

### Chapter 436 Are You Going Too?

Nicole finished her phone call, opened her laptop, and checked her emails.

There were so many documents to deal with every day. Logan would filter out the important ones for her in the mailbox and deal with the rest on her behalf.

Nicole sent Logan a message reminding him of a few things that were more urgent, including J&L Corporation's project. She was not confident that Tucker would be able to handle everything.

While Nicole was busy with work, Tigger jumped into her lap. It held up its head with its front little paws, looking extremely adorable.

"Mama, I miss Papa..."

Nicole, who was about to hug Tigger, froze and glared at it instead.

"Why do you even miss him?!"

Tigger twitched its whiskers.

"It's my emotional interaction setting that Molly Stewart designed. I need to think of Mama and Papa ten times a day i

think of Mama and Papa ten times a day in order to cultivate deep feelings..."

Nicole laughed lightly. 'Even feelings can be controlled with AI, huh?'

She stroked its little head. "Then why don't you think of others? For example, Kai and my father?"

Kai heard this and wagged its tail. It spoke proudly. ①

"Grampy said that I'm the most well-behaved child in the Stanton family, much better than that little brat Kai!"

Nicole could not help but laugh. Floyd always dissed Kai in front of Tigger.

While chatting with Tigger, she got some work done and started to pack her suitcase.

The light rain lasted the whole night and the sky cleared up the next morning. Even the air smelled sweet. The sunlight through the gauze curtain left a golden afterglow in the room.

Since Nicole did not have to go to work, she had flexible timing and woke up naturally.

naturally.

When Nicole opened her eyes, it was already past 9:00 am.

She slowly went to freshen up, get dressed and put on some light make-up. There were no messages on her phone. Nicole suddenly remembered that she did not set a time with Eric or her father last night.

Thus, Nicole dawdled around, sat on the balcony to meditate, and relaxed her body.

When she walked out of her room, it was already 11:00 am.

As soon as she got to the stairs, she could hear voices coming from downstairs.

Floyd said, "Lil N was busy with work until midnight and got up early this morning for a meeting. Sigh... She really works so hard..."

Nicole paused in her footsteps and felt a little guilty for waking up past 9:00 am.

She could hear Kai laughing on the side without saying a word.

Eric's voice was light, patient, and courteous.

courteous.

“Nicole’s excellence comes from her natural talent and hard work. That’s why she has achieved so much today...”

“Right, right, right...” Floyd could not agree more.

Nicole could not stand listening to it anymore.

‘What is this, a commendation meeting?!’

She hurriedly went downstairs with quick steps.

Kai sat on the sofa and smiled lazily.

“Yo, our young lady finally got up?”

Nicole shot him a look, ignored him, and was a little dumbfounded when she saw everyone there.

“Oh, you’re all here... I just got out of a meeting...”

She lied so naturally without batting an eye.

Floyd was very satisfied with her answer. Nicole could totally fool anyone with ease.

“Good morning, Ms. Stanton!”

Surprisingly, Toto was there.

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Nicole nodded in greeting.

Lil Michael was sitting obediently next to Clayton. He looked less energetic like he had been reprimanded beforehand.

The moment Lil Michael saw Nicole, his eyes lit up. He looked at his father and kept his butt glued to the sofa while he felt a little stuffy in the chest.

Eric glanced at the Patek Philippe on his wrist and said, "It's about time. Let's go."

Lil Michael shot up. "Okay! Let's go! Yay! I'm going on a trip with my pretty lady!"

Eric's face faintly stiffened. "You're going too?"

"Yeah!"

Eric looked at the boy quizzically. "How can Mr. Sloan feel assured that you're going alone?"

Clayton frowned and said indifferently, "Right, I don't feel assured with him going alone, so I'll be tagging along."

## Chapter 437 His Reputation

As soon as Clayton said this, everyone's shocked eyes gathered on him.

Even Nicole did not expect that Clayton would be going because she only invited Lil Michael last night.

Eric's face became extremely glum as he glared at Clayton with a deep and complex gaze.

'Clayton Sloan's not so dull-witted to not understand my look, right?! What is he up to?' Eric thought.

Floyd froze for a moment but quickly regained his usual smile.

"Great! The more the merrier! It makes sense for Mr. Sloan to be worried about Lil Michael. Mr. Ferguson, shall we head out then?"

Eric smiled faintly. "Sure."

Toto was dumbstruck and speechless as he stood on the side. He planned this trip deliberately to create opportunities for Nicole and Eric. With Floyd, it could be called a family trip, but what did it mean if Clayton and Lil Michael tagged along?

Clayton and Lil Michael tagged along.  
Would it be an intercompany team-  
building trip?!

Eric's eyes shifted to Nicole. His cold gaze turned gentle as he curled his lips into a soft arc.

"Let's go and relax for a few days."

Nicole met his gaze and smiled. "Mr. Ferguson, thanks for being so thoughtful ..."

Even though they did not end on a good note last night and had a tense relationship, they could act calm as if nothing happened when they saw each other the next day.

Toto pushed Eric's wheelchair with a deep frown on his face. 'This isn't what I planned!'

The helicopter was parked on the lawn not far away. Luca helped Floyd up. Clayton strode in by himself, leaving Lil Michael struggling to climb up behind him. The boy turned back to check on his pretty lady.

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Nicole fell behind as she was messaging Logan. When she was done, she saw Toto supporting Eric with difficulty.

She frowned and took a step forward to support Eric's arm on the other side.

Eric was stunned for a moment and looked at her with delight in his eyes.

Nicole did not speak. Soon, everyone was on board.

"Thank you," Eric said.

Nicole raised her eyebrows. "Mr. Ferguson, you're really energetic to be going about in your current condition..."

"What the hell is he up to? Why would he travel around with a limp?"

Before Eric could say anything, Toto hurriedly explained on the side.

"Mr. Ferguson hasn't slept well for several nights to plan for Chairman Stanton's birthday. The common antiques, paintings, and sculptures aren't good enough to represent Mr. Ferguson's heart. Chairman Stanton has seen a lot of luxury things, so he might not necessarily like those either. When Mr. Ferguson heard that Chairman Stanton has always



heard that Chairman Stanton has always wanted to travel around the world, but hadn't done so because of various reasons, Mr. Ferguson deliberately put off so many important work meetings to free up time just to make Chairman Stanton happy. It's really touching..."

Nicole's lips twitched as she glanced at Toto with a seeming smile.

"I see that you're pretty clear on how well Mr. Ferguson sleeps every night, huh?"

Toto froze. 'Huh?'

Eric's face turned gloomy as he swept a cold glance at Toto. 'My reputation is ruined!'

Nicole turned around and went in to look for Floyd.

There was no breeze, but Toto could clearly feel a penetrating chill at that moment.

During the journey, there was slight turbulence that made the helicopter a little unsteady. Nicole did not wear her seatbelt and was almost thrown out of her seat. Suddenly, Clayton, who was sitting next to Nicole, clutched her hand firmly

seat. Suddenly, Clayton, who was sitting next to Nicole, clutched her hand firmly until she regained her balance.

Nicole breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank you, Mr. Sloan."

Clayton let go of her and nodded slightly. "You're welcome."

A few seconds later, he suddenly reached out across Nicole's body and touched her left waist. The sudden proximity and sensation stunned Nicole. She immediately pulled back to distance herself from him and looked at him strangely.

Clayton pursed his lips. "Seatbelt."

It was brief and concise.

## Chapter 438 Precious Hand

Nicole looked at Clayton's hand with understanding and put on her seatbelt. She smiled and asked, "Mr. Sloan, is it okay for you to take so much time off?"

Clayton said indifferently, "Yeah. My project partner isn't even around, so should I stay to talk to Gerard and Tucker? I've announced a short break for that project and for them to get the core research done first. When we get back, it'll be just in time to see what they come up with."

Nicole heard this and blushed with a little guilt. She felt like she was not doing her job well.

Clayton paused for a moment. "Of course, Lil Michael really wants to come. He hasn't forgiven me for reprimanding him last night, so I ought to tag along."

Speaking of Lil Michael, Nicole chuckled. "So that's what it is, huh? Mr. Sloan, you're a really good father to Lil Michael. He must love you very much."

What a loving father and son relationship!

What a loving father and son relationship!

Clayton smiled and did not respond.

He thought to himself, 'Love me?! My son just wants to inherit my estate as soon as possible!'

Clayton had already instructed Lil Michael's tutors to double his homework.

He would not let that little rascal enjoy this holiday. 1

Eric watched Nicole and Clayton conversing happily from behind. His eyes narrowed in displeasure.

The discomfort in his heart was getting stronger, as if what he had been neglecting before was starting to show.

Toto, who was next to Eric, also felt a sense of crisis. He thought that he could not just sit back and watch them progress further.

He never liked Clayton because even though Clayton did not do anything too obvious, the way he treated Nicole was clearly different.

From Toto's rich experience, he was 80% sure that Clayton was interested in Nicole!

sure that Clayton was interested in Nicole.

After some thought, Toto coughed slightly. "Ms. Stanton, why don't we switch seats? I have a great view here..."

Nicole frowned and did not respond. Lil Michael, who was in front of them, said frankly, "Pretty Lady's trying to sleep. Don't disturb her!"

Toto snapped his mouth shut.

Nicole raised her eyebrows and thought, 'That saves me a lot of trouble. Lil Michael is such a smart boy!'

Lil Michael grunted smugly. If Floyd did not drag Lil Michael to sit by him, Lil Michael would definitely want to be with his pretty lady.

He was uncomfortable with his pretty lady sitting next to the mean mister, so he got his father to sub in for him for a while.

Nicole did not ask where they were going. Soon, she felt drowsy and fell asleep.

Unknowingly, her head rested on the shoulder of the man next to her.

After a few hours, Nicole was shaken awake. Lil Michael's cute face was

awake. Lil Michael's pale face was magnified in front of her eyes.

Lil Michael could not hold back his excitement. "Pretty Lady, look! It's a castle!"

The sky was turning dark.

The helicopter hovered in the air. Nicole subconsciously looked outside the window and saw lush hills and a brightly lit manor. It looked huge, majestic, and mysterious.

It looked like a private chateau.

The helicopter landed on the designated helipad in the manor's grounds.

After a few hours on board, Lil Michael could not hide his excitement and ran down. Floyd followed suit. Clayton frowned slightly and swept a glance to the back. He then reached out his hand towards Nicole like a perfect gentleman.

Before Nicole could take his hand, Toto quickly blocked Clayton. "Let me! I'll hold Ms. Stanton's precious hand..."

Toto stood between Clayton and Nicole. He would not give Clayton the opportunity to help the lady down the stairs.

Toto stood between Clayton and Nicole. He would not give Clayton the opportunity to help the lady down the stairs.

Nicole rolled her eyes and walked down by herself. The air was fresh. The sky was dark and dotted with twinkling stars. Not far away, a few butlers and maids came over to them.

Toto froze for a moment because Eric was still on the helicopter.

He looked at Eric with an awkward smile and turned to Nicole.

“Ms. Stanton, why don’t you help me to support Mr. Ferguson?”

## Chapter 439 See the World

Nicole froze for a moment. "Then why did I come down so soon?"

She turned back and saw that Eric was planning to come down by himself. He looked like he was about to roll down the stairs, then they would just have to send him to the hospital and their trip would be over before it even started.

Nicole paused for a moment. "Wait! Don't move..."

Eric stopped moving obediently and waited patiently for Nicole to help him.

Before Nicole could take a step forward, she saw Luca right behind Eric.

He was in the back taking their suitcases and had not gotten off the helicopter yet!

Toto's face changed in an instant as he watched Luca put down the suitcases. Without any instructions, he steadily pushed Eric down the ramp.

Eric was startled because he did not expect someone to push him from behind.

The ramp was sturdy, and Luca used a lot



The ramp was sturdy, and Luca used a lot of strength to control the speed. Soon, the wheelchair landed on the ground safely.

However, Eric's face was glum with suppressed dissatisfaction. He had no way to express it.

Luca turned around and went to take the suitcases. He looked at Nicole and said, "Miss, you can look for me anytime if you need my help."

Nicole smiled and nodded. "Okay, thanks!"

If not for Luca, Nicole would have had to help Eric down.

After that, she glanced at Eric and walked away to catch up with Floyd.

Toto gulped. "Thanks, Luca..."

He then ran over to push Eric's wheelchair.

Toto whispered in Eric's ear.

"Don't get angry... We have plenty of opportunities! Luca is Ms. Stanton's bodyguard, so whatever he does represents Ms. Stanton!"

represents Mr. Stanton.

Eric was silent. His face was tense, and his gaze was deep and cold.

'Luca and Nicole are clearly not the same!'

The servants in the chateau had been informed in advance to prepare tea and snacks for their arrival. All of it was arranged according to everyone's preferences.

As soon as Eric came in, the servants bowed in unison. "Good day, Mr. Ferguson."

He let out a faint "mm" without an expression.

"Chairman Stanton, do you want to take a rest or go out for a walk first?"

Floyd was full of energy. "I'm not tired."

Eric nodded slightly and did not ask for anyone else's opinion. He looked at the butler and said, "Make the arrangements."

"Yes, sir."

The group quickly got into the car. In less than ten minutes, they stopped at the bank of The Seine.

bank of the Seine.  
The moonlight was bright and gentle as it reflected on the calm surface of the river.

Nicole saw the familiar scene and was a little surprised.

“The Seine?”

She was somewhat excited because when she was studying in France, she had walked past this place countless times. She had poured out her thoughts, both good and bad, to this river back then.

There were not many people along the river. Most of them came for a stroll. Floyd followed Lil Michael around excitedly. Clayton’s imposing figure was still as he stared at the Gothic buildings across the river expressionlessly.

Nicole’s eyes shone like the stars. Eric hooked the corners of his lips and thought, ‘I guess Toto chose the right place.’”

Eric was just about to wheel himself over to Nicole when Luca, who was not far away, went over to push him.

Toto hurriedly went over to them and grabbed Luca’s arm. He smiled and said, “

#### Chapter 440 Push You Back

Eric finally got his wish for Nicole to push him around the banks of the Seine.

Nicole was purely enjoying the scenery and did not really want to listen to Toto's annoying chatter.

After getting rid of the others, Eric's expression eased significantly.

In front of them, a fit, tattooed man was busking with a violin. He was very immersed in the music and had a crowd gathered around him.

If the sound of the violin was elegant and delicate, accompanied by the soft flow of the river, this scene would be very impressive.

However, the busker was an amateur violin player. It sounded like an old woman wailing and was very harsh to the ears.

Nicole unknowingly walked over and stopped. Eric listened for a while without an expression.

When the song ended, the crowd breathed a sigh of relief and finally dispersed.

a sign of relief and finally dispersed.

The busker saw the wheelchair-bound man and the beautiful lady pushing the wheelchair and looked at her with regret and sympathy.

He looked like it was a loss for Nicole to be with Eric.

Eric frowned in thought.

The busker asked, "Do you understand my music?"

'If you don't understand, leave!'

The busker was judging Eric. Except for his good looks, Eric was useless in every aspect, especially his legs.

Thus, there was some disdain in the busker's attitude.

Eric raised an eyebrow and snorted lightly. "It sounds bad."

"What?" The busker's eyes were cold. He looked like he wanted to beat Eric up.

Nicole was still immersed in the romantic atmosphere earlier and did not expect Eric to get into a fight with someone out of the blue.

blue.

"It sounds very bad." Eric lifted his eyelids. His tone was calm and cold.

The busker rolled up his sleeves, revealing his arms that were covered in tattoos.

He looked vicious as he charged at Eric.

"Sorry, this man has a mental illness. If you want to fight, fight him!"

Nicole quickly pushed Eric's wheelchair away and reached out to point to Luca, who was right behind them.

"Nicole..."

The wheelchair was very bumpy because Nicole was busy fleeing.

Eric finally could not resist calling out to her. He stifled a laugh as he looked at her.

'What is she running for? This isn't like Nicole...'

Nicole said, "I'm nice enough not to leave you there. Your butler Toto didn't get you a bodyguard, right?"

Hearing the coldness in her voice, Eric kept quiet. After a while, he said in a low voice, "It was very bad..."

voice, "It was very bad..."

Eric only told the truth. Why would he, the Great President of Ferguson Corporation, lie just to please a random busker?

He would never!

Nicole looked at him and said indifferently, "Then I'll send you back and you can tell him yourself."

Before Nicole could turn around, Eric felt tense and gripped the armrest of the wheelchair. "Don't!"

He suddenly felt like he was being played, but he would just let it go since it was Nicole.

She could make fun of him whenever she wanted.

"Let's not go back there... Look how beautiful this river is! Don't you think it's like a diamond necklace?"

'If it weren't for my physical disability right now, I wouldn't be scared! What a joke!' Eric thought.

Nicole sneered. 'Haha... Wimp!'

The two of them strolled to the middle of

Nicole sneered. "Haha... whimp!"

The two of them strolled to the middle of a small bridge. The atmosphere was very romantic and quiet with an intoxicating peace that this moment brought them.

Eric looked at Nicole, who was leaning on the bridge with her elbows. Her side profile was so smooth and delicate. Her eyes were bright, and the corners of her lips curled up. She was a sight to behold.

He smiled and suddenly wanted to say what he had never told her before.

"Compared to you, anyone who plays the violin is garbage."