

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 886

Honest to God, she did not wish to see him dead.

However, didn't Evan wish me dead back then too?

She had her guard high up when she thought about the heart-wrenching moments back then.

She had her mind set on disregarding her feelings toward him.

Nicole vowed to not let her residual feelings toward Evan show.

"John, his life or death does not concern me! The old Nicole Lane had long been murdered by him. He killed me once. Do you think a victim like me would care about her murderer? He might as well be dead to me!"

Nicole hung up the phone right after.

Juan widened his mouth and looked at his mother in surprise.

Mommy wants to see Daddy dead?

I guess the saying's true that a woman could be really vicious if she sets her mind to it.

But... Vicious is not a good word to describe Mommy though.

Mommy mentioned that she had been killed by Daddy once. What did she mean?

Adults are complicated.

Why couldn't they just be lovey-dovey toward each other? Why are they trying to kill one another when they still have feelings for each other? Hmm, this is really not something that I could comprehend at my age.

Nevertheless, Evan was his father, after all. No matter what happened between his father and mother, Juan still hoped that his mother would save his father.

Nicole handed the phone to him. "Juan, hold this."

Juan snapped out of his thoughts and took the phone. He stared at her with his obsidian-like eyes and pleaded, "Mommy, please save Daddy."

Nicole tried her best to suppress the raging storm inside her heart and put on a placid expression.

"Juan, you've heard it wrong. I was just practicing lines with Uncle John. The lines... They're not real. Your Daddy's fine. He's taking a nap at home!"

Puzzled by his mother's explanation, the little boy asked, "But Mommy, why are you practicing lines with Uncle John though?"

"Because it's fun."

Juan pursed his lips. "Mommy, you're not an actress. Don't use the same excuse over and over. I'm not so naïve that I'll believe excuses like this."

Nicole was rendered speechless.

Just as she was trying to come up with another viable explanation, Juan turned and left her bedroom.

It seems like he's really mad at me.

Nicole took in a deep breath. John's words rang in her head again.

John is right. Evan would really be in danger if Levant has indeed caught hold of him.

Levant loathed Evan, not only because he saw Evan as a love rival, but also because they were fierce business competitors.

Evan had resorted to devious strategies to eradicate Levant's influence at Y City back then, forcing the latter to give up the domestic market and defer back to K Nation.

In Levant's mind, Evan's action was an act of transgressions that he would never forget. As such, Evan would be in a predicament should he have truly fallen into his hands.

And then, there was Murphy. He had long wished to sever all ties and connections Evan had at K Nation, and to take over all of them. Such an ambitious person would definitely not let Evan off easy should the chance arise.

Hence, she was certain that Evan's life would be hanging by a thread if he was indeed trapped at the Wicked Palace.

Should I find out if he's really trapped there?

With that thought, Nicole rose and walked out of her room. However, she stopped in her tracks as soon as she was out the door.

Nicole Lane, what are you doing?

What do his life and death have anything to do with you? Why bother?

She hesitated for a moment before turning around to head inside her room again. She had taken but three steps before she turned around and headed outside again.

As she walked, she kept telling herself that she just wanted to witness the murderer facing his retribution. It's not like I really care about his safety...

Yes, I only want to see how he would end up. Nothing more.

She repeated the statement over and over inside her head, fearing that even she herself could not be convinced by it.

Juan and Kyle exchanged glances with each other when they saw their mother leaving in a rush.

Nina sighed. "Seems like there's no need for us to beg Mommy. She's gone to save Daddy already."

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"I guess Mommy's not a heartless person. She just doesn't like to admit it."

"You're right. Mommy is the exact opposite of that bad woman. That bad woman's a heartless meanie but she always puts on a pitiful look."

Nina turned around and looked at Maya. "Stay away from the bad woman when you see her next time. The sweets that she offers you are poisonous. Do you understand?"

Maya did not refute and nodded her head seriously.

When Mommy and Daddy get back together, Daddy will be able to protect Mommy. I will tell Daddy then that Susan is a bad woman! She would use silver needles to poke us... And she would always pinch our buttocks. She's worse than the old witch!

"Since Mommy has gone to save Daddy, let's just wait and see how it goes."

"Okay."

With that, the four of them went back to their bedroom to wait for the news while racking their brains to come up with countermeasures.

Nicole dashed into Levant's place as soon as she arrived.

"Miss, Mr. Levant is not around."

Acting as if she did not hear the maid, Nicole went straight inside the room. When she saw that Levant was indeed nowhere to be seen, she became very uneasy.

Where would Levant go?

Is he out to torment Evan?

She subconsciously clenched her fists as her face paled at the thought.

"Where is he?"

The maid stuttered, "Mr. Levant headed out last night to deal with something and hasn't been back since. We have no idea where he is."

Last night?

Evan disappeared last night. Could it be a coincidence? Or...

Could it be that Evan has really fallen into Levant's hands?

Feeling ill at ease, she headed outside. As she stepped out of the living room, she tripped on something and almost fell over. Fortunately, she was steadied by someone.

Nicole lifted her head and noticed that it was Levant.

"Nicole, are you alright?"

Nicole shook her head. Noticing her pale face, Levant furrowed his brows slightly. "What's the matter? Why are you looking for me?"

Nicole fell silent.

He wouldn't answer me if I ask him about Evan directly, right?

She was at a loss for words.

Levant noticed her worried look and asked, "Are you feeling ill somewhere?"

She shook her head and breathed in deeply. "Levant, is Evan in your hands?"

Levant was taken aback by her question.

"What? Evan? No, of course not! Why would he be in my hands?"

His blatant denial rendered Nicole speechless.

But where would Evan go if he's not caught by Levant?

Levant regarded her, somewhat displeased by her reaction. "Nicole, are you missing Evan?"

Nicole's expression turned somber for a moment before she smiled rather stiffly. "Why would I miss him? He almost murdered me."

Levant's face sank. Her initial reaction had said it all.

This won't do. I have to make the wedding date earlier so that Nicole can give up on Evan. I need to make sure that she realizes that it's already over between them.

"Nicole, I've asked someone to pick out an auspicious date. Let's get married one week later."

Nicole was slightly stunned at that. One week? That's fast.

"Why? Is there a problem?"

Nicole shook her head gently. "No."

However, she did not look at him when she said it. It was apparent that there was something on her mind.

Levant held her hands. “Nicole, even though Dad is quite comfortable here, I’m sure he would like to head back to the estate as soon as possible. I’ll send him back personally after we’re done with the wedding.”

Nicole remained silent in response.

That’s right. My marriage with Levant is not only about me. I have to consider Stephen’s safety too.

When she first came to the Wicked Palace, Levant had given her the chance to meet Stephen once. She looked at his silhouette and noticed that he had lost his vibrant and energetic vibe. It was apparent that he seemed quite bogged down. Not to mention Stephen had lost a fair amount of weight, making him look frail.

The sight of the duke’s debilitated state pained her.

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At that moment, Nicole made a decision that she would marry Levant, the man who saved her life. That way, Stephen could head back to the estate sooner.

Back to the present, the duke’s frail figure flashed before her eyes again. Unwittingly, tears started streaming down her cheeks.

“Nicole, what’s the matter?”

“Nothing. Levant, I hope that you will keep your promise and send my Dad back to the estate after we’re married.”

Levant was pleased with Nicole’s reaction. It seems that Stephen is indeed the best bargaining chip I have. I would be able to marry Nicole as long as he’s under my control.

“Of course, Nicole.”

With that, Nicole went back home. However, the feeling that something was amiss nagged at the back of her mind.

The maid mentioned that Levant had not been home for the whole night. Does Evan’s disappearance last night really had nothing to do with him?

The kids approached their mother as soon as they noticed that she was back.

Maya wrapped her arms around her legs. “Mommy, did you go and see Daddy?”

At the same time, Juan asked, “Mommy, is Daddy at the Wicked Palace?”

Nicole took in a deep breath. She lowered her head to look at her kids. Is their father all they could think of? By now, she was certain that her kids were spies sent by Evan.

“Your father is not at the Wicked Palace.”

“What? Really, Mommy?”

Nina blinked. “Mommy, could it be that you’re saying Daddy’s not at Wicked Palace because you want him to die?”

Nicole regarded her daughter intently. Am I such a despicable person in her eyes?

Smiling bitterly, she explained, “Nina, don’t get me wrong. Even though it’s true that I want to see your father dead, it doesn’t mean that I’d lie to you about his whereabouts. If he’s indeed at the Wicked Palace, I’ll be the first to tell you, I wouldn’t lie to you guys. I’m an honest person and my word is my bond.”

Hearing that, the kids fell silent.

Mommy, we don’t care if you’re lying to us or if you’re an honest person. All we care about is our father’s safety!

“Mommy, do you really hate Daddy that much?”

Nicole breathed in deeply and looked at Juan. “You kids wouldn’t understand the fight between adults, and you guys should not ask about it either.”

“But the fight between the two of you determines whether Daddy lives or dies. If Daddy’s gone, we would become fatherless children,” Nina retorted.

Maya nodded in agreement. “Mommy, I will be so sad if Daddy dies. I will cry until there are no more tears left.”

Nicole was in a turmoil of emotions as she looked at the two children.

Evan would be so happy to know that these two care so much about him.

Just then, the normally silent Kyle suddenly asked, “Mommy, did Levant say Daddy is not at the Wicked Palace?”

Nicole nodded.

“Could it be that he’s lying?”

Kyle’s guess resonated her own.

However, Wicked Palace was Levant’s turf. It would not be easy to find out whether he was speaking the truth.

In the end, she could only console her kids. “Don’t think about it too much. Mommy will let you guys know if anything comes up.”

With that, the four of them went back to their bedroom and discussed tracking Evan down in secret.

The afternoon went by in a blur. As night fell, the Wicked Palace was slowly lit up with bright lights.

Nicole’s phone suddenly rang. She glanced at it and noticed it was from John. He must be calling to ask Evan’s whereabouts.

Her first intuition was to ignore the call. However, in the end, she still chose to answer it.

“Mrs. Seet, do you know where is Mr. Seet?”

“John, Levant said he’s not at the Wicked Palace.”

Stumped by Nicole’s reply, he said, “But Mrs. Seet, we’ve just gotten news that Mr. Seet hasn’t left the Wicked Palace since last night.”

“What?”

Nicole was taken aback. Did Levant lie to me?

If Evan’s really in Levant’s hands, would he be dead or alive right now?

“Mrs. Seet, I will find the evidence to prove that Mr. Seet did not hurt you in any way. Before then, I hope that you would help him out for the sake of the children.”

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John sounded like he was almost begging Nicole.

In response, Nicole simply kept quiet, and hung up after some time. I need to investigate this on my own.

“Mrs. Seet-”

Looking at the dimmed phone screen, John sighed. Would she help Mr. Seet? Mrs. Seet, you wouldn't be so cruel, right?

Jensen sighed aloud and suggested, “What if we kidnap Levant and exchange him for Mr. Seet?”

Jeremy thought for a moment. “I don't think it'd be easy to kidnap Levant, but we could give it a try.”

Damien breathed a sigh of relief. “Then we'd better start planning our next move. It's either we succeed in saving him or die trying to do so. We'd be keeping each other company if it was the latter.”

“Okay!”

They started to discuss their modus operandi.

Meanwhile, Levant was contemplating Nicole's question.

Nicole asked if Evan was in my hands.

He knew that Evan was here in K Nation when the kids ruined the wedding. However, he wasn't able to find out where Evan was staying.

Why would Nicole throw the question at me so abruptly? Could it be that something happened to Evan?

The fact that he could not pinpoint Evan's location made him more anxious with each passing moment. He felt as if his enemy was hiding in a dark corner, ready to pounce on him at any moment.

"Send over some friendly maids to bring some food to the kids. Get them to ask the kids where they were staying previously."

"Yes, Mr. Levant."

He was hoping that the kids would disclose where Evan was staying.

Not long after, a group of maids brought some toys and food for the quadruplets.

However, the kids were worried sick about their father's wellbeing and paid no heed to the toys and food.

The only exception was Maya, who was staring intently at the colorful chocolates.

An old maid brought the chocolate to her. "Here, have some."

Nina pulled her sister back and eyed the maid warily, "Don't eat anything that's handed to you. This may be their ploy to bribe you."

Maya became wary after listening to Nina. She recalled how Susan had given her sweets and abused her. A wave of fear washed over her as the images flashed before her eyes.

Shuddering, she rejected the colorful chocolates.

Stumped to see the kids unfazed, the maids could only report back to Levant.

Levant narrowed his eyes. "Since we can't bribe them, maybe we should try another approach."

He then sent his people to trail the kids, and while they were at it, they took Maya to the lakeside.

Maya was puzzled. What's happening? I thought I was in the bedroom? Why am I here all of a sudden?

"Hey kid, are you looking for your Mommy?"

Maya looked at the maze-like Wicked Palace and nodded helplessly.

"Answer a few questions, and then I will bring you to your Mommy."

Maya nodded again.

"What's your name?"

"Maya."

"What's your father's name?"

“Evan Seet.”

“Are you sure your Mommy lives in the Wicked Palace? Before coming here, where did you stay at K Nation with your Daddy?”

Maya was stunned.

“See that lake behind you? If you don’t answer me, the sharks in the lake will eat you and you won’t ever get to see your Mommy again.”

Maya was terrified as images of sharks with bloody mouths popped into her mind. She rubbed her little hands together and pleaded, “Before coming here, I lived at Darkmoon Manor with Daddy.”

Darkmoon Manor. Very well.

“Close your eyes then. I will send you back.”

Maya closed her eyes and dozed off in no time. The next time she opened her eyes, she was already in her bedroom.

Huh? That’s odd.

Was I dreaming earlier?

She shook her head and thought that maybe it was all just a dream.

Meanwhile, Levant sent his people to find out Darkmoon Manor's exact address immediately.

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After getting his hands on the information, Levant took some of his people and made a beeline toward Darkmoon Manor.

The Hidden Masters had been staying at Darkmoon Manor for some time. The moment they saw Levant and his group of men, a fierce fight ensued. During their vicious fight, Jeremy and Darius escaped through a secret passage.

However, John, Jensen, and Damien were caught by Levant.

Levant stared at John. "Where is Evan?"

John was stumped. Why is he asking where Evan is? Does that mean that Mr. Seet is not in his hands? That's great news!

Jensen and Damien were equally surprised. But more than that, they were glad to hear that Evan had eluded Levant.

"Hey, I'm asking you a question here. Where is Evan?"

John cleared his throat. "Mr. Seet already knows you're coming so he left earlier. As for where he's headed, we have no idea."

Levant was skeptical of John's words. "You're his right-hand man and yet you have no idea where he is?"

"I really don't." John shrugged and replied honestly.

Levant's gaze turned sharp. "Take them back. I don't think Evan Seet would leave them to die."

"Yes, Mr. Levant."

John was glad to know that Evan had not fallen into Levant's hands. Even though he was being taken away by the man, he felt no fear. On the contrary, he was actually relieved.

Mr. Seet must have predicted something like this would happen, that's why he left beforehand. But why didn't he let us in on this too? We could have escaped together.

Even though he was grumbling internally, his lips had unknowingly curled into a thin smile.

At the Wicked Palace.

Stephen sat before the cabinet with his back against the mirror. It seemed as though he was talking to himself. However, if one looked closer, someone was actually replying him.

The person lowered his voice. "I heard the guards talking about you. That's why I'm here. I'm bringing you along if I'm leaving."

"Don't act rashly! I am surrounded by Levant and Murphy's spies. I would have left earlier if it was a viable option. It's going to be hard for you to leave right now. You're going to be in danger if you were discovered!"

"I'll just go with the flow. I'm not afraid of death. Heck, I've been through it all."

"You think this is about you?" Stephen sighed. "You're fearless, alright. But what if something happens to you? How would Nicole be able to deal with that? What about the kids?"

Nicole?

If I'm really dead, Nicole marrying Levant wouldn't be so bad I guess. At the very least, she would be able to live a happy life.

He smiled bitterly. Now that he thought about it, the hatred that Nicole harbored against him actually served a good purpose.

Since she hates me so much, I guess she wouldn't be sad even when I'm dead.

As if he recalled something, Stephen uttered, "I think you could ask for someone's help if you would like to leave this place."

Evan, who was hiding in the cabinet, was puzzled. "You're saying that there's someone in the Wicked Palace who's willing to help? Is it one of your subordinates? Or did this person owe you some favor?"

“The person’s not my subordinate, nor did the person owe me anything! Levant’s afraid that I might flee, so every single person that’s guarding me is fiercely loyal to him. I wouldn’t stand a chance in bribing those people.”

“Then, who is it?”

“You’ll get to know soon.”

Stephen had an apprehensive look on his face. He was contemplating whether there would be a hassle in the future if he asked for this person’s help. But it’s not like I have any other choice now.

It was a cold night.

The moon was shining brightly, illuminating the courtyard with its glow. Stephen took in a deep breath as he regarded the sight before him. Ever since he was trapped in the Wicked Palace, even the gentle moonlight seemed murderous to him.

His eyes were focused on the entrance. Will the person come tonight?

After all, she would always sneak in here whenever it’s full moon.

After half an hour, the familiar silhouette made its appearance and snuck inside.

Stephen’s face lit up with a smile at the sight of her.

She approached him, patted her chest, and breathed out deeply as she looked at Stephen with an apprehensive look.

“That was dangerous. If it wasn’t for my lightning-quick reaction, I would have been caught just now!”

“You’re afraid of getting caught?”