

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 811

Nicole was flummoxed at his statement. She opened her eyes and looked at him in disbelief.

You'd said that you haven't done things in secret? Are you kidding me? What about the bottle of paper stars? Is your date to stargaze with her not considered one as well?

Forthrightly, Nicole queried, "How was the starry sky tonight?"

Evan didn't understand her question. Hence, he gazed out of the French windows at the scenery outside. There was a multitude of stars dispersed across the clear night sky.

Furrowing his brows together in bafflement, he replied, "It's beautiful."

"Beautiful, you say?"

Unbelievable! You really are a bully! You'd dare to enjoy a stargazing session with another woman, telling me that the stars are beautiful?

Nicole suppressed the burning rage in her heart and followed up with another question. "What is more beautiful amongst the two, the stars in the night sky or the person whom you were watching it with?"

I want to hear your response to this! If you'd dare to say Susan, I'll skin you alive!

Evan was bewildered. He threw a quick glance at the sky before he turned to stare at Nicole. The person who'd watched the stars with me? Is she referring to herself?

Upon scrutinizing her appearance, he admitted, "I can't really tell, for the stars are too far away from me. Nevertheless, the person beside me is pretty."

He had always thought that she possessed a pure and innocent look. However, as of this moment, she appeared increasingly charming.

On the other hand, Nicole thought that he had watched the stars with Susan. Without further evaluation, she came to the conclusion that the person who Evan was referring to was none other than Susan.

She clenched her fists upon hearing his response. The sudden surge of all-consuming wrath welled up within her, ready to unleash its fury at any given moment, unannounced. Without thinking, she pitched the pillow beside her toward him.

Evan didn't notice the incoming attack and was hit by it. Infuriated, he glared at her. "What are you doing?"

What am I doing? I'm blowing off some steam, you idiot!

"Did you think that I was a pushover just because I'd never retaliated? I'll kick your ass!"

Nicole grabbed a pillow and struck him hard with all of her might.

At her ridiculous behavior, Evan gritted his teeth. How many times have you met with Levant in secret? You're acting like a crazy b*tch now! Not only have you avoided my gaze, rather, you have also begun to hit me? How unreasonable can you get?

"What kind of spell did he cast on you?"

He darted toward her in a split second, snatching the pillow from her hand as he threw it aside.

Nicole's heart skipped a beat the moment she caught sight of the furious look in his eyes.

Who was Evan referring to?

Seeing that she was rooted to the ground in a dazed state, Evan stretched his hands out to strangle her as he gritted his teeth. "What's so good about him, huh?"

Throttled, Nicole was unable to catch her breath. She slapped his arms, pleading for him to release her, but he wouldn't budge. "Tell me! When did you fall for him? Why are you having recurring secret meetups with him? Are you seeing him?"

Is he talking about Levant? He must have misunderstood, thinking that I was having an illicit relationship with that man!

Nicole could not utter a single word, so she shook her head with all of her strength.

Looking at her aggrieved expression and her watery eyes, Evan felt a pull at his heartstrings. He slowly released his grasp on her neck.

Nicole coughed twice as she drew in a few deep breaths.

Sh*t! My life had flashed before my eyes earlier! I think that I just had a near-death experience! If he had increased his grip by slight, I would have been sent up to God! How could he be so cruel to me? That b*stard!

“Why did you shake your head? Do you have anything to say?” he asked.

Nicole fell silent and was lost in thought. What should I say to him? I mean, I can't tell him the truth. If I were to come clean with him, my father's life would be in danger. I can't take that risk!

Even after a long moment of contemplation, nothing came to her mind.

Her eyes were darting about while she remained silent. Upon catching sight of that, Evan commanded, “I forbid you from meeting him up from this moment onwards!”

I never wanted to meet him either! Nevertheless, my father is at his mercy. I had no other option!

Evan was upset when he took notice of her stumped expression. Without delay, he turned his back on her and stormed toward the bathroom, yanking open the door. A loud bang was heard consequently.

Nicole sucked in a long and deep breath. It seems like he's misunderstood me big time.

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Hmph! Even if he misunderstood that there's something going on between me and Levant, he still shouldn't have been with Susan on purpose.

Holding that thought in her head, Nicole felt as if she was suffocated by it.

Meanwhile, Evan had just finished bathing and was drying his hair. Coincidentally, his phone rang and he answered.

"Mr. Seet, something has happened at the company."

"What is it?"

"One of our projects has encountered a problem. The previous project manager who may have been bribed filed a complaint. He said that the materials of our energy-saving equipment are substandard. Hence, all the energy-saving equipment in the A zone has been reaudited. And the auditors found problems with them. Consequently, we are unable to complete the project and will be in breach of our contractual obligations."

"What?"

Evan was both shocked and surprised. He walked towards his study with the phone in his hands.

At the same time, Nicole was stunned when she overheard Evan's conversation. The consecutive problems at Seet Group seemed to be caused by Levant.

Am I the reason Levant is attacking Evan relentlessly?

Silent in thought, she suddenly received a message from Levant: Something has happened to the Seet Group again. I wonder if foolish Evan still has the energy to manage?

It's really him!

Nicole texted back: Levant, what are you planning to do?

In just a few moments, another text message appeared, reading: Nicole, if you want his misfortune to end, you should break ties with him as soon as possible. Five days later when you see Dad, we will return to K Nation together.

Return to K Nation in five days?

Levant told her that he would take her to see Stephen five days later. She didn't expect him to have such a plan.

He must be resolute in making sure I break up with Evan.

With that in mind, Nicole replied: Levant, I'll hate you if you do this.

Ding! Another message popped out: It doesn't matter. I don't care about what you think of me as long as I can see you. Anyway, consider your options carefully. Or else, Evan will face a devastating catastrophe next!

Clenching her phone, Nicole's heart raced furiously.

Despite the strength of the Seet Group, Levant was ruthless in his methods even if it meant mutual destruction. Nevertheless, it was still devastating for Evan.

Five days.

If I refuse him in five days, will he do something even more drastic?

My father's life.

The stability of Seet Group.

Should I leave with Levant?

It's not like Evan can't be together with Susan. Weren't they happy when they watched the stars together?

Laying on her bed, she turned around restlessly as she couldn't sleep at all. It was already midnight when Evan returned to the room exhausted.

Nicole asked softly, "What happened?"

Evan replied. "It's nothing." Getting back into bed, he closed his eyes.

Silence ensued.

Evan will be fine.

Everything will be alright.

The next day.

The weather was clear on a weekend.

The children didn't need to go to school; hence, they wreaked havoc at home. Juan was making a fuss about going to Seet Residence to visit Grandpa and Grandma.

Maya nodded in agreement. "Mommy, my dietician has taught me how to make new desserts. I want to let Grandpa and Grandma try them."

Since it was rare for Maya to be so filial, Nicole nodded. "Alright. I'll take you to Seet Residence. I need to enquire about the latest news on Uncle Davin anyway."

"Okay."

Juan and Maya cheered in joy. Despite having no reaction, Kyle and Nina were also secretly glad.

After driving to Seet Residence, Nicole unexpectedly bumped into Susan at the entrance.

What is she doing here?

When Susan saw them, she greeted them warmly.

“Ms. Lane, what a coincidence.”

“That’s right, I didn’t expect to see you here.”

Susan grinned. “I was with Evan last night, and he mentioned that his mother was not feeling well. So, I dropped by for a visit.”

Nicole was speechless.

Is Sophia not feeling well? Why didn’t I know about it?

Evan didn’t tell me, and yet he told Susan. What’s the meaning of this?

When Susan saw Nicole’s expression darken, her eyes flashed with joy. “Ms. Lane, why don’t we go in together?”

Nicole nodded. The four children dashed into the living hall just like young ponies unleashed into the wild.

The moment they entered the bedroom, they saw Sophia sitting on a luxurious leather sofa with an IV drip connected to her.

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“Mrs. Seet, what happened to you?”

“Mom, what happened to you?”

After both of them greeted Sophia at the same time, Nicole looked at Susan in surprise.

I addressed Sophia as Mrs. Seet, but Susan greeted her as Mom?

Where did that even come from? Does she still think that she’s Evan’s wife?

“I’m fine. I just felt chilly suddenly. Thanks for taking the trouble to visit me. Please have a seat.”

Susan sat beside Sophia on purpose. Her tone was gentle and sincere, “Last night, I heard Evan mention that you weren’t feeling well. Mom, why didn’t you call me? I would have come back to take care of you.”

Meanwhile, Sophia was also surprised by Susan’s use of the word “Mom”.

“Susan, you’re still addressing me as...”

“Mom, it has become a habit after such a long time. So please bear with me. Besides, when you came to visit me after I saved Evan, didn’t you say that you will treat me like your own daughter? That’s why it’s only natural that I greet you as Mom.”

Sophia was lost for words.

The next moment, she raised her head towards Nicole and said, “Susan just wants to be Evan’s sister. So Nicole, please don’t take it to heart.”

Susan was stunned as she didn’t imagine Sophia would say such a thing. It was obvious that she was worried Nicole would misunderstand.

Little did she expect that the members of the Seet family loved Nicole so much.

The four children have really solidified Nicole's position as the Seet family's daughter-in-law.

However, luck is ever-changing. Very soon, Evan will break up with Nicole.

Very soon...

"Great-grandpa."

"Great-grandpa."

"Great-grandpa."

"Great-grandpa."

As Russell descended the steps, the four children fell into line and bowed to him in unison.

When he saw how disciplined the children were, Russell's wrinkled face couldn't hide the joy he felt.

"Alright, alright, all of you really made my day! Come, let me take a look at you."

The four of them approached Russell and stood at attention.

Beaming, Russell laughed and tousled both Juan and Kyle's hair. "You two naughty boys." He then patted Nina on her shoulder. "You're growing to be more and more beautiful, just like your Mommy!"

Nina raised her chin proudly – she agreed that she was pretty.

Finally, when Russell looked at chubby Maya, his deep-set eyes suddenly lit up. Maya was smiling at him, and the dimples on her chubby cheeks exposed themselves. She was simply an explosion of cuteness.

When he saw her smiling, Russell smiled back in return. He reached out and pinched her chubby face. “Why have you grown to be so fat and fair?”

Maya rolled her eyes when Russell commented that she was fat. “Great-grandpa, I’m on a diet. The dietician has set a menu for me. As long as I stick to it, I will definitely lose weight.”

“Lose weight? Why? Don’t lose weight. Being big and strong makes you look exactly like a child of the Seet family.”

Huh? Everyone is complaining that I’m fat, and yet Great-grandpa tells me that I’m big and strong.

Maya gave him a confused look. “Great-grandpa, do you like fat children?”

Russell nodded after giving it some thought.

“What’s wrong with being a little chubby? You should eat whatever you want.”

Nina, who heard their conversation, stared at her great-grandpa with her eyes widened in shock. The image of Maya growing up to be as fat as a pig emerged in her mind. She couldn’t help but spread out her arms and measured them against Maya as she imagined how big and fat Maya would become.

Maya frowned. “Nina, what are you doing?”

“I was just thinking... once you’re as big as a ball, going to school will be extremely convenient. All you need to do is to curl yourself up and roll all the way there. In fact, your new skill would be called – Maya’s unstoppable roll.”

“Hahaha.”

When Juan imagined Maya rolling on the ground, he couldn't help but burst out in laughter.

Even Russell was amused by their humor. He mumbled, “That's wonderful! You can reach school in no time then.”

By the time she reached school, her face would be swollen while her body would be covered with wounds. In fact, she might not even make it to school as she would have been run down by traffic along the way.

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Maya was upset and gave Nina the side-eye. She knew that Nina would jump at any opportunity to tease her. Hence, she had to lose weight as she didn't want to be as fat as a ball. She intended for Nina to see how she could be as thin as a stick instead.

When Nicole saw how happy Russell was bantering with the children, she walked to his side and greeted softly, “Grandpa, how are you feeling?”

Russell sighed. “Age is catching up, and it's natural to have aches and pains here and there. However, those are trivial issues and not a problem at all.”

“Grandpa, I'll treat you with acupuncture in a while, it will ease your discomfort.”

Looking at her, Russell's expression darkened. “If you really want to be filial, you should marry Evan as soon as possible. I don't want to bring up what happened in the past. I'm sure that your deceased Grandma won't blame you for it.”

When Russell first found out that it was Nicole's father, Zane, who killed Evan's Grandma in an accident, he vehemently objected to their relationship.

But now, Nicole felt her heart warm when she heard him say something like that. "Grandpa, thank you."

"Don't thank me. I already know everything. You're not Zane's daughter. Instead, you're Sir Musgrave's own flesh and blood." Just as she spoke, Russell let out a depressing sigh. "I know you had it tough early in your life. You bore four children for the Seet family and raised three of them alone. I deeply appreciate all that you have done. So, quickly pick a date and get yourself married to Evan. I can't wait to attend your wedding."

To arrange a wedding with Evan...

But, Levant gave her five days' time and one day had already gone by. She couldn't imagine what would happen four days later.

"What's wrong? Are you not willing to marry Evan?"

"Grandpa, Evan has been occupied by work recently. Also, I am equally busy too. Hence, both of us have decided to postpone the wedding to a later date."

Russell became upset. "What are you guys so busy for? Is that even an excuse? I'm going to call Evan now. I want to tell him personally that the wedding must be held as soon as possible."

Russell acted decisively as he whipped out his phone and called Evan on the spot.

"Evan, you should organize your wedding with Nicole as soon as possible. I can't wait to attend the celebrations."

At the meantime, Nicole had mixed feelings about it.

If it wasn't for Levant, Nicole would be delighted to hear Russell pestering Evan to marry her.

But now...

After ending the call, Russell's face was filled with joy as he looked at Nicole. "Evan has agreed to hold your wedding as soon as possible. When he returns tonight, both of you should discuss it. If you need anything, just let me know."

Evan agreed?

Nicole was briefly stunned. However, she acknowledged, "I understand, Grandpa."

Hearing that, Russell's face became radiant with joy. "Good. This is a grand occasion for the Seet family; hence, we must definitely have a big celebration. Don't worry. I fully support both of you."

"Thank you, Grandpa."

Grand occasion?

Susan, who heard the conversation, clenched her fist discreetly while maintaining a smile on her face. However, her eyes that were glaring at Russell flashed with devious schemes.

When the children heard that Daddy and Mommy were going to have a wedding, they cried out in joy and started planning for it together.

Everyone in the Seet family was delighted as Sophia held Nicole's hand to reassure her.

"Nicole, if you need anything, do let us know, and don't be shy. You're already family."

"Alright, thank you Mrs. Seet."

"Why are you still addressing me as Mrs. Seet when you're about to get married?"

"Um... Thank you, Mom."

"Wonderful! Wonderful indeed! Once you marry Evan, you should strive to have a few more children. There's no point in placing our hope in Davin anymore, as we haven't even heard from him the last few days. The legacy of the Seet family is now in both you and Evan's hands."

Nicole smiled faintly despite the turmoil in her heart. They place their hopes in me and Evan, but do we even have a future together?

Nightfall, after being coaxed by Sophia, the children agreed to spend the night at Imperial Garden.

Nicole was about to pick them up from Imperial garden when she heard their decision, so she no longer needed to do so.

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When she returned to her bedroom, she felt a sense of dread.

Just a while ago, she gave John a call who told her that things didn't look good for Seet Group. Although Levant was desperately causing trouble for the company, he didn't have anything to gain.

Furthermore, he could not keep up the attacks beyond the next few days. Hence, he wouldn't be able to stay long in Y City.

Therefore, that was the reason why he wanted her to follow him back to K Nation.

There are still four more days. How am I going to spend my time with Evan?

The matter with Susan felt like a thorn on her side.

Evan, I'll spend the next four days with you. As for the rest of your life, why don't you spend it with her? Alright?

At that moment, someone knocked on the door. A maid came to inform her that dinner was ready.

After putting on her shoes, she walked toward the dining hall. Before this, her children and Evan would eat together with her. However, today she was alone and suddenly feeling a bout of emptiness.

As she looked at the delicious and exquisite spread on the table, she picked up her phone and gave Evan a call.

After a long while, he finally answered.

“Hello?”

The familiar voice was deep and raspy as usual. Nicole paused in silence. “Evan, are you coming back for dinner?”

“I’m not.”

“Can you come back and eat with me?” Nicole gathered her courage to ask.

Evan took a deep breath. “I’m still in the midst of an emergency meeting and don’t know when it will end. Why don’t you go ahead and don’t wait up.”

With that, he ended the call.

As Nicole looked stared at the dark screen, she felt a void open up in her heart.

After finishing her dinner in a lackadaisical manner, she felt even more lonely. Hence, she stood up and returned to her room.

Coincidentally, her phone rang.

Thinking it was Evan, she quickly picked up. However, when she realized it was Levant, the sparkle in her eyes lost its shine.

“What is it?” She answered impatiently.

“Nicole, I have prepared a gift for you. Why don’t you come over and see if you like it?”

“Now?”

“Yes, I’ll wait for you!”

Just when Nicole felt that it wasn’t convenient to do so tonight and was looking for an excuse to decline, Levant added, “You must come. Sir Musgrave wants me to tell you something.” With that, he ended the call.

Nicole let out a long sigh as she understood what Levant’s last sentence meant. He was using Stephen to threaten her again.

Hence, she had no choice but to go despite her dreading to do so.

Fortunately, Evan was in a meeting and would not return home anytime soon. He won’t notice that I’m gone, will he?

Nicole grabbed her jacket and bag before leaving Imperial Garden for Levant Winery.

Along the way, her heart felt tense as Levant had an ulterior motive every time he wanted to see her.

Despite saying that he had a present for her, Nicole knew deep down that it was definitely something else.

At the same time, Evan had found out about her clandestine meetings with Levant. Although she didn’t know how, she had a hunch that it had something to do with Levant.

His objective was to sow discord between her and Evan.

It would also be good if that’s the case.

When it was time for her to leave, Evan wouldn’t feel as reluctant to let her go. He would probably only hate her for a while.

Outside the car window, the bright neon lights of the night flashed as she passed them by. Nicole hoped that the journey would be longer as she dreaded to see Levant.

Finally, after thirty minutes, her car stopped outside Levant Winery.

After she alighted from her car, she was greeted by the colorful lights that dotted the winery. Left with no other choice, she strode inside in resignation.

When Levant saw her, a smug smile broke out across his face.

“Nicole, you’re here.”

Nicole let out a long sigh. Wanting to dispense with the small talk, she broached the topic directly. “What did you want to see me about at this ungodly hour?”

Levant stood up and casually handed her a box from his drawer.

“Nicole, I have prepared this especially for you. Why don’t you see if you like it?”

Nicole hesitated a moment as she was reluctant to accept it.