

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 836

Seeing his three other children standing calmly behind Maya, Evan squinted.

Out of these four kids, Maya is least likely to come up with such a ridiculous idea. Do those three guilty children want Maya to take the blame?

He looked at Maya and asked patiently, "Maya, was this your idea?"

Rubbing her chubby palms together, Maya was confused by her daddy's question. Only after she turned back to look at Juan and Nina did she realize that they were standing behind her.

In any other situation, she would be okay with taking the blame. However, she was too afraid to do so this time.

If Ms. Susan finds out, she will definitely give me a beating.

Maya felt scared as she recalled how painful it was when Susan punished her previously, and she didn't want to experience that suffering anymore.

With that, she shook her head fervently. "Daddy, it was not me. I did not play a part in it." Then, she swiftly ran out of the study room.

Speechless, Juan gritted his teeth with a quirky expression on his face.

On the other hand, Nina sighed softly as she realized that she was overthinking earlier. Maya is just like that bad woman. It will be a wonder if she learns how to bear some responsibility.

However, Kyle was as cool as a cucumber because he felt that it was only right for Maya to do so. After all, she had never participated in their plan.

"Was it the three of you?" Evan asked.

As Evan questioned, Juan accepted his fate and took a step forward to say, "Daddy, everything was my idea. I was also the person who lied to sneak out of Hillside Villa. The two of them are innocent."

Since Juan displayed loyalty to his siblings by owning up to his mistake, Evan fixed his gaze on him and responded, "You are in the wrong, so you have to be punished. Tell me, how should I punish you?"

Juan was taken aback. He was not a toddler anymore, so it would be unfitting for his daddy to cane him as a punishment.

As Juan remained silent, Evan instructed coldly, "You will skip dinner tonight. I want you to return to your room and reflect on your actions."

Feeling awful, Juan rubbed his hungry belly. He had been outside the whole afternoon. Had he known that he would be forbidden from having dinner, he would have eaten outside.

Nina felt aggrieved for Juan and instantly stepped forward. In a serious tone, she asked Evan, "Daddy, have you heard of the story where a child splits a mountain to save his mother? Juan only did this out of filial piety. He planned it because he loves Mommy and wanted to rescue her, so what is wrong with that? Why do you have to punish him?"

Looking at Nina's expression as she tried to stand up for Juan, Evan could only think of how similar she was to Nicole when she was arguing with him.

Nina resembles the way Nicole speaks.

"Daddy, your silence means you agree that Juan is not at fault. Therefore, you should not punish him."

Snapping out of his reverie, Evan stared at Nina. "Well, that is only a fairy tale. Your mommy is not trapped under a mountain, so you don't have to save her. Instead, you should mind your behavior and stay out of the adults' matters."

Pouting, Nina glared at Evan in rage. "That is not right. Although she isn't trapped under a mountain, she is still locked up. That is worse than being crushed by a mountain. How could we sit back and do nothing as her children? Daddy, since you want us to ignore mommy's plight, what would you expect us to do if you were in her shoes instead?"

Evan was at a loss for words.

However, he was not infuriated by Nina's stubbornness. Instead, there was a tinge of surprise in his gaze.

This girl is so eloquent. She argues just like her mother.

"You are still young. I have my own plans for your mommy. If you have the time, you should practice makeup. I will hold a press conference for you and allow you to create your own cosmetic brand. The whole project will revolve around you. Are you interested?"

Evan's proposal was a huge temptation for Nina, who was interested in makeup and enjoyed being the center of attention.

But after giving it some thought, she rejected his offer. "Daddy, I don't need the press conference and my own brand. All I want is for Mommy to return to us. Everything will be meaningless if she doesn't come back."

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Who knew that this seemingly cold and indifferent girl is actually so sentimental?

Instead of feeling angry, Evan only felt touched by her words.

"Daddy, Juan knows that he is in the wrong. Please let him have dinner. Besides, this was not only his idea but mine too."

Kyle's words interrupted Evan's train of thought. If Nicole finds out about Juan going hungry, she will be heartbroken.

"Alright, you can have dinner. However, after dinner, you have to return to your room and reflect on your actions today."

Juan raised his head and looked at Evan in surprise. He did not expect his daddy to be so lenient.

Kyle shot him a look before they hurriedly left the study room.

Seeing the four children following Evan from the study room to the dining room, Susan was surprised.

The quadruplets look fine, and Juan even gave me a smirk. Did Evan not punish them?

Her eyes dimmed in disappointment, and she secretly clenched her fists.

If Evan doesn't do anything about it, I will take care of it myself then.

After breakfast the next day, Juan and Kyle retreated to their rooms while Evan headed to work. After Nina finished her porridge, she returned to her room too.

Watching her siblings leave one by one, Maya quickly downed her porridge. The moment she wanted to leave, Susan called after her.

"Maya, your hair is so messy. Come, let me comb your hair."

Maya's heart thumped wildly. She was afraid of going to Susan's room because she knew Susan would punish her.

Besides, she could not imagine what Susan would do to her this time.

Trembling, she looked at Susan with fear in her eyes. "Ms. Susan, Nina can help me comb my hair."

"Nina has to practice her makeup skills and does not have time to help you with it. Come on," Susan responded warmly before bending over to carry Maya in her arms. Then, she headed upstairs in a hurry.

Meanwhile, Maya grew more terrified and could not look Susan in the eye. She knew that Susan's devilish side would surface soon.

Upon entering the room, Susan locked the door and glared at Maya coldly.

Overwhelmed with fear, Maya stood rooted to the spot and rubbed her palms together helplessly.

Susan looked at the young girl condescendingly and asked, "Did you know that Juan and Nina were going to lie to me yesterday and sneak out?"

Maya stood there without a word, unsure of how to respond.

Impatiently, Susan leaned over and grabbed Maya's shoulders. She growled, "Tell me!"

Maya nodded timidly.

"Why didn't you report it to me?" Susan demanded.

I can't betray my brothers and sisters.

Seeing Maya in a daze, Susan fumed and pinched Maya's chubby cheeks mercilessly. Then, she grabbed the girl's hair and dragged her toward the bed.

Feeling like her scalp was about to be ripped off, Maya teared up in pain.

She pleaded softly, "Ms. Susan, I will be obedient next time. Please don't hit me. I will listen to you in the future."

"Shut up! If you say another word, I will make sure to give your mommy a good beating."

At the thought of her mommy, Maya stayed silent.

Susan pulled down Maya's pants and was shocked to see bruises on her buttocks. If Evan or her siblings sees this, I won't be able to get away with it.

So...

Livid, she pinched Maya's thighs instead. It was so painful that Maya started to cry. However, she covered her mouth for fear of making a sound.

Then, Susan rose to her feet and walked to her dressing table. Opening up the drawer, she took out a box and returned to Maya. Slowly, she opened the box, revealing the silver needles in it.

Maya trembled in fear when she saw the needles.

When her mommy performed acupuncture on others in the past, she felt terrified too.

Is Ms. Susan trying to use that on me?

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Seeing Susan take out a silver needle and aiming it at her skin, she could not help but yell, "Ms. Susan, I don't need acupuncture. I am not sick!"

"You are not sick? I beg to differ. I think you have a liar disease and have to go through acupuncture."

With that, Susan sank the needle into Maya's calf.

Maya wailed in pain, but Susan covered her mouth immediately.

"Don't cry. If you cry, I will make your mommy die in prison, and you will never see her again," Susan warned.

"No! Mommy won't die!" Maya yelled.

Afraid that people would hear her, Susan dragged Maya to the bathroom and closed the door immediately.

Then, she took out her phone and found a photo of Nicole looking pitiful. As she shoved it in Maya's face, the latter saw Nicole covered in blood.

"Mommy..." Maya sobbed.

"Stop crying! If you cry, I will punish your mommy again. Do you understand?" Susan warned.

Terrified, Maya desperately covered her mouth.

Susan looked at the silver needles in her hand and asked, "How many needles does your mommy usually use? She has performed acupuncture on so many people, so it is only fair for me to do it on you too, right?"

Then, she pierced another needle into Maya's buttocks.

For the first time, Maya thought acupuncture was as scary as a demon. Next time, I will tell Mommy not to perform acupuncture on others. It really hurts.

Looking at Maya with her hand over her mouth, Susan's lips curled up into a faint smile. She felt immensely satisfied at the sight.

Nicole is my stumbling block while her children made a fool out of me. I'm going to use them to vent my anger.

Then, she grabbed a few silver needles and poked Maya's buttocks with them.

Maya trembled in pain, and she gripped Susan's clothes tightly. With tears flowing down her face, she gritted her teeth and did not scream nor make a sound.

I don't want Mommy to be beaten or die in prison.

Susan tortured Maya for a while before removing the needles from Maya's body and placing them back in the box.

Maya stumbled onto the ground before lifting her buttocks to maintain a kneeling position.

After being pricked so much on her buttocks, it was too painful for her to sit.

Looking at the pale Maya who was whimpering, Susan rolled her eyes.

“Stop crying! Go wash your face now.”

Immediately, Maya stood up and staggered to wash her face. Susan shot a death glare at her back.

It was nearing noon when Maya finally came out of Susan’s bedroom with a candy she was too afraid not to accept.

She had washed her face clean, and there were no red circles around her eyes anymore. Susan even styled Maya’s hair like a princess.

However, her face was still pale.

Seeing Maya come back with a candy in her hand, Nina asked, “Did that bad woman use a candy to bribe you again?”

Maya glanced at Nina timidly, her eyes turning red.

Suddenly, she remembered that she promised not to let anyone else know about the punishment before leaving Susan’s room. Otherwise, her mommy would be beaten and lose her life. At that thought, she lowered her head immediately.

Nina sighed. “Since you are close with that witch, you don’t feel a need to care about me anymore, do you? You are too much.”

After she grumbled, she went back to practice makeup.

Maya lay in her bed with her eyes closed. However, she could still see the silver needles before her.

Additionally, she could feel the needles being pricked into her body. So painful...

I miss Mommy and her warm hugs.

Recalling the picture of her mommy that Susan showed her, tears started to form in her eyes.

According to Ms. Susan, not only did Daddy put Mommy in prison, but he also ordered others to beat her up. He is so evil! He is a meanie!

During lunch, Maya did not go downstairs to eat because she wanted to sleep.

Susan looked at Evan and explained, "Maybe she did not sleep well last night and wants to sleep in. When she is awake, I will order the kitchen to prepare more food for her."

Evan nodded in response after some thought.

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Meanwhile, the other three children started to eat. They thought that Susan and Maya had a good relationship since Susan often used candies to bribe their sister, so they did not dwell on it.

After the meal, they started to prepare for Patty's class.

Juan asked Evan in displeasure, "Daddy, when will we get to go to school?"

"In another three days."

In three days, Levant would return to K Nation. By then, Nicole would be out of prison, and she would never see him again.

Three more days? Juan sighed, returning to his bedroom with his head hung low.

Two days later, Evan suddenly received a call that shocked him.

"What did you say?"

"Mr. Seet, Ms. Lane passed away!"

Passed away?

Nicole was always in good health. Besides, she was equipped with medical knowledge. Why would she die out of the blue?

No, this must be fake news.

Like a mad man, he rushed out of his office without his coat. Concerned, John chased after him with the forgotten coat in hand.

“Mr. Seet, hold up!” he yelled.

He finally caught up to Evan in the parking lot. When Evan saw him, he immediately ordered, “Drive to the prison now!”

Mr. Seet wants to visit Mrs. Seet?

That’s great! He should have gone there a long time ago.

John obediently nodded. “Yes, Mr. Seet.”

As the car headed for the prison, Evan was trembling with an uneasy feeling in the pit of his stomach.

How did Nicole die?

It’s impossible for her to die.

She must be so bored in prison that she came up with a trick like that so that I would visit her.

That must be the case!

The more he pondered over it, the more he panicked.

By the time they reached the prison, the guard immediately reported, “Mr. Seet, we were unclear over the phone. Ms. Lane has been sent to the hospital.”

“Hospital? You should have told me earlier!” Evan roared hysterically.

“Mr. Seet, let’s go to the hospital then,” John suggested.

With that, Evan turned and rushed to the hospital with John. When they reached there, they realized that Stephen had taken her corpse away.

“Mr. Seet, Sir Musgrave collected Ms. Lane’s body.”

Evan took out his phone to call Stephen immediately.

“I have cremated Nicole’s body. Evan, she died because of you.”

After that short line, the call ended.

Thump! Evan’s phone slipped out of his hands onto the ground.

Is Nicole really dead?

How is that possible? How can that happen?

And she is already cremated?

How can all this happen so quickly?

And Sir Musgrave blamed her death on me...

I only wanted Nicole never to meet Levant again, so I sent her to prison. Obviously, someone set her up for Grandpa’s death. I know she is not the murderer.

However, I never thought of killing her. I only wanted to stop her from leaving with Levant.

I can’t lose her!

How is this even possible?

Slowly, Evan bent over to pick up his phone and called Stephen again. However, the call did not get through.

Suddenly, he heard a familiar voice. “Evan, you killed Nicole. Are you happy now?”

It was Levant.

Evan knew his voice all too well.

He looked at Levant with teary eyes and asked curtly, “What are you doing here?”

“Evan, since Nicole is dead now, her ashes have to be buried beside her mother’s. Shouldn’t you be at the memorial service?”

Evan felt as though his heart was being dug out.

Abruptly, he staggered. I thought Sir Musgrave was lying to me since his phone was switched off. Perhaps Nicole is not dead yet. However, now she is about to be buried?

Evan blacked out as his knees buckled, and he collapsed onto the ground.

“Mr. Seet!”

John quickly reached out to support him and called for a doctor. He could not afford to let anything happen to Evan.

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Sophia and Jonathan hurried over as soon as they heard the news.

“What’s wrong, John?”

“Yeah, what happened to Evan?”

Outside the ward, the couple worriedly asked about Evan’s condition. John patiently recounted the incident to them.

In the ward, Evan was murmuring Nicole’s name in his sleep. His forehead was beaded with sweat.

“Nicole... Nicole...”

Nicole was surrounded by mist as she bid him goodbye. There was pain written all over her delicate, pale face when she waved at him. Then, she turned and left. A glint of sadness was tucked away in her eyes. Yet, he did not notice it. All he saw was Nicole walking further and further away from him.

“Nicole... Nicole—”

Suddenly, he sprang up from the bed. His scarlet red eyes were filled with pain, and his fingers were clenched into fists while the veins on his hands popped as if he was trying to restrain himself.

His parents and John immediately walked in when they heard his screams.

“Evan, you’re awake?”

“Are you feeling alright?”

Evan was taken back and looked up to meet Sophia’s gaze. “Where’s Nicole?”

Sophia was at a loss for words as she was also drowning in sadness after hearing the news of Nicole’s passing.

Jonathan sighed and said, "I guess it's better that way. An eye for an eye, that's how it should be. Your grandpa may now rest in peace. The scores are now settled between you and her..."

"She's not a murderer! She didn't kill Grandpa!" Evan screamed hysterically as he interrupted Jonathan.

Jonathan was startled, but he quickly retorted, "Why do you say so? If she isn't the murderer, why did you agree to send her to prison? There is no doubt that she is the murderer!"

Evan was dumbfounded.

I agreed to send her to prison?

Evan's heart stung painfully as Jonathan said those words.

That was not the reason he sent her to prison. He merely wanted her to stay. Unfortunately, he did not expect this to happen.

This is all my fault...

My fault...

"Nicole... I have to find Nicole."

"Mr. Seet, you just regained consciousness. Besides, you're still in a hospital gown."

"Evan, I understand that you want to be there for Nicole for the last time. But you haven't recovered..." Sophia's heart ached at the sight of Evan's pale face and bloodshot eyes.

"John, help me get changed!"

John nodded. "Yes, Mr. Seet."

Seeing that Evan was hellbent on going to Nicole's funeral, the couple relented with a sigh.

They both understood Evan's temper. Once he made up his mind, there was nothing they could do to stop him.

Evan called Levant as soon as he was discharged.

"Where are Nicole's ashes placed?"

"At the cemetery. Hurry up before the burial starts!"

"Don't you dare! What makes you think you have the right to bury her?" Evan gritted his teeth.

"What right? With Sir Musgrave's entrustment, of course! Who are you to question me, murderer!" Levant replied coldly and hung up.

Murderer? I'm a murderer?

A surge of emotions gushed through Evan's heart, causing him to feel a sense of discomfort.

"Go to the cemetery in the Southern suburbs!"

"Yes, Mr. Seet."

John immediately drove toward the cemetery.

Evan was lost in thought while on his way to the cemetery. He recalled the time when he thought his childhood friend was already dead and visited her grave every year.

He remembered the time he met Nicole while he was heading to the cemetery. Her car broke down while Evan happened to drive past in his Maybach. Nicole waved at him, but he did not stop. In fact, he sped past her in a flash as if he saw nothing.

After he had paid his respects and was about to leave, he realized that Nicole's car was in his way. He asked her to move her car before he drove away in his Maybach.

He remembered asking Nicole, "Do you still want your car? I don't mind getting someone to tow it away for you."