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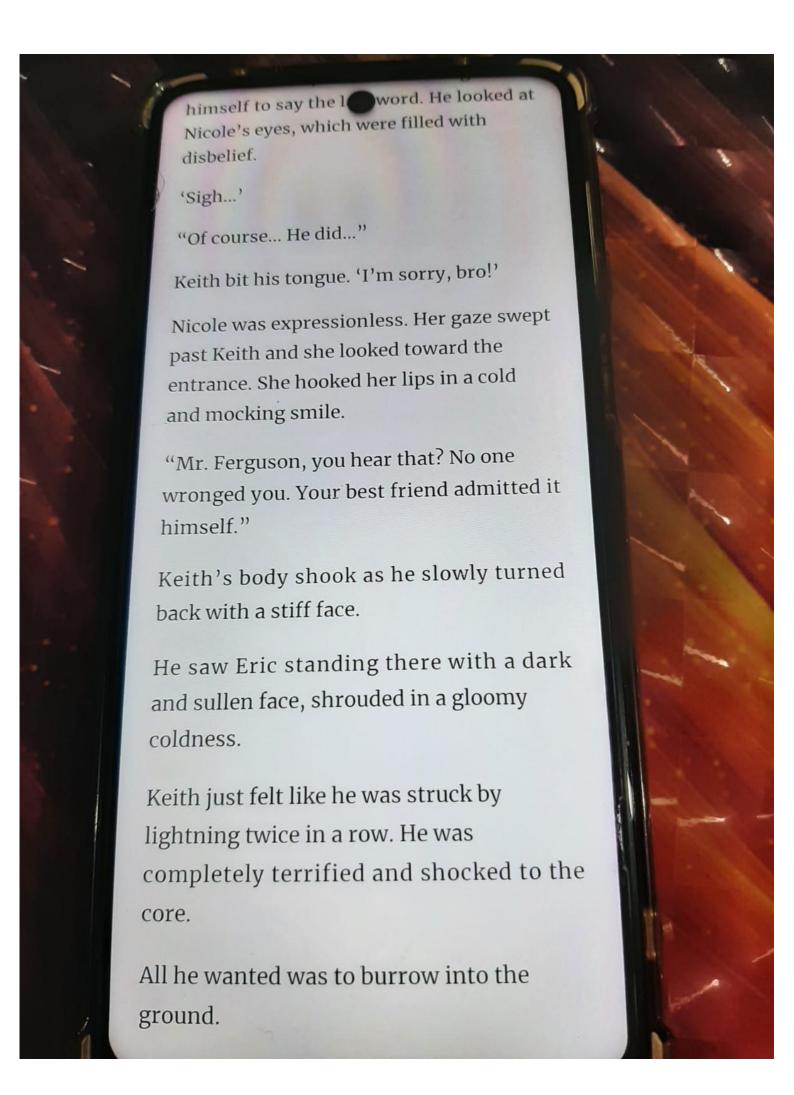
Keith quickly said, "Are you very close to Ms. Stanton? Oh right, Ms. Stanton has a good relationship with anyone, like Miles Kavanagh, Fabian, and some other young hunks in showbiz..."

Colton nodded in agreement. "Yes, Nicole and Miles Kavanagh definitely have something going on..."

Clayton's eyes flickered. His smile deepened.

"Mr. Ludwig and Mr. White, what exactly are you trying to say?"

Keith sighed. "You've just returned to Mediania, so don't think that Nicole likes you just because she treats you better. We're just reminding you so that your feelings won't get hurt. Nicole only likes Eric Ferguson. When they weren't divorced, Nicole was so humble and passionate. That was real love. They're only at odds momentarily, but they'll certainly reconcile one day. Look, she's recently found Xander, don't you think that she's just looking for a substitute?"



Nicole sneered and turned to Clayton with a faint smile on her face. "I'm not in the mood to eat anymore. Let's head back?"

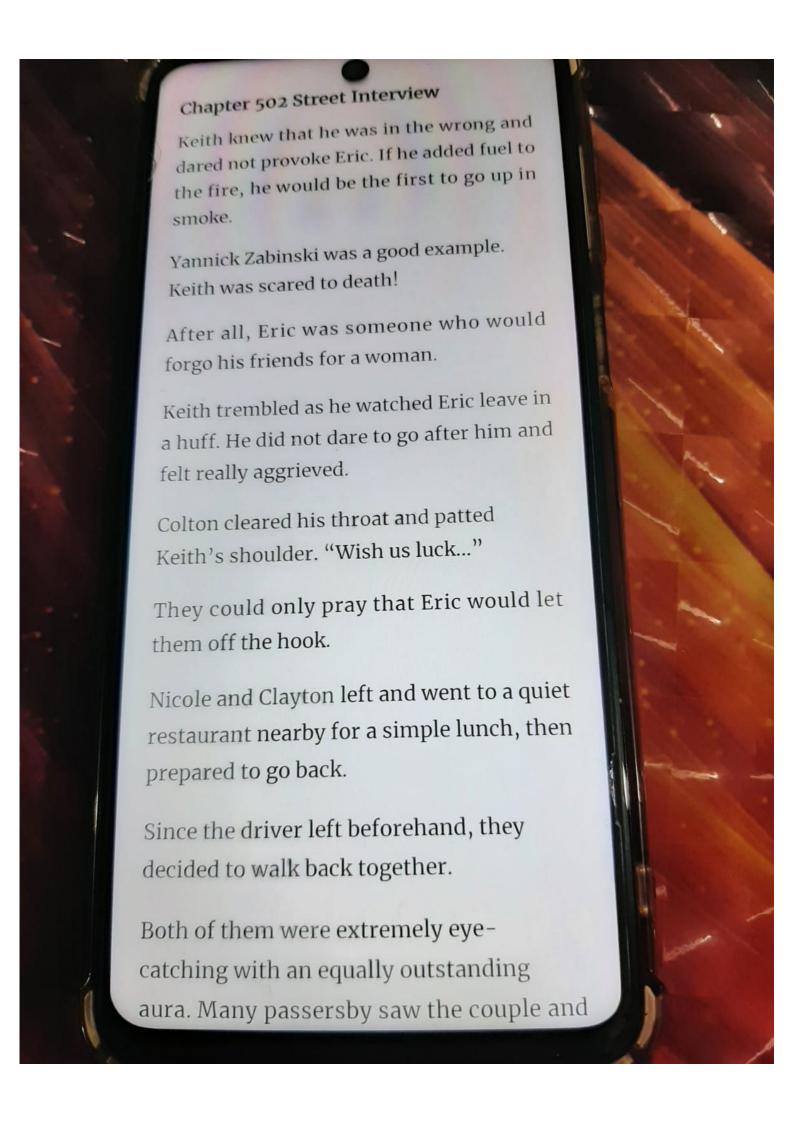
Clayton raised his eyebrows. "Sure."

The two of them went out one after the other and walked past Eric, whose face was extremely glum. His thin lips were pressed into a straight line as his gaze was fixed on Nicole. Unfortunately, Nicole did not show even a trace of emotion.

Eric opened his mouth wanting to explain, but he only looked miserable and powerless. His fists on both sides were clenched tightly and his body was tense.

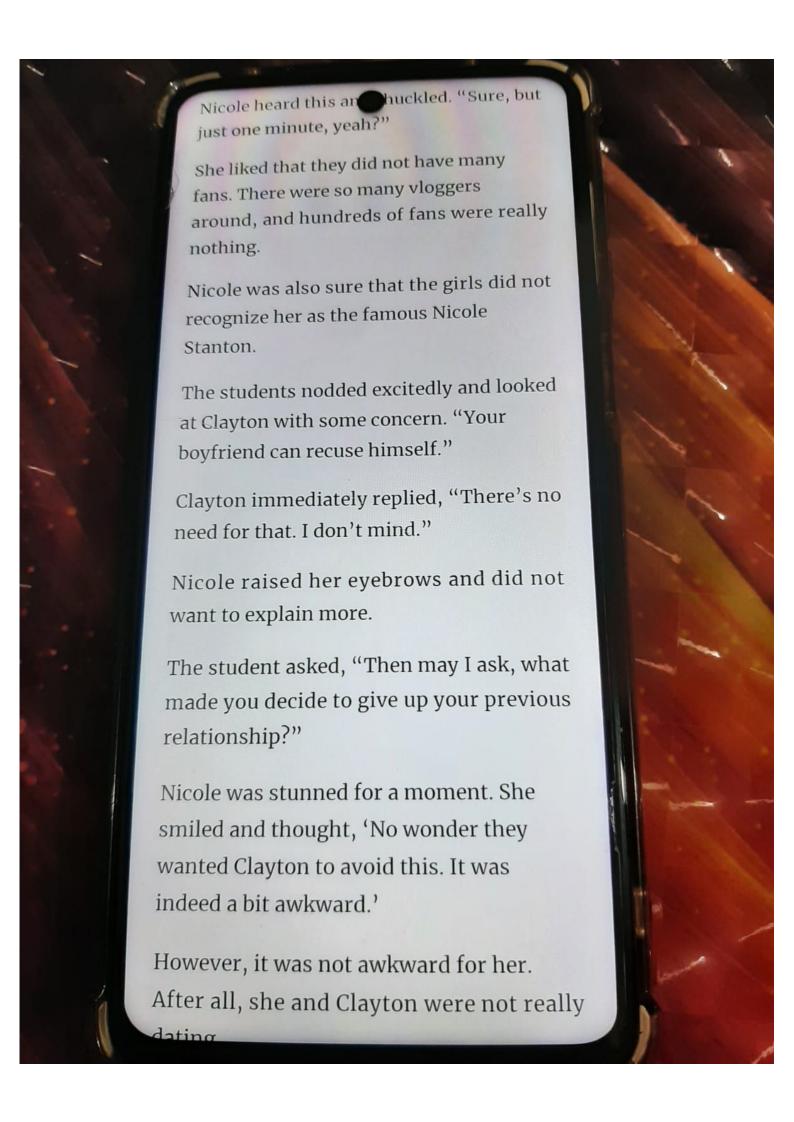
After Nicole left, Keith braced himself and walked over. "Um... Ferg, I think the two of them might really be together..."

Eric lifted his eyes and cast a cold and sharp sidelong glance at Keith.



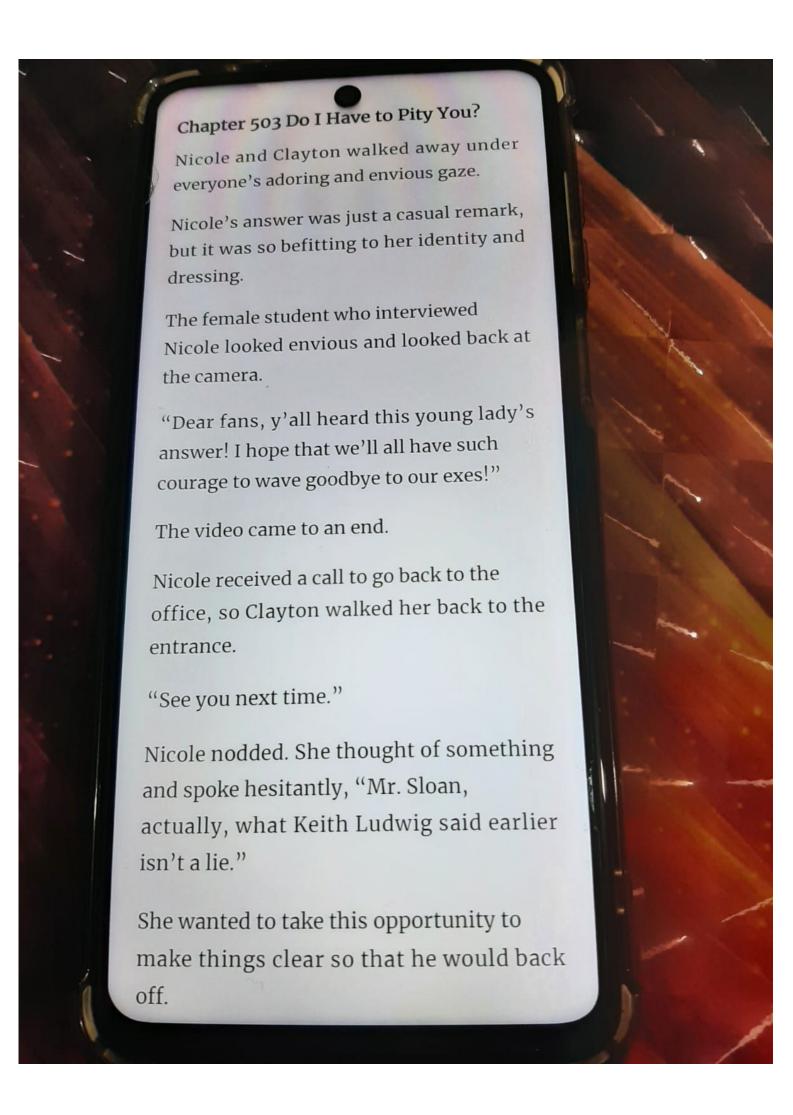
When they passed by the University of Atlanta, they could feel the youthful college atmosphere. A group of students seemed to be filming some kind of street interview, and many students were looking forward to being interviewed. Nicole and Clayton unintentionally walked past their filming site. Their stunning faces were captured by the interviewer's keen eyes. "Excuse me, are you both students here?" Two female college students stood in front of Nicole and Clayton, who finally realized that they were called on. Nicole was a little excited and smiled at them gently. "What is it?" "Um.... We're interviewing passersby. Can you guys please spare a minute for this interview?" The girls looked at Clayton with a gleaming and adoring gaze. They could hardly suppress their excitement.

hardly suppress the xcitement. However, Clayton's indifference made them feel like they were too abrupt. When they saw Nicole, they were even more excited. Nicole looked about the same age as them, but she was exquisitely dressed and had a gentle temperament. She was also incredibly beautiful! They thought, 'This lady looks so familiar! Is she a celebrity?' However, they could not recall who Nicole was. Nicole's eyes were serious, sincere, and gentle as she looked at them with a smile. There was no trace of hostility or annoyance. In an instant, everyone's gaze shifted from Clayton to Nicole. "Is it okay?" The girl asked Nicole expectantly as she blushed. "Although we don't have many fans, we promise that we won't simply edit the video and won't bring you any bad gossip." Nicole heard this and chuckled. "Sure, but

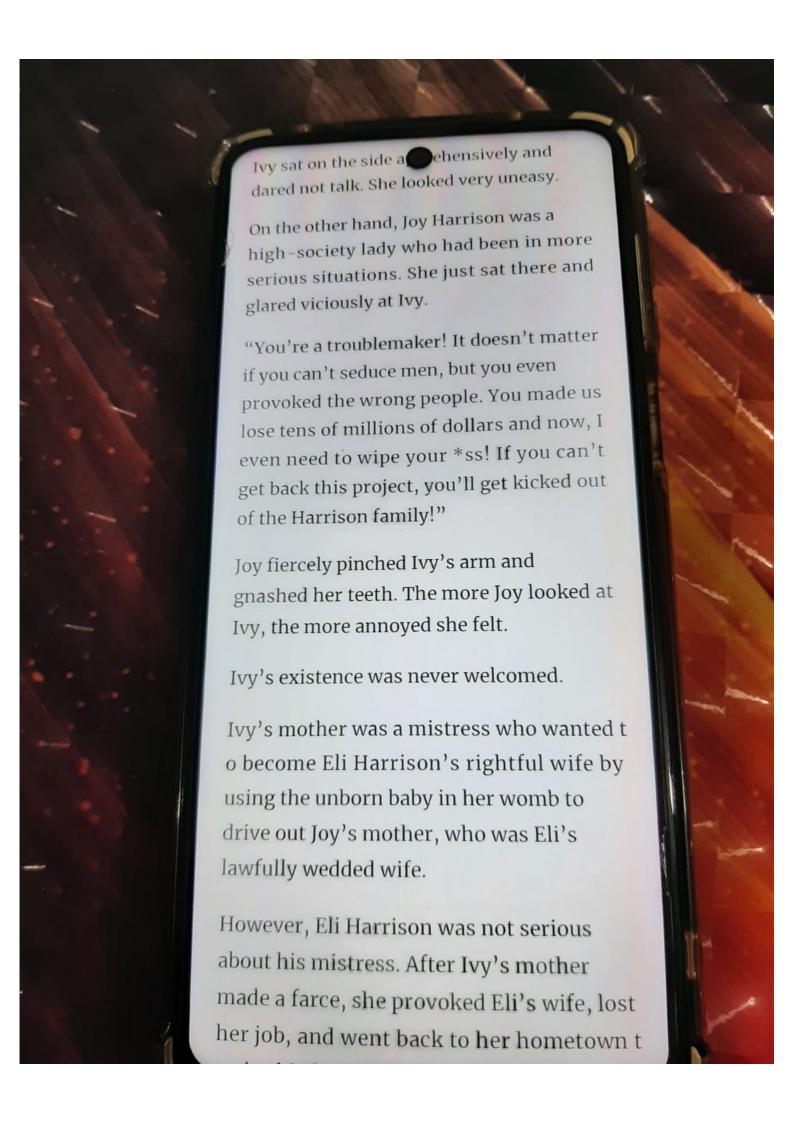


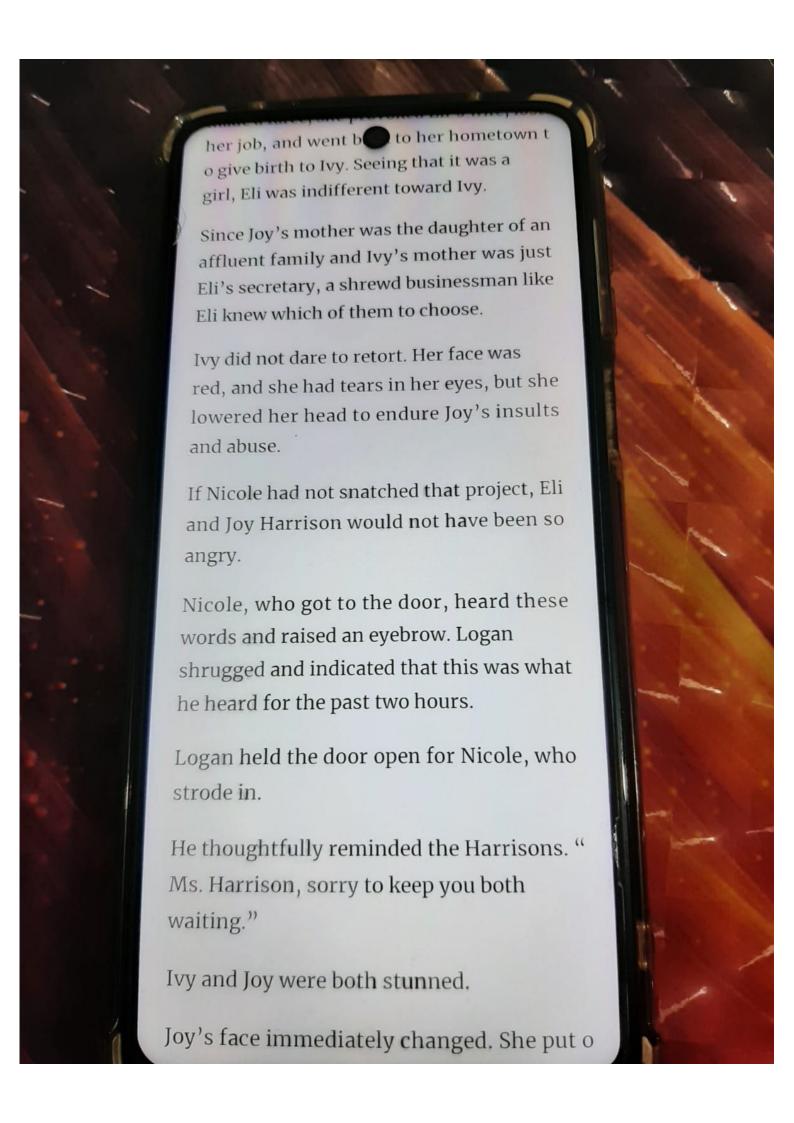
dating. Nicole thought about it and nonchalantly flipped her hair back. The diamond studs o n her earlobes were shimmering and eyecatching. As she raised her hand, she also revealed her watch and diamond bracelet worth tens of millions of dollars. "I'm so rich, so why should I stay with a scumbag?" Nicole blithely blurted out this casual sentence. However, she could not bring herself to say the true reason for leaving her past relationship. In fact, it was because of the disappointment she felt time and time again. The students were speechless. Right...

Everyone could see that she was rich!

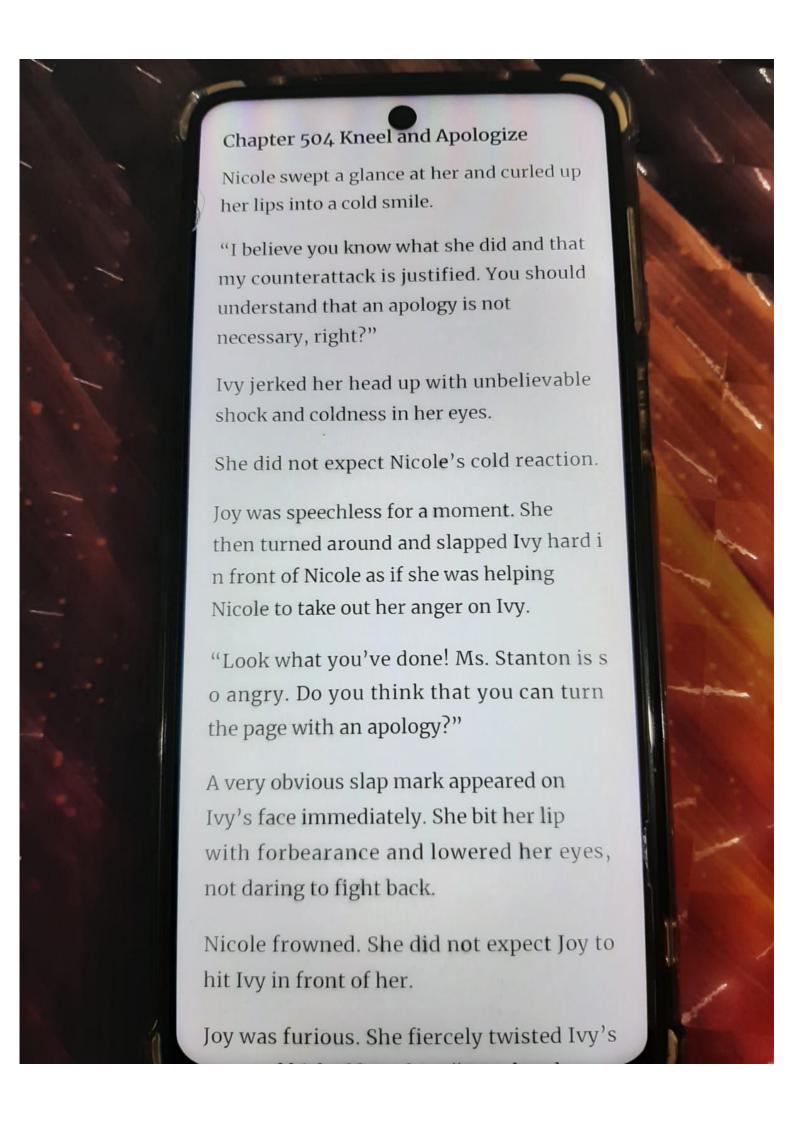


Clayton chuckled. "Those who only look a t someone's past are pathetic. I'm a little saddened that you don't seem to have trust in me." Nicole raised her eyebrows. At this time, her phone rang again, urging her. She glanced at it and bid goodbye to Clayton before walking in. "What is it?" Logan's voice came through the phone. " President, Joy Harrison from Harrison Corporation is here with Ivy Harrison." Nicole had taken away one of Harrison Corporation's projects to teach the Harrisons a lesson. Since she had close dealings with Sheldon Corporation, Harrison Corporation's archrival, the Harrisons could not sit idly by. She expected them to come to her, but she did not expect them to come so soon. Lounge. When Nicole arrived, Ivy and Joy Harrison had been waiting for nearly two hours. Ivy sat on the side apprehensively and





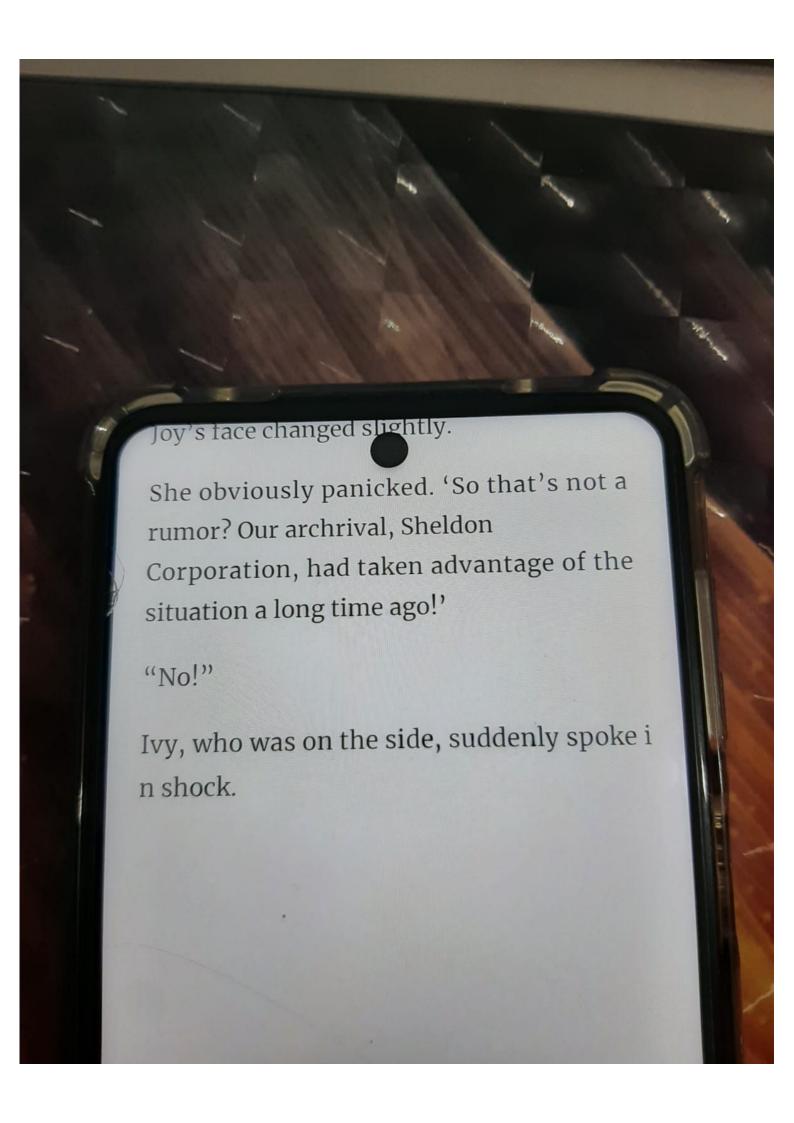
Joy's face immediately changed. She put o n an ingratiating smile and stood up to shake hands with Nicole. "Ms. Stanton, I've heard a lot about you. You're just as beautiful as they say..." Nicole smiled faintly. "Thank you, Ms. Harrison. To what do I owe this visit?" She was not in the mood to exchange pleasantries with them. Joy stiffened for a moment and let out a natural laugh. She pulled Ivy's arm and said, "We've told her to work well and learn well from you, Ms. Stanton, but this woman still caused you a lot of trouble when she was working at Stanton Corporation. My father found out and was so furious that h e was hospitalized. He instructed me to bring her here to apologize to you." Ivy looked timid and weak with tears in her eyes that were close to falling. She looked so pitiful and aggrieved. "I'm sorry, Ms. Stanton, it's all my fault." It was as if the whole world had to pity her. Otherwise, the world would seem cruel.

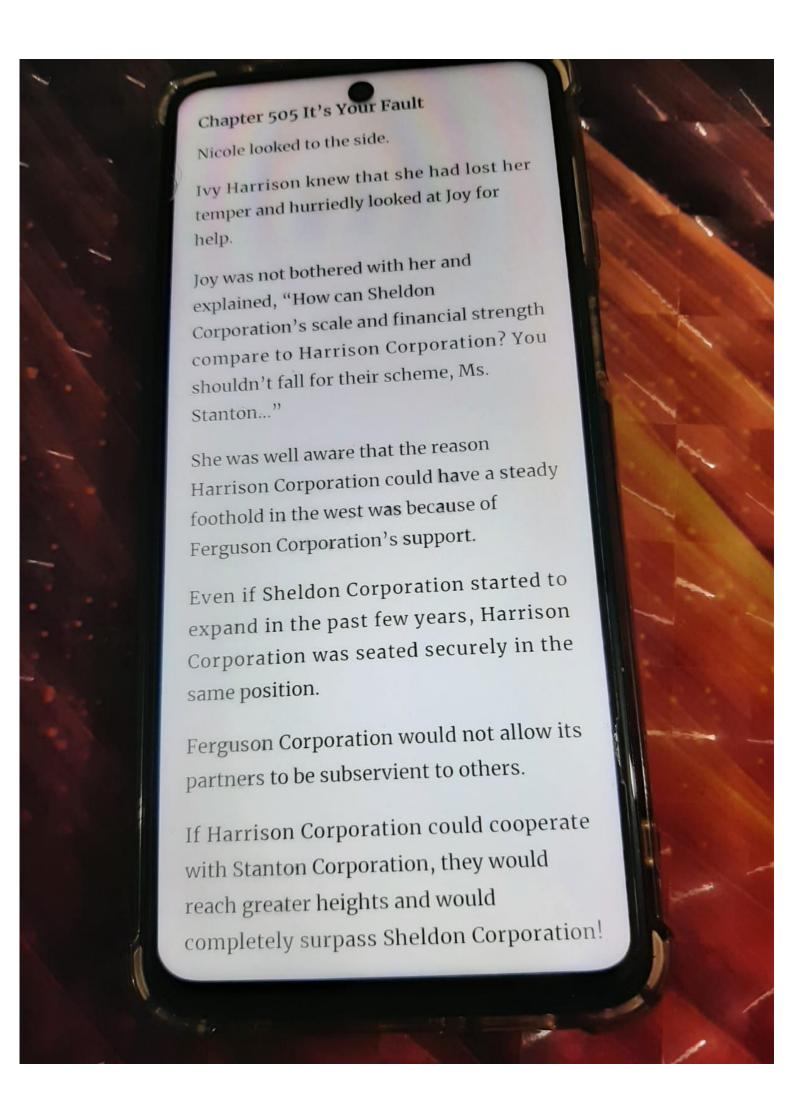


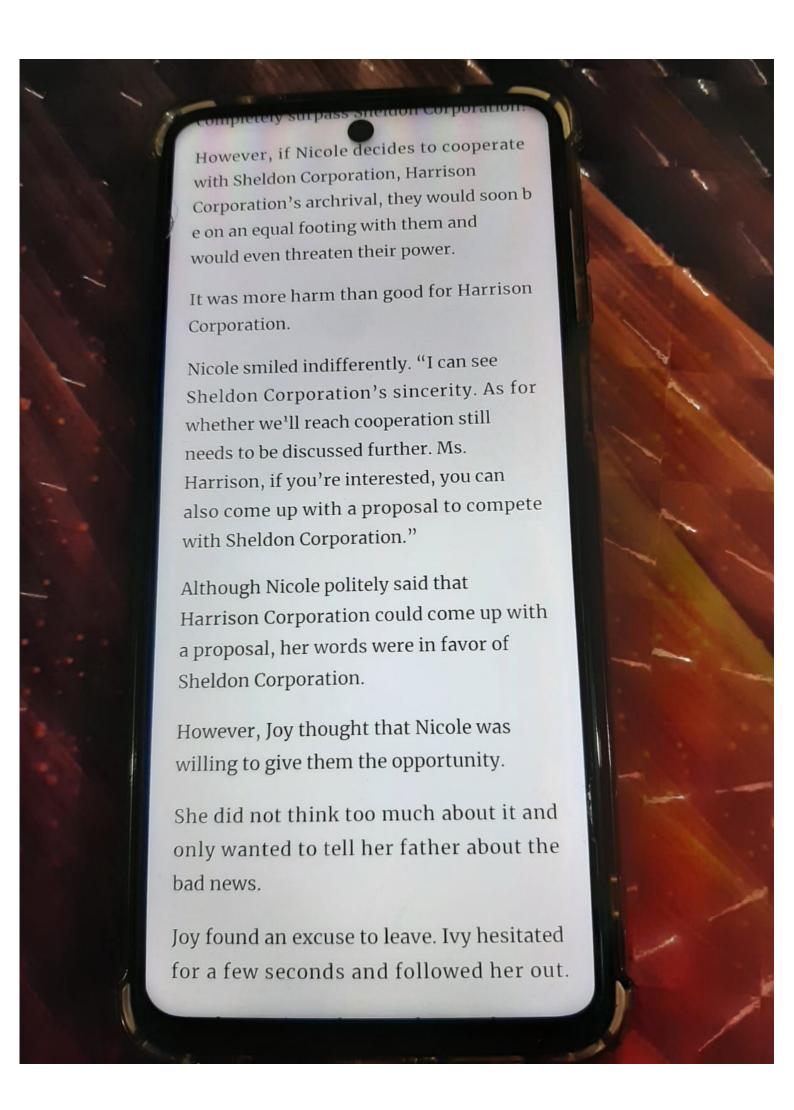
Joy was furious. She ercely twisted Ivy's arm and kicked her shin. "Kneel and apologize to Ms. Stanton!" Hearing that, Nicole froze. Even Ivy stiffened for a moment. "Come on, why are you hesitating? You've done something wrong, so why are you acting aggrieved?" Joy urged relentlessly. Anyway, as long as they could achieve their purpose, it was no big deal for Ivy to suffer some humiliation if it could appease Nicole. Ivy hesitated for a few seconds and was about to kneel, but Nicole stood up impatiently and intended to leave the lounge. "Ms. Harrison, Stanton Corporation isn't a place for you to teach your sister a lesson. Since there's nothing else, please leave." Joy stiffened and hurriedly went over to stop her. "Ms. Stanton, wait! I just wanted to let you vent your anger. Nothing else..."

t your anget. Nothing es Joy was secretly shocked by Nicole's reaction. In the past, Joy would scold her wimpy sister in her circle, but everyone would only watch the show in excitement. Why did Nicole look annoyed? "Actually, I came here this time on behalf of my father to talk to you about cooperation," Joy said with a straight face. Nicole paused in her footsteps. Her face was calm. "Then let's make it short." Joy breathed a sigh of relief and went back to her seat. She brushed her hair back and smiled brightly. "My father said that he wanted to cooperate with you when he first met you at a cocktail party in Santos Island. Unfortunately, you didn't have much interaction with him at that time, so he was regretful that he didn't get to settle it sooner." Nicole held a faint smile that did not reach her eyes. "It is quite regrettable." Ivy was left out on the side. She did not know whether to stand or sit, but no one bothered with her.

"So, I came over this time to determine the preliminary cooperation target with you. Harrison Corporation is quite big in the west, so it'll be best if our companies can work together." Joy had long heard Eli mentioning Nicole's intention to cooperate. She thought that Nicole would have the sense to accept her offer, but Nicole did not have the slightest expression after hearing everything that she said so far. "I think that Harrison Corporation can distribute Stanton Corporation's AI products and jewelry exclusively in the west. I guarantee that you'll get retail profit." Nicole laughed lightly. "Indeed, but Sheldon Corporation in the west also proposed cooperation with me with the same exclusive guarantee. Their proposal i s in the final stages and will be confirmed after the board meeting next week, so I can only express regret for cooperation with your company." Joy's face changed slightly.







Nicole was just about to leave when Ivy turned back. She raised her eyebrows, so Ivy spoke hesitantly and humbly. "Ms. Stanton, I know my mistake now. Can you please be magnanimous to let go o f that project that you snatched from Harrison Corporation?" Ivy thought that if they could not get this project back, she would either be tortured t o death by Joy, or she would have to go back to that poor dull life she once had. She did not want to become one of the mediocre working-class girls. Nicole's eyes sank. Her smile was clear and cold. "Ms. Harrison, I thought that you realized that your apology is not worth anything t o me. I don't need to accept it, nor do I care for it. This cooperation is just to maximize the interests and benefits of my company. I merely left a signal, but the other party reverted quickly. I didn't need

There were plenty of companies who

to snatch anything from Harrison

Corporation."

There were plenty o mpanies who wanted to cooperate with Stanton Corporation, but only lacked opportunities and contacts.

Ivy awkwardly bowed her head and looked cautious like she had said the wrong thing.

Pathetic.

"I'm sorry, but as you can see, I have no status at all in the Harrison family. If they lose such a big project because of me, they will throw me out. Joy won't let me off the hook as well..."

Ivy looked at Nicole. She bit her lower lip and gathered her courage to continue.

"You also wanted to give me the opportunity to get close to Mr. Ferguson in the beginning because you were sympathetic to me, right?"

Ivy looked at Nicole with teary eyes.

Nicole was indifferent and unmoved. She did not care for Ivy's pitiful life, especially after how Ivy schemed against her at that play. That little bit of sympathy Nicole felt for Ivy completely vanished.

She was not a saint, so she could not

She was not a saint, she could not possibly help every person who was more miserable than her.

Nicole was getting impatient.

She coldly raised her eyebrows. A layer of chill surfaced in those beautiful eyes.

"How about this, it's possible for me to break the contract..."

Ivy looked at her with unconcealed excitement.

Nicole continued, "Harrison Corporation can fork out three times the penalty and any losses that Stanton Corporation will sustain for breaking the contract. If you can do this, I'll give up this project immediately."

In an instant, Ivy looked like she was struck by lightning and froze in place.

She opened her mouth, but there was no sound.

Nicole added, "The contract amounts to three hundred million. I can't possibly pay for this just because of some ridiculous sympathy for you, right? You can inform Chairman Harrison or Joy

