

### Chapter 386 Do You Want to Eat Me So Badly?

Eric walked in slowly. His eyes were affixed to Nicole's back.

The aquarist stepped aside. This was the first time their big boss came to inspect their work!

Nicole was completely unaware of the arrival of the person behind her. She pursed her lips and said, "Steamed or spicy?"

Before Yvette could speak, Eric's warm and gentle voice came from behind.

"Do you want to eat me so badly?"

Nicole's body instantly stiffened.

She immediately turned around with a trace of surprise on her face before she turned impatient.

"You again?"

"So happy to see me?" Eric flashed a doting smile.

"Which part of me looks happy to you?"

'Is he blind?' Nicole thought.

is he blind? Nicole thought.

Eric looked thoughtfully at the mantis shrimp she had chosen.

“You called me a baby!”

Although it was only a mantis shrimp, that mantis shrimp shared his name!

Indirectly, the mantis shrimp was him!

Nicole sneered. “I was referring to the mantis shrimp.”

Eric did not argue. She would not admit it anyway.

Lil Michael was elated as he enjoyed the treasures of the aquarium alone.

He excitedly went to find the Pretty Lady, but then he saw that hateful and annoying man!

With a frown, Lil Michael stomped over and looked at Eric with disdain.

“Why are you here?”

Eric did not want to bother with this annoying kid.

Lil Michael pulled Nicole’s hand and grinned at her. His large eyes were pure and naive.

and naive.

“Pretty Lady, I wanna buy the thirty-meter-long blue whale from the next exhibit and ship it back to Italy. What do you think?”

Nicole frowned. The whale was huge, so planes or ships would not work. Was it supposed to swim to Italy by itself?

Eric snorted coldly before Nicole could speak.

“No.”

Eric was cold and indifferent to anyone who was not Nicole.

Lil Michael crossed his chubby little arms across his chest in displeasure.

“Who are you to say that I can’t buy it?!”

There was nothing that his dad could not buy!

Eric glanced at him indifferently and let out a low laugh.

“Because this is my aquarium!”

Lil Michael’s cute and lovable little face was shocked before he grew angry and conflicted. Finally, he snorted coldly and

was shocked before he grew angry and conflicted. Finally, he snorted coldly and pulled Nicole's hand.

"Pretty Lady, let's go!"

"I'll consider selling it to you if you call me Big Brother."

Eric suddenly spoke behind them with a playful tone.

From the side, Yvette could not stop the goosebumps that surfaced all over her body.

Lil Michael paused in his footsteps. His mouth opened and closed. His little face puckered up in conflict as he struggled in this dilemma.

This was the hardest decision he had to make!

Even Nicole found it almost unbearable. This was too challenging for Lil Michael.

The longer he stalled, the more unpleasant Eric's expression became.

Finally, Lil Michael made up his mind. He clenched his little fists and gritted his teeth. His little body was tense.

Lil Michael stared at Eric with his

Lil Michael stared at Eric with his uncompromising sapphire eyes.

“NO. WAY.”

He would rather give up his favorite blue whale than go against his conscience.

‘Daddy told me that children should never lie.’ Lil Michael thought.

Nicole and Yvette could not help but laugh.

This kid really had character!

Yvette’s expression suddenly changed. ‘ Luckily, I didn’t ask Lil Michael to call me Pretty Lady too. Otherwise, I’d be humiliated like Eric too!’

At that thought, Yvette no longer had the mood to laugh.

## Chapter 387 She Was Afraid

Nicole and Yvette left the aquarium together with Lil Michael.

Eric followed behind them. "Shall we have lunch together? How about some mantis shrimp?"

Nicole, Yvette, and Lil Michael looked back at him and said in unison, "No!"

Eric smiled. Nicole took the lead and walked to the car first, keeping two paces ahead for fear that Eric would follow after her like a leech.

A relatively new car was parked a few dozen meters away, waiting for the right moment.

The moment Nicole appeared, the car engine roared as it charged straight at her with a flying speed.

Behind her, Yvette let out a startled cry. "Nicole!"

The next second, a figure dashed out and pushed Nicole out of the way.

The attack happened in a split second. There was a loud collision, followed by a

The attack happened in a split second. There was a loud collision, followed by a person rolling to the ground.

The car crashed straight into a large tree by the side, and smoke started to rise from the hood.

The surroundings became dead silent.

Lil Michael was frightened. His voice was nervous.

“Pretty Lady, that weird mister...”

Nicole was pushed to the lawn on the opposite side of the path. There was a sharp pain in her arm. Her heart was pounding violently.

She had not been able to react earlier and only felt a huge force pushing her from behind. All she heard was the collision!

Nicole turned around with a pale face.

She saw the man lying in the middle of the road, covered in blood. Just a second ago, that tall and indifferent man was smiling at her gently as he invited her to lunch, but now...

For some reason, her heart ached at that moment, as if it was stabbed.

moment, as if it was stabbed.

Yvette ran over in a panic. "Call an ambulance!"

She looked at Nicole worriedly. "Are you hurt?"

Nicole felt like she was in a bubble because she could not hear anyone's voice.

Lil Michael immediately tapped on his smartwatch. He forced himself to remain calm as he went to the side to make a call, but his voice was clearly anxious.

Nicole stumbled over in a daze and knelt next to Eric, staring at him blankly.

His clothes were covered in dust and his hair was disheveled.

That handsome face was deadly white. His lips were relaxed, and his calm face no longer had any trace of life.

All that surrounded him was his blood.

Nicole's heart clenched tightly. She felt like blood was dripping from it.

Even her breathing gradually became more difficult.

He saved her again.



He saved her again.

Yvette shook Nicole in a panic. "Nicole, don't scare me!"

She was worried that something happened to Nicole.

Nicole suddenly settled her mind. She took out her phone and saw that the screen was shattered, but it still worked.

She immediately called Logan and told him to contact the hospital and doctor.

Then, she called Mitchell and told him to make arrangements.

After that, she called Clayton Sloan and asked him to send someone to pick Lil Michael up.

Finally, she called the police.

Nicole looked at Yvette. "Wait here for the police and keep an eye on the driver, regardless of whether he's alive or dead."

Her voice was extremely cold.

Yvette nodded heavily.

In less than five minutes, the ambulance arrived.

At the hospital.

At the hospital.

Nicole had never felt time pass so slowly and gruelingly.

Every minute exhausted her patience.

She sat there quietly with her head down until Mitchell brought a tissue to her eyes.

“Ms. Stanton, don’t cry...”

Mitchell spoke with difficulty and did not know how to feel either.

Only then did Nicole realize that at some point, tears were streaming down her face.

She could no longer hold back. Her shoulders trembled violently as she choked out a sob with her head hung low.

Terror and fear came in bursts. She admitted that she was completely frightened.

What she was most afraid of was that Eric would die.

The doctor suddenly pushed the operating room door open.

## Chapter 388 Vixen

The news of Eric's accident soon spread.

Old Master Ferguson was grief-stricken and rushed to the hospital with Quinn.

When they learned that Eric only got into an accident to save Nicole, their expressions took a turn for the worse.

Old Master Ferguson had seen a lot in his lifetime, so his expression was not obvious. He only sat in Eric's ward in silence. When his body was finally unable to support him, his butler took him away.

Quinn cried in Eric's ward for two hours.

Nicole sat in the living room of the VIP ward and waited quietly, listening to Quinn's beratement with a stoic face.

"Eric, I told you to stay away from that woman! She's a jinx! It's always her fault every time you're in danger. Last time you went out to sea and almost died. Now, this?! You even sent your beloved sister away for that b\*tch! You must be completely bewitched by her... Eric, please wake up..." Quinn burst into tears.

Mitchell and Logan looked at the

Mitchell and Logan looked at the motionless Nicole with conflicted expressions. She was calm as if she did not care that Quinn was blaming her for this.

When Floyd and Grant came over, they heard Quinn's crazed cries in the ward. Their expressions grew displeased.

Floyd went over and patted his daughter's shoulder. "Don't worry, Lil N. Pack up your stuff and go home to rest."

Nicole looked terrible. It had been two days and one night since she came to the hospital. She had not had a wink of sleep since.

She looked up at her father with reddened eyes.

Her heart was in despair.

Mitchell also stepped forward to persuade her. "Yes, Ms. Stanton. The doctor already said that President Ferguson has a good physique. He only suffered a concussion and bone fracture on his leg this time, so he'll get better soon. It's more important that you get some rest yourself..."

After all, Eric would be heartbroken if he

After all, Eric would be heartbroken if he saw her like this.

Quinn heard the commotion and ran out in a rage.

“You still have the nerve to rest? My son is lying in there now! How dare you get any rest when my son is in this condition because of you?!”

Quinn finally had an excuse to vent out her rage on Nicole.

Floyd’s face instantly darkened. However, it would do no good to argue with this woman at this moment.

Grant’s sharp gaze swept towards her. His voice was extremely cold.

“Mrs. Ferguson, your son did save my sister, but she didn’t push him towards the car. How could you point your finger at her and blame her like that when he risked his life for her?”

The cold vibes Grant was exuding made the people around him shiver. Although his voice was lowered, it still carried an obscure threat.

Quinn choked. She almost forgot that the Stantons were not an ordinary rich

Stantons were not an ordinary rich family. How could they watch their daughter and sister get bullied like this?

They would not tolerate any harsh words that targeted Nicole.

Quinn opened her mouth, completely furious. It was all because of Nicole that Quinn and her son were not on good terms.

“You...”

As soon as she spoke, the doctor came in with a grave look.

“Madam, the patient isn’t awake yet. He needs to recuperate in SILENCE!”

He emphasized the word “silence” with an exasperated expression.

The doctor was about to kick Quinn out.

Grant smiled coldly. “Mrs. Ferguson, it seems that you only care about your satisfaction and don’t care about your son’s life with the way you’re screaming.”

Quinn was so furious that her face turned red, but just as she was about to retort, she saw the doctor’s warning look. She had no choice but to plop down on the

sofa in anger.

Grant walked over to Nicole. He looked at her shattered phone on the table, picked it up, and brought her bag to Logan.

With his other hand, he pulled Nicole up and said in a non-negotiable tone, "Come on, let's go home."

Nicole stood up and looked back at Mitchell, who understood and gave her an assuring gesture.

He would call her if anything happened.

Nicole smiled faintly in response.

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## Chapter 389 I Give Up

In the car.

Floyd took out a stack of photos from the side.

“I got these from the police. They want to investigate openly, but we’ll also do a private investigation.”

Nicole took the photos. When she saw that car, the image of Eric pushing her out of the way flashed in her mind.

How did he have the courage to run over when the car was easily charging towards them at 70 miles per hour?

Nicole’s pale fingers trembled.

Grant sighed. “We owe Eric Ferguson twice now. Lil N, I’m afraid he won’t let you go that easily...”

If Eric would give up on Nicole, why would he risk his life for her three to four times?

They could turn a blind eye if it only happened once, but it was increasingly hard to ignore.



hard to ignore.

Floyd closed his eyes. "He still can't expect Lil N to devote herself to him just because of this. Although I've begun to admire that boy, Lil N's wishes still come first."

Nicole pursed her lips. Her heart stalled as she lowered her eyes silently.

The next photo was of the person inside the scrapped car.

That was the person who wanted to kill Nicole.

It was a completely unfamiliar and ordinary face that would not catch any attention if placed in a crowd. His head was covered with blood. He did not fasten his seatbelt and slumped lifelessly on the steering wheel.

Seeing Nicole's frown, Grant explained, "He died on the spot. He was drunk, so the police tentatively classified it as drunk driving, but more than one million dollars was wired to his account from overseas, so they dare not close this case so easily."

"One million... For my life?" Nicole murmured.

‘One million for Eric to die on my behalf?’  
Nicole thought about it and found it  
absurd.

Grant pursed his lips. “For a good-for-nothing alcoholic, this may be the only chance he has to get a million bucks in his life.”

“Don’t worry, Grant will get to the bottom of this. For your safety, you shouldn’t go out for now. Even if you want to go out, take bodyguards with you. Otherwise, you might not be so lucky the next time.”

Floyd looked at Nicole with a worried and tired gaze. His eyes were gloomy.

Grant nodded in agreement.

Nicole paused. “I can’t hide forever. Get me some bodyguards then.”

This was something she knew very well.

All she wanted to know was who wanted her dead.

She would return this a hundredfold.

As soon as she got home, she sank on the bed and passed out.

bed and passed out.

She was exhausted. Her whole body was sore and tired.

When Nicole opened her eyes again, she looked out the window and saw the red glow through the trees. It was quiet and warm. The sunset was beyond beautiful.

It was already evening.

She had slept a whole day and night without dreaming.

A new mobile phone was placed on her bedside table. Grant had transferred all her information and even installed the same apps from her previous phone.

She picked it up and looked at the countless calls and messages.

Some were asking if she was okay, and some were asking if Eric was fine.

In a group chat with her close friends.

[Yvette Quimbey: Honestly, I've changed my mind about Eric this time. He risked his life for you again, so you should probably consider him... @NicoleStanton]

[Julie Nixon: Agreed.]

[Yvette Quimbey: But don't feel pressured, @NicoleStanton! Even if you can't be a couple, you can still be friends at least. We'll stop hating him...]

[Julie Nixon: Agreed.]

[Yvette Quimbey: Don't you have your own opinions?! @JulieNixon]

[Julie Nixon: I'm too lazy to type the same words that you've already said! @YvetteQuimbey]

[Ian Carter: Eric really made me have a whole new level of respect for him! I totally give up T\_T]

[Yvette Quimbey: Carter, didn't you already give up a long time ago?]

[Julie Nixon: ^ What she said.]

[Ian Carter: Hmph! I'll quit this toxic group now =P]

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## Chapter 390 He's Gone

Nicole did not reply to any of the messages. She washed up, applied a face mask, and looked more refreshed.

Floyd waited for her to eat dinner downstairs. He watched as his daughter ate and sighed in relief when she finished a bowl of soup.

He hesitated and said, "Lil N, you don't need to feel pressured by this..."

Nicole flashed a relaxed smile.

"I know. I'll be fine. Eric's life is no longer in danger. I'll slowly pay him back for everything that I owe him. As for the rest, I don't want to talk about it now..."

Anyhow, Nicole was unable to hate him as much as before.

However, the idea of being together... This fleeting thought flashed in her head, but she waved it away.

Nicole only hoped that Eric would be fine.

The entanglement between them was too deep. It was unclear who owed the other more.

more.

Floyd nodded in satisfaction. He was glad that his daughter had it figured out.

He raised his hand and beckoned for a tall and burly man in a black suit and sunglasses who looked very fierce.

“A bodyguard?” Nicole looked at his attire and knew at a glance.

Floyd nodded. “His name is Luca. He’s the best fighter in the world. He used to follow me around, but after I retired, I didn’t need him for fishing, so he was on a long hiatus. He’ll follow you from now on.”

Nicole pursed her lips and nodded. She naturally would not refuse her father’s kindness.

“Hello, Ms. Stanton.”

Nicole smiled. “I’ll be counting on you, Luca.”

Luca’s fierce expression did not change as he nodded in greeting.

Nicole’s phone suddenly rang. It was a call from Mitchell.

She picked it up.

She picked it up.

“Ms. Stanton, bad news! President Ferguson...”

Mitchell hesitated. Nicole’s expression instantly sank. She hung up the phone and dashed out the door.

She panicked.

Luca had swiftly driven the car out. He called out to her in a rough voice. “Miss, get in!”

Nicole did not hesitate and jumped in.

Luca floored the gas pedal. What was supposedly a twenty-minute journey became a ten-minute drive.

Nicole ran to Eric’s ward and hurriedly pushed the door in.

Quinn was not around, neither was Old Master Ferguson.

Mitchell sat in the living room with a crestfallen expression. “Ms. Stanton...”

Nicole’s heart sank as she ran in.

The person on the bed was still lying there motionless, the same as how he was a day ago. However, there was no sign of life in

him. His face was grey and pale.

consciousness, the same as now he was a day ago. However, there was no sign of life in him. His face was gray and pale.

The wires from the testing instruments that were originally connected to his body had been pulled out.

His chest was flat without any rise and fall.

Nicole was stunned for a moment. She suddenly felt as if the darkness in front of her was overwhelming and suffocating.

Impossible!

The doctor clearly said that he was fine!

Her heart was crushed. It felt so painful that she did not dare to breathe heavily.

That heartache felt like her body was being torn apart. Every cell in her body was filled with pain and despair.

Nicole stood frozen in place. Her consciousness was gradually swallowed by the darkness, and she almost fell when her legs gave out.

Mitchell called out to her from behind. "Ms. Stanton, watch out—"

He quickly helped her to regain her



footing.

At the same time, Nicole saw the lifeless man's right foot under the white silk quilt twitch slightly.

It was just a fleeting movement, but Nicole keenly caught it.

Her body stiffened and she froze for a few seconds before she slowly realized what was going on.

After a short pause, she regained clarity.

Mitchell was shocked to see such a drastic change in Nicole.

She looked completely devastated earlier, but she regained her composure in the blink of an eye!

Mitchell seemed like he wanted to say something as he let her go, but when he remembered what Eric instructed him, he quickly zipped his mouth.

Nicole calmly walked forward and touched Eric's pale face. Her fingertips were slightly cool as they lingered on his cheek.

She said in a clear and cold voice, "Have you made arrangements for the funeral?"