

## Chapter 566 Plastic Surgery Worth \$800,000

Kai came in with a black box, looking very cautious.

Julie was not in high spirits. She simply greeted Kai and instructed the nanny to make tea, then casually walked to the living room and sat down.

She was obviously not as close to Kai as she was with Nicole.

Kai did not notice Julie's mood. He put down the black box in front of her and had a faint smile plastered on his face.

"Jules, look. This piece of jade is 99% similar to the quality of your jade pendant. It's from the same place and has the same pattern. I'll grind it and make a new one for you, okay? Or... Do you want a different shape?"

Nicole held the cup of tea and took a small sip. 'Was Kai kicked in the head by a donkey? Is the jade even the issue here? No matter how good the quality of the jade is, it can't alleviate Julie's sadness. This dumb\*ss!'

Julie glanced at the jade in the box. It was

dund-ss!

Julie glanced at the jade in the box. It was not the best quality, but it was indeed similar to the jade that was broken.

It certainly took a lot of effort and money to find such a similar jade.

Julie raised her eyes and smiled at Kai. "No need. Even if it's similar, it's still fake. I can't deceive myself."

Kai froze for a moment and looked at Nicole.

Nicole hurriedly stood up. "I suddenly remembered that I have a conference call soon, so I'll get going first."

How could Nicole not see through Kai's look?

He wanted her to give them some time alone.

It looked like there was really something between them.

The nanny also left the living room appropriately.

Kai smiled at Julie and said, "It's a memento. As long as you have the heart, what does it matter if it's real or fake?"

what does it matter if it's real or fake?

Julie gave him a deep look with a cold expression.

"It does matter."

Her heart would be uncomfortable.

Kai nodded and rubbed his eyebrows. "Okay then... I'll think of another way. You should take a good rest."

With that, he stood up and walked out without looking back.

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Eric returned to the office and instructed his men.

"Go and bring someone over."

He promised Nicole not to kick his damned counterfeit out of the cast, but he did not promise that he would not touch him.

Eric had been holding back for too long.

The night weather was cold and gloomy. It looked like it was going to rain.

When the bodyguards informed Eric that they got the guy he was looking for, Eric left the office, went to his private garage,



left the office, went to his private garage, and drove a low-profile car.

Inside the hotel.

Xander was brought to a dimly lit room.

There were too many people on set, so it was not good for Eric to do anything to Xander in public.

As soon as Xander heard that Nicole was looking for him, he took a leave of absence from the director and left the set.

The rich woman was looking for him, so he did not want to delay another moment.

Once he saw that it was at the hotel, Xander was even more excited because he thought that Nicole was interested in him.

However, he did not get to see the rich woman. Instead, five big, burly men surrounded him and stared at him unblinkingly.

Xander was frightened.

Suddenly, there was a neat shuffle of footsteps coming from outside the room.

Someone opened the door and nodded respectfully.

respectfully.

Xander's heart thumped as he watched Eric Ferguson walk in through the door.

He wanted to stand up, but someone pressed his shoulders and sat him down again.

Eric looked at his counterfeit with a smirk. The chill in his eyes could freeze people to death.

"Mr. Ferguson... Where is Ms. Stanton? Didn't you say that she asked to meet me?"

Xander instantly regretted mentioning this.

Eric's eyes were gloomy with a dense chill as he glared at Xander viciously.

"You want to see Ms. Stanton so badly?"

There was a strong warning in his voice.

Xander had a hunch that if he answered wrongly, he would not be able to walk out this door.

## Chapter 567 The First Day of Missing You

Xander gulped. A trace of panic and fear crossed his eyes.

“N-No... Mr. Ferguson, you’ve misunderstood.”

At this moment, Eric towered over Xander and looked down on him.

It showed the real gap between them.

Eric was so superior to Xander. It was not something that could be substituted with a face. In front of Eric, Xander was as lowly as an ant.

Xander’s foolish little thoughts were simply crushed to the ground.

How was Xander qualified to be Eric’s substitute?

“Misunderstood?”

Eric sneered. He threw a few pieces of paper on Xander’s face. His voice was devilish as he said, “You spent more than \$800,000 on plastic surgery just to imitate my face? I can very well disclose these hospital records to the media.”



these hospital records to the media.”

Xander's face turned pale as he looked at Eric in horror.

“Mr. Ferguson, please don't...”

This was Xander's biggest secret. He did not want others to know about his plastic surgery and thought that he hid it very well.

Back when a car accident disfigured his face, the plastic surgeon asked him to find a template. Xander did not hesitate to choose Eric's face because Eric Ferguson was the country's leading financial tycoon and was more good-looking than most actors.

His career was booming. He also knew how much the public hated plastic surgery faces.

If people knew that he had deliberately made himself look like Eric Ferguson, then his career would be completely ruined.

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"Mr. Ferguson, please don't say anything. I'll do anything you want! I won't think about Ms. Stanton again. Really! It's not easy for me to get popular..."

Eric looked at him with a cold and disdainful gaze.

Xander simply could not care less. He knew that Nicole only treated him differently because he resembled Eric Ferguson.

He knew that she would eventually give up on him.

Eric said, "You'll do anything?"

"Yes, anything!"

Eric sneered. "How far have you gone with Nicole?"

Eric watched Nicole and Xander's intimate interaction for the whole day. Nicole's words also showed that there was an extraordinary relationship between her and Xander.

He had to know the situation, or else he would go crazy.

Xander froze for a moment and immediately shook his head. "W-We

immediately shook his head. "W-We don't have any development..."

Eric kicked Xander in the chest ruthlessly. His action was harsh and vicious.

He did not want to babble on, nor did he want others to talk about Nicole.

Xander's face was pale as he covered his chest in pain. It took him a while to catch his breath. It felt like his ribs were broken.

"It's true, Mr. Ferguson. I won't dare to lie to you... Others in showbiz told me to take care of my financial backer, especially rich women. They said that I must be attentive and enthusiastic and cater to all her needs no matter what. I was just trying to please her so that she'll continue to support me..."

Eric's eyes were cold. After hearing this, he contemptuously swept a glance at Xander and walked away.

Xander breathed a sigh of relief and felt that he escaped a disaster.

In the next second, someone suddenly yanked his hair back and punched him in the face.

Then, countless punches and kicks came a

the face.

Then, countless punches and kicks came at him. Xander did not even have the strength to fight back. He could only cry and beg for mercy. ①

“I told the truth! Why are you still beating me up?” Xander asked intermittently.

Twenty minutes later.

The siege stopped, and the bodyguard on the side finally spoke. “You’ve been warned. Don’t think about people that you shouldn’t be thinking of.”

After that, he led the others out.

The person Xander should not be thinking about was none other than Nicole.

Xander just felt a burst of despair. The rich woman he got his hands on was gone just like that.

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After Eric came out of the hotel, he let out a long sigh. The heaviness he felt dissipated.

It was just as Toto said earlier. Nicole was just using Xander to agitate him and make him back off.



him back off.

'I will never back off!' Eric thought.

With that thought, he took out his phone and sent a message to Nicole.

[Missing you on our first day together.]

## Chapter 568 You're Not Worthy

Stanton Mansion.

Nicole was drinking a cup of tea as she scrolled through her phone. When she saw Eric's message, she could not hold back and spat out her tea.

'Is this son of a b\*tch trying to make a fool of himself again?'

Kai saw this and lectured her while he was busy fixing the jade pendant.

"Where are your manners of a high-society lady?"

Before Nicole could retort, Floyd, who was sitting opposite them, frowned and said, "Be careful. Don't choke."

Kai was speechless and felt that he was making a fool of himself again.

Nicole laughed and immediately turned off her phone, not wanting to see another message that simply insulted her eyes.

She looked at Kai and rolled her eyes. He was concentrating on fixing Julie's broken jade pendant.

"Can you fix it?"

can you fix it.

Kai looked at a tutorial while he bowed his head in concentration.

“No problem. I’m already a pro at this.”

Floyd snorted coldly. “This wastrel broke several pieces of jade in my study and fixed them back again. Is it because of Julie?”

Nicole could not help but laugh and did not expect Kai to do this.

“K, do you still like Jules?”

Nicole would simply go crazy with joy if Julie could be her sister-in-law!

Kai paused for a moment and gave her a warning glance. “Don’t talk nonsense.”

Floyd noticed that there must be gossip and became curious.”

“What do you mean still? I think Julie’s more suited for Grant.”

Grant, who was petting Tigger and drinking coffee at the side, shook his hand in shock. “Dad, I’m not even close to her.”

Kai also got anxious.



Kai also got anxious.

“How are they suited for each other? Grant’s not interested in women at all! If Julie marries him, she’ll just suffer!”

Floyd blinked and looked at Nicole.

Nicole coughed slightly. “Dad’s just saying it casually. Why are you so anxious?”

Kai also realized his outburst and retorted. “I’m not!”

Nicole pursed her lips and smirked. “Do you want me to help you chase her?”

Kai’s face was surprisingly red. “No, I’ve already said that I’m not suited for her.”

“Okay...”

Nicole responded with a lack of interest. “That’s right. You have so many girlfriends enough to circle the Capital if they lined up. How can someone like you be worthy of our Julie Nixon?”

Kai’s face changed a few times. He wanted to say something but, in the end, he held back. He just lowered his head and continued to repair the jade pendant in his hand.

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Early the next morning.

This was the first time Clayton Sloan called Nicole so early in the morning. It seemed like there was an urgent matter.

“Good morning, Ms. Stanton.”

Nicole said, “Good morning, Mr. Sloan. What’s the matter that you’d call me so early in the morning?”

“J&L Corporation’s project was put on hold for a while. R&D is already difficult to begin with, so putting the project on hold will only affect the project. Ms. Stanton, does J&L Corporation have any alarming problems that I should be aware of?”

Nicole frowned and paused slightly from sipping her glass of milk.

‘Put on hold? How come I’ve never heard of this?’

“Mr. Sloan, I’ll get back to you regarding this later. I won’t let this affect the progress of our cooperation.”

After hanging up, Nicole packed her things and went to J&L Corporation.

things and went to J&L Corporation.

She did not inform them beforehand.

Tucker, her assistant who she placed at J&L Corporation, did not send her any news recently.

This did not seem like a good sign.

Nicole wore a delicate dress and walked briskly to Tucker's office in J&L Corporation.

Tucker was stunned and stood up in a hurry.

"Ms. Stanton?"

Nicole did not waste time and sat on the chair opposite him.

"What happened in J&L Corporation recently?"

Tucker shook his head. "Nothing in particular..."

"Is that project we developed with Mr. Sloan not going well?"

Tucker still shook his head. "I didn't hear anything like that."

Nicole paused. Her gaze darkened slightly.



## Chapter 569 A Man Without Manners

Nicole suddenly thought of something and called Molly Stewart.

“Nikki?” Molly seemed to be very happy. There were other voices around her.

Nicole chuckled. “Molly, are you at the office?”

“No, I’m in the Great God Maverick’s research lab. I’m on vacation, so he invited me to visit his lab. It’s amazing!”

“You’re on vacation?” Nicole’s face changed.

“Yeah! Mr. Lichman gave us half a month off. I was quite puzzled because that project is only halfway through. We also didn’t get any breakthrough with the core technology...”

Usually, there were strict rules in place for researchers to go on vacation amidst such an important project. They would usually rotate shifts or get monetary subsidies.

‘Half a month’s vacation?’ Nicole’s face changed dramatically.

She pursed her lips and took a deep breath.

She pursed her lips and took a deep breath.

"Molly, I'll find Gerard and ask him the reason. Talk later!"

Nicole hung up the phone.

Tucker's face also became glum. Gerard Lichman gave the researchers a long holiday, yet he did not hear about such a big thing.

"Ms. Stanton... I don't know about this matter..."

Nicole's voice was cold. "Of course, you won't know because they kept it from you."

Tucker suddenly panicked and felt that his work here had gone too smoothly.

He was a rookie who just joined the workforce, yet he took on such a substantial duty. Gerard Lichman and Eric Ferguson's people treated him with courtesy. He always thought that with Ms. Stanton around, nothing would go wrong with this three-way cooperation.

However, such a big thing happened under his watch.

Nicole strutted away in her high heels. Some people passing by greeted her, so

Some people passing by greeted her, so she nodded and smiled naturally.

On the surface, it looked like nothing was wrong.

She walked over to Gerard's office.

Gerard's secretary was slightly surprised to see Nicole. "Ms. Stanton, what brings you here today?"

Nicole smiled. "Is Mr. Lichman here?"

The secretary nodded. "Yes, Mr. Lichman is inside."

Nicole nodded and did not wait for the secretary to announce her arrival before she pushed the door open expressionlessly.

Gerard was talking to someone on the phone inside and was slightly surprised to see Nicole.

He hung up, smiled, and walked over to her. Seeing Nicole's cold expression, his elegant face instantly looked a bit guilty.

"Ms. Stanton, why did you suddenly come over? Just in time, I'll call Mr. Ferguson over then we can have lunch together. I heard that a new restaurant opened



nearby..."

Nicole stared at him with a cold and sullen gaze. She suddenly hooked her lips into a smile.

"Mr. Lichman, J&L Corporation isn't going bankrupt, right?"

Gerard's face stiffened. He averted his gaze.

"Ms. Stanton, just be straightforward if you have something to say."

"You gave the R&D department a long vacation. You should at least get the board of directors to agree to it first, don't you think? Moreover, no one was arranged to take over the researcher's shift, so it completely interrupted the research progress. Isn't this a sign that you're going bankrupt?"

Nicole was unceremonious because she could not be polite about it.

That was because not only Clayton's project would be affected. Stanton Corporation, as a direct partner, would also suffer losses.

Gerard's eyes flickered slightly. He suddenly felt guilty. 'But... If it wasn't for

Gerard's eyes flickered angrily. He suddenly felt guilty. "But... If it wasn't for that person's command, I wouldn't have dared to do this so blatantly..."

"Ms. Stanton, you've misunderstood. It's just a short holiday. After resolving the AI car's problem, I thought that it's necessary to give everyone a short breather..."

Nicole sneered. "Is half a month at random a short holiday? Are you purposely delaying the research progress to hinder Clayton's project?"

Gerard pursed his lips. "Of course not..."

"I was the one who recommended Clayton Sloan to cooperate with your company in the first place. If you want to terminate this cooperation, we can end it through standard procedure. These underhanded moves aren't at all like your style, Mr. Lichman."

"It's not me..."

"Then who is it?" Nicole pursued.

## Chapter 570 Don't Betray Me

The atmosphere in the office became heavy all of a sudden.

Gerard Lichman looked at Nicole and saw that she did not seem to be joking. He suddenly felt that he had gone too far.

This would not just drag down Clayton Sloan but also his main partner, Stanton Corporation.

Nicole would not be unmoved if it involved the interests of her company.

However, if Gerard betrayed Eric, it would not just impact their personal relationship. It might even end their three-way cooperation.

During Gerard's moment of hesitation, Nicole narrowed her eyes and seemingly realized something.

"Who is it?"

Gerard's thin lips were tightly pursed, and his face looked taut.

"No one... This was my poorly thought-out decision... I'll have everyone cancel their leave and come back immediately."



their leave and come back immediately.”

“Mr. Lichman, I’m afraid this matter won’t be so simple.”

Nicole looked at him with a solemn gaze. “I’ll have my legal team draw up a contract that will put a limit to the research period. I will also send a team to regularly check on the R&D results. If this can’t be done, then we can always end our cooperation. After all, J&L Corporation still isn’t Stanton Corporation’s only choice.

Gerard’s eyes darkened slightly. He looked calm on the surface, but in his heart, he was regretting his move.

The way Nicole had turned her back on him was really unexpected.

He had been too carefree with Nicole.

With J&L Corporation’s current size, there was no way they could pose any threat to Stanton Corporation, especially since Nicole’s brother Maverick was the Great God of Science.

This time, he was at fault, so Nicole certainly would not turn the page so easily.

According to her means toward Harrison Corporation, she was already considered

Corporation, she w already considered extraordinarily generous for not doing the same to J&L Corporation.

Otherwise, if it really came to that, even Eric Ferguson would not be able to save him.

Gerard coughed and softened his attitude.

“This matter still needs to be discussed. M s. Stanton, why don’t we go for lunch together?”

Nicole curled up her lips into a cold smile.

“This isn’t up for discussion, Mr. Lichman. Our relationship is not yet to the point where we can joke about the company’s interests. I think you should b e clear about how much losses you’ve incurred during these few days, so you must bear it all.”

Gerard was forced to get nervous. Nicole’s tenacity and professionalism were even more pressuring than Eric’s, but he still dared not betray Eric at this time.

“Ms. Stanton, I can pay for the losses, but ...”

“No buts.” Nicole coldly interrupted his words. “Because I’m the client.”

"No buts." Nicole coldly interrupted his words. "Because I'm the client."

Her attitude was clear and cold. She turned on her heels and left as soon as she said her piece.

Nicole did not care whether it was Gerard's authorization or someone else.

She just wanted to make it clear that their relationship was built on the mutual interests of their cooperation.

As soon as Nicole left J&L Corporation, she called her company's legal department and instructed them to immediately start drawing up a contract to spell out J&L Corporation's responsibility.

Gerard Lichman immediately called Eric Ferguson after Nicole left.

He did not do a good job on this matter. While trying to teach Clayton a lesson, he had offended Nicole.

When Eric picked up the phone, Gerard recounted what just happened and rubbed his brow helplessly.

"Mr. Ferguson, I did my best, but Ms. Stanton is still angry. If she really sends



"Mr. Ferguson, I did my best, but Ms. Stanton is still angry. If she really sends her people to start verifying our research progress, won't we have a lot more to do?"

There was a silence on Eric's side.

Gerard thought that he had hung up.

Eric said, "Just let her be."

Gerard was puzzled. 'Huh? That's not what I wanna hear after complaining!'

Eric added, "Don't betray me."