

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 806

Nicole had done nothing out of the ordinary for the past few days. She did not meet Levant in secret, which was contrary to what Evan had suspected. Yet, John was still ordered to continue, in monitoring her whereabouts. Mr. Seet has a trust issue! Still, I'm rather curious as to why he has raised his suspicion to Mrs. Seet."

"Alright. Evan is currently in a meeting. I'll be waiting for him inside. You don't have to inform him of my arrival. I'd just dropped by casually."

"Noted, Mrs. Seet." John nodded politely.

As soon as she entered the office, Nicole sat in the president's seat. Her eyes scanned the desk drawers as she began to speculate.

If there is to be a gift in one of the drawers, where would he keep it?

After a long silence, John questioned, "Mrs. Seet, would you like to have a cup of tea?"

"No, it's alright. You can proceed with your job. You don't have to keep me company."

John nodded silently. "Yes, Mrs. Seet."

After he left, Nicole got up and shut the door of the office hastily. Thereafter, she headed back to the working desk and stared at the drawers.

Which one should I open first? Hmm... I'll start with the bottom one. It looks perfect for camouflage. If he'd kept a gift somewhere in here, this place is most likely to be his chosen spot.

Following Juan's instructions, she unlocked the drawer with little to no effort at all. She prayed hard that nothing was inside the moment she pulled the drawer out.

When the drawer was fully opened, a beautiful glass bottle that was kept inside left Nicole in a dazed state.

Is this what he planned to give her?

She reached her hand out to hold the bottle as she took it out. It was full of origami paper stars. It didn't take a genius to know that it would be a time-consuming project to have made such things. Evan had to have put his heart into it, seeing as he made a bottle that was full of them.

The bottle was still not enough to have caused Nicole to lose faith in their relationship. She believed that the countless ordeals that they overcame together could not be compared to a bottle of paper stars. There was no guarantee that it was for Susan either.

Could it be that he's actually made this for me?

Upon taking a closer peek at the paper stars, Nicole noticed some words on them. Out of curiosity, she opened the bottle.

Wasting no time, she poured all the stars out onto the working desk, unfolding the ones with words. She furrowed her brows as she read the words written on them.

This handwriting looks rather familiar. It was written out with much force! It must be Evan's. Her heart skipped a beat the moment she unfolded the part where Susan's name was written.

This bottle truly is for her! What a goddamned surprise you've given me, Evan Seet! It's no surprise to me now, seeing that you were willing to practice out a romantic scene with her, even going as far as to hug her! I see it now!

Her hands were trembling after she finished unfolding the paper stars. Then, she arranged the words together, and they formed a sentence— Watch the brightest star with Susan.

What the hell! This is too much for a surprise! Evan Seet, you are the worst b*stard in the entire world!

Nicole scrambled the papers up into a sphere, crumpling them as she put them back into the bottle. She gritted her teeth and mumbled, "I hope that Susan can still recognize the words when she receives this bottle, watching the brightest stars together with you! Then, I hope that a meteorite will hit you two and send you flying."

Following this, she put all the remaining paper stars back into the bottle. Then, she threw the bottle into the drawer and locked it aside.

At one point, she had a strong urge to ask Evan about this bottle. Nevertheless, she figured that nothing would come out of asking him since he did something like this while keeping her in the dark. He would smooth talk his way out of the situation.

Nicole Lane! What other excuses do you want to make for him? What you have before you now is solid proof!

She clenched her fists and let out a long breath, hoping to relieve her pent-up frustration. She felt suffocated, the longer she remained in the office.

After a moment of silence, she stood up and stormed out of the office furiously.

Meanwhile, Evan was informed by John that Nicole had come over. Hence, he adjourned the meeting hurriedly as he rushed toward his office immediately. By the time he arrived, she was nowhere to be found.

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Glancing at the empty office, he turned to ask John, "Where is she?"

John hesitated for a moment. "She was still here, just a while ago."

Taking out his phone, Evan soon called her.

On the other end of the line, she rejected his call, exasperated after she had seen his caller ID.

Who would have expected that he would cheat on me? It seems that I've misjudged him. All men are bad news!

Driving while grumbling in her head, Nicole rejected his calls repeatedly as she switched off her phone to avoid receiving his call again.

Evan was completely bewildered. She'd rejected my calls and now her phone is switched off? What is she playing at? Are there any inconveniences on her end?

"John, find out where she is!"

"Mr. Seet, are you asking me to tail her?"

At his question, Evan shot an icy glare toward John. It was then that he kept his mouth shut sulkily and left the office speedily.

John followed the GPS location and found Nicole's car. It was parked outside of a mall.

Mrs. Seet is here to buy some new clothes, right?

Upon finding himself a parking space, John entered the mall and headed over to the second floor. He only felt relieved once he saw Nicole picking out clothes inside a store.

Out of the blue, he received a text message from Evan. Soon, he opened it to read its content.

Evan: Have you found her? Where is she?

A while later, John lifted his phone in Nicole's direction, snapping a photo of her secretly before sending it to Evan.

John: Mr. Seet, Mrs. Seet is in the mall. She is safe.

A slight frown appeared on Evan's face as he took a look at the photo of her trying on clothes. The overall color tone of her outfit looks youthful and energetic! What's happened to her? Excretion of puberty hormones at such an age? She used to prefer attires of darker colors, wanting to appear more mature. What's with the sudden change?

Her recent speech and behavior differed vastly from before. Unfortunately, he could not figure out the reason for that. Nevertheless, he remembered that she had an unusual scent of tobacco, lingering on her body twice. It was unforgettable to him. For that reason alone, uneasiness took over his heart.

He frowned and sent another text message to John.

Evan: Update me on her whereabouts once every half an hour!

John: Noted, Mr. Seet.

Upon replying to the text, John heaved out a deep sigh. Is the crisis of the company messing with his mental state? Why is he getting all worked up? I'll even have to report an update, once every half an hour!

When he turned to face Nicole, he saw that she was currently facing the mirror, looking at her reflection in the outfit that she had tried on.

Although Nicole was not particularly fond of the attire that she had put on, she bought it anyway.

Most women spent their time shopping, especially when they were not in a good mood. It helped them in relieving their stress. Naturally, Nicole was no exception.

Despite being in the store physically, her mind was occupied with thoughts of the glass bottle of paper stars that she had crumpled earlier. Since when did he develop feelings for her? I've never realized it.

Her heart was fuming with rage at her thoughts. To vent her anger, she picked out a few clothes randomly and carried all the items that she bought out of the mall.

John tailed her. He hurried over to his car and got in as soon as she entered her car. His car was parked out of sight when he arrived earlier.

Should I go home or should I head over to the company? Did he call me after I had switched off my phone?

With much curiosity and the desire to call her assistant, she switched on her phone.

A call came in, the moment her phone was switched on.

After a second glance, she noticed that it was a call from Levant.

She had a strong hunch that trouble would possibly follow after his call. Damn it! I shouldn't have switched on my phone. Nothing good ever comes from his call. What terrible luck!

As much as she wanted to reject his call, she refrained from doing so since Stephen was still at his mercy. After deep contemplation, Nicole decided that the lives of others should not be taken lightly. At long last, she answered his call.

"Nicole, come over to my winery. I have something important to show you."

She was at a loss for words.

What does he mean by something important? It must be one of his tricks again. Feeling reluctant to ask him for more details, she switched her phone off as she drove to Levant Winery.

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Following Nicole, John soon arrived at Levant Winery. He was dumbstruck as he took in the surrounding scenery.

It can't be! Is Mr. Seet some kind of prophet? Mrs. Seet is meeting with Levant! Goodness! Please don't enter the place. I'm tasked to spy on you. How am I supposed to report your whereabouts to my boss in such a circumstance? If I speak the truth, it will, by all means, create a rift in your relationship. If I were to lie to my boss, I would be banished to Antarctica once I've gotten busted!

While John was mumbling in his heart, Nicole headed into Levant Winery with her head held high.

Oh, my god! I'm so dead! She has entered the winery! What am I supposed to tell Mr. Seet now? Damn it, I'm in a tight spot now!

John had a troubled look on his face. Suddenly, his phone rang; a notification had come through. At a glance, he saw that it was a message from Evan: Is she still in the mall?

After much deliberation, he replied: Yes, she's still here.

Evan: Which one? Send me the location.

John was stunned by the text message.

What is Mr. Seet doing with the location of his wife? Is he looking for her? If he is, I'll be doomed.

Evan's call came in while John was pondering about the consequences.

It was at that moment that he knew; he had to let the cat out of the bag.

In a quandary, he let out a deep, helpless sigh. Then, his finger pressed on the button to accept the call.

“Send me her location now!” Evan demanded.

His hoarse voice was deep and overpowering. On the other end of the line, John’s heart trembled.

“Mr. Seet, your wife is no longer in the mall. She—”

“Location!”

Upon hearing Evan’s intimidating and domineering voice, John knew that things would turn ugly if he didn’t send his boss her location at once.

Before he sent it, he recited a soliloquy in his mind. I’m sorry, Mrs. Seet.

Evan blew a fuse when he saw her location— Levant Winery. Unable to contain his overflowing rage, he flung the limited edition glass in his hand to the ground. It was smashed to smithereens as it made a loud, shattering noise.

What is she thinking? After getting some new clothes, she headed over to Levant Winery? Did she develop a crush on him after they’d spent one year together?

The thoughts imbued Evan with exasperation. Incapable of staying put any longer, he stood up, picked up his couture jacket, and stormed out of his office.

Taking no detours, he headed straight to the underground parking lot and got into his Maybach. As soon as the door was closed, he sped off to Levant Winery.

His car was moving at a breakneck speed. The veins on his hands bulged as he clutched the steering wheel. Thoughts of demanding for Nicole to explain her deceitful behavior filled his mind. I shall make Levant pay for his foolishness!

Along his journey, he received a call from John.

“Mr. Seet, it appears that your wife has left Levant Winery. It looks like she is headed back to Imperial Garden.”

She's left Levant Winery?

After much contemplation, he decided to probe further into her situation. As long as she was willing to give him a reasonable explanation for her actions, he would believe in her words unequivocally.

In the middle of the road, his car made a turnaround like a shooting star as he steered it toward Imperial Garden.

As soon as he arrived at Imperial Garden, Evan dashed toward the living room. Nicole had already arrived by then. She walked upstairs, carrying the bags of clothes that she had bought earlier.

Upon hearing the noise, she turned to the doors at the entrance. Her gaze was met with his while she stood on the stairs. Both parties were on the verge of blowing a gasket.

Evan shifted his focus toward the bags in her hands with a disdainful look.

Feeling rather irked, Nicole glared at him. Don't tell me that he has come looking for me just because I'd rejected his calls? In spite of that, he deserved that! Who was the one who'd prepared a handcrafted gift for Susan? He'd even wanted to watch the brightest star with her! On second thought, I think that I might have gone easy on him by merely ignoring his calls. I should have tussled with him to vent out the suffocating feeling inside of me.

Her eyes were scanning him from head to toe. Soon, she shot him a fierce look. “Mr. Seet, why are you here?”

Why am I here? Good question!

Immediately, Evan flounced toward her. After closing the distance between them, he gripped her wrist with increasing force; one that could possibly strangle a living being to death. Then, he pulled her toward the bedroom.

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Nicole was shocked by the unexpected assault. "Evan, let go of me! It hurts!"

He paid no heed to her words as he continued to pull her toward the bedroom with the same amount of strength. After that, he slammed the bedroom door shut strenuously.

She frowned at his face that was flushed with anger. Did he have to flip out just because I'd refused to answer his call? If anyone should have the right to be angry, it should be none other than me! Besides, I did not do it for fun!

Evan flung her hand away while glowering at her fair face. "Where did you go?" he asked in an interrogating manner.

Nicole avoided his eyes slightly as she lifted the bags in her hands. "I bought some clothes," she answered boldly.

"Then?"

Then I went to see Levant...

Back at Levant Winery, she was told about Stephen's poor health condition. The latter would need the proper care of a medical practitioner. Levant promised that she would get to see him after a few days.

Levant exhorted, "Nicole, the fate of your father now lies in your hand. I believe that you would not want something ill to befall him, especially not for him to be found dead on the street, right?"

"Levant, if you dare touch him, I swear that I will kill you!"

"Relax, Nicole. As long as you don't disobey me, I can guarantee your father's safety. You may get to see him five days from now."

“For real?”

“Of course. I do not wish for a third person to know about this, especially Evan. If the word gets out, it’ll be equivalent to pushing him down to hell with your very two hands. Hence, I suggest that you should be mindful of what comes out of your mouth.”

Nicole remained silent as the earlier scene replayed in her mind.

Evan peered at her while she was still in a trance. “Why are you pausing? Where did you head to after that? Speak!”

I can’t tell him where I had gone next! I can’t afford to put Stephen’s life at risk.

She lifted her head to look at him but lowered it down almost instantly to avoid his furious gaze.

After a long pause, she murmured, “After that, I came home without taking any detours.”

Evan was disconcerted by her audacity in telling him such a blatant lie.

How could she stretch the truth? With John as an eyewitness and the location as proof, she still has the guts to deceive me?

Evan was utterly disappointed when he detected the faint smell of tobacco on her body. His expression instantly turned stony.

I thought that you would at least try to open up to me. I would have believed in your words, even if they were merely a casual explanation. Nevertheless, you didn’t even bother to try to come up with an excuse, let alone spill the beans. Nicole, why are you doing this? Is he worth that much, seeing that you’re determined to get him of the picture?

He clenched his fists, leaving the room as he slammed the door hard.

Nicole heaved out a long sigh. Has he noticed something? Even if he has come to learn about this, I still can’t tell him anything! It’s not like I had a choice in the matter! But what about him? Was he helpless when he made her the bottle of paper stars, hugging her during the rehearsal? He’d even planned on watching the brightest star with her! What does he have to say for himself?

After a while, she chuckled miserably. Did he react that way because I went to see Levant? Could it be that he developed feelings for her due to her kindness? And for that reason, has he treated me in such a manner? Is that what happened? Men are always on the conquest to look for new toys that excite them, aren't they? I guess that women are mere toys to them.

During the period when Nicole suffered from amnesia, Susan lived together with Evan at Hillside Villa. According to Susan, she had once saved his life. It would not be too farfetched to think that he could have possibly fallen for her.

Do you have a crush on her, Evan?

She assumed that Evan's kindness toward Susan was the result of his love for the latter. Suddenly, her heart began to feel as though it had been dug out. The emptiness within her caused her tears to roll down from her cheeks.

Evan was aggrieved as he departed from Imperial Garden. Hence, he took out his phone and gave John a call. "Levant should be removed from our land. Do you hear me?"

"Yes, Mr. Seet."

After a few simple words, Evan ended the call. John was left with a troubling task.

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Throughout the years of Levant running a business in the country, he was deemed to be a formidable entrepreneur! It is not a simple task to take him out and destroy the business empire that he has built here. Nevertheless, if he is left on his own, not only would it affect Seet Group, rather, it would also create a rift between Mr. Seet and his wife.

I guess that I have no other choice. I have to get it done despite its difficulty. To be frank, these two men would never have come across each other if they had not fallen in love with the same woman. Perhaps they might have even become business partners if that never happened. Unfortunately, however, romance, is at times, crueler than the business world.

In the blink of an eye, it was already ten at night as city lights filled the dark sky. Nicole felt a tad bit lonely when she glanced at the empty and somewhat dim bedroom.

Where did he go at this hour? Why is he not home yet? Could it be that he's spending time with Susan? She allowed her imagination to run wild.

A while later, she took out her phone to search for Evan's contact number. She gave him a call after a brief moment of hesitation. To her misfortune, however, her calls were left unanswered, as his phone was ultimately switched off.

Nicole was feeling rather frustrated. Did he do it purposely? Or is this happening because of the wrong timing?

Her phone rang abruptly while she was making wild guesses. Initially, she was elated, thinking that the call was from Evan. However, her face soon turned gloomy the moment she lowered her head to glance at the caller ID.

"Who is this?"

"Ms. Lane, this is Susan speaking. Evan didn't answer your call because he is drunk. I was thinking that you might have been worried about his well-being. Thus, I thought that I should give you a call. You should go ahead and sleep first. You don't have to wait for him. He is not coming back tonight."

Nicole remained silent the entire time.

Susan's tone was soft, but it was full of provocative words. Every single word pierced Nicole's heart like silver needles on a pincushion. So, you are seeing Susan, after all! Are you watching the brightest star with her right now? Are you even looking at the stars? You're probably leering at Susan! You don't even feel like answering my calls or coming home, huh? How could you do this to me, Evan Seet? How could you...

Inside The Passion, Evan gulped the liquor down to its last drop. He set the glass down as he left the bar. Susan was sitting in a corner peeping at him while swirling a glass of wine in her hand. She raised a wicked smirk at a corner of her lips.

Evan's driver parked his car in the garage and handed the remote over to him. "Mr. Seet, would you like me to help you up?"

He raised his head toward the upper floor and noticed that the light in the bedroom was still on. She's still up?

"There's no need for that." Thereafter, he made his way upstairs.

He came in after the bedroom door was pushed open. Nicole was sitting on the bed while imagining the romantic scene of him watching the starry sky with Susan.

Her face grew sullen upon seeing his figure. Has he gotten enough of stargazing, deciding to come home?

She shot him a death stare with a scowl on her face, hurriedly covering herself with the duvet cover.

Staring at the protruding blanket, Evan frowned. By covering herself up, is she implying that she doesn't want to see me? Hmph! Who else would she want to see now? Levant?

His inextinguishable rage got the better of him. Soon, Evan stomped toward the bed as he pulled the blanket away.

Nicole shot him a dark look as she bellowed, "What the hell are you doing?"

"Take a shower!"

"No! I just did!" Nicole lifted her head as she cast him a glance, closing her eyes once again. Her attitude indicated that she did not want him within her line of sight.

Seeing that she refused to look at him, he ordered her, "Bathe me!"

She was struck into a daze by his unreasonable demand.

Shut up! You've just returned from mingling with Susan, and now you want me to shower you? Quit daydreaming, will you? Are you high?

"Evan Seet! I am not your servant and I do not work for you! If you want someone to shower you, look for Susan! She will be more than willing to do it!"

Susan? Why are you bringing her up, out of the blue? Pfft! You had gone to see Levant behind my back. Now, you're trying to pull me down to your level by associating me with her? What a joke!

"Don't you ever think for a second that everyone is the same as you! I do not keep skeletons in the closet!"