

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 421

Evan leveled a suspicious gaze on Nicole, not knowing how much she had heard.

In response, Nicole shot him a small smile as she pretended like she had not heard a thing. Her tone was calm as she urged, "Let's get to bed."

So she really didn't hear anything?

He nodded, not saying anything more.

Turning around so that her back was facing him, a bitter smile curled Nicole's lips.

Is it fate that we'll never be able to be husband and wife?

In truth, she had vaguely made out some of Sophia's words.

She could understand the Seet family members' attitudes.

After all, this was an incident where a person's life had been cut down prematurely.

Sophia had always been rather supportive of Nicole and Evan being together. Yet, this time, even she was advising her son to stop being so stubborn.

Will Evan really breakup with me?

A terrible sadness flashed through her eyes. After a moment, she pushed aside her raging emotions and walked toward their bedroom.

Evan followed her into the room, a small frown twisting his mouth. When he had called her earlier, she had said that she was out buying something.

Yet, she appeared to have returned empty-handed.

"Nicole, you were lying when you said that you'd gone out to buy something, weren't you?" Evan's deep voice rang out from behind her.

She stuck her tongue out at him, replying, "Oops, you've caught me! I just remembered that I still had some data that I didn't finish compiling for a proposal. Hence, I made a trip to the company."

Since he did not want to let her know about the car accident, she would pretend that she was oblivious to it.

This way, their interactions would not be so tense.

The way her tongue stuck out adorably reminded Evan of Maya doing the same.

"Maya most definitely inherited her cuteness from you," he blurted out.

"Oh really? Then Nina's arrogant, little princess attitude must have been inherited from you."

"Is that so?"

Nicole nodded solemnly. "Yup. That was not a question. Rather, it was a statement of fact."

They bantered a little while longer before taking a shower together. After that, they curled up on the large bed.

Both had something important on their minds as unease swirled inside them.

Nicole's eyes glinted in the dark of the night.

The heavyweight of Evan's grandmother's death hung between them. She was certain that things would not be as carefree between them as now if they had actually brought this topic to light and discussed it.

The pressure would be stifling, contaminating the atmosphere in the house. Even the children would be affected then.

That was not something that she had wanted to happen!

Thus, she knew what she had to do next.

Even now, she got the feeling that her mother would not have done something as brutal as a hit and run.

That was the reason that she had to get to the bottom of this.

I need to get in contact with Sylvia and Sylphiette as soon as possible.

At the same time, Evan was dealing with his own worries and frustrations. His grandfather's attitude and his mother's words were all causing him a lot of stress.

If he were to be forced to give up on the Seet family and his position as heir, he would gladly do so. After all, he was Evan Seet! Starting everything from scratch was not that daunting to him!

However, he knew Nicole well. She would definitely take into account his family members' feelings and sacrifice herself instead.

As a man, not to mention the father to four kids, he could not allow his woman to suffer through that!

He would never have forced her to go through the pain of losing her children. Hence, he would have to do everything that he could to obtain his grandfather and father's forgiveness and understanding.

"Are you asleep yet?" Nicole's voice whispered from the other side of the bed. She was finding it hard to get to sleep.

Flipping around, he extended a hand to stroke her smooth cheek tenderly. "What is it?"

"Lane Corporation has been doing very well recently all because of you. That's why I-

"How are you going to thank me?"

She paused before huffing out, "Let me finish! As I was saying, Lane Corporation has been doing quite well so I might need to leave the country on a business trip."

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 422

"A business trip? Is that necessary?"

"What, you're not supportive of my work?"

Evan pulled Nicole to him into a tight hug and murmured, "My dear Mrs. Seet, you don't need to go on a business trip. What you need to do is take care of our children and also me."

His hot breaths puffed against the shell of her ear, causing a certain itch to start within her.

Is this his way of expressing his reluctance to part with me?

She giggled softly even as it felt like a fist was squeezing her heart.

Naturally, she was hesitant about leaving her four kids. In spite of that, certain things had to be done no matter how much she was reluctant to do so.

The next day.

Sunlight spilled into the room, waking Nicole instantly. Evan was still sleeping, so she snuck her way out of the room and padded into the kitchen. She bustled around, trying to keep the noise to a minimum as she prepared breakfast.

One by one, the kids woke up and trudged into the kitchen. Spotting the bird's nest that was otherwise known as Maya's hair, a gentle smile curved Nicole's lips.

"Mommy will brush your hair for you later, alright?"

Maya nodded. "Where's Daddy?"

"He's not awake yet."

"Then does that mean we can't talk?" Maya's chubby hands flew up to clap over her mouth.

Previously, their father would not allow them to speak loudly when their mother was still sleeping.

Nicole was silent as she thought over something. After a few seconds, she uttered, "Kids, listen up."

"What is it, Mommy?" Kyle questioned.

"Mommy needs all of you to help me with something. Mommy needs to leave on a business trip so I won't be around for a while. While I'm gone, you'll have to take care of yourselves, okay?"

When she finished speaking, her children stared at her with alarm.

They had never left their mother's side before so they were extremely hesitant about it now.

"When will you be back, Mommy?"

"If you're good, Mommy will be back in no time at all. I'll even bring back each of your favorite foods and fulfill one small wish for each of you," she cajoled.

They exchanged glances. Their father usually treated them quite well so they almost felt obligated to support their mother.

Juan and Kyle nodded in agreement.

Tempted by Nicole's promise of bringing back tasty food, Maya bobbed her head as well.

Only Nina had not done anything to show her approval. She had never been separated from her mother before and was finding the concept hard to accept.

Reluctance shone in her eyes as she asked Nicole, "Mommy, do you really have to go?"

Although Nicole really did not want to leave her kids as well, it was a necessary evil. She had to find out the truth about what happened in that car accident.

She could not allow her mother to suffer the injustice of being blamed for something that she had not done.

"Nina, Mommy has to go. Can you help Mommy with this?"

The sincere expression on Nicole's face caused Nina to nod reluctantly.

Nicole heaved a sigh of relief, seeing that they had agreed to her leaving.

Checking the time, she shoed them out of the kitchen. "Go call your Daddy down for breakfast."

Other than Nina, the other three kids charged into the master bedroom excitedly.

Evan was lying on the bed with his eyes shut tight. His breathing was even and he looked like he was still asleep.

Plagued by his worries, he had not been able to fall asleep until early in the morning.

Maya blinked and commented, "Daddy's still not awake."

"Then wake him up!" was the straightforward response from Juan.

Nodding, she reached a chubby hand out to pat their father's handsome face.

Wow, Daddy's face feels like it has no meat at all! Nothing like my own squishy cheeks.

"Mommy wants us to wake Daddy up for breakfast. I don't think that what you're doing is working."

"What shall we do then?"

Their chatter had already reached Evan's ears and he had woken up. However, he did not move since he wanted to see what they would do next.

"Maybe you should shout in his ear?" Juan suggested.

Maya instantly did as her brother had suggested, crawling up to sprawl beside her father. She called out gently, "Daddy, time to eat breakfast!"

The man did not even twitch so she tried again. There was still no response.

Kyle glanced at the time and urged, “We need to hurry or we’ll be late for school!”

Pressing herself against Evan’s ear, Maya shouted as loudly as she could.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 423

Maya pouted unhappily when that still did not get her a response.

Juan and Kyle reached out to touch their father’s forehead, checking his temperature against their own. Strangely enough, he was still not waking up despite not having a fever.

Maya hummed in thought before saying, “If our ultimate move still doesn’t work then we’ll have to ask Mommy for help!”

“What ultimate move?”

The two boys stared at her, their gazes full of curiosity.

Maya hopped off the bed and ran out of the room. A few seconds later, she returned with two metal basins.

She handed one to each of her brothers. “You two hit these basins while I sing for Daddy!”

The young boys knitted their brows as they accepted the basin from her. Giving the basins an experimental *bang*, a loud clanging sound rang out.

The noise from the basins echoed in the room, causing Evan to frown.

These little brats! Are they trying to make a huge ruckus to wake me up?

Maya hurriedly crawled up to the bed again, this time plonking herself down on Evan’s body.

“Daddy, I’m going to sing a song for you, okay?”

With that said, she glanced at her brothers, who slammed their hands on the bottoms of the basins simultaneously.

Clearing her throat, she started to sing, "Daddy, Daddy, please wake up! Mommy's made breakfast and is waiting for you! Tasty pizzas and fried chicken! Awoooo!"

She pitched her voice higher at the end, sounding as though she was a wolf, howling.

Amused, Evan could not help but open his eyes.

"Awoooo! Arf, arf, awooo! Daddy, you're awake!"

Taking in their sister's excitement, the two boys began to *bang* on their basins in delight. They were like a little percussion band.

"Alright, the three of you should go and eat first."

Evan moved his somewhat rotund daughter off of him before he pinched her plump cheeks.

He had not expected her to learn how to howl like a wolf.

"Daddy, you have to wake up now!"

"I got it."

The three kids had only just exited the master bedroom when there was a knock on the front door.

Bewildered, Nicole went to open the door.

A man whom she did not recognize stood there with a thunderous expression on his face.

She queried politely, "And you are?"

The man planted his hands on his hips and began to yell at her, "What the heck is with all the howling! What is this, a gathering of animals? It's so early in the morning yet you guys are making such a huge racket with all of that banging! You've scared our kids awake!"

Thinking back on the earlier din, Nicole hastily apologized to their neighbor.

"Be careful next time or I'll report you for public disturbance!"

"Don't worry; there won't be a next time."

After the man had stormed off, Nicole shut the door quietly. Maya hung her head glumly, feeling guilty for inadvertently causing trouble.

Evan stroked her head gently. "How about we all move to Imperial Garden tonight? There's no one around there that will complain about the noise. You can make all the racket that you want over there."

"Is Imperial Garden as pretty as Rose Garden?"

"They're each beautiful in their own way. Imperial Garden is decorated nicely and the overall layout is very good. It's suitable for your Mommy to live in. You little brats only get to enjoy it because of her."

"Woohoo, we get to live in a big house!" the kids cheered as they clapped their hands gleefully.

A sad look appeared in Nicole's eyes. She most probably would not receive a chance to stay in Imperial Garden.

After breakfast, Evan sent the children off to kindergarten before rushing toward Seet Group.

He had only just taken a seat in his office when his phone rang.

When he saw who was calling him, his expression hardened.

"Dad."

"Evan, have you reached a decision yet? Your mother was very clear with you last night. Tonight, you're to bring the four kids along with you, to move back here. After that, you're cutting off all ties with that woman."

Jonathan's furious voice blared through the speakers of his phone.

Evan was silent for a moment before he answered, "Dad, I can understand how you're feeling. However, I can't agree with your decision. I'm sorry but I just can't do as you've wanted me to."

"What did you say?"

Jonathan thought that his ears were deceiving him.

A whole night to make a decision and Evan plans on disobeying me? He's going to go against me and his grandfather, all for a woman?

It would seem like Sophia had wasted her breath on him last night.

"Dad, I still have matters to attend to. I'll be back home later tonight to apologize to you and Grandpa."

With that said, Evan hung up without even waiting for a reply.

Jonathan stared at the dim screen of his phone, close to exploding with rage.

He flung his phone away from him before pointing an accusing finger at Sophia, roaring, "This is the son whom you've raised!"

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 424

"Calm down. You should at least consider Evan's feelings. Nicole is after all..."

"Shut your mouth. I don't want to hear anyone mention that woman's name! My mother has been dead for so many years without being able to rest in peace and you want me to worry about Evan's feelings? Surely you are not asking me to approve of my son being in a relationship with the daughter of my mother's murderer? What's wrong with you!"

Sophia found it difficult, seeing that Jonathan was unable to reign his emotions in.

To speak up or not to? Neither seems right, in regards to this affair.

How did things turn out to be this way?

Sophia exhaled. She then saw Jonathan's two brothers and Moira enter the living room.

The expression on the faces of the men was severe. It was as though they were out, baying for blood.

Sophia did not need to think twice to figure out the reason for their presence, and that made her head throb.

"Sophia, I've heard that our mom's killer has been found?"

Heard...

It's remarkable how quickly bad news can spread.

Sophia remained silent. Jonathan slammed his fists on the table. "It's too bad that her murderer is already dead. Were she alive, I would have made her suffer!"

“That goes without saying, Jonathan. Although the killer is dead, we must not allow her daughter to enter and wield influence within the Seet family!”

“That’s right. Now that the Seet Group is under Evan’s control, Nicole would become the president’s wife if they were to marry. With the way that Evan dotes on her, it’ll only be a matter of time before Seet Group winds up in her hands. That would be simply unacceptable!”

Ryan picked up where Adam had left off.

Moira glanced at both her father and uncle and attempted to put in a good word for Nicole.

Unfortunately, before she could have said anything, she was cut off by the entry of Lisa.

“There’s no place for you to speak here, Moira. Pertaining to your grandmother’s issue, her sons who are your elders are the ones who have a say in it. As you will be married off sooner or later, you should abstain from involving yourself in the Seet family’s affairs.”

As she made this conclusion, she eyed Moira.

Lisa could not wait to see the prospective union between Evan and Nicole fall through so that her niece, Sofie, could be granted her wish in marrying into the Seet family.

This opportunity was a godsend, as far as Lisa was concerned. She was not about to let anyone get in the way.

After she lectured her niece, Lisa reiterated her position by insisting that Nicole should not, at any cost, be allowed into the Seet family.

Ryan looked at Lisa and uttered, “You seem to have considerable clarity on this issue.”

“I have to. If Nicole has the cheek to step in through our doors, I shall have to chase her off, by any means necessary!”

Her mind then turned shrewdly. “Though I have no problems laying my hands on Nicole, it might require the few of you to handle Evan...”

The three Seet brothers understood her insinuations perfectly.

It would certainly be necessary to ensure that Evan would make a clean break with Nicole.

Sophia glared at Lisa. She knew that the woman had ulterior motives that had nothing to do with seeking justice for her late mother-in-law.

Back then, Lisa had already possessed a fraught relationship with the old matron, Julia, who had attributed the failure of Adam’s first marriage squarely to her. The innocent party in all of this was the ex-wife’s son who had to be separated from his birth mother since young. Julia had always seen Lisa as the other woman.

Since Lisa had never once gotten along with her mother-in-law, Sophia suspected that the former's true intention was to pave the way for Sofie to marry into the Seet family.

Sophia was positively repulsed by the idea of having Sofie as her own daughter-in-law.

"Sophia, what about Evan? Has he agreed to sever all ties with that woman?"

Jonathan was so angry that he was breathing heavily when he looked to speak, but Sophia got in ahead of him.

"Evan has been busy with work. I will sit down and talk to him."

"Talk? Sophia, there is no room for discussion! He just needs to do what needs to be done."

"Right on!"

Having heard how the both of them had put it, Lisa immediately got to work, egging them on.

"Why don't we get Evan home and have all of you sound out his sentiments. We can surely reason with him if he is unable to get his head around it, as I believe that he is a rational child."

"Or, we could simply arrange for another marriage for him. When his relationship with his fiancée grows, he would naturally come to forget about Nicole."

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 425

Sophia hugged her arms as she glanced sideways at Lisa. She was afraid that the woman was going to put her niece, Sofie, forward as a suitable partner for Evan.

Fat chance.

Sophia was not about to let her have her way.

Hence, she immediately threw a direct wrench into Lisa's schemes.

“Your suggestion may be a sound one, but I’m concerned that the prospective party would be like Sofie with Evan– Unable to develop mutual feelings for each other despite being acquainted for many years. If that’s the case, I’m afraid that this plan might backfire badly, causing Evan to become increasingly attached to Nicole.”

Sophia’s suggestion was met with silence.

Lisa had not counted on Sophia saying that.

Her face darkened. “Perhaps that could be where Evan and Sofie differ. Once Evan’s ill-fated alliance with Nicole ends, the relationship between Evan and Sofie will surely blossom.”

“You’ve sure had it all figured out. In any case, it is Evan’s decision to make, if he wants to be engaged to Sofie.”

“Then, we ought to give Sofie a chance to get closer to Evan. If she is able to win Evan over, I shall approve of her joining the Seet family.”

Russell, who had been overlooking from his perch on the second floor, had spoken.

His words had left the rest of the family present in silence.

It was not that long ago that Russell had used to dislike Sofie.

For him to agree to give her a chance at Evan is certainly unexpected.

Nevertheless, as the head of the family did not directly ask for Evan to be engaged with Sofie, it could be considered that he had no intention of forcing this union upon his grandson.

When Lisa heard Russell’s words, she quietly began to reel in her glee as she sneered at Sophia.

This is an excellent opportunity for Sofie.

Lisa lifted her head to regard Russell. “Dad, Evan is still devoted to Nicole right now so it might be inappropriate for Sofie to get mixed up in this, given the circumstances. We may need to get Jonathan and yourself to help, in convincing Evan.”

Russell understood his daughter-in-law and looked to Sophia. “You should go and talk to Evan. Let him know that this is the conclusion of our deliberation and tell him that he is expected to comply!”

Sophia was in a bind but she could only nod in acknowledgment at this point.

After Russell retreated to his own chambers, Lisa looked to Sophia. “Sophia, you know that there is no way that Nicole would be accepted into the Seet family, so it is your duty to ensure

that Evan cuts her out of his life. I trust that you won't refuse just because Sofie is involved, would you?"

Sophia exhaled. "Not to worry, I understand my role here much better than you do."

She then turned and left Lisa behind, making her way upstairs.

Having seen that a reasonable resolution was set in place, Adam and Ryan deemed that their business there had been concluded.

They were still engaged in a discussion on the way out, speculating whether or not Evan would be agreeable to leave Nicole. They rubbed their hands in anticipation of the outcome.

If Evan is unable to see sense, then someone else will likely supplant him, as the heir to the Seet family's business.

Sophia understood her son's temperament. When Jonathan called to speak to him on this issue, Evan was extremely resistant. Hence, there was no point in trying to persuade Evan at this time.

In order to succeed, Sophia needed to adopt a different approach.

Seeing as such, she pulled out her phone and called Nicole instead.

Nicole was packing her luggage when she saw Sophia's number light up on her phone display. She hesitated briefly before picking up.

She thought that it would be nice to see Sophia again before leaving.

After all, she would be counting on Sophia to help, in caring for her four children in the future.

Nicole politely answered the phone.

Sophia did not beat about the bush. "Would you be home in half an hour? I'd like to meet you in Summervale."

"Alright. I'll be waiting."

Sophia drove down quickly to Summervale. Nicole had already prepared a fine tea for her, as she respectfully brought it to the marble table in front of Sophia. "Please help yourself."

Sophia raised her head to look at Nicole. If not for this mess, she would have wished for Nicole and her son to be married as soon as possible.

Oh, how the fates toy with people!

"Ms. Lane, do you understand the purpose of my visit here?"

Nicole did not respond directly to the question that she was asked. Rather, she sat across from Sophia and earnestly started to talk about her four children's preferences.

She did not touch on Juan and Kyle's as she fondly remembered Sophia's kindness toward them during this time.

Nicole did, however, re-emphasize Maya and Nina's personality quirks. Sophia's brows knitted as she could not grasp Nicole's intention in relating such matters to her.

When Sophia wanted to seek clarification, Nicole concluded, "I may have to be away for a while. Please take care of the four of them in my stead."