

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

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Romantic? No, it was heartbreaking.

Nina's face turned pale, and the pain in her heart was unbearable. "We broke up," said Nina hoarsely.

Maya was shocked. "Seriously?" she asked in disbelief.

Nina smiled bitterly and said, "It's true." Right after she answered, she headed upstairs.

As Maya watched her, she was still in a state of perplexment.

She was well aware that Nina's feelings for Chris bordered on obsession. Besides, she was continually talking about Chris, as if he had already been a part of her daily life.

Maya felt that they were a match made in heaven.

How can this be? Why would they break up suddenly? Nina must be really sad!

Meanwhile, Nina entered her room and locked the door before throwing herself onto her bed. She then stared blankly at the ceiling, recalling what had happened earlier.

The past memories began to play back in her mind like a movie.

Chris has a fiancée, and they're planning to marry next month. As a result, Chris and I could never be together again.

How can one be so fickle? When he promised to wait for me and when he gave me the pendant, were they for nothing?

At the same time, she also wondered who sent Stephen to save her.

In the long and lonely night, only misery and doubt surrounded her.

It took almost a night of tossing and turning before she could finally fall asleep when it was almost dawn.

During breakfast, Nicole asked Maya about Nina's absence.

"Mommy, Nina's in a bad mood. Let her have some more rest," answered Maya as she sighed.

"What happened to Nina?"

Right then, she remembered that Nina met with Chris yesterday. Could that be the reason?

Maya's eyes were filled with sorrow as she replied, "Nina said she had broken up with Chris."

They broke up?

Nicole frowned immediately as her heart tightened. She, too, couldn't believe her ears, just like Maya did when she first found out about it.

"That was what Nina told you?"

"Yeah. She told me when she came home last night."

Thinking how much Nina loved Chris, Nicole couldn't help but feel her heart ache.

It was difficult to leave a relationship, let alone deal with the pain that followed. Nina was a headstrong woman, and she had loved Chris for many years, so when they split up unexpectedly, it would hit her like a train.

"Mommy, didn't Daddy say that Chris was nice to Nina? He even said that they would spend the rest of their lives together. Why did it end up like this?"

Nicole was just as curious as Maya.

"Perhaps Daddy and Nina made the wrong judgment. Perhaps..."

"Perhaps what?"

"Perhaps there is another reason."

"What reason?"

Nicole tried to put herself in Chris' shoes and pondered his situation. Perhaps he still loves Nina, and he has no other choice.

"I'll have someone look into this. Nina will be sad for the time being, so please take care of her and comfort her, Maya," Nicole advised.

"Okay, Mommy. I got it."

The breakfast wasn't enjoyable, and Nicole returned to her room after taking a few bites.

Evan went on a business trip last night, and he could probably only return after a few days, so Nicole had to take matters into her own hands.

She then phoned the duke and asked for his help with Chris' investigation.

"Nicole, bring the kids here to stay for some time. Joy is such a bright girl, and I've missed her."

"Dad, Seet Group is launching new projects, and Evan is away on business. Besides, I'm getting ready to return to work shortly, so I won't have time to go back. You can visit Imperial Garden if you miss her. There's plenty of room here for you to stay."

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"All right. I'll come soon."

"Okay, we'll be waiting!"

After she hung up the phone, she saw Juan storm in as she took a deep breath.

This kid is quick-witted and hot-headed.

"Mommy, I've been told that the Translation Department still needs people. There are so many departments for you to join, but why translation?" Juan looked at Nicole in puzzlement.

Hearing that, Nina's delicate face had a slight smile as she remembered that she used to work as a translator and wanted to relive her experience. Besides, Joy was still young, and translation was relatively simple, so she could devote more time taking care of Joy.

Above all, it was Evan's arrangement. He said that it served a vital purpose and that she needed to keep it secret for the time being.

"Because I love translating." Nicole tried to brush him off.

"When you worked for translation when we were younger, Daddy used to make things difficult for you. Do you remember that?"

Nicole nodded. Of course, and the memories are still crystal clear.

“Daddy deliberately found fault in me and forced me to handwrite the translation material. I spent the entire night drafting it, but he was still unhappy. He even brought me a mousse cake that was so bad it made Maya cry.”

Recalling the past, Nicole and Juan both had smiles on their faces.

Reminiscing the hardships in the past with a smile meant that there was nothing they couldn't overcome.

Seeing how Nicole's eyes shone as she reminisced the old days, Juan was content. “Mommy, if you enjoy translating, then go ahead. I'll arrange it for you tomorrow, and you'll head straight to the Translation Department.”

“Okay. I'll be there on time.”

Suddenly, they heard footsteps, and Juan noticed Nina walking downstairs listlessly with her hair unkempt. He was taken aback when he saw her like that.

Nina had always paid the most attention to her appearance. When she was a child, she wouldn't stop combing her hair until there was not a trace of mess. When she grew up, she dressed up even more exquisitely. Hence, Juan was surprised by her appearance that day.

He couldn't help but size her up, thinking that he had mistaken her for someone else. “Maya?”

“Maya is in the kitchen. I'm Nina!” Nina replied as she cast a glance at him.

Nina?

Her hair was unkempt, her face appeared to have gone unwashed, she wore no makeup, and her oversized pajamas hung slantingly on her body. It wasn't her everyday style.

“Nina, what happened to you?”

She gave him a sidelong glance and walked toward the kitchen without saying a word.

“Mommy, what's the matter with her?”

“She got her heart broken, so she feels awful right now.”

She became like that just because of that? It looks like it hurt her so much that she stopped caring about her appearance.

“When it comes to relationships, the love must be mutual. Otherwise, it’s better to end it early,” Juan stated sighingly.

Nicole glanced at him as she felt that the breakup wasn’t that simple. Since she had told the duke to investigate the matter, she could only wait for his news.

On the other hand, Nina entered the kitchen while Maya was already preparing a healthful meal for her. “This is all the food that you’d want to eat, Nina. I specifically added fruit to make it even more scrumptious.”

“Thanks.”

Nina sat stiffly in her dining chair, uninterested in the fruit Maya had prepared. All she felt was a void in her heart. Since the moment Chris abruptly left her life, her entire world had become empty. Therefore, she felt the need to binge eat in order to fill the emptiness.

“Nina, it’s done. You may eat now.”

After a short while, Nina finished everything on her platter, and Maya, on the side, was taken aback by how quickly she gobbled the food. As she stared at Nina, she was reminded of how she used to eat desserts when she was younger.

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“I’m done. Make me another portion, Maya.”

“Nina, it’s not good to overeat. I’ll make you another one later.”

“I want it now. I’m hungry.”

After pondering for a moment, Maya rose to her feet and walked over to Nina with another platter of fruits. She also added some low-fat seasonings and green vegetables to the meal.

“I don’t want to eat these. I want desserts.”

Seeing how Nina was in despair, Maya thought having some desserts might boost her mood. “All right. Wait here. I’ll make some for you.”

Soon, Maya was done baking a chocolate mousse cake. Just when she was about to explain the ingredients she used, Nina started to devour it by taking large bites.

When they were younger, Nina used to comment that Maya never ate like a lady.

However, Maya had no idea that she would witness Nina being like this one day.

“Slow down, Nina. You’ll choke.”

Nina gazed at Maya, thinking she had to eat faster to fill up the hollowness she was feeling on the inside.

After eating a whole cake, Nina burped and returned to her room, rubbing her full belly.

Back in her room, she drew all the curtains, deliberately dimmed the lights, then threw herself on the bed.

She only felt that her head was shrouded in fog. She didn’t want to think about anything nor do anything, and she just wanted to sleep. Soon, she fell asleep.

It was past dinner hour when she woke up. She placed her hand on her chest and knocked on Maya’s door.

“What’s the matter, Nina?” Maya asked gently.

“I want a strawberry cake together with two other desserts. Thank you.”

At that moment, Maya was rendered speechless.

It was as if Nina was ordering food delivery, and she went back to her room right after that.

Maya stood at the door of her bedroom, frowning worriedly. Nina wants to eat desserts again? Is it okay to eat this much?

However, she was reminded that Nina hadn’t been in a good mood since the breakup, so she figured that she would be well after a few days of eating sugary desserts. She then went to the kitchen and began preparing.

When she was done, she brought the cake to Nina’s room, followed by a few maids who were carrying another two plates of desserts.

After Nina opened the door, she took everything and simply thanked her sister as she closed the door.

At that moment, Maya sighed helplessly. It was true that some people would be in a state of despair after falling out of love, and they couldn’t overcome it for a

long time. Looking at Nina, although she wasn't doing anything stupid, she was behaving like a walking dead.

Ah. Love kills, but a breakup drills you through your heart.

Maya felt that it was better to be single. Hence, she would never rush to date to protect herself.

In the bedroom, Nina gulped down the cake furiously as she still thought about filling up her empty heart.

Right after finishing the cake, she picked up the fork and shoved the other desserts into her mouth. However, before she could chew it, tears suddenly burst out of her eyes.

She had no idea why she suddenly cried, but she felt a terrible pain in her heart as if she was suffocating.

"Nina, you have to be strong. I'll wait for you."

Her heart hurt even more whenever Chris' words began to resound in her mind. She then wiped the tears away clumsily and continued shoving the food down her throat.

When she was done with all the desserts, she lay down on the bed again.

At that moment, she wished she was a robot because robots didn't have emotions. They wouldn't feel sad, awful, or heartaches.

Yes. I'm a robot. Stop thinking...

Very soon, she fell asleep once more.

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The next morning, Nicole noticed Maya getting ready to leave for the food plaza as soon as she woke up.

"Mommy, have some breakfast. I've already eaten, and I'm heading out to work."

"How's Nina? Is she okay?"

Maya gave it a thought and replied, "She has been eating a lot. Other than that, she's doing fine."

Despite that, Nicole still couldn't stop worrying about her as she went to knock on Nina's door.

The latter was still sleeping, and she quickly wrapped herself under the blanket after hearing the knocking.

"Nina, it's me. It's time for breakfast."

As soon as Nina heard Nicole's voice, she peeked her head out from the blanket and responded, "Mommy, I'm not hungry. I'll sleep a little longer."

"Okay. I'm heading to the company later, and I'll help you take a few days off. Take the time you need to recover, all right?"

Nicole understood how awful the breakup was, so she felt that Nina needed a few days to sort out her emotions.

After breakfast, she drove to the company. When the employees saw her, they quickly greeted her politely, "Mrs. Seet."

As Nicole smiled and nodded at them, she continued her way to the Translation Department.

When the manager of the department noticed her, he quickly bowed. "Mrs. Seet!"

"I'm here to work." Nicole went straight to the point.

"I know. Kyle has already informed me of the situation. I've already set up your station, so please follow me."

"There's no need. I used to work here, so I know where it is. I'll go there myself." After she spoke, she walked into the office.

At that moment, the manager got his guard up. Now that Mrs. Seet is in the same department as me, I must be more vigilant and cautious. Otherwise, she would find fault in me.

When she walked into the office, she noticed that all the employees were sitting upright and working solemnly. Seeing that, she grew fond of the atmosphere.

She then made her way to the seat that was reserved for her and sat down. Grabbing a document, she read it for a bit and then proceeded to work. Her bright eyes were trained on both the monitor and the document as her fair, slender fingers tapped effortlessly on the keyboard.

The other employees in the office would glance at her from time to time for fear of being reprimanded or punished for making a mistake.

My, my. Working with Mrs. Seet is sure stressful!

Nicole was very efficient at work. In the span of merely two hours, she had finished what the ordinary employees couldn't finish in just a morning. She glanced at the time on her watch and was about to do something else when she received a call.

"Mommy, are you at home?"

"Joy, I will return home in a while. What's the matter?"

"I've missed you, Mommy. I want to play with you."

"Okay, I'll be there soon."

"All right! I will wait for you here at Grandma's."

Nicole then proceeded to pack her things and left the company to Seet Residence.

On the way there, she was curious about Joy's process of matchmaking Levant and Tiffany.

Meanwhile, Joy was waiting at the front door, folding her arms as if she was an adult.

Seeing Nicole's car drive into Seet Residence, she waved her arms excitedly and shouted, "Mommy! Mommy!"

Later, Nicole parked her car nicely and paced up to Joy.

"Have you been a good girl to Grandma, Joy?"

"Yes! I'm the best girl!"

Nicole then reached out and pinched Joy's fair little cheeks dotingly. This kid really inherited Evan's best features. Her eyes, nose, and lips are just like his.

"Mommy, Uncle Davin treated us to a nice meal yesterday, and we have accomplished something big."

"Oh? What is it?"

As Nicole asked, she carried Joy in her arms and walked to the living room.

Before Joy could tell her about it, she saw Davin, Zayden, and Luke walking down the stairs, followed by Sheila.

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“Nicole, you’re here!” Davin greeted her warmly.

“I’m here to see Joy.”

“Nicole, Joy is a bright kid. She even did us a big favor yesterday!”

At that moment, Nicole was stunned and curious. How much can one kid help?

“Really? What did Joy do?”

Right then, Joy’s face was flushed with glee as she recalled how Davin and Luke praised and thanked her for the help.

Davin told her about everything that happened at Levant Winery that day.

Oh, I see now. Joy has successfully paired Levant and Tiffany up!

“I had no idea that Joy was such a bright little fairy. How she pretended to have a stomachache; her acting was on point! It had allowed Levant and Tiffany to have some time alone.”

Upon hearing that, Nicole couldn’t make any sense of it.

“What does Joy faking a stomachache have to do with them having alone time?”

Davin then proceeded to explain the situation clearly. He took the kids to Levant Winery for a nice meal yesterday. After eating, the kids proposed to go to the suburbs to play, and everyone went together.

Just when everyone was having the best time, Davin saw Levant passing a bottle of water to Tiffany. Noticing how attentive he was, Davin decided to let them be.

Shortly after, the children were pondering how to give them a chance to talk privately. Therefore, Joy suddenly clutched her stomach and shouted in pain. Davin instantly seized the opportunity and volunteered to drive her to the hospital. Zayden and Luke, on the other hand, insisted on following, saying that

their stomachs were uncomfortable as well. Davin immediately drove the kids to the hospital, leaving Levant and Tiffany in the suburbs.

“The point is that we drove to the hospital. Since my car was no longer available, Levant and Tiffany were forced to remain in the suburbs. It should have given them enough time to talk about love and feelings.”

“But what if they called a cab?” Sheila asked.

“No way. Levant isn’t stupid. He wouldn’t miss out a chance like that.”

“What if Tiffany called for a cab instead?” Sheila asked again.

“That won’t happen. Tiffany likes Levant, so she would seize the opportunity to spend the time with him!”

At that moment, Luke, who was standing on the side, chimed in, “I called my mommy yesterday to ask. She and Daddy only returned to the winery in the evening. They were together all afternoon.” After speaking, he gleamed brightly.

“If it hadn’t been Joy faking a stomachache, they wouldn’t have this golden opportunity to spend time together! Kudos to Joy!” Davin then gave Joy a big thumbs up.

“Haha, stop it! You’re making me shy!” The smile on Joy’s face widened instantly.

“No, you deserve it! You’re way smarter than me. I wouldn’t have come up with that.”

“Joy, how did you think of that?” Nicole looked at her, feeling shocked.

Joy then fixed her gaze on Nicole and responded earnestly, “Mommy, I heard Luke mention this phrase—drastic times call for drastic measures. I had no idea what that meant, so he explained that we had to make something up in order to create an opportunity. That’s how I came up with the idea.”

“That is something my mommy taught me. I didn’t think she’d pick it up so quickly. You’re very bright,” Luke said as he stared at Joy.

Nicole patted Joy’s head and uttered, “It looks like I have to teach you some life hacks too! Otherwise, your intelligence would go to waste!”

“Yes. You have to teach this bright kid more. Sign her up for some talent classes or something,” suggested Davin.

Sheila then glared at Davin. “Talent class? Don’t pressure the kid.”

Nicole agreed with Sheila after hearing that. "Joy is still young, so homeschooling might suffice. We'll see about the talent class in a few years. I want my children to live a carefree childhood."