

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 756

“Mr. Seet, this is not Hillside Villa. May I ask that you leave?”

“I know that this is not Hillside Villa. I’ll leave after dinner. It’s just one meal, you won’t mind, right? If you do, I can pay for it.”

Pay for it?

Who wants your money?

Nicole stared at him with a long face. Seeing how he was so determined to stay for dinner, she did not bother to argue with him further. She took some food and hurried back to the bedroom upstairs to eat alone.

Can’t we eat together?

Evan sulked and his appetite was greatly affected.

The atmosphere at the dining area became very awkward between him and the three children.

Juan and Kyle took a glance at him then continued eating.

Licking her lips, Maya’s big round eyes gleamed as she fixed her gaze on the plate of beef in front of Evan.

Evan patted her head and served her the beef she had been eyeing for a while now. He reminded her, “There’s a lot, don’t finish it all at once.”

“I know, Daddy. I’ll only eat five pieces. I’m limiting the amount of food I consume, so I won’t overeat.”

Evan smiled. Setting a maximum limit is good, it can help Maya control her diet.

While eating, he kept looking upstairs from time to time and did not pay any attention to the taste of the food.

Considering how distracted he was, Maya asked curiously, "Daddy, do you want to go upstairs to see Mommy?"

He kept silent for a while then nodded. "I'm going to check if she has enough to eat."

After that, he turned around and made his way upstairs with a dish in his hand.

Juan asked softly, "Do you think Mommy and Daddy will be all right?"

Kyle shook his head. "I think the chances of Daddy getting kicked out of the room is higher."

Maya was enjoying the scrumptious dinner. She puffed her cheeks out like a chubby chipmunk.

"I think we should work together to help them resolve their conflict and chase the bad woman away. Then, we can reunite as one happy family."

"Mommy won't forgive Daddy so easily. Moreover, that bad woman is so shrewd. It's even harder to make her leave Daddy."

Kyle asked Juan for his opinion, "What do you think?"

Juan pondered over it and then sighed. "I think that the matters involving the adults are way too complicated. Just let Daddy and Mommy settle it themselves. We're still too young to understand."

Seriously?

Maya's jaw dropped. Wasn't he the keenest among us to bring Daddy and Mommy together? I can't complete this challenging mission all by myself, can I?

Suddenly, she thought about her request to learn cooking. Mommy's company and clinic don't seem to be running very smoothly recently, could she still hire a gourmet specialist for me? Perhaps I should ask Daddy when he comes down later since money is nothing to him.

With a dish of pork cutlet in his hand, Evan knocked on Nicole's bedroom door.

"Who is it?" Nicole asked, trying to check if it was Evan.

He did not say a word but continued knocking on the door.

Nicole knew that it was him. She rolled her eyes and continued eating.

He knocked continuously in an unhurried rhythm. Knock! Knock! Pause. Knock! Knock!

He was determined to wait patiently until she answered the door.

The knocking persisted till Nicole finished her dinner. Getting impatient and irritated, she stood up and opened the door.

"What do you want?" She stared daggers at him and asked in an angry tone.

Evan knew her personality well and tolerated her sudden outburst. In fact, he offered her the dish. "I just want to make sure you have enough to eat."

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Chapter 757

Nicole took a glance at the dish then glared at Evan with a straight face.

"Mr. Seet, everything about me has got nothing to do with you, be it any daily affairs or life and death matters. You don't have to do this. By the way, please don't intervene in my business as well as any happenings at the clinic. You can leave this dish with me now and go."

Evan was quiet.

I didn't expect her to be so heartless. She seems very firm in her decision to cut ties with me.

He then rebutted with a white lie, "Don't be so full of yourself. I just don't want my children to suffer under your care. Hence, I'm trying to take care of you, for their sake. If your company goes bankrupt and the clinic is not doing well, I'm worried that my children will starve. Who knows if you'll sell them off for money?"

Nicole could not answer him back.

His words reminded her of the recent devastating situation that she was facing; a poorly run company and a deserted clinic.

Is he rubbing salt on my wounds, trying to mock me whenever he gets a chance to?

All of a sudden, she felt that her internal injuries had gotten worse.

Even if I have no income, I wouldn't let my children suffer with me, let alone selling them off! Nicole thought that he bore malice towards her.

This is so annoying.

Without showing weakness, Nicole then retorted, "Don't you worry. Soon, I'll turn things around and ensure that both Lane Corporation and the clinic will flourish and prosper. I guarantee that the four of them will have more than enough money to spend."

Some things never change. This woman is still as stubborn as ever. I'd like to see how she's going to achieve what she's just said.

Evan narrowed his eyes and had no intention to continue this topic with her.

He recalled his purpose of visiting her and said seriously, "Nicole, if I ever find out that you were insulting me again, I'll give you a taste of your own medicine."

Seems like the person who brought a staff from Seet Group to the clinic did pass the message back to Evan. Oh well, let it be then. I'm not afraid that he knows I scolded him.

“If you don’t want me to say anything bad about you, then please remember your status as a married man and leave me alone. Keep your distance and be a stranger. Otherwise, be prepared to hear harsher words from me.”

A married man.

Coldness flashed through his deep eyes. He felt a sharp blade poke through his heart. Choosing to remain silent, he turned away and left.

When he got downstairs, Maya, who wanted to ask him about hiring a gourmet specialist, decided to drop that topic when she saw his grim face.

Did Daddy and Mommy fight?

Poor me, when can I ever have a happy family?

Maya walked back to her room. Her little body looked exceptionally lonely and sad.

On his way driving back from Imperial Garden, all that was playing in Evan’s mind was his disappointing conversation with Nicole.

Does she intend to keep a distance from me? Does she really want me to leave her alone?

Every word she spoke jabbed at his heart painfully.

If this is her true intention, should I then oblige?

Since that day, Evan had not seen Nicole for half a month.

He numbed himself by occupying all of his time with work. Each day, he would get back to the Hillside Villa around midnight after completing all the work for Seet Group.

Whenever he sat in his study room alone, a clear figure would always pop up in his mind. The same face, name, and figure that was impossible to forget or ignore.

“Nicole, have you gotten used to the days without me disturbing you? Are you happy?”

He mumbled to himself. Taking out his phone, he scrolled to her name, and recalled their conversations.

Each scene flashed through his mind, playing like a movie.

His lips curled up. Sitting quietly in his study and reminiscing his times with Nicole had become the happiest moment of his day. However, what came after a short and sweet flashback was an attack of bitter memory, which would usually linger throughout the night.

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02/08/2021 by Novel Heart

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Chapter 758

“Has everything ended for us?”

He whispered softly. His heartache could be seen clearly through his deep eyes.

Meanwhile, Nicole was tossing and turning on her bed and could not fall asleep.

Two companies were willing to collaborate with Lane Corporation and that would help her resolve the problems faced earlier. Her assistant had checked on these two companies and

concluded that they were not associated with Seet Group nor had any business transactions with the latter.

Yet, Nicole still doubted the motive behind the agenda, as to why these companies wanted to collaborate with her.

People would generally want to work with a top seed. Who would want to get involved in a company with a bleak future?

Although the two companies have affirmed me that they value my character, I've actually never interacted with their persons in charge before. Moreover, there were unfavorable news about me on the Internet some time back, which made the reason given by them sound like a lame excuse.

The real reason is probably related to that person.

"Evan Seet, if you're really behind all these, what's your intention? Why did you go the extra mile to help me but hide your identity?"

Since you've decided to repay your debt of gratitude through your marriage and sacrifice happiness for the rest of your life, why do you still care about me so much?

"I know that you had no choice, you had your reasons to do so because you value love and relationships, and you certainly couldn't ignore the hardships your benefactor had to go through, but..."

I really can't accept the fact that you're married. I can't stand you being around any other woman.

We all have our fair share of worries, difficulties, and struggles.

Perhaps, that's our fate.

As Nicole thought about this, her heart wrenched. She let out a snuffle and tears streamed down from her cheeks uncontrollably.

Five days following that, Nicole received news that Yage Group was going to hold a cocktail party, and all of the top businessmen in the industry were invited.

After pondering over it, she looked at her assistant and asked solemnly, "If I were to attend this cocktail party and be lucky enough to meet a few top guns, won't that save Lane Corporation from its current predicament and also bring benefits to its future development?"

Her assistant thought about it. "Yes, it will, Ms. Lane. Our company's growth is rather stagnant now. We could use some backers to move things forward."

Nicole squinted her eyes. "All right, I must get ready and seize the golden opportunity."

A few party scenes flashed through her mind as she thought about what to wear at night.

After two hours of preparation, Nicole looked stunning in a pastel-colored tube dress, delicate make-up, and 6-inch stilettos. She left Imperial Garden confidently.

The cocktail party was magnificent. Luxury was an understatement. There were marble stairs, expensive carpets, dazzling lights, and a selection of premium red wines.

Nicole took a deep breath and walked in calmly.

As soon as she entered the hall, she became the center of attention.

"Who is that?"

"She looks like Nicole Lane from Lane Corporation."

"Oh, the one who had a relationship with Mr. Seet from Seet Group?"

"Yes, that's right. Unfortunately, Mr. Seet abandoned her and married another woman in the end."

"So what if she was abandoned? She must be something to have attracted Mr. Seet in the first place. Why don't we..."

"You're interested in her?"

"Who's not interested in a belle like her?"

A few guys were throwing lecherous gazes at Nicole as if they were wolves, ready to devour their prey.

They held a wine glass each in their hands and walked towards Nicole.

“Care for a drink?”

She gave them a once-over. They dress well and look like some local notables.

She recalled her purpose of attending the party. “Sure, cheers.” She lifted her glass and downed the red wine.

“You’re really good. Shall we continue somewhere else?”

What?

She started to notice their lustful gazes and ugly smiles. These people have a different agenda, don’t they?

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“Ms. Lane, it’s too crowded here, let’s find a quiet place and get comfortable.”

The guy put his arms around her.

Nicole was stunned by the unexpected action. Sensing trouble, her face dimmed. “Excuse me, I got to go.”

“You think you can leave?”

A man blocked her while the rest surrounded her.

Nicole’s heart froze. Why are there such scumbags in a high-class event like this? What should I do now? How do I escape?

“Ms. Lane, come with us to the lounge. There’s a huge bed waiting for you.”

All that had happened were captured by Evan. His eyes blazed with fury and his expression got colder tenfold.

Susan noticed the changes in his emotions and held onto his arm. “Evan, I guess Ms. Lane is just chatting with her friends. Mr. Joule is waiting for you over there, let’s go.”

Fixing his gaze on Nicole who was one floor below him, Evan ignored Susan completely.

Right then, Nicole was panic-stricken. “No, I’m not going with you. I have to go...”

“Where are you going? Do you think that you’re still an innocent girl after being toyed with by Evan Seet?”

“Exactly. Come with us. You don’t want us to do it the hard way, do you?” He rolled up his sleeves and was ready to drag Nicole away.

“What are you trying to do? I’m going to scream for help if you don’t leave.”

“Go ahead, Ms. Lane.”

“But if you do scream...” The guy raised his arm as he spoke.

Crap! Is he going to hit me?

I can’t even scream for help? That’s too much.

Then again, I have a silver needle with me and it might come in handy.

I'm going to yell.

"Help! Someone molested me..."

At that moment, someone smashed a wine glass from upstairs.

Bang! The red stained wine glass shattered and its debris were all over the place, causing everyone to look up in shock.

"Who's that?"

"Who did it? Come out now!"

As soon as the question was asked, Evan strode down the stairs and stood behind him.

"I did it."

His tone of voice was mellow but cold enough to send chills down the spines of those who heard him.

He exuded a domineering aura as he took a glance across the hall. The custom-made black suit complemented his nobleness.

Flabbergasted, the guys turned around only to be greeted by Evan's hateful stare.

"Mr... Mr. Seet, you're here too?"

"Mr. Seet, we're just fooling around with her. It was a joke."

Their faces paled. If we knew that Mr. Seet is in our midst, no one would dare to do that even if we have nine lives. We're so unlucky to be caught red-handed by him.

Evan stared daggers at their dirty hands. His gaze was very frightening. After a long while, he roared, "Get lost!"

The guys ran off immediately.

“Evan...”

Susan quickened her footsteps and followed him downstairs.

Her eyes were drawn from Evan to Nicole. Taken aback, she promptly walked towards her to offer her concern.

“Are you all right, Ms. Lane?”

“I’m ok,” Nicole replied casually.

“That’s good.” Susan approached Evan and wrapped her arms around him, as if she were asserting her identity as Mrs. Seet.

She said with a coy smile, “Evan, Mr. Joule is still waiting for us. We should go.”

Seeing them standing next to each other, Nicole felt a wrenching pain in her heart and subconsciously clenched her fists.

Evan’s hawk eyes were still locked on Nicole. Why is she wearing such revealing clothes?

“Are you trying to attract unwanted attention with your outfit? There’s a slim chance for Lane Corporation to win the bidding. You can’t win just by putting on skimpy clothes.”

She kept quiet as her face darkened.

I know the current state of Lane Corporation very well. That’s why I’m here to get to know more socialites. I’m not here for the bidding!

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Chapter 760

Nicole wanted to explain herself badly but did not do so in the end as bitterness surged in her heart when she saw Susan by Evan's side.

She gave him a fierce look. "It's my freedom to dress up however I like. Mind your own business."

After giving him a piece of her mind, she left in the other direction.

Evan watched her storm off with a heavy heart.

Her obstinate personality had not changed one bit.

I was just trying to look out for her. What an ungrateful woman.

Back at Imperial Garden, Nicole read a piece of breaking news online. The guys who harassed her at the cocktail party had their hands chopped off.

Nicole felt a numbness creeping to her head as she stared at the gory images.

Though the news did not reveal who did it and the descriptions were quite vague, all clues were pointed to Evan, the reaper.

Otherwise, isn't this too much of a coincidence?

Is he trying to deter people from harassing me? Did he do this to help me?

"Evan Seet, why are you still toying with me when you already have Susan by your side?"

With that, she took her clothes and headed for the bathroom.

Soaking in the tub, she heaved a long sigh and shut her eyes, enjoying the gentle caress of the hot water on her body. Warm steam lingered in the bathroom, making it look like paradise.

It did not take long for a heartbreaking scene to appear in her head, the one where Susan stood in front of her with her arms wrapped around Evan.

“Evan, is Susan that great?”

“Do you really like her that much?”

“Evan Seet, you’re a jerk!”

“Evan...”

As she called out his name, tears rolled down her cheeks like an open floodgate.

His name had been deeply engraved in her soul and imprinted on her heart. Whenever she thought about him, she could not help but recite his name multiple times.

“Evan Seet... Evan Seet...”

In a blink of an eye, another half a month passed by after their last encounter. The days when one suffered from lovesick was extremely hard to bear.

Perhaps God was satisfied with the emotional turmoil and mental torture that they had been going through, He decided to hit the pause button and sent some trouble in Nicole’s way.

One afternoon, when Evan was daydreaming by his window, his phone rang.

Seeing that the call was from Kyle, he answered it immediately.

“What’s wrong, Kyle?”

“Daddy, Mommy’s injured. Can you visit her at the hospital?”

“How did she get hurt? Which hospital?” Evan’s tone was rather impatient, but very concerned.

Kyle shared the details with him and he darted to the hospital.

Meanwhile, Nicole was on the sickbed, grumbling in pain.

Sheila was with her. "Sigh... Why did you have to fix the plaque at the clinic personally? You're so lucky to still be alive. If you fell from anywhere higher, you would be gone by now."

"I was too careless. I thought that it was something easy to fix."

"You're such a klutz. Do you think that you're made of metal? Even if you're invincible, you should spend your time and energy fighting with that b*tch!"

Nicole was rendered speechless. I knew she was going to bring this up.

As she had predicted, Sheila continued her interrogation. "Are you planning to do nothing and just let them being with each other?"

"They are husband and wife. Surely, they have to be together."

Sheila sat beside her and looked her in the eye.

"Mr. Seet has never dated her and neither did he register their marriage officially. You know this very well and you need to trust him. You're just enraged by the fact that they conducted a wedding ceremony in K Nation, right?"

Nicole glanced at her but did not speak a word.

I've been keeping my distance not just because I'm angry at him, but because I know we don't have a future together. Evan won't abandon Susan as he thinks that he owes her a favor. With that said, they will register their marriage and have kids in the future. What does it leave me with?