

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter

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“What have I done wrong? Are you talking about...” Davin immediately grasped what his brother meant. “Evan, do you know what I went through to get the contract between the Seet Group and the Sun Corporation signed? It almost cost me my life!”

The mere thought of that encounter made Davin feel aggrieved as he grumbled bitterly to his brother. Fortunately, I didn’t bring shame upon the Seet Group. That’s the one thing I can proudly show off to Evan.

“Do you think you’ve done the right thing?” Evan asked in a cold voice.

“I know that stealing data isn’t right. Although my approach was shabby and underhanded, the Sun Corporation had really crossed the line! They went back on their word and changed things as they pleased, putting us in a tight spot deliberately. They’re absolutely despicable! My action is justifiable. I’ve done nothing wrong!” Davin defended himself boldly in a loud voice.

“So you really think you’ve done nothing wrong at all?” Evan sniggered.

“Yes. Evan, if you were in my shoes, I bet you would’ve done the same thing too. There’s no way you would let the Sun Corporation pick on us!”

“Of course I won’t allow that. Yet, what you’ve done is so wrong!” Evan emphasized his last sentence firmly. His tone was domineering.

“Evan, what’s so wrong about that? What would you have done if you faced the same situation? Tell me, I’m all ears.”

Right after Davin asked, Evan’s stern voice sounded.

“You’ve done wrong because you take your own life for granted! Even the entire Seet Group isn’t as important as your life in my eyes, let alone a project. Don’t you ever do such things again!”

Despite Evan's reprimand and harsh tone, Davin's heart swelled with a warm and fuzzy feeling. I never knew that I'm so precious to him.

"Evan, you make me feel as if I've become as precious as gold. I feel like a big shot now."

"Your life is priceless, just like everyone else's. No taking your life for granted anymore!"

"I'll keep that in mind, Evan. I promise you I'll cherish my life from this moment on."

"One more thing, since you already knew that the Sun Corporation was unscrupulous and corrupted, you should've stopped collaborating with them, even if we would suffer some losses. Besides, instead of using the stolen confidential data to threaten them to back down, you should've exposed those data directly, so they would suffer great losses and learned a lesson."

Davin pondered over his brother's words. What Evan just said really makes sense. Why didn't I think of this? Exposing the confidential data would've caused the Sun Corporation to suffer a huge loss. He's indeed a brutal and merciless man.

"I got it, Evan. I won't forget your words."

"Alright. Is there anything else?"

"Oh, yes, yes, there is." Only then Davin remembered why he called Evan in the first place.

"Evan, how's Nina?"

"She's alright. Why did you ask?"

Davin went on to tell his brother that Nina wanted to visit him in K Nation.

"What? Nina wants to visit you in K Nation?" Evan asked.

"I knew it. You really have no idea about this. I think Nina has a hidden agenda in wanting to come to K Nation. As her uncle, I shouldn't have sold her out, but... Evan, you know I got beaten up, so I can't be by her side all the time. If anything happens to her, I won't be able to face you and Nicole then. After much thoughts, I feel it's better that I inform you about this. Don't tell Nina that I'm the one who told you this."

"I understand."

“That’s good. Please discuss with Nicole whether you want to allow her to come to K Nation. Let me know after you decide. Jensen and Jeremy are here. They can protect her if she insists on coming over.”

“Okay.”

Hanging up the phone, Evan’s expression turned sullen.

Standing beside him, Nicole heard their conversation, and her face was sulky as well.

“Nina obviously still can’t get over Chris. Is she trying to look for him? Anyway, why didn’t she mention this to us? Is she planning on leaving secretly?”

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Sensing her worry, Evan analyzed carefully. “I think Nina hasn’t told us because she’s scared that we’ll reject her. If she had planned to leave without informing us, she would’ve been on her way to K Nation. The fact that she’s still here is proof that she wants to tell us about it, but she’s hesitating whether she should do it. That’s why she seems to have something on her mind.”

She mulled over Evan’s words and felt assured.

Now that we’ve found out about this, should we allow her to go?

The woman looked up at her husband. “If we don’t allow her to go, will she ever be able to move on?”

“You want to let Nina go to K Nation?” Evan’s cavernous eyes were riveted on his wife.

Nicole was taken aback, then nodded at him.

“Put yourself in her place. Back then, we spent only a short time with each other at the Rose Garden. However, after you left, I missed you all the time, and everything reminded me of you. I know how it feels to miss someone, so I don’t want our daughter to suffer the same way as I did. Perhaps only Chris can help her now. She’ll probably have moved on by the time she comes back.”

Evan didn't say a word.

His face turned solemn and his brows snapped together. Move on? Is that possible when she's already so smitten by Chris? I'm afraid things may work out the exact opposite way.

"Evan, please allow Nina to go to K Nation. Otherwise, she may get depressed and continue to lose weight, and that'll deteriorate her health. How about if I go with her?"

Evan could tell that she was anxious because of the love she had for her daughter.

Is it a good idea to let Nicole tag along? She's too soft-hearted. If Nina cries, she'll surely allow her daughter to do whatever she wants. Other than that, Nina is so used to getting her way. With that prideful attitude of hers, I can't imagine what's going to happen.

Seeing that Evan kept silent, Nicole went on to describe how upset she was after Evan had left the Rose Garden back then. "Do you feel sorry for me? If you do, think about how desolate Nina feels right now. This is the time she needs our understanding and support the most."

Realizing that his wife was going all out to make him say yes, Evan reached out to stroke her fair cheeks gently.

"Nicole, talk to Nina later. If she really wants to go, I'll arrange for a few of people to go with her. And you should stay here."

Nicole breathed a sigh of relief at Evan's approval. But why doesn't Evan let me go with Nina?

She couldn't make head or tail of his last sentence, so she asked casually, "Why don't you let me go together with Nina? I can take the opportunity to visit my Dad at the estate as well."

Because I'm worried that something bad will happen since Nicole loves and feels sorry for Nina so much. But if I tell her this straight away, she'll probably be unhappy about it.

He carefully searched for the right words and came up with another excuse.

"I don't want you to go because we're going to have another baby. Besides, can you bear to be away from me?"

Is this a valid reason?

“We can have another baby when I come back. It’s only going to take several days. I’m sure we can bear it.”

Staring at her solemn face, he asked, “But I can’t bear to let you go.” He then reached out and pulled his wife into a hug, wrapping his arms around her as tight as he could, to the extent that she felt out of breath.

“Don’t hug me so tightly...”

“Promise me you won’t leave, or else I’ll not let you go.”

Oh my. I didn’t know Evan can be so thick-skinned.

Nicole was torn between her precious daughter and her beloved husband. Nina is older now, so I guess I should let her learn to handle things on her own. Chris is the only one who can unravel her emotional entanglement, so it doesn’t matter whether I go with her or not.

“You... Let go of me. I’m not going, okay?”

“Really?”

“Yes, I swear.”

A satisfied smile appeared on Evan’s face. He then loosened his arms around her.

Taking a few deep breaths, Nicole eyed the man speculatively with a bewildered look, yet she was at a loss for words to describe his shameless behavior. In the end, she caved in.

“Let me talk to Nina.”

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Meanwhile, in her room, Nina was fidgeting nervously on her bed. Caught in a dilemma, she felt torn on the inside.

Should I let my parents know about my trip to K Nation? What if they stop me from going after I tell them about it?

Just when she was still agonizing over it, there was a knock on her door, so she stood up to open it.

“Nina, I need to talk to you.”

“Come in, Mommy.”

Walking into her room, Nicole sat by her side and held her hand while gazing into her eyes.

How should I bring it up? Davin asked us not to let Nina know that he was the one who told us about it, so I’ll have to use another method then.

“Nina, is there something on your mind recently?”

Nina’s body went stiff at her mom’s question. She froze for a moment before looking down, and her fingers were intertwined. Should I tell Mommy?

“Nina, I can tell that you have something on your mind recently. Why don’t you tell me about it? I’ll see if there’s something I can do to help you out.”

Nina lifted her head and looked up at her. “Mommy, actually, I do need your help.”

“Go ahead, I’m listening.”

Then the girl cautiously revealed her intention of going to K Nation to her mom. After saying it, she quickly added, “Mommy, I know this isn’t appropriate, but he saved Uncle Davin, so I want to thank him in person...” A hint of guilt flashed across her face while she spoke.

With a meaningful look, Nicole glanced at her daughter while saying, “Nina, not only do you want to thank him, but you want to see him as well. You can’t get over him, can you?”

Lowering her head, Nina’s eyes misted over, and tears began to well up in them.

The woman held Nina’s hand in hers with much affection. “Nina, I can totally understand your feelings. You can go to K Nation to see him, but you must know your place. Do you understand what I mean?”

Nicole’s approval enthused her instantly. After getting her mom’s understanding, she opened herself up immediately to talk to Nicole.

"I understand, Mommy. Actually, I want to see him only to help him win the makeup competition. I'm not planning on doing anything else. I'll be back once the competition is over. Is that alright, Mommy? I'm doing this to repay him for saving Uncle Davin."

Silly girl... Even if Chris didn't save Davin, she'd still want to help him.

Nicole sighed inwardly. She then stared at Nina with compassion and agreed, "Okay, but you must let Daddy arrange for someone to go with you to ensure your safety. Nina, you're precious to us, so we want you to be safe. Can you understand my feelings?"

The girl nodded furiously.

I'm more than willing to listen and understand what Mommy has to say as long as she allows me to see Chris.

"Okay, I'll let Daddy know about this. You should probably start packing."

"Thank you, Mommy!" Nina felt completely relieved now. The problem which had been haunting her for days was finally solved.

Afterward, Evan made detailed arrangements for Nina's trip. Since Jensen and Jeremy were with Davin at K Nation, he sent Damien, Darius, and four bodyguards to go together with her. Yet, he felt it was not safe enough to have only few bodyguards with his daughter, so he thought of having another person to accompany her.

It seems that Sheila is free recently. She just can't stop asking when Davin is going to come back. If she tags along, she can keep Nina company, and Nina will have someone to talk to if she faces any difficulty.

He suggested this to Nicole, and she agreed and called Sheila at once.

"Sheila, would you like to go with her?"

"Of course I do. I was just talking about going to K Nation to see Davin. I didn't expect that the opportunity would present itself so quickly. Don't worry, Nicole. I'll take good care of Nina."

"Thank you so much, Sheila."

"You're welcome. Just call me when she's leaving."

"Sure."

Later at 2 p.m., Sheila and Nina were on their way to K Nation, together with the bodyguards.

With an anxious heart, Nicole prayed in her heart for a safe trip, hoping that her daughter would return safely.

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The Imperial Garden was left with Nicole, Evan, and Maya now. The little girl was busy working on her food plaza, so she could barely spend time with her parents. As the result, the Imperial Garden was unusually quiet and empty, and Nicole wasn't used to the sudden change.

In the midst of her free time, Kyle and Juan crossed her mind. How are the boys now? I heard that the schools aren't opened to the public and have strict rules. It's been a while since they left, and they didn't call me even for once. Are they doing fine?

The longer she thought about them, the more exasperated she felt. With that, she stood up and walked up the stairs to look for Evan.

"There's no news about Juan and Kyle so far. Are they alright? Evan, why don't you try to get in touch with them?"

The man was puzzled. "Both of them are at schools now. Their phones have probably been kept away by the teachers, so we won't be able to get through."

"Then call the teachers in their schools!"

Evan hesitated. "If there's anything at all, the teachers will call us. I believe they're fine."

"They're fine, but I'm not," Nicole said.

"You? What happened to you?" In doubt, Evan sized her up suspiciously.

"I... I miss them, and I feel like talking to them. It's only natural that a mom misses her sons."

Without a word, Evan was dumbfounded. Should I call the boys? What if it sways their determination to study and makes them want to come home?

“Nicole, listen to me. They’re studying very hard right now, so we’ll disturb them if we call them. They may even get distracted after hearing your voice.”

“Are you going to make the call or not?” she demanded.

Evan remained silent.

Nicole walked over to his side and grabbed the corner of his shirt. “Evan, just make one call. I miss the boys, and I want to know whether they’re doing fine. Don’t worry, they’re much more strong-willed than I am, so they won’t waver.”

At this moment, the way she pestered him made her look like a kid asking for sweets, and Evan found it amusing. With his cavernous eyes on her, he intentionally put on a poker face and said, “No!”

Hearing his rejection, she promptly tugged at his shirt coquettishly. “Just once, please. I really miss them, Evan. Just one call will do. If you don’t, I’ll miss them so much until I cry. Do you want to see me cry? I’m sure you don’t want that. Give them a call, please. I know you understand how much a mother can miss her children.”

“Really? Will you cry when you miss them too much?” the man asked, staring at her in disbelief. “But I’ve never seen you cry, not even for once, though they have been away for so long.”

His question stunned Nicole for a second. She then refuted him hurriedly. “I cried in secret. That’s why you didn’t see it.”

“Is that so?” Evan asked doubtfully.

He doesn’t believe me. Well, I’ll let him see it for himself then.

Rolling her eyes, Nicole began to fake crying.

“Sob... Sob...”

This reaction was the last thing Evan expected from her.

In the beginning, she was just whining. After a short while, she felt a pang of sorrow in her heart. Her eyes turned dewy and red-rimmed, and tears started trickling down her fair cheeks.

The moment Evan saw her crying her eyes out, he could no longer be at ease. Quickly taking a napkin, he gently wiped her tears and coaxed her patiently.

“Okay, okay, don’t cry. I know you miss the kids. I’ll call their teacher now to check on them, alright?”

“Call them now...” Nicole whined.

“I’ll call them once you stop crying,” the man said gently.

“I’ll stop crying once you make the call.”

Evan went speechless.

Immediately, he picked his phone up and called a teacher in Juan’s school.

Looking at his anxious face, Nicole came to the conclusion that her tears were the most potent weapon to make Evan yield to her request.

This is a very useful trick.

The call got through in no time, and Evan asked about Juan’s condition. He then turned on the loudspeaker for his wife to listen as the teacher patiently told them every single detail of their son’s life at school.

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After that, the teacher emphasized, “Juan is a bright and sharp-witted kid, and he stands out among his classmates. A lot of our students made up random excuses to call their families, but Juan is exceptionally resolute and has never had such a request. Don’t worry, he’ll certainly be a highly skilled and bold fighter with a tough mindset.”

The teacher's words gave Nicole a great sense of relief. Feeling proud of her son, she chewed on the teacher's words again and found that something was wrong.

Lifting her head, she stared at Evan with a strange gaze. "Doesn't Juan miss us? He's so cold-hearted."

"Of course he does. But as a man, he needs to have an iron will. Or do you want him to be a cry baby like you?"

Nicole's voice got stuck in her throat. Evan is right. Fine then. Hopefully, Juan will stay strong as he is now. I'll wait for the day he completed his studies and return home.

"Call Kyle's teacher."

I'm sure Kyle isn't like Juan. Maybe he's waiting for us to call him.

Then they made a call, and what they heard took them by surprise.

"The school had three slots available for a challenge. Kyle was one of the students who took on the challenge and went to a secret base. As for when they're coming back, it mainly depends on their capabilities," the teacher explained.

With a terrified face, Nicole asked hurriedly, "Secret base? What secret base?"

What kind of place is the secret base that my son has to be capable enough, or else he won't be able to come back? That sounds really dangerous to me!

"Regarding the secret base, the teachers had a discussion, wrote down some of the most deadly places, and put them in a box. The three students then drew lots to decide where they were going."

"Most deadly places? Isn't it dangerous? Why did the school make such an arrangement?" Nicole questioned hastily.

"This is one of our school rules. As long as the students successfully make it to the secret base and come out of it later, they can graduate straight away and return home."

Rules? What kind of stupid rules is this?

Instantly, Nicole was overwhelmed by the worry about Kyle's safety.

"You said that Juan is cold-hearted because he doesn't miss us. How about Kyle? He does this because he wants to come back and be with us soon. Aren't you happy?"

In a daze, she shook her head. "I'm not happy. Evan, will it be dangerous for Kyle?"

"I believe Kyle's confident that he can handle this since he accepted the challenge. We should trust him."

The color completely drained from Nicole's face. Her eyes glinted with worry. Since then, she had been living in terror and anxiety for days.

In K Nation.

Gaping at Davin's injury, Sheila was surprised.

"Davin, what happened to you? Did someone beat you up? Are your arms injured? Oh my God! Look at your face! It's full of bruises! Tsk, tsk, tsk... I bet your face was badly swollen when you first got beaten up. You could've been disfigured if they had been more violent."

"Sheep, did you come all the way here only to poke fun at me? You're too much!" Davin stared at her with displeasure.

"Poke fun at you? No, no, you've misunderstood me. In fact, I feel pity for you. I didn't expect that you were beaten up so badly. I'm going to cut off those bastards' hands!"

Her words appeased Davin. He then let out a sigh. "It's alright. Take it easy. Let's not offend the locals, lest we create more troubles for ourselves."

"I know you're right, but how can we just leave it when you got beaten up to this extent? We have to get even with them somehow."

Hearing Sheila's words, Murphy walked over, looked at her, and said, "Don't worry. I'll avenge Davin. The vice president of the Sun Corporation is going to pay for this."