gently to sit beside her, watching her quietly, not wanting to wake her up. Not long after, as Mrs. Wallace Sr. slowly opened her eyes, she was surprised and happy to see Nicole beside her. "When did you get back? Why didn't you wake me up?"

Mrs. Wallace Sr. took Nicole's hand and kept stroking it as if Nicole would disappear if she let go.

"I saw you were sleeping soundly and wanted to let you sleep a little longer." Nicole looked at Mrs. Wallace Sr. with a smile on her face.

"You must not have eaten well out there, right? Look how thin you are. I will make you something you want to eat." Mrs. Wallace Sr. sat up.

"I miss the creme mushroom pasta that you make," Nicole said, smiling at her grandmother.

"Give me a moment. I will make it for you now." Mrs. Wallace Sr. stood up and went to the kitchen with Nicole..

Nicole was in the kitchen giving Mrs. Wallace Sr. a hand, and soon a plate of creme mushroom pasta was ready. Mrs. Wallace Sr. and Nicole came and sat down in the dining room.

"Grandma, the pasta you make is still the best. When I was homesick outside, I craved the creme mushroom pasta that you make," Nicole said, eating the pasta with a smile and a satisfied look on her face.

"Eat more if you like it. There is more in the pot if you have not enough." Mrs. Wallace Sr. just watched quietly as Nicole ate.

"I envy you, Nicole. You have such a loving grandmother who loves you," Tia said enviously from the side. "Why don't you try the pasta that Grandma makes, too?" Nicole said.

"Can I?" Tia really wanted to try it.

"Sure. Please help yourself." Nicole watched as Tia walked happily into the kitchen.

"Grandma, what have you been doing in my absence for the past few days?" Nicole asked casually.

"There is nothing to do. There is no garden here, and I can't be like in the countryside, planting my own

vegetables, picking wild mushrooms. The good thing is you have asked someone to send some flowers over. I planted them in the garden when I had nothing to do."

"Ahh, it was you who planted all the flowers in the garden? No wonder they bloom so well." Nicole complimented her.

"What have you been doing abroad?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. asked.

"I attended a launch event."

"What's a launch event for?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. spent all her life in the countryside and had no idea what a launch event was for.

"It is just to promote products," Nicole explained to her.

"I see."

"So, how long will you stay this time back?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. asked again.

"I should be able to stay for a while longer this time. Grandma, do you not want me to leave you?" Nicole looked Mrs. Wallace Sr. in the eyes.

"You have your own job, and I support you. All I want is for you to take care of your health." Mrs. Wallace Sr. looked at Nicole's waning cheeks.

"Don't worry. I'm in excellent health. Nowadays, people's aesthetic is to be thin where you should be thin

and fat where you should be fat." Nicole explained.

"The pasta that Grandma makes tastes fantastic." Tia held a plate of pasta and ate it.

"No fooling you. It is an exclusive recipe."

"Mmmmmm, can you teach me someday? Next time, when I want to eat it, I can make it myself and don't need to bother Grandma."

"Okay, I will teach you someday."

After finishing the pasta, Nicole and Tia accompanied Mrs. Wallace Sr. to take the beach for a stroll.

"Look, Grandma. There are so many beautiful shells." Tia picked up a shell and brought it to Mrs. Wallace, Sr.

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"The sea is so photogenic, and the shells look pretty." Mrs. Wallace Sr. looked out to sea.

Looking at her grandmother, who loved the sea so much, Nicole knew she had done the right thing. She took out her cell phone and sent a message to Jared. [You don't have to come back at noon because I'm with Grandma now.)

(Okay.)

"How are your grandpa, mom, and dad?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. suddenly mentioned the Riddle family.

"They're all fine. Would you like to meet them?" Nicole asked, looking at Mrs. Wallace Sr.'s expression.

"No, I was just asking." Mrs. Wallace Sr. knew the Riddles were a prestigious family and had no time to entertain an old lady from the countryside like her.

"If you want to see them, I can arrange that."

"No, they are busy. Don't disturb them."

As they returned from their walk and were back in front of the villa, a luxury car drove toward them and stopped right in front of them. Two people got out of the car.

"Is this the sea view villa Grandpa gave you, Nicole?" It

was Raine and Snow. They stepped out of the car and looked at the villa.

"What are you guys doing here?" It annoyed Nicole to see them.

"We came over to see you. Here sure is a nice view," Snow exclaimed, then looked at Mrs. Wallace Sr. beside Nicole.

"Is this Mrs. Wallace Sr. whom you picked up from the countryside?"

"Hi, Mrs. Wallace Sr., we're Nicole's cousins." Snow walked up and greeted Mrs. Wallace Sr.

When Mrs. Wallace Sr. heard they were from the Riddle family, she greeted her with a smile. "So it's the two ladies from the Riddle family. How do you do?"

"Are you going in, Mrs. Wallace Sr.? I will help you." Snow reached for Mrs. Wallace Sr.'s arm, but Nicole blocked her from doing so.

"Let's go inside, Grandma." Mrs. Wallace Sr. looked over at Snow and Raine. "Nicole, invite them to come in."

"Come on in, you guys," Nicole said with annoyance, then helped Mrs. Wallace Sr. to walk in.

Raine was not best pleased as Nicole and others walked in. "She really thinks of herself as the master of the house, eh? Let's go in and check it out, shall we?" Raine

looked at Snow. "Let's go." The two of them walked into the villa and toured around as if they were at their own home.

"This villa is pretty big and well decorated. Grandpa was really willing to splash money on this." Raine murmured as she toured.

"Just see with your eyes, not with your mouth." Nicole was not too happy. She would not have let them in had it not been for Mr. Wallace Sr.

Snow came to sit on the couch and looked at Mrs. Wallace Sr. "How old are you, if you don't mind asking?"

"I'm seventy." Mrs. Wallace Sr. had a benevolent smile on her face.

"You are still in good health at seventy." Snow had an innocent look on her face.

"Are you used to living here?" Snow continued to chat with Mr. Wallace Sr.

"At first, I was not used to it, but then I slowly adapted."

"Do you know this house doesn't belong to Nicole?" Raine looked around, then came over and sat down to look at Mrs. Wallace Sr.

"I know."

"You know?" Raine stared in disbelief at Mrs. Wallace Sr.

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"Well, Nicole told me before I came here that Mr. Riddle Sr. had given her a house, and she wanted me to stay here with her." Mrs. Wallace Sr. said with pride radiating from her face.

Raine glanced at Nicole. "If you guys just came over to view the house, you should be done by now and leave now." Nicole shooed them away.

"What's your hurry, Nicole? How can we finish viewing such a big house in just a few minutes? We haven't even warmed up our backsides yet, and you're asking us to leave." Snow said this for the benefit of Mrs. Wallace sr.

Sure enough, Mrs. Wallace Sr. spoke up and scolded Nicole. "You shouldn't say that, Nicole. Miss Riddle, feel free to view the house if you like, and if you're not in a hurry to leave, stay for dinner."

"Grandma."

"It is so nice of Mrs. Wallace Sr." Snow smiled at Mrs. Wallace Sr.

Nicole took a deep breath. 'I can't believe that these two cheeky lads have the nerve to stay for dinner.'

Suddenly, Snow had a plan in mind. "There are no

outsiders here, Nicole. Tell me the truth; did you take that diamond? If you have taken it, give it to me, and I will help you plead with Grandpa. I believe Grandpa will be lenient with you."

Nicole frowned, wondering what Snow was up to.

"What diamond? Nicole, did you take someone else's thing?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. looked at Nicole with puzzlement.

Before Nicole could say anything, Snow chimed in. "Don't you know, Mrs. Wallace Sr.? Nicole swapped the diamond that someone gave Grandpa." "What? Nicole took the diamond that someone gave to her grandpa?" Mrs. Wallace Sr. had an incredulous look on her face.

"No way, this is absolutely impossible . Nicole grew up under my care. She would never do something like this." Mrs. Wallace Sr. waved her hand repeatedly as she knew Nicole's character best.

Nicole, who was about to defend herself, was relieved to hear what Mrs. Wallace Sr. said.

"You better believe it, Mrs. Wallace Sr. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I wouldn't have believed Nicole would do such a thing." Snow was hellbent on framing Nicole." Now things have happened; all we can do is not to make a mountain out of a molehill."

"Please help persuade Nicole. As long as she hands back the diamond, Grandpa will be lenient with her." Snow looked like she was concerned about Nicole. "Enough, Snow. Stop being melodramatic here. What you see is just like a blind inan touching an elephant. You don't even know the whole thing." Nicole interrupted Snow.

"How can I not know that? Raine and I saw it with our own eyes. How can it be fake? What's inside that box is just an ordinary diamond."

"You have to understand; we're trying to help you." Snow spoke with the utmost fairness.

"Whether you're to help me or to harm me, you and I both know it in our hearts." Nicole and Snow stared at each other in a stalemate.

"Nicole, if you did take someone else's diamond, just give it back." Mrs. Wallace Sr. spoke up to break the deadlock.

Nicole looked at Mrs. Wallace Sr., who was sitting there." Grandma, I didn't take it. Don't you even believe me anymore?"

Mrs. Wallace Sr. did not know what to do, as Nicole's face told her that she was not lying, "I believe you."

"Tia, take Grandma to her room to rest."

"Okay."

After Mrs. Wallace Sr. left, only Nicole, Snow, and Raine were left in the living room.

"Aren't you guys leaving yet? Are you really going to stay for dinner?" Nicole looked at them resentfully.

Raine looked at Nicole. "Of course. Since Mrs. Wallace Sr. is gracious enough to invite us for dinner, we are happy to accept it."

"Are you going to disobey Mrs. Wallace Sr. and drive us away?" Snow knew she could use Mrs. Wallace Sr.'s words to pressure Nicole.

"My grandma was just being polite. Did you guys take it seriously? Drive away before the sun goes down, and don't come back here again." Nicole swept her frosty eyes *ov*er them.

Snow swallowed in fright when she saw Nicole's intimidating gaze. "You have stolen Grandpa's diamond. Don't assume that he would let you pass simply because he has given you a villa. Since you didn't listen to advice, be prepared to be chastised by Grandpa and kneel in front of the entire family to admit your mistake."

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"I don't think you can stay in this house for long." Snow looked around and then left with Raine.

Had Nicole not wanted to get her hands dirty, she would slap them in their faces. The fact that they came to her house and picked a fight with her really pissed her off. So she thought she was going to fix them good and proper.

Nicole took out her phone and dialed Zeke's number." Help me with one thing, Zeke."

After hanging up the phone, she looked with a sneer at Snow and Raine, who were slowly walking to their car.

A few days later, Nicole's injury had healed. She drove to the school. As she walked in, she bumped into Harvey.

It surprised Harvey to see Nicole. "Nicole? When did you get back?"

"Just came back." Nicole had no intention of talking to him and kept walking toward the teaching building.

"How are you doing recently? I went to your house and didn't see you, and later heard you were out of the country. Is it true?"

Harvey knew from the teacher that Nicole would not come to class before the exam, so he went to her house hoping to find out what it was about, but he did not get

any answer. Bumping her at school today was really unexpected. He was both shocked and happy.

"Hmm." Nicole continued to walk forward.

"Are you free at noon? Why not have a meal together?" Harvey wanted to date Nicole, the happiness of seeing her written all over his face.

"I'm sorry. I have an appointment at noon."

"It is okay. We can meet another day again. I'm happy to see you." Since Nicole was away, Harvey had been in a state of limbo all day, his mind following Nicole abroad.

"Nicole?" Lulu and June walked in from the direction of the dormitory and were surprised to see Nicole.

"Hey, long time no see." Nicole walked over and gave them a big hug.

"I really missed you and was disappointed to hear that you wouldn't come before the exam," Lulu said with a puppy look in the eyes.

"Really?" Nicole looked at her suspiciously.

"You doubt me? Ask June if you don't believe me." "I can testify that Lulu mentioned you at least ten times a day, and I was jealous." June rolled her eyes.

"Hahaha , it seems that when I was away, you two must have said a lot of bad things about me, didn't you?" Nicole raised an eyebrow at them.

"Of course not."

Harvey felt awkward standing behind them. He wanted to tell Nicole that he was leaving, but because of fear of disturbing them, he left in silence.

"Tell me, was there anything funny happening in my absence?" Nicole walked toward the classroom, surrounded by both of them.

Her classmates were nervously doing revision in the classroom when they saw Nicole in the doorway. They immediately cheered. Students from other classes, thinking that there was some celebrity coming, came over and poked their heads into the windows of Nicole's classroom to take a look at what had happened.

"What's going on? Why is Class B so lively?"

"It seems like Nicole is back." Class A's students chatted with one another.

Norah's mood plummeted when she heard Nicole had returned. The days that Nicole was away were her happiest days.

"Damn it. She's back," Norah said in a murmur.

"What did you say, Norah?"

"Nothing. Go back to the class and do your revision." Norah turned and walked toward her classroom.

In Class B, students gathered around.

"Nicole, you have been absent for so long. Are you confident in the exam?"

"Do you still need to ask? You know Nicole has no problem with it. You better worry about yourself."

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"Get lost. I didn't ask you for an opinion. Keep your mouth shut." The two started to bicker.

"Don't disturb Nicole. Let's go back and do revision." Gary's voice rang out.

When Nicole was away, Gary had retreated to his own little world, dawdling about all day, not bothering with anything. He even ignored Jack and Wayne when they looked for him.

But as soon as Nicole returned today, he seemed to be alive again, his eyes lighting up and fixated on her. He even came to her rescue when someone disturbed Nicole.

"Long time no see, Nicole." Gary came over and greeted her.

"How is your study?" Nicole's first sentence was actually to ask him about his homework, which was unexpected to him. "I-I'm doing fine." Gary sounded awkward as the question stunned him. In fact, he had not read a book in a *** long time.

Nicole looked at him and nodded. "I will find a chance to quiz you." She then continued to talk with June and Lulu.

When Gary heard Nicole was going to test him in his

study, he took a breath and went back to his seat, then grabbed his books and worked on them.

Soon, Ms. Emerson came over for morning study. "I would like to draw your attention to the priorities today. Turn to page – Nicole? When did you come back without telling me?" Ms. Emerson suddenly saw a familiar figure in Nicole's seat, and it turned out to be Nicole. "I just came back this morning and haven't had a chance to say hello," Nicole said.

"It's okay. At least you're back. Lead everyone for a final push for the coming last few days."

Nicole looked at Ms. Emerson and nodded.

"Okay, let's look at page twelve." Ms. Emerson started to get to the highlight of the day.

Soon, the morning passed in a flash as everyone was busy. Nicole stretched her arms, which had been stiff from helping her classmates draw out key points all morning.

Gary came over. "Let me give you a massage."

Nicole looked over at him in surprise and froze for a moment. "No, you go about your business." She wondered what was wrong with this kid so that he could

say something that would make people misunderstand.

"Are we going to eat in the cafeteria?" Lulu and June asked Nicole.

"Sure, let's go." The three of them left the classroom and headed for the cafeteria. On the way, Nicole looked over at Lulu. "Have you and Spencer made any progress?"

Lulu was surprised by the question, and her white cheeks blushed. "Why are we talking about this all of a sudden?"

"Are you shy?" Nicole looked over at her teasingly. "Not at all. Hurry up and go. There will be no food left if we're late." Lulu left them behind and hurried toward the cafeteria

"Something's going on. We will have to interrogate her tonight," Nicole murmured.

In the cafeteria, Nicole had just walked in when she saw Snow and Raine lining up for their meals. Lulu walked over to them and said sarcastically, "The two most popular girls in the class are here to eat in the cafeteria too? The sun is really rising from the west." "Do we have to report to you where we're going to eat?

That's funny." Raine glanced at Lulu with contempt.

"Could it be that you've offended your parents, and they had your financial support cut off?" June said sarcastically.

"What are you talking about? I think you're the one who's been cut off financially all this time." Raine glared

at June as if she had been poked at a sore point. "What are you staring at? No money for food, so you want to eat me, huh?" June became so sharp – tongued that it exasperated Raine.

"Snow, help me teach her a lesson." Raine pleaded to Snow for help "Don't be angry and argue with kids," Snow said sarcastically while comforting Raine.

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"What did you say? See if I will rip your mouth off," Raine said, extending her claws at June.

Lulu rushed up to help June beat Raine. Snow stood there, not knowing what to do, as she had never been in a physical fight before and did not know how to help Raine. But then she saw Nicole. "What are you doing standing there, Nicole? Why don't you come over and help Raine?"

"Are you mistaken or something by asking me for help?" Nicole looked at Snow incredulously.

"Are you going to stand by and watch a member of the Riddle family get beaten up?" Snow was still using the Riddle family to order Nicole around, completely unaware of the situation.

"Snow, no need to beg her. I can handle this myself." Raine was going against two alone. She sounded with a lot of gusto, but Lulu had pinned her to the ground as she spoke. "Get up, or I will call someone." Snow saw that Nicole did not even offer to help and could only threaten them.

In the cafeteria, the three of them were in a melee. Lulu and June's physical strength has increased considerably since training with Nicole, so they can easily deal with Raine, who was pinned down and beaten up.

Nicole looked on for a few moments before she said, "Raine, admit your mistake, and they will let you go." She knew that if things went on, Raine would not have to take the exam.

"I know you made thein do this. You better watch out. After I finish with them both, I will get you." Raine was swearing at Nicole despite being pinned to the ground. "Yeah, I will see how long you can hold out." Nicole went to the side and sat down to watch.

Snow could not bear to see Raine being beaten and could only grovel to Nicole. "Nicole, I'm sorry. Please ask them to stop fighting.";

"What do you mean? Do you think I caused Raine to be beaten? Didn't she ask for it?" Nicole shot a disdainful glance at Snow. *

Snow looked at Nicole and swallowed in fright." Whatever, just leave Raine alone." She now had only one thought: that was to save Raine. As for the humiliation this time, she would find the opportunity to reciprocate.

Nicole was satisfied with Snow's humble attitude. "Knock it off, you guys."

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Lulu and June heard that and slowly got up from Raine." We will let you off this time, for Nicole's sake. If you dare to mess with us again, we will surely ruin your face."

"Get up." Snow rushed forward to help Raine up.

Raine was about to reach out to hit them again when Snow hurriedly pulled her back. "You can't beat them. Don't embarrass yourself anymore. Let's get out of here."

"Get the hell out of here, and don't let me see you two again," Lulu said to Snow and Raine.

"I really didn't expect that the school's two most popular girls would have their day." Some of the surrounding students who had been bullied by them before felt vindicated.

Snow and Raine were so humiliated this time that they left the cafeteria with their tails between their legs.

"When did you two become so badass?" Nicole looked at them with surprise.

"We've always been badass. Just that we didn't tell you," Lulu said with gusto.

Nicole looked at them with amusement. She knew that Zeke had fixed things right.

"Let's eat."

It was the first time Snow and Raine were bullied, and they could not swallow their pride. They had just walked out of the cafeteria when they ran into Norah.

Norah saw Raine's messy hair and asked her with concern, "What's wrong with you?"

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Raine shot a look at Norah and walked away. Snow looked at Norah and said, "Nicole bullied her."

"Nicole? She hit her?" Norah looked at Snow with surprise. As far as she knew Nicole as a person, Nicole would hit no one at school.

"She didn't hit Raine directly, but indirectly. She got the others to beat Raine up," Snow said, blaming it all on Nicole. 1

Norah stared at Snow. She had heard it correctly, and Raine's reaction just now confirmed what Snow had said.

Snow did not linger on but rushed to catch up with Raine.

Norah pondered the matter as she walked slowly to the cafeteria.

In the cafeteria, Nicole, Lulu, and June were laughing and talking as they had their meals. Norah glanced over in their direction and then sat behind them after getting her food. She seemed to be eating but, in fact, was listening in to and secretly recording their conversation.

After a while, they finished their meals and got up to leave.

Norah looked at the recording on her phone, and her eyes narrowed. 'Nicole, I'd like to know how you are going to

explain to your aunt this time.

Under Nicole's guidance, the students of Class B were working hard, everyone transforming into committee members of the study club.

After school, Norah returned to the Riddle Mansion and went straight to her bedroom. She did not even hear Gloria call her. In the bedroom, she turned on her computer and found Karen's email. With a few clicks of the mouse, she had sent the audio recording in the cafeteria to Karen anonymously.

Karen, who was looking at her phone, suddenly received. an email. She opened it and found an audio file, wondering why someone had sent her an audio file.

Feeling curious, she opened the audio file. It was the conversation between Nicole, Lulu, and June talking about Raine's beating. Karen heard their chat and was instantly furious. "How dare Nicole join others to bully Raine? This is rebellion."

Karen headed downstairs angrily, just in time to see Snow and Raine walk in. Before she could walk over, Raine saw her and pounced right into her arms. "Mom, Nicole bullied me."

Raine was crying, and Karen was distressed and helped Raine to sit down on the couch. Now she could almost be certain that the audio recording in the email was true.

"What's going on? Tell me, and I will back you up." Karen

asked, feeling sorry. "Our credit cards were frozen, and when we went to the school cafeteria for lunch, Nicole laughed at me and had her classmates beating me up," Raine said as she sobbed and cried louder.

"How outrageous. She has rebelled against her own family. How dare a wild girl from the countryside connives with someone to beat my daughter?" Karen was furious. She looked at Raine, who was bawling in her arms, her face blue with anger. "Snow, are you hurt anywhere?" Karen looked over at Snow, who was sitting on the side.

"I'm okay, but Raine is being badly bullied by Nicole." Snow added fuel to the fire as she could not wait to see Karen go after Nicole right away.

"Nicole! I'm going to her house tomorrow to sort things out." Karen's eyes were bursting with anger.

The next day, early in the morning, Karen took Raine to Daniel's house.

After ringing the doorbell, a maid answered the door." Madam, is there something urgent for you to come so early?"

"Is Gloria in?" Karen asked in a hostile tone.

MY WIFE IS A HACKER CHAPTER 960

"Mr. and Mrs. Riddle are having breakfast inside." Maria, the maid, could tell that Karen was anything but friendly and did not dare to stop her as Karen brought Raine inside.

"Maria, who's here?"Gloria asked.

The next second, Karen and Raine appeared in the dining room.

"Karen, Raine? What brings you here? Have you had your breakfast?" Gloria looked at the two in surprise. "No, I'm so pissed." Karen was disgruntled and said sarcastically.

Daniel and Gloria looked at each other as they could not figure out what Karen was up to.

"Then sit down and join us. Maria—"

"That won't be necessary. You guys eat quickly, as I have something to talk to you two," Karen said as she brought Raine to the couch.

Looking at Karen's reaction, Daniel and Gloria were in no mood to eat by now. So they put down their cutlery and

sat down on the couch.

"Karen, you came over early in the morning. Just tell me

what it is about." Gloria looked at Karen.

"Where is Nicole? Tell her to come downstairs." Karen commanded with a peeved face.

"Nicole is not in. Talk to me if there is anything." Gloria studied Karen and Raine.

"Not in? Where did she go? Is she afraid I will come after her, and so she has gone into hiding?" Karen looked at Gloria. "Call her and tell her to come back immediately."

The more Daniel listened, the more confused he got." Come after her, for what?"

"For what? She beat Raine up. This is what I'm here for." Karen looked at Daniel with an angry face. "Nicole beat Raine up?" Daniel and Gloria looked over at Raine.

"What's going on, Raine?" Gloria asked.

Upstairs, Norah heard someone talking loudly downstairs. So she came downstairs and saw Karen and Raine. She smirked and then walked over as if she knew nothing "Auntie Karen, what brings you here so early?" Norah walked over and greeted her. Karen glanced at Norah and ignored her. When Norah saw Karen was ignoring her, she came to sit next to Gloria and asked in a whisper, "What's going on, Mom?"

"They said that Nicole beat Raine up." Gloria still did not believe Nicole would hit someone to this day.

"Raine, are you okay?" Norah made an expression of surprise.

Raine gave Norah a look and cried even harder.

"Don't be afraid to tell them exactly how Nicole beat you up." Karen backed Raine up.

Raine sobbed and told the story of how Nicole had bullied her, exaggerating things from beginning to end.

After listening to what Raine said, Gloria felt her blood pressure spike and put her hand to her forehead. When Daniel saw this, he quickly asked with concern, "What's wrong? Are you feeling dizzy?"

Norah held Gloria up. "Mom, I will get you a glass of water."

Gloria waved her hand, calmed down a bit, and then looked at Raine. "Is what you said true? I have never heard of Nicole bullying her classmates at school, not to mention you are her cousin." Gloria could not believe what Raine was saying, as she knew Nicole's character well.

"What do you mean? Are you saying that we are here early in the morning to pick a fight?" Pissed, Karen fired a shot at Gloria.

"I didn't mean that. It is just that I know Nicole's character; he is not likely to hit anyone, much less bully Raine," Gloria said in Nicole's defense.

"You don't have to defend her. Just get her back here. I want to ask her face to face." Karen told Gloria sternly.

"Mom, let's not refute in a hurry. Let's first appease Auntie Karen. After all, we don't know much about what Nicole is doing outside." Norah was feeding the line that Nicole was probably bad to Gloria.