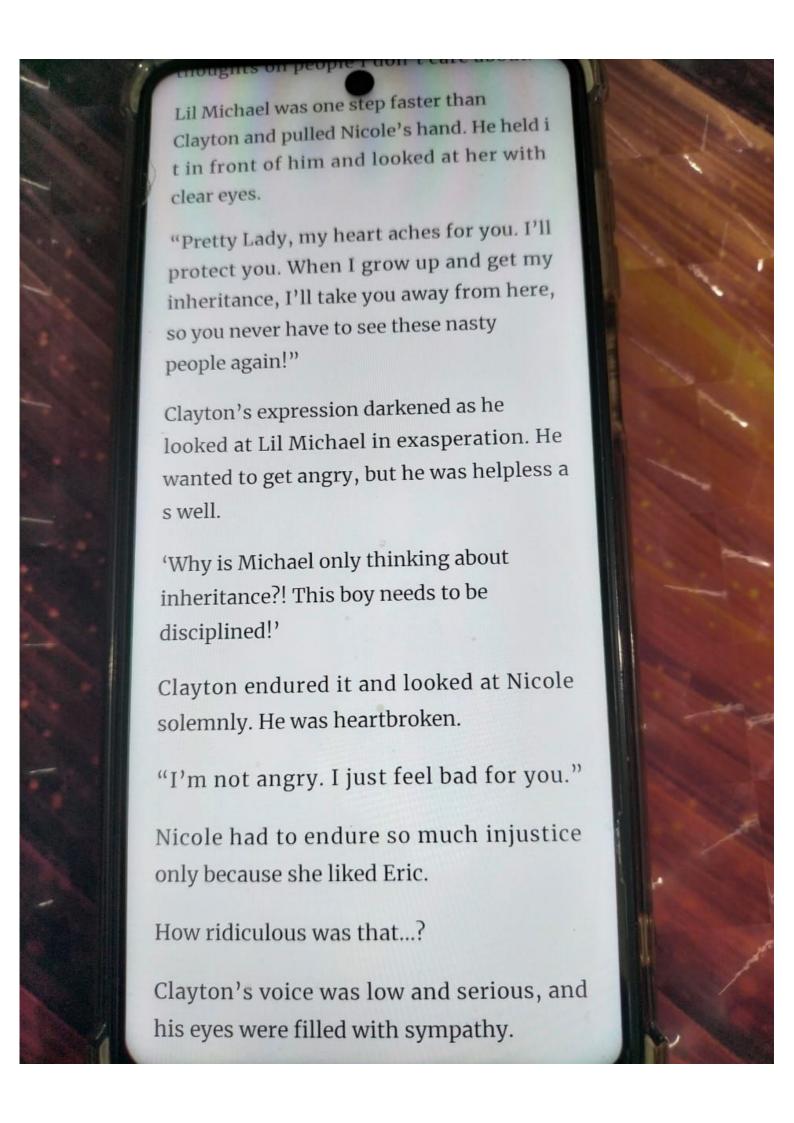
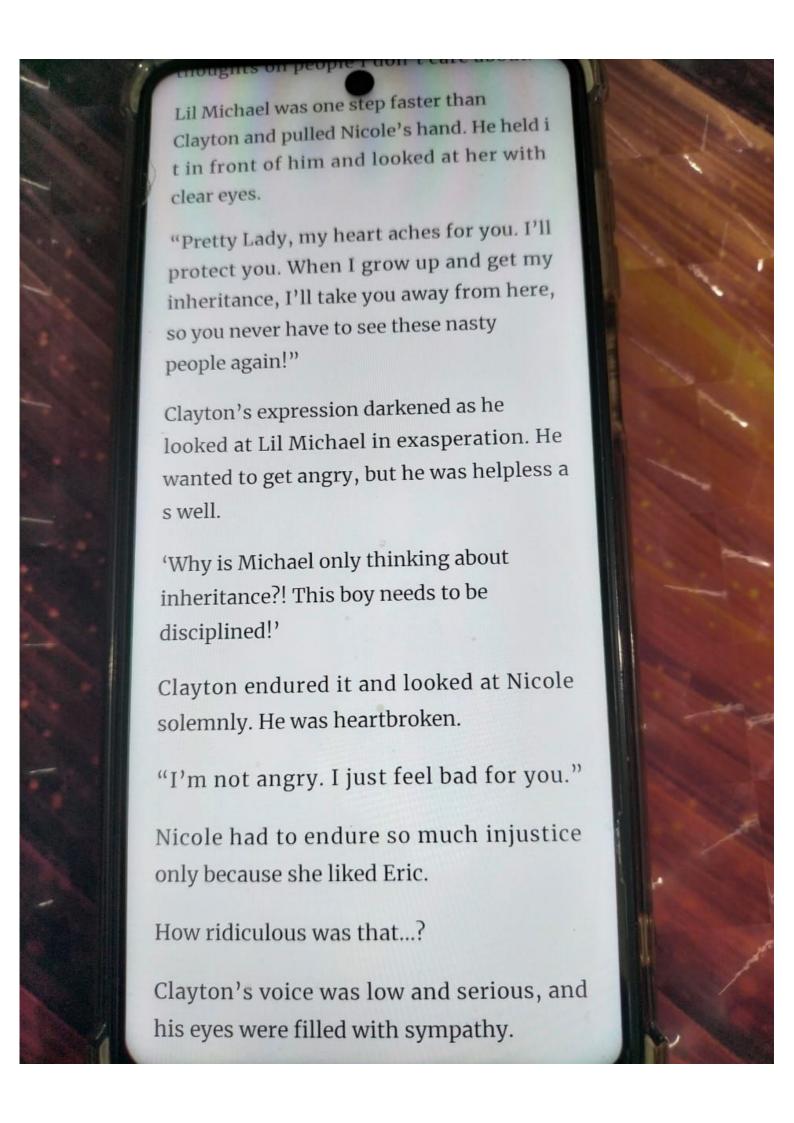


blatantly. Truth be told, Quinn was a little afraid of her son. Ingrid was still missing, but she almost forgot this lesson. Ivy felt Quinn's body start to tremble and hurriedly went over to support her. "Aunty, why don't we sit at the table over there?" Quinn was about to say something, but when she looked into Nicole's eyes, her throat seemed to be blocked with a mass o f cotton, making her unable to make a sound. The surroundings finally quieted down. Nicole continued to eat as if nothing happened, and Clayton looked at her with deep eyes, pursing his lips. "Ms. Stanton, you..." Was she not angry at all? Nicole smiled. "I'm used to it. I'm just sorry that you and Lil Michael got involved. I don't bother wasting my thoughts on people I don't care about."





Nicole's heart stumbled involuntarily. The next second, she lowered her head and smiled. Her phone rang again. Nicole glanced at it but did not answer it. She declined the call. After finishing the meal, Lil Michael refused to go with Clayton, but Clayton had an important meeting, so he had to leave early. Nicole called Yvette and asked her out to unwind. Yvette thought that "unwinding" meant going to a bar to drink, sing, dance, and flirt with male models. Thus, Yvette dressed up and looked particularly sexy and beautiful. However, when Nicole came to pick her u p, there was a little boy in the car. Lil Michael waved at her familiarly. "Hi, Madam!" 'Hmph!' Yvette sucked in a breath and was just about to get out of the car, but

was just about to good of the car, but Nicole did not give her the chance and started to drive. "Let's go, Ms. Quimbey ... " Nicole drove the car to a private amusement park. Lil Michael ran with joy the moment he went in. This playground was not open to the public and only received a few regular customers a day. Nicole knew the owner, so everything went smoothly. Each child had two personal maids to look after them and was responsible for their safety and other requests. Nicole and Yvette were also able to relax a little. The two of them sat in the lounge area with a cup of coffee each. Yvette saw her in seemingly low spirits and suddenly thought of something. "Have you heard about Eric Ferguson's engagement?" Nicole nodded.

Nicole nodded.

"So, it's true? I thought that he wouldn't agree..."

"In families like ours, marriage isn't something that's decided by one person. Personal opinions don't matter."

Nicole looked up. She was beautiful and dazzling.

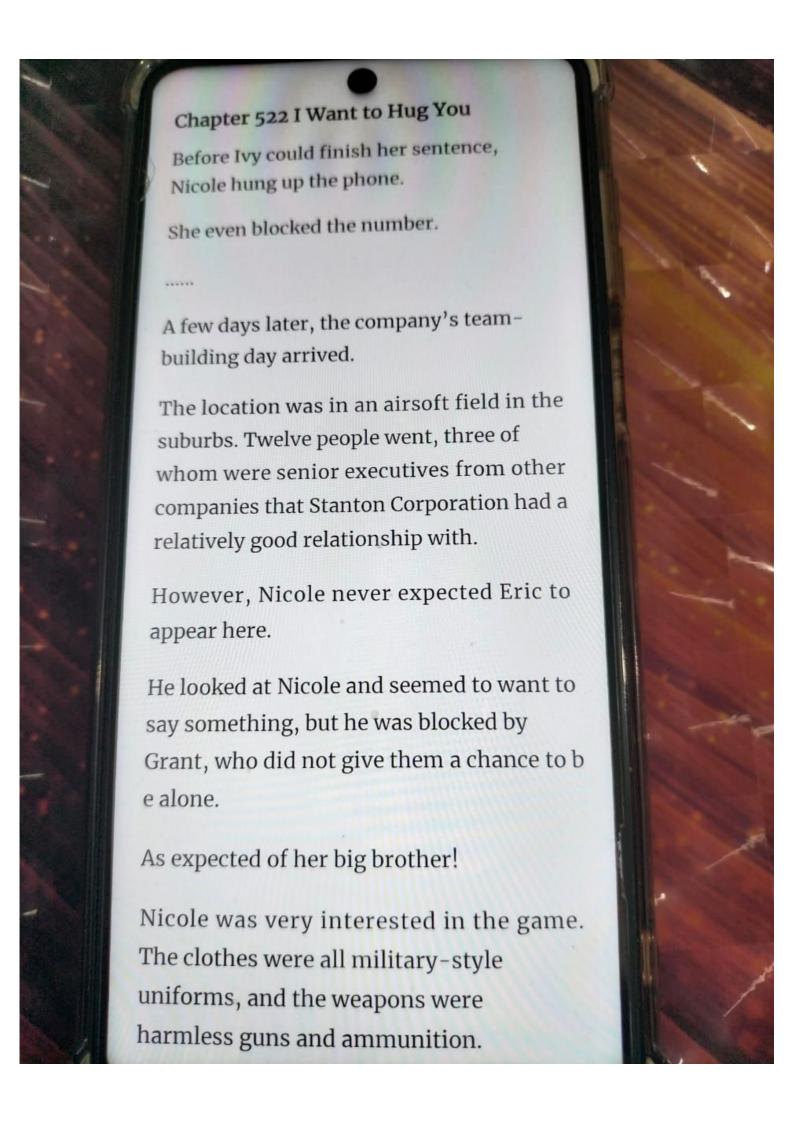
Her phone rang again.

She looked at the number. It was an unknown number.

Nicole hesitated for a moment before answering it.

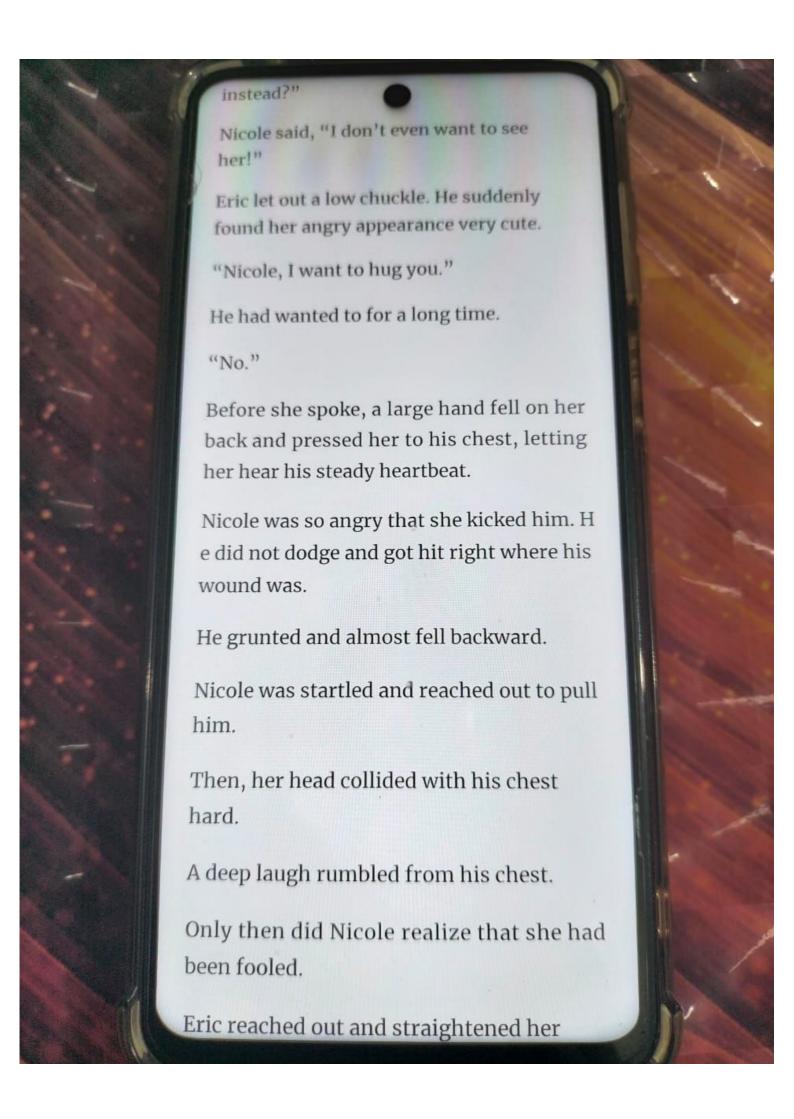
"Ms. Stanton, I'm Ivy Harrison. Can you please plead for Mrs. Ferguson...?"

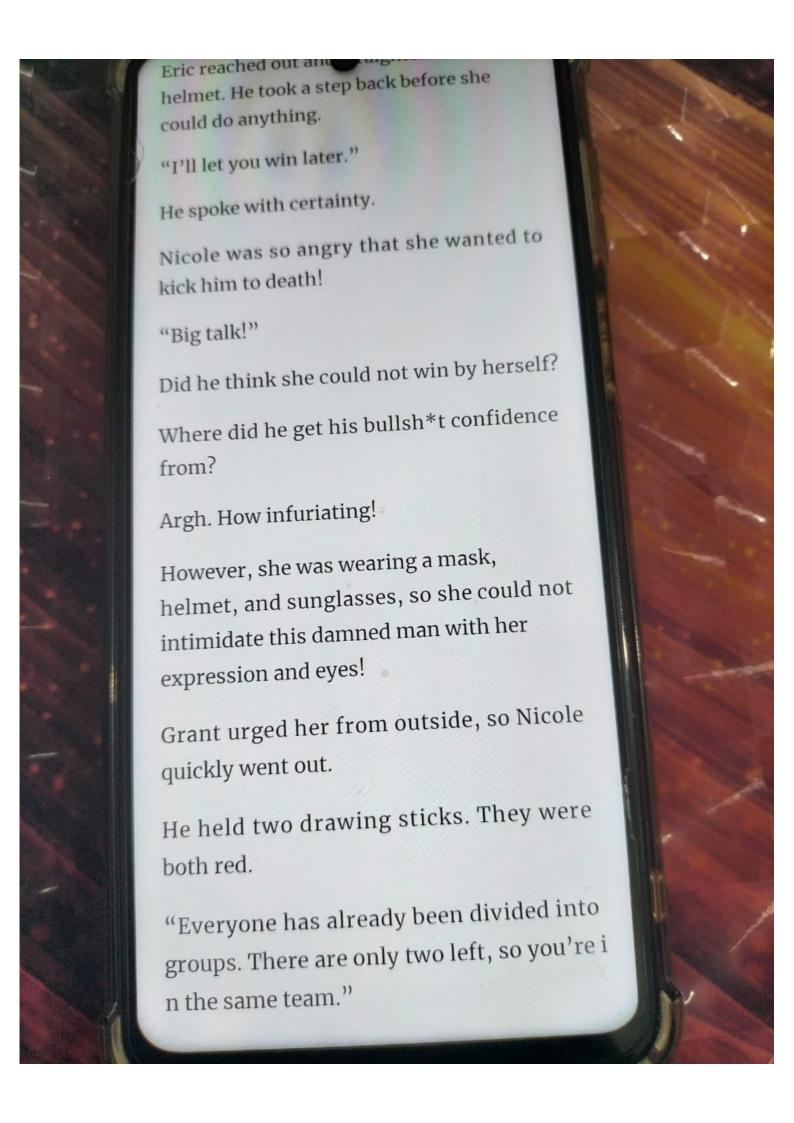
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She changed faster than the others in the locker room and was blocked by a tall and dark shadow when she came out. Everyone wore a mask, so no one knew who the other people were. Thus, there was no need to show mercy. However, Nicole still recognized the person in front of her. Eric Ferguson. She glared at him and said nothing. He was in military uniform. His tall figure, chilly aura, and hawk-like eyes were filled with a majestic coldness. It was like that autumn five years ago when he suddenly appeared in her life on the streets of Europe. Her mind was shaken for a moment. Nicole pursed her lips. "Move!" Eric looked down at her with waves surging in his eyes. That phone call made him uneasy. He knew that Quinn would not say anything nice.

However, when he heard that she was having a nice and intimate meal with Clayton and his son, his heart could not help but clench. It hurt a lot. Eric pursed his lips. His voice was low and raspy. "I'm sorry that you had to hear those nasty words." He clearly promised her that he would not let anyone from the Ferguson family speak ill of her again. However, Quinn still broke the rules. He spoke to Old Master Ferguson and sent her to a sanatorium abroad, unheeding of her screaming. Old Master Ferguson also agreed. Even if the Stantons and Fergusons were not connected by marriage, there was absolutely no reason to be enemies with the Stantons. Nicole said, "You didn't say anything. What are you apologizing for?" "Do you want to hear her apologize

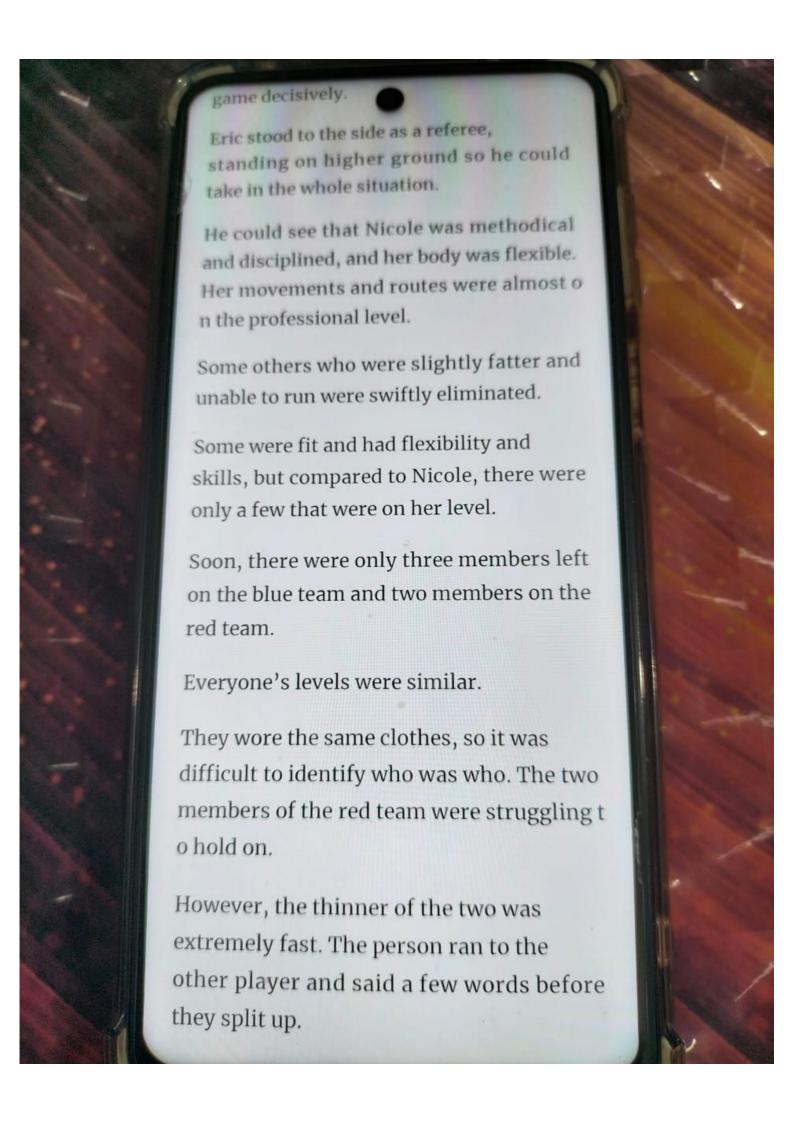


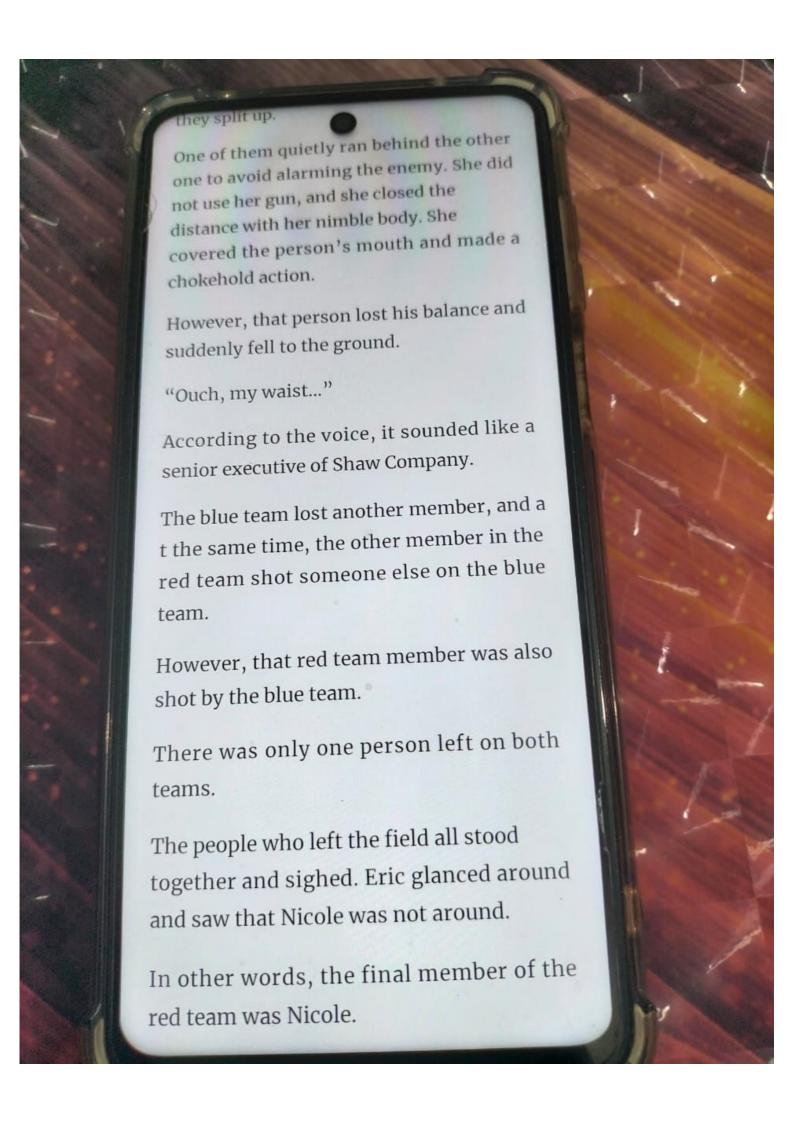


Nicole took the stick indifferently. Eric was very polite and stepped forward t o take the stick. "Thank you, Big Brother." 'F\*ck!' Grant froze and almost fell in shock! Everyone looked at them strangely. The words "big brother" seem to be able to separate one's soul from their body. Nicole said, "Can we start?" "Start!" Nicole raised the gun in her hand and shot the back of the person in front of her without hesitation. "Bang-" Eric was dead! "Hey, you're teammates!" Another member of the red team reminded her.

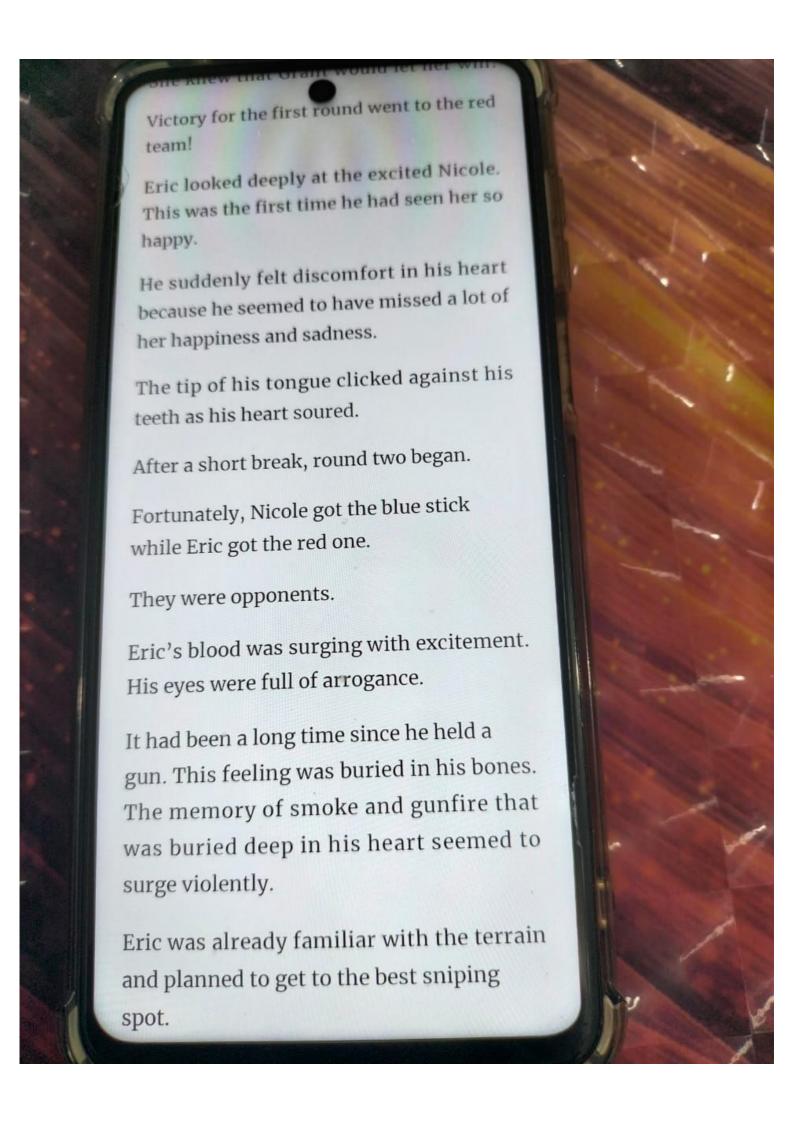
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that his father was gry, which meant that this old lady was a bad person. Lil Michael could not help but grunt coldly. "Pretty Lady is a princess. Bad old lady, you're not allowed to bully my princess!" Quinn sneered. "She'll become your wicked stepmother in the future!" In an instant, both Nicole and Clayton's expressions subconsciously darkened. The atmosphere was stagnant and cold. Ivy did not dare to say anything from the side, but she also realized that the situation was awry. The next second, Nicole pulled out her phone. She found a number and dialed it. The call was picked up in less than one ring. "Nicole?" Eric could not hide the shock and happiness in his tone. Nicole put the call on speakerphone.





A hint of admiration appeared in the man's eyes. The woman he had his eye on was really amazing! "Wait, is the blue team member President Grant?" Someone spoke up. Sure enough, only Nicole and Grant had not come back! The two siblings became rivals? This was going to be fun. Everyone's spirits lifted, and some even took out binoculars. However, before anyone could look for them seriously, someone fired a shot. Oh, it was over. The blue team member showed signs of being shot. Everyone shouted joyfully. Nicole dashed out with glee, giving a bear hug to the blue team member, Grant. She knew that Grant would let her win!



However, after taking just two steps, a shot was fired. There was a dull pain in his body.

'No way... I'm dead again?!'

"You're opponents in this game..."
Someone pointed out.

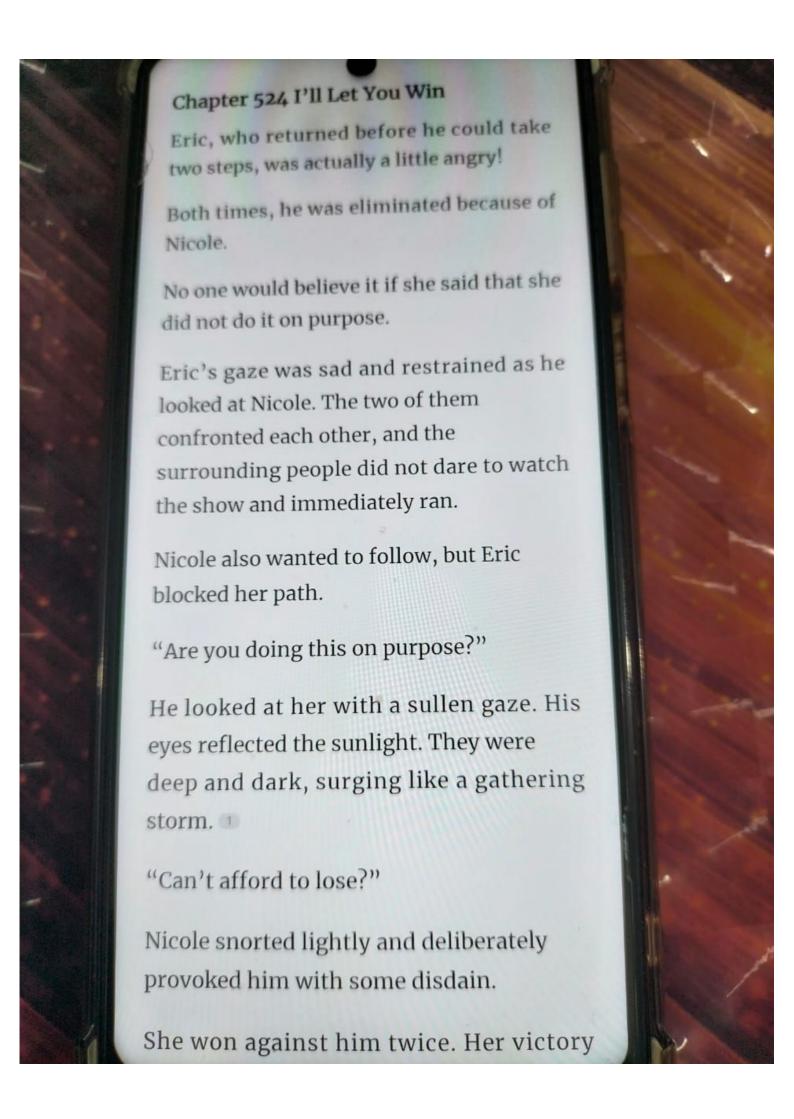
He was not an incompetent teammate anymore!

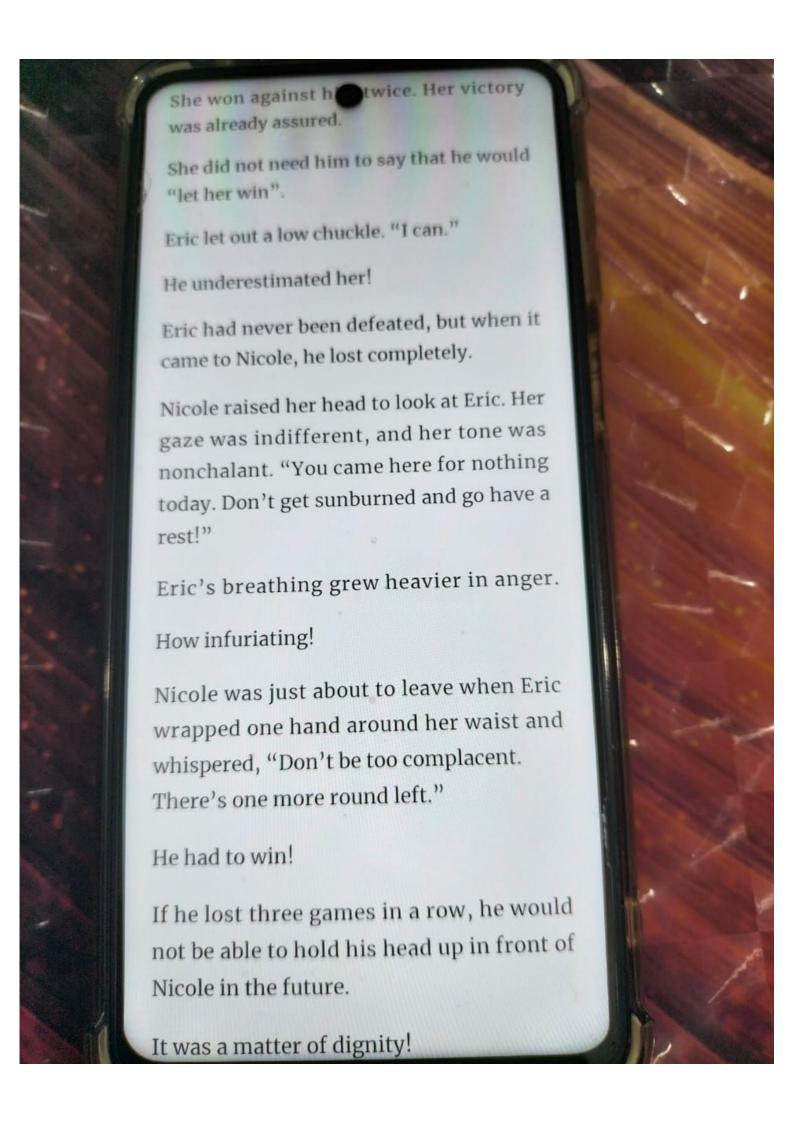
Nicole raised her brows. "Yeah, I killed the opponent!"

That was what she was supposed to do, right?

Everyone fell silent. They were speechless.

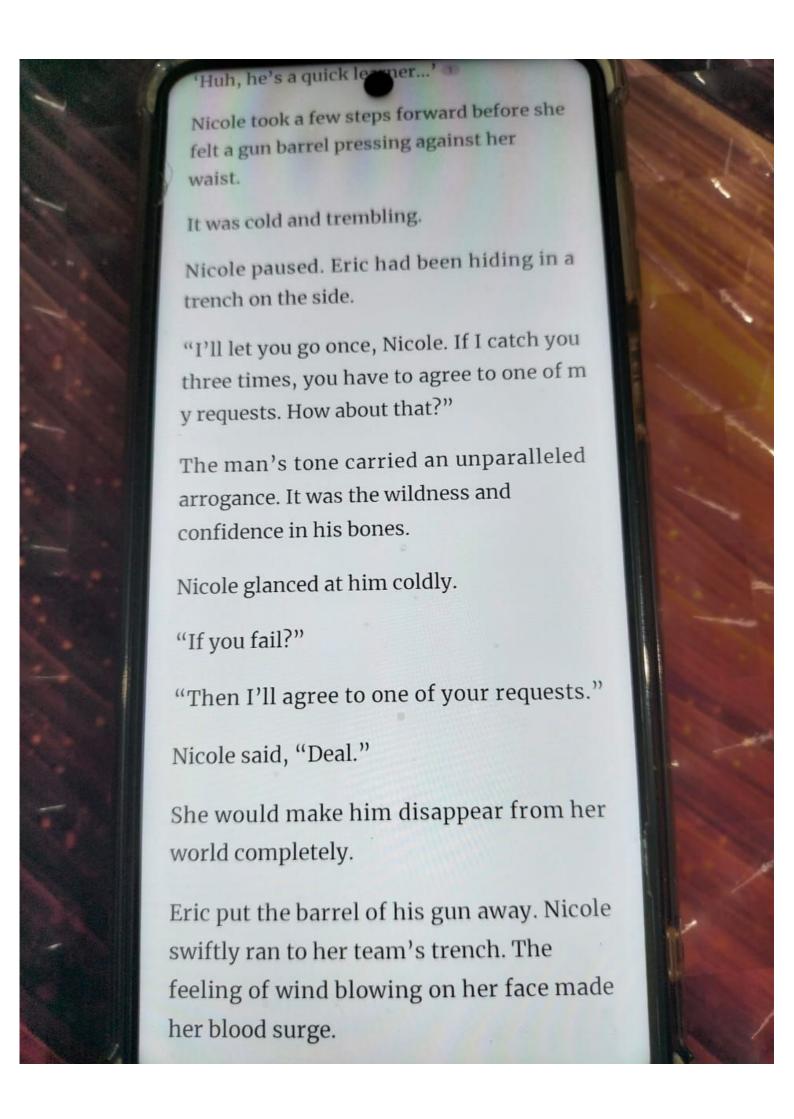
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Nicole sneered and fiercely yanked his hand away before running into the trench. Eric raised his eyebrows. His hand loosened as he looked at her back with a smile. Those eyes were bewitching and romantic, filled with a faint desire to conquer. In the second round, Nicole was careless and was shot by someone on the red team when she did not pay attention! Grant was the winner. Nicole was equally happy for him and went to get water and a towel for him. "Big Brother, you're awesome!" Grant smiled and said nothing when he saw Eric's bitter and envious look. To the side, an executive could not help but say, "President Grant and you are opponents! We're on the same team but w e don't get water service..." Everyone laughed. Nicole rolled her eyes at them.

"What can I say? I have double standards." The third round. Eric and Nicole were still opponents. Everyone's eyes when they looked at Eric carried a tacit sympathy. They knew that Eric's purpose in attending the event today was because of Nicole. Otherwise, why would he be in a teambuilding event when he was usually so busy that no one could get an appointment scheduled with him? At least they played in the first two games. However, Eric did not even have the chance to play. The moment it started, Nicole still subconsciously searched for Eric's figure. She would finish him first! However, he was gone the moment she turned around. 'Huh, he's a quick learner...'



her blood surge.

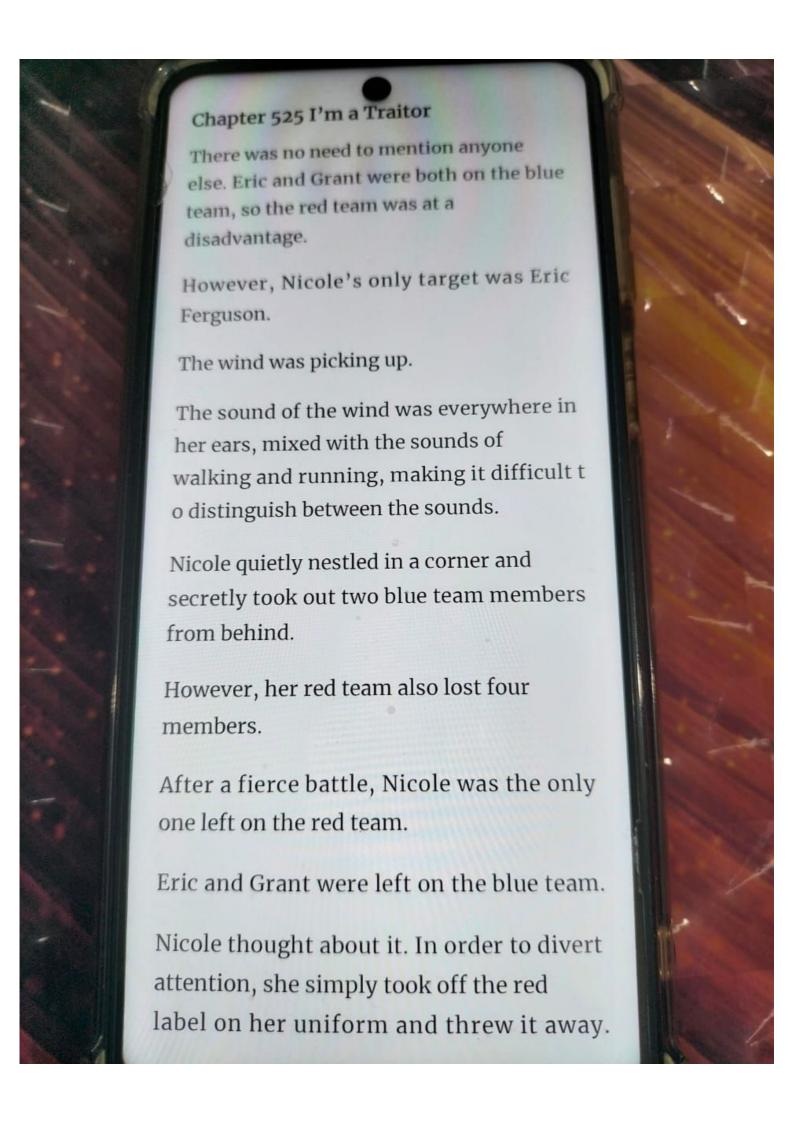
Her competitiveness was aroused. She did not believe that he would be able to catch her three times.

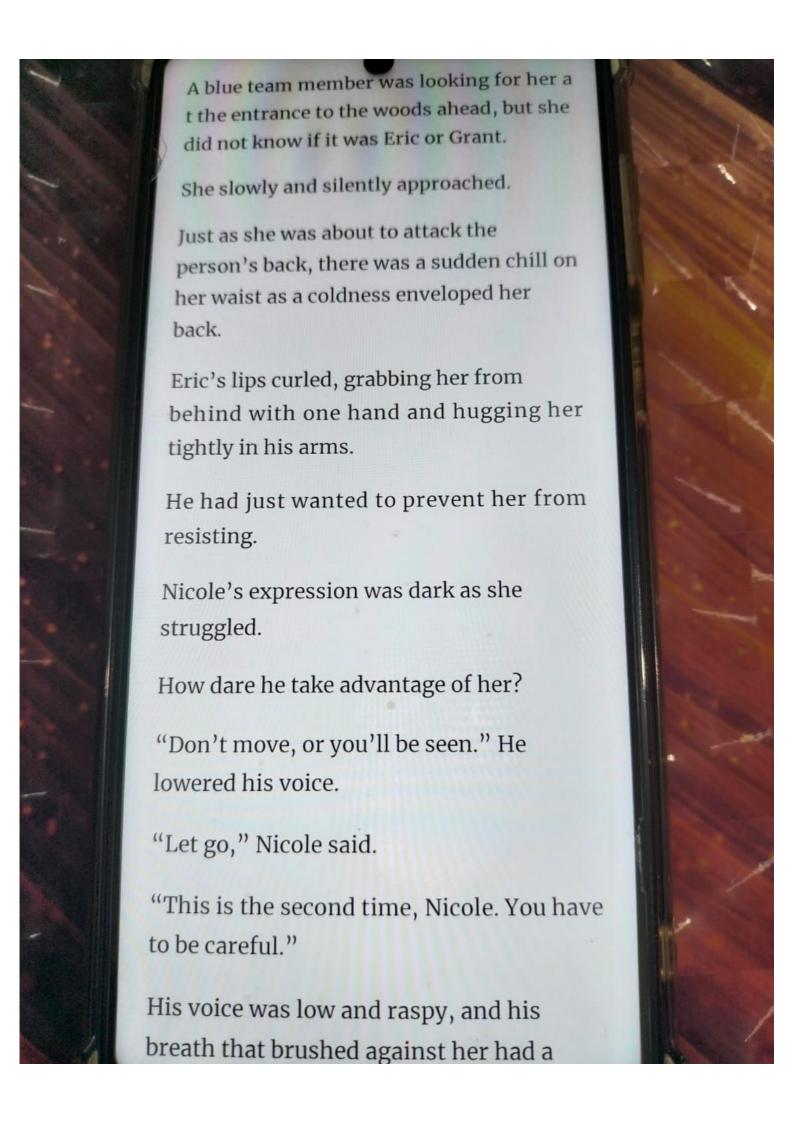
What a braggart!

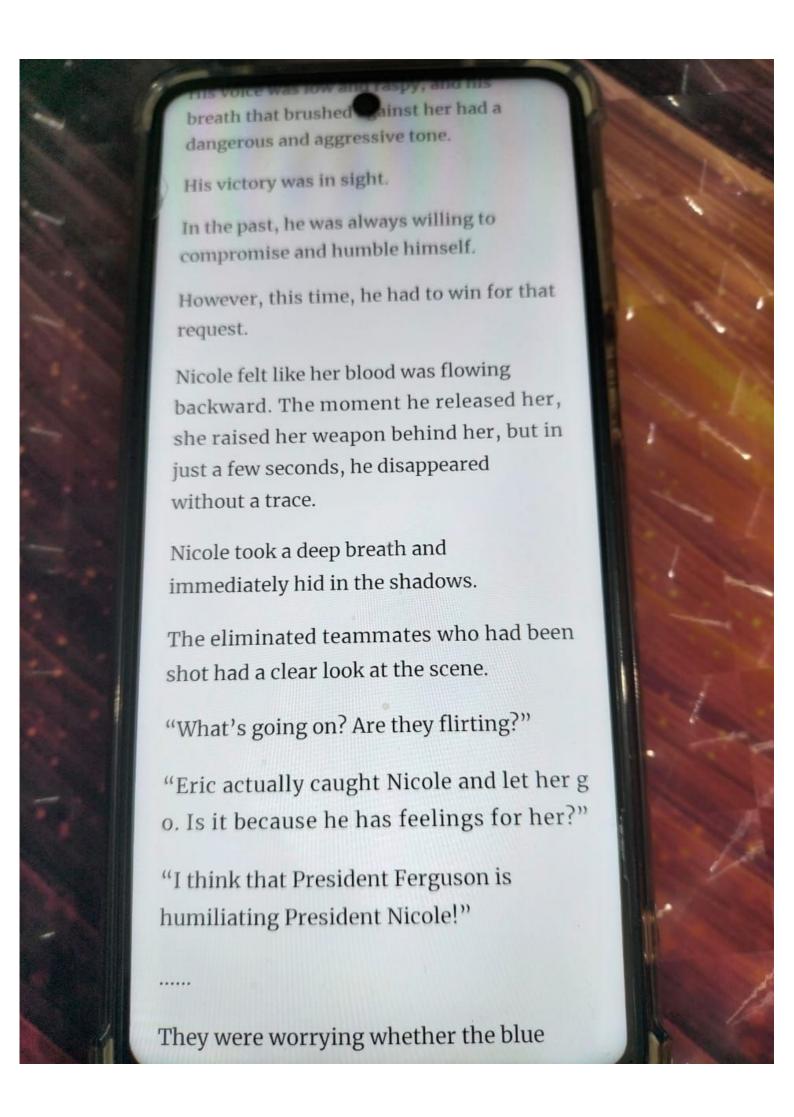
Eric's blue team seemed to have a proper plan and picked off their opponents one by one.

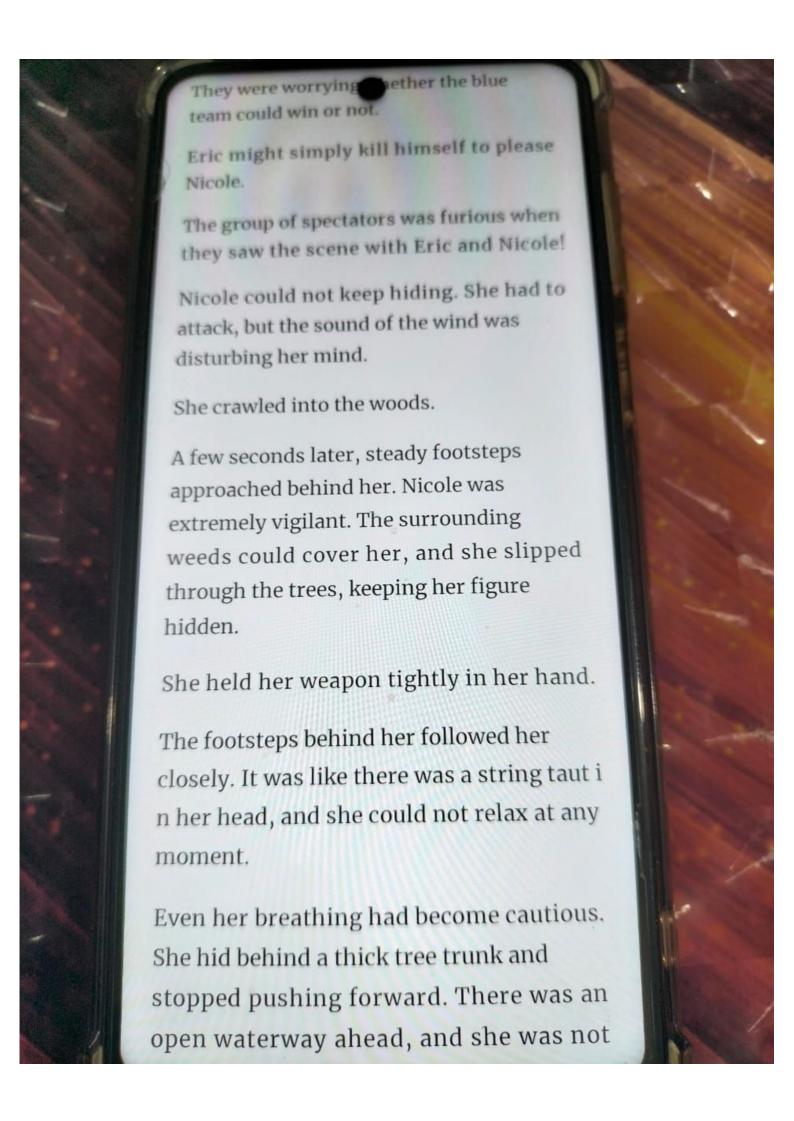
Nicole's heart raced as she listened to the gunshots in her ears. The blue team's fighting ability suddenly seemed to increase...

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good with water. Thus, she had to counterattack. She gently picked up her gun. The moment she carefully identified the footsteps approaching, she turned her head and fired in a single, fluid movement without hesitation. "Bang-" The sound pierced through the forest. The wind rustled. The next second, there was a sound from someone far away. A tall and slender figure lunged at her at the same time. He blocked the shot for her. "Brother?" Nicole subconsciously went to help him, but Grant waved his hand and got up. He rubbed his back which was hit. Then, he smiled as if nothing happened. "I'm fine." Eric came over from the distance with a frown.

STOWER P

They were clearly teammates, but Grant blocked that shot for Nicole. What was that supposed to mean?

Grant took off his tag without any change i n expression.

He looked at Eric and said, "Oh, I'm a traitor."

Eric and Nicole were speechless.

Grant gave them a faint glance. "You guys carry on. I'm eliminated."

Then, he picked up his stuff and left.

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