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"Well he seems rather dedicated about such a matter," Evan remarked in a glacial tone.

"Evan, I don't think that he's going to let Nicole off that easily. Be careful! If he was able to cause Nicole to lose her memories, he'll certainly come up with other ways! You should assign more guards to keep watch around Nicole to ensure her safety at all times."

"I'm fully aware of that."

After the call ended, Evan realized that he had the wrong impression of Levant.

He had once thought that Levant was not making any moves. Now, it seemed like Levant had been working in the shadows.

It was impossible to guard against people with ill intentions.

It seemed like the best option available was to assign people to guard Nicole at all times.

With that thought in mind, he called Darius and Damien, telling them to halt their work and to make their way over to Imperial Garden to secretly protect Nicole instead.

Just as the call ended, Nicole's voice resounded from upstairs.

"Evan, are you done with the fruit platter?"

"Coming!"

Evan placed the sliced fruits into a heart shape before placing some of Nicole's favorite cheese onto the plate. He then proceeded to bring the plate upstairs.

Wow! It's heart-shaped! Nicole's eyes widened at the sight of the fruit platter.

"When did you learn how to do this?"

Evan responded after a pause, "While I was studying overseas."

At the mention of his overseas studies, Nicole was reminded of Susan.

Susan was Evan's classmate. Nicole wondered if Susan had received the chance to try Evan's fruit platter in the past.

At that, the straightforward Nicole asked him about it.

"You couldn't have possibly learned it because a pretty girl liked it, could you?"

Evan was stunned into silence.

He was stupefied by her question.

However, upon regaining his senses, Evan decided to tease her. Therefore, he nodded fervently.

Nicole then continued, "That pretty girl can't be Susan, right?"

Her second question not only stupefied him again, rather, it even brought him a headache.

He shot Nicole an odd look. "Do you miss Susan? Is that why you've suddenly mentioned her?"

Nicole was stunned by his question.

Me? Missing Susan?

That's disgusting!

Every time she thought about the miserable face that Susan had put on whenever she clung to Evan, Nicole felt frustration thrum in her veins.

"I'll never miss her. If anyone were to miss her, it'd be you."

Right then, Evan's phone rang. A glance at the screen was enough to tell him that it was Susan.

Immediately, Evan rejected the call.

His swift reaction pleased Nicole. After ending her calls twice, the maid abruptly called out, "Mr. Seet, Susan has arrived. She's said that she wants to meet you."

F*ck.

Speak of the devil!

Nicole had to resist the urge to smack the mouth that had just jinxed her.

"Tell her to leave. I'm not free to meet with her."

Just as the words had escaped his mouth, the maid had a troubled expression on her face.

She replied, "Mr. Seet, I'm afraid that Ms. Susan has already thought about that in advance. She has said that she has something important to talk to you about. If you're not going to meet her, she's decided to wait at the entrance of Imperial Garden until you've agreed to meet her."

I didn't think that she would have come prepared.

Instead of allowing her to remain a statue at the entrance, I might as well get rid of her by meeting her!

Before Evan could say anything, Nicole voiced out, "Let her come in."

The maid glanced at Evan, who did not refute Nicole's order.

"Yes, Mr. Seet."

When Susan entered the living room, she saw Nicole and Evan walking down the stairs, hand in hand.

The moment Susan caught sight of Evan, she straightened her back in excitement. However, upon remembering her aim for today's visit, she quickly restrained herself.

Politely, she greeted, "Evan. Ms. Lane."

"What is the reason for your visit?" Evan questioned.

Susan froze for a second. "Evan, may I speak to you privately?"

Nicole was at a loss for words.

Susan's request had surprised Nicole, and her face soon fell.

Susan was like a jack-in-the-box to Nicole; she was full of unpleasant surprises. She did not want to interact with Susan any more than what was necessary, and she did not want Evan to interact much with her either.

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With an indifferent tone, Evan muttered, "You can be straightforward. There's no need for us to speak privately."

Susan shot a glimpse at Nicole and hesitated. A while later, she turned to gaze at Evan with sincerity in her eyes.

"Evan, when I was burnt while saving you, you'd promised me that you would give me something in return. Back then, I'd asked you to marry me. I'm aware that you like Ms. Lane, so we'll dismiss the wedding. Can you promise me something else?"

Susan was aware that threatening Evan with death was no longer useful, in terms of getting Evan to fall in love with her. Thus, she chose to take a strategic retreat in order to advance in her plan.

Evan remained silent.

Nicole carefully mulled over Susan's words. Does this mean that she doesn't want to marry Evan anymore? Or does she have something else lying in store for us?

Similar to Nicole, Evan was bewildered. He stared at Susan with apathetic eyes. "What is it?"

"Evan, I know that your company invests in the film industry. Your company is about to purchase Border Films. Since I can't get your love, I want to have my chance at becoming a popular actress. That way, I'll be able to have a better life. Can you fulfill this wish for me?"

She wants to act in a show and become a star?

When did Susan have thoughts like that?

Her request stunned Nicole.

Evan looked at Susan as a hint of worry flitted across his eyes. It was true that Susan was a student of the performing arts, and it was not as if he could not agree to her request. However, to save him back then, Susan's face, body, and arms had burn marks. Although her face had undergone skin grafting and had recovered, her arms and body still had scars. That was why she was unsuitable to become an actress.

Sensing his worry, Susan pulled up her sleeves to show him the horrifying scars that were wrapped around her arm like a centipede.

Instantly, Evan was struck with guilt. Her scars are because of me.

"Evan, look. My arms and body are littered with scars, so I won't be able to take on many kinds of films. I'm only suitable for period dramas, where such body parts would be hidden. Seeing as such, can you please invest in a period drama?"

Investing in a period drama was nothing to Evan.

Evan was more than willing to fulfill this wish of Susan's if it meant that she would stop harassing him.

However, he did not know what Nicole had thought about this.

Turning to Nicole, he saw her nodding at him; it was a silent agreement from her.

Nicole had thought over this. If Susan were to be busied by her shows, that means that she won't have the time to harass Evan or to destroy our relationship! That's a good thing.

Moreover, for Susan to have suggested this meant that she was giving Evan an opportunity to return the favor that she had given him. Nicole was certain that Evan was already interested in helping her, and hence, she saw that she should show him her support for his decision.

Solemnly, Evan uttered to Susan, "I'll agree to your request. It'll be me fulfilling the promise that I'd made to you back then."

Susan abruptly smiled in delight. "Thank you, Evan. I'll go home to prepare myself for the audition. Do call and inform me when you've set the time for me to attend the auditions."

"My assistant will be in charge of this. He will notify you when the time comes."

Susan froze before she nodded. "Alright. I'll take my leave now."

With that said, she turned around to leave. However, the further she walked, the icier her expression became. By the time she left the living room, the joy on her face was nowhere to be found.

That's it? She's left just like that?

Nicole was still surprised by the entire incident.

She had thought that Susan would put on a show whining that she could not bear to live without Evan.

She could barely believe that the other woman had left in such a manner.

"Evan, have you decided to make her famous?"

"I'm only giving her this one opportunity. Whether or not she'll make it big is up to her."

"To be honest, I think that she's good at acting! Look, she's always seemed to be rather fragile, but something about her today felt seemingly different."

There was something different about Susan today, but Nicole could not pinpoint what it was.

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The sudden change in Susan took her by surprise, but it also instilled worry in her.

Evan smiled. "Is that so? It's rare to see you being this interested in someone else. Are you that interested in Susan?"

Nicole shot him a glare. "Which part of her should I be interested in? Don't utter such nonsense."

Evan grinned and reached out to tidy the hair that was hanging around her shoulders. "Alright. Let's head back to Seet Residence now. We'll bring the kids back with us. I'm sure that they've missed you badly."

Nicole nodded.

It had been merely a few days, yet she already missed the children.

She wondered how they were progressing with their plan of letting Davin court Sheila. It was the perfect time to find out about it herself.

At Seet Residence.

The children were crowding around Davin, refusing to let him go. They were determined to force him to continue giving Sheila gifts.

With a troubled expression, Davin muttered, "You can't do this. Uncle Davin has helped you in giving her gifts for many days. Sheep keeps looking at me with stars in her eyes. I have to stop giving her gifts."

Juan hugged Davin's leg and whined, "Uncle Davin, one last time."

"My dear Juan, that's what you'd said to me the last time too."

"No, it isn't! Uncle Davin, you've remembered it wrongly. I didn't say that the last time. It was Maya who'd said that."

Beside him, Maya nodded vigorously. "Uncle Davin, Juan's right. I was the one who'd said it the last time."

Davin gave their words a thought. "Are you taking turns in saying it? You'll say that it's the last time today, and she'll say that it's the last time tomorrow. It'll never end, will it?"

"Uncle Davin, just three more days! Maya was the first. I'll be the second. Then, it'll be Nina and Kyle. Does that sound good to you?"

Davin thought about it for a while. "I don't think so. I won't give her any gifts anymore."

With that said, he shook his head. Recalling the way that Sheila had looked at him, he was worried that Sheila would lose control of herself, possibly forcing herself upon him. It was too dangerous, and he could not possibly keep this up.

"Uncle Davin, come on!"

"Uncle Davin, you're the best uncle in the world."

"Uncle Davin, just say yes to it!"

Juan, Maya, and Nina took turns in trying to convince him in their cute voices. Meanwhile, Kyle stared at him icily as he tried to use reverse psychology on Davin.

"Coward. You're so scared of giving a woman some flowers."

The way that Kyle was looking down on him made anger burn, bright within Davin.

"Kyle, I'm your uncle. Can you stop acting in such a manner? It hurts my naïve, kind heart."

Naïve? Kind?

Kyle could see just how shameless Davin was by the way that he had just described himself.

"Alright. Give Ms. Sheila a few more days of roses, and I'll consider being a little nicer to you."

Davin scoffed. He found it pointless to have risked having Sheila force herself upon him in order to get Kyle to be a little nicer to him.

"Move aside, kids. Uncle Davin has something important to do. Don't stand in my way."

Kyle rolled his eyes at him. "Coward. You're scared of women."

When Juan saw Davin's expression turning grim, he quickly added, "Uncle Davin's a coward who's scared of women."

"Oh my, Uncle Davin's a coward who's scared of women!" Nina folded her arms and rolled her eyes as well.

Blinking her big, bright eyes, Maya repeated, "Uncle Davin, you're a coward who is scared of women!"

Davin pursed his lips as the children continued to hurl their verbal accusations at him.

"Don't spout nonsense, kids. Your daddy is the one who is afraid of women. If you don't believe in my words, think about it. Isn't your daddy afraid of your mommy? That's why you should diss your daddy-"

"Is that so?"

Before Davin could finish his words, a cold, familiar voice sounded out behind him.

F*ck. How unlucky can I be? Speak of the devil.

The children stared at him with mischief in their eyes.

Juan quickly voiced out, "Daddy, Uncle Davin has said that you're a coward."

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"I—" Davin was about to explain himself, yet Nina got ahead of him as she complained, "Daddy, Uncle Davin says that you're afraid of women and that includes Mommy."

"I didn't mean it—" Before Davin could explain himself, Maya interrupted once again and added in a sheepish manner, "Daddy, Uncle Davin wants us to scold you."

Davin was rendered speechless by the little girls' words because he was certain that it would be tough to get himself out of the nasty situation.

He was about to explain himself, but Kyle nodded and asserted with a determined look, "Yes! Those were his exact words!"

Davin was at a loss for words because no matter what he said, he wouldn't be able to convince the others anymore.

Evan stared at Davin and asked, "Are they telling me the truth? Do you want me to teach you a lesson instead?"

"No! I—"

Out of the blue, Evan launched a kick in Davin's direction. The observant man had been keeping an eye on his brother. Therefore, in spite of his brother's swift kick, Davin managed to evade it in the nick of time.

He fled immediately and put a distance between his brother and himself. "Evan, we're not supposed to fight in front of them! Why are you trying to kick me? They are the ones who have teased me! Why am I not allowed to comment on you when you have failed to educate them as their father?"

Evan did not expect Davin to have the guts to rebuke his words. Without a second thought, he dashed over to his brother's side once more.

Meanwhile, the children allowed their imaginations to run wild; they couldn't wait to figure out the outcome of the fight.

Juan yelled, "Kick him in the butt!"

Maya urged, "Go for his ears!"

Nina cheered, "Get him to keep his mouth shut, Daddy! How dare he badmouth you in front of us?"

Meanwhile, Kyle cast a stern gaze at his uncle. Thrill was written all over his face. Never had he once gotten along with Davin. Thus, he was delighted to have his father teach his uncle a lesson.

Since Evan was about to reach him, Davin yelled, "I've got to go because I need to deliver Sheila her bouquet of roses! Once I'm back, I'll deal with you and your children! You'd better stay put and wait for me to return!"

As soon as he finished his sentence, he dashed all the way out of the house with all of his might.

"Hmph! Uncle Davin is a coward! How dare he tell us to wait for him when he's the one who has fled?"

Nina rolled her eyes contemptuously and made her way back to the living room. She had caught a glimpse of her mother and noticed that she was in the living room. Therefore, she couldn't wait to return to her mother's side.

Meanwhile, Maya went after her sister and dashed toward the direction of the living room.

Upon detecting her beloved daughters' presence, Nicole greeted, "Maya, Nina! Come over and give me a hug!"

Nina returned to her mother's side and asked impatiently, "Mommy, I have fully recovered! May I return to Imperial Garden? I want to practice my make-up skills!"

"Of course! I dropped by to pick you guys up!"

Juan and Evan showed up in the living room the moment Nicole finished her sentence.

Staring at the children with her abysmal pair of eyes, Sophia uttered, "Once you bring them back with you, Seet Residence will turn into a deserted place once again. I can't believe that they are going to leave so soon."

"Grandma, we'll drop by and keep you company over the weekend, okay?"

Nodding, Sophia said, "Sure. I can't possibly keep all of you to myself when you have to take care of your family. All of you have gone through a series of events prior to your reunion. Evan, you have to keep Nicole and my grandchildren company, okay?"

"I will, Mom."

Leaning on her mother's lap, Maya blinked her glistening pair of eyes and murmured with a pitiable front, "Has the gourmet specialist arrived yet?"

"She will be arriving in Y City tomorrow. We'll bring you over and you can pay her a visit once she arrives, okay?"

Maya nodded fervently in response. Her imagination ran wild as thoughts of all the different existing cuisines ran through her mind.

Currently, she had but one wish; she wanted to prepare her parents and siblings their favorite dishes that would put smiles on their faces.

Apart from her loved ones, she wanted to grant every single child an opportunity to savor affordable delicacies. Her ultimate goal was to become the owner of a food plaza.

Evan denoted, "Mom, we'll be leaving then."

"Alright, make sure to drop by and visit us whenever you're free!"

Nicole expressed her gratitude towards Sophia, "Thank you so much for taking care of the children on my behalf, Sophia."

"Nicole, are you sure that's the proper way to address me?" Sophia asked rhetorically.

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Nicole responded with a sheepish grin because she had yet to become Evan's legal spouse; they had yet to hold a wedding ceremony as neither of them had gotten the paperwork done. Therefore, she was unsure as to whether or not she should address Sophia as her mother-in-law.

"Mom, once we get the paperwork done, I'll get her to address you accordingly," said Evan.

Sophia thought about it and suggested, "Evan, is it fine for me to organize the wedding ceremony on your behalf? I'll contact the priest and I'll get him to conduct the wedding ceremony!"

"Sure!" Evan was delighted.

Similarly, Nicole nodded as she expressed her acknowledgment of Sophia's suggestion.

The children were on cloud nine. They insisted on dressing up properly for their parent's wedding.

As soon as they returned to Imperial Garden, the children began to tend to the different things that they had on their plates. As per usual, Kyle had his eyes glued to the computer, working on his hacking skills.

Occasionally, a little boy's voice could be heard, yelling the slogan of a Taekwondo practitioner. He was none other than Juan, who had begun to practice Taekwondo again.

As one of their daughters had started dolling the mannequin up with bridal make-up, Evan asked Nicole with a bright grin, "Shall we get Nina to doll you up during our wedding ceremony?"

Nicole nodded because she had faith in their daughter's make-up skills. After all, she had been receiving guidance from a top-notch professional make-up artist all this while.

In the meantime, Maya showed up with another bag of cookies. She placed a few of her animal dolls in front of her and gave each of the dolls two pieces of cookies, all except for the monkey.

Eventually, she stuffed the remaining three pieces of cookies into her mouth.

Staring at the monkey that wasn't given a piece of cookie, she announced, "There's nothing left! Why don't you get Mr. Puppy to share his cookies with you?"

She reached for the cookies she had placed on the puppy, but before she could hand them over to the monkey, she moved her hand in another direction, swooping the cookies toward her mouth. In the end, she said apologetically, "Mr. Puppy wants me to have the cookies instead because he doesn't like you!"

Next, she went on and finished the cookies that she had placed on the bear.

After a few minutes, Maya had devoured the entire bag of cookies. Staring at the dolls with a pleased look on her face, she complimented, "Great job! All of you are much easier to deceive than Nina and Juan!"

She chuckled and caressed the dolls that had been bullied by her merely a few minutes ago.

Nicole was at a loss for words.

Heaving a sigh of despair, Nicole observed that Maya could only deceive the dolls that didn't possess any form of intelligence whatsoever.

She was certain that her daughter's siblings could easily deceive her in a similar manner.

Smirking, Evan asked, "Shall we get Maya a few more younger siblings? Do you think that they'll be cuter than Maya?"

"What do you mean? Are you indicating that Maya isn't cute? Have you lost your mind? Maya is the cutest and the most kind-hearted little girl on Earth!"

Evan was taken aback by Nicole's words. He leaned over and whispered, "Are you sure that you haven't misperceived my words? Truthfully, I'm suggesting that we get Maya a few more younger siblings."

Nicole was wordless.

Another few younger siblings? Excuse me? Isn't four enough for us? I'm having a hard time dealing with the four of them simultaneously!

Truth be told, she deemed the existence of her four children to be perfect. She didn't want to go through the tormenting experience that she had once gone through, during her previous labor.

"Let's set that idea aside for the time being. It's a topic for another day!"

As soon as she made herself clear, she brought herself out of Maya's bedroom, leaving the man behind.

As she reached the entrance, she heaved a sigh of relief and murmured to herself, "You want me to give birth again? Hmph! No way!"

Once she finished her sentence, a hoarse voice could be heard, asking rhetorically in return, "Really?"

Turning around, Nicole was shocked to notice that Evan had shown up behind her.

"H-Huh? Shall we pretend as though I'd never said such words? Please don't take me seriously!"

A vicious grin could be seen on Evan's face as he dragged Nicole back toward their bedroom. He shut the door and locked it once they had entered the bedroom, behaving as though he was up to no good.

"Evan, what do you want?"

"I'm trying to see if it's possible to get you pregnant again!"

Nicole blamed herself for her careless words. As a result, she had failed to notice Evan's presence behind her. She regretted blurting out the things that she had in mind without giving it much thought.