

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1086

"You can do it," Chris encouraged.

"All right. Nina, Mommy and Daddy will head back first. You'll stay here for your lesson. We'll ask the maid to pick you up later."

"Okay, Daddy."

"Safe journey, Mr. Seet, Mrs. Seet."

As Chris watched Evan and Nicole leave, something dark flashed across his gentle face. It seemed like he was hiding something behind his bright smile.

"Mr. Sanders, what will we learn first?"

Nina's voice dragged him back to his senses. He turned to her and muttered, "I have a list of ingredients here. Memorize their names first."

"Okay."

Nina took the list and slowly memorized them.

Meanwhile, after Davin and Sheila left, Sophia brought maids along with her to the address Davin gave her; she hurried to Davin's ex-girlfriend's place.

It had been difficult for Davin and Sheila to get together, and she would not let another woman destroy their relationship. She had to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. The Seet family was rich; she was more than willing to use lots of money, as long as this other woman kept a distance from Davin and stop threatening his relationship with Sheila.

"This is it?"

"Ma'am, this is the address Mr. Davin gave us."

"Knock on the door."

"Yes, Ma'am."

Ms. Lawrence stepped forward and knocked on the door.

Soon, the door opened. When the woman saw Sophia and Ms. Lawrence, she froze.

As she used to be Davin's girlfriend, she had a certain amount of knowledge of the Seet family. She had once seen a photo of Sophia on Davin's social media. One glance, and she knew the elegant woman standing in front of her was Davin's mother.

"You must be Renee Hadley."

Sophia took in the sight of the woman. She looked pretty, but she did not exude sexual charm; she seemed like a simple, sweet girl. She could not believe her playboy son would fall in love with a simple woman like her.

"Yes, I am. Is there anything I can help you with?" Renee asked.

"Yes. May we enter your house?" Sophia made sure to be polite to her. Firstly, it was because Renee did not leave a bad first impression on her. Secondly, Davin had reminded her to be courteous as he owed her.

Hearing her gentle tone, the woman nodded and invited them in.

Sophia looked around the house. The house was not luxurious nor piled with expensive pieces of furniture, and it was clean and tidy. It seemed like Renee was a woman who knew how to housekeep.

"Please take a seat."

With that, Renee brewed a cup of tea before she placed it in front of Sophia.

The latter remarked, "I'm fine. Sit down, and let's have a talk."

Renee knew Davin's mother must be here for a reason. However, she could not think of what reason it could be.

She was interested in what she was about to say.

"Mrs. Seet, do speak your mind."

"All right. I like your straightforward attitude, so I'll be direct. You used to be in a relationship with my son, Davin, right?"

Hearing her mention of their past relationship, Renee nodded in silence.

Sophia sighed before she continued, "Fate is cruel, and the two of you weren't meant to be. He now has a new girlfriend, and they're about to get married. Davin's father and I picked his girlfriend personally, and her status matches ours. Moreover, she's a match for Dad. So... Since some things have gone by, let them stay in the past. Davin said he feels he owes you, and he wants to make up to you. So, tell us what you need, and the Seet family will do our best to give you that."

Renee was quick to digest the information. Sophia was telling her that Davin was about to marry his girlfriend of equal status and that her relationship with the man was now in the past. The Seet family would give her something she needed for what Davin owed her. Most importantly, Sophia was warning her to keep a distance from Davin.

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"Mrs. Seet, I don't want anything. I know how rich the Seet family is, but what Davin owes me can't be solved easily."

At that, Renee's eyes reddened, and she lowered her head.

Sophia was baffled. It can't be solved easily? What does she mean? Is she planning to cling to Davin?

She looks like a reasonable young woman. She can't be planning to stick to Davin forever, can she?

If that's the case, how will my unwise but sympathetic son deal with this?

No, I'll have to resolve this myself. It has to be a perfect resolution.

Sophia flashed her a smile. "A relationship runs both ways. You were willing to enter into the relationship with Davin back then, but you were also the one to break off with him. Since you've chosen to end the relationship, he doesn't owe you anything anymore, right?"

Renee was silent.

Seeing the furrowed brows and solemn look on Renee's face, Sophia added, "Of course, I don't mean that it was wrong for you to leave. It's normal for a couple to break up. Furthermore, many married couples divorce nowadays. Regardless of whether it is a breakup or a divorce, it's a decision to leave. Since you've decided to leave, it's good for the two of you to draw a clear line between each other. That is what I feel. What do you think, Ms. Hadley?"

Sophia felt that she had been extremely patient with Renee. Usually, when she spoke to her two sons, she could barely contain her anger. It was a sign of her sincerity to resolve this problem.

The younger woman took in a deep breath before she looked at her. "Mrs. Seet, I think you've misunderstood me. I'm not planning to cling to Davin. I encountered him at the hospital two months ago. That's when he found out about my situation and wanted to help me."

"Encountered? Did you say you don't want to cling to him? Then why did I hear my future daughter-in-law telling me that you were calling him in the middle of the night?"

"Mrs. Seet, I called him because I had an emergency. I didn't know it would cause a misunderstanding for his girlfriend. Don't worry. I won't call him anymore. There's a reason why Davin is helping me. If you know what it is, you'll understand why I say it won't be easy for him to make up for what he owes me."

The remorseful expression Renee had piqued Sophia's curiosity. If the matter were not resolved today, Sophia was afraid that Renee would continue to contact her younger son.

"What reason is it? Davin has not told me much about it. It seems like you've been keeping it in your heart for a long time. What about this? Tell me about it so I can understand you. Don't worry. I'm here to resolve this matter, and I'll give you an appropriate answer. You'll be able to enjoy your own life after this."

A self-deprecatory smile grew on Renee's lips.

"Like what you've said, fate is cruel for Davin and I. I understand what you mean. My life after this will not have anything to do with him. We were never fated to be. However, if anyone's at fault, it's me. I was the one who chose to leave. I left because..."

Sophia listened carefully as Renee told her their past.

Half a year after she got together with Davin, Renee became pregnant. Back then, the man was young and rash. After getting drunk, he fought with someone. The other party was rash, too, and he had smashed a wine bottle toward Davin's head. In a panic, Renee rushed in front of Davin to block the blow for him, and the bottle smashed onto her stomach.

However, the man was unhappy that Davin was unhurt. He tugged on her arm and shoved her aside, so her stomach hit the corner of the table. At that moment, she bled.

"It hurts! My stomach hurts..."

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Seeing her ashen face and hearing her wails, the other party was afraid that he would end up killing someone. Thus, he ran.

Davin had sent her to the hospital only to find out she had a miscarriage. Not only did she have a miscarriage, but her womb suffered an injury as well. From then on, she could never bear any children.

"I know I don't have the right societal status to marry Davin. After becoming infertile, I became even more unworthy of marrying him. I was upset to see him miserable and guilty when he found out I couldn't bear any children anymore. I really was."

Renee breathed in deeply before continuing, "I feel inferior to be a woman who can't bear children. I don't feel like a perfect woman anymore. I loved him so much back then, to the point I could die for him."

Sophia knew her words were true. Otherwise, she would not have stood in front of Davin to take the blow for him.

Renee continued, "That's why, as long as it's good for him, I'd do anything. I lived a life occupied by thoughts of loving him and leaving him. I was conflicted. I felt that a woman like me should keep my distance from him so that he could find a suitable woman. Finally, I came to a decision. I asked a middle-aged woman to pretend to be my mother who opposed my relationship with him. Then, I argued with him with some excuses I came up with. After that, I asked my fake mother to bring me away. It's been ten years since then. I wasn't expecting to see him again now."

At that, several emotions washed over her heart. She breathed out slowly before she continued, "I called him to send me to the hospital that night because my aunt had a sudden cerebral hemorrhage. It was an emergency, so... I really didn't think it would become a misunderstanding between his girlfriend and him. I'm really sorry about it. Don't worry, Mrs. Seet. I won't contact him anymore. Since I've left him back then, I won't cling to him now."

Sophia was quiet for a while.

Renee's story surprised her.

She never thought that her carefree and loud son would once have a relationship like this. She could barely believe that he had come across a woman like Renee. God certainly takes care of him.

However...

Even a relationship like this could not escape fate. Sophia did not wish to say which side was right or wrong; she just felt that it was a pity for their relationship to have ended in that way.

Yet...

"Renee, you're a good kid. I thank you for what you've done for Davin. If this was ten years ago... If I realized that a woman like you loves my silly son so much, I would've approved of your relationship. Your status wouldn't have mattered to me. However, many things have happened during these ten years. Davin now has feelings for his fiancée. Neither of you can go back to the past." Sophia could not help but sigh. How cruel fate can be.

"I know you're a good kid, and you're right. It won't be easy to make up for what Davin owes you. What about this? Tell me a wish of yours, and I'll do my best to fulfill it, okay? Are you married? Do you have a husband?"

Renee shook her head.

She had never thought of marrying someone else from the moment she left Davin. Moreover, she felt that she was a flawed woman now that she could not bear children. Her low self-esteem made her reject the notion of marriage.

Sophia grabbed her hand. "Dear, are you not married because you can't let Davin go or because there isn't anyone suitable? I'll look for someone even better than Davin, and I'll prepare a set of expensive dowry. I'll treat you like my own daughter for the marriage. How about that?"

Renee's expression turned dark. She knew what Sophia wanted to do. The woman wanted her to get married because she was worried she would continue to cling to Davin.

"Mrs. Seet, I'll make my own decision for my marriage. I won't take your dowry. Don't worry. I promise not to ever meet Davin again."

"In that case, it won't be appropriate for me to say anything else. If you have anything you need, you can look for me. The Seet family will owe you a favor. If you ever need anything, I'll do my best to help you."

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Renee stayed quiet for a while. "I shall not keep you any longer as it's getting late. Besides, I still have to leave for the hospital to take care of my aunt."

"Sure. I'll take my leave then."

Sophia felt uneasy after she left. Out of her own selfish desire, she compared both Sheila and Renee, only to discover that each of them had their unique strengths.

She sighed. "Davin has been rejecting the idea of being with Sheila all these years. Turns out it's because of this woman and the past they had. Why didn't he tell me?"

Hearing Sophia's sigh, Ms. Lawrence quickly responded, "Ma'am, Ms. Hadley seems like a decent woman, unlike those who yearn for wealth and status. Perhaps she truly loves Mr. Seet and will keep her distance in order to grant him a blissful life."

Sophia sighed again. "I wonder how solid is the relationship between Davin and Sheila? If he had to make a choice between the two women, who do you think he will choose?"

If Davin chooses to stay with Sheila, there's nothing Renee can do about it even if she feels aggrieved.

However, if the woman that he loves is Renee, it will be a struggle to reconcile his relationship with Sheila.

Please, Davin, don't make a bad decision. Let the past stay in the past.

"Let's go home. I could only hope that Renee won't pester Dave anymore."

Coincidentally, Davin got back the same time they arrived at the Seet Residence. Sophia instructed him to meet her in the study room. I must verify Renee's statements.

Also, I need to ask him about his plans.

Davin sighed. "Mom, what Renee said is true. When she left me, I deliberately investigated the woman who opposed our relationship then and found out that she was a random person Renee hired to impersonate as her mother. I couldn't figure out why she did this but I have a strong hunch that she still loves me deeply and it was the same for me. She couldn't let go of me and I was hoping for her return. That's the reason why I couldn't accept Sheila."

"What about now? Dave, do you love Renee or Sheila?"

He pondered over the question. "Mom, they both have different personalities. Sheila is proactive and very determined to chase after the things that she wants. On the other hand, Renee is considerate and she puts others first. Yet, I can never see through her. Had she not left me, I'd have persevered through the relationship. It's been ten years since she left me. I don't know if she felt inferior or if she had no faith in my love for her, she doubted we could truly be together... For me, if you love someone, you've got to hold on tight no matter what happens and never back out. That's the kind of relationship that I want. But I guess not everyone thinks like this. Now, I think that Sheila is more compatible with me."

Sophia was very much relieved after hearing those words from him.

"I hear you, Davin, and I can understand how you feel. I'll be at ease as long as you know your heart's desire."

"Mom, I feel like I owe Renee and I want to make it up to her. What should I do for her?"

“Davin, if Renee doesn’t love you anymore, whatever you do won’t matter. If she still has feelings for you and you keep approaching her, you’re only flaming her sparks of love into a strong fire. In the end, you’ll be the one getting burnt.”

“So, just leave her alone and don’t play with fire. Think about Sheila, who will feel sad if she knows that you kept seeing Renee. Don’t bother about this any further and leave the matter to me. I’ll talk to Renee and she can look for me if she needs help in the future.”

Davin sank into deep thoughts and concluded that Sophia was right.

“Thanks for helping me out, Mom. Please try your best to satisfy all of Renee’s requests, regardless of what they are. After all, I owe it to her.”

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““Don’t worry. I know what to do,” was Sophia’s reply.

Back at the Imperial Garden, Maya was observing a dolled-up Nina attentively.

She asked as she blinked her glossy eyes, “Nina, are you going for classes again?”

Nina has been so engrossed and obsessed with her studies these past few months. She attends classes whenever she’s free, it’s like an addiction.

Nina simpered while checking herself out in the mirror. Her face was fair with a touch of blush that looked like the rose in May.

She got up and walked to her wardrobe. Holding two jackets in her hands, Nina was in a dilemma.

"Maya, do I look better in white or pink?"

Maya looked at her sister's make-up and turned to her clothes. "Pink. It goes well with your make-up today."

Nina immediately wore the pink jacket and twirled in front of the mirror. She did not seem satisfied with her outfit and changed into the white jacket. Moments later, she changed it back to the pink one.

Mr. Sanders likes pink and white. If I have to pick one between these two... hmm... pink it is!

She then carefully matched her shoes and headed downstairs.

Maya reflected as she sent Nina off. She really loves dolling herself up nowadays. Not only does she love dressing up, but she's also very picky with it.

Chris was already waiting for her when Nina arrived at the lab. He even helped her to prepare the equipment needed for the experiment.

"Nina, today, we're going to learn how to mix some basic skincare ingredients. We'll conduct an experiment later so that you get to see the outcome."

"Noted, Mr. Sanders."

Nina stood beside Chris, got the equipment ready, and started checking the ingredients against the list. She then organized them in an orderly manner.

Chris scrutinized her. "Nina, you look great in this outfit."

A warm, fuzzy feeling brewed inside her. She looked at her teacher bashfully. "Thank you, Mr. Sanders."

Not long after, he said, "But you might dirty your jacket. There are two sets of lab coats over there, you can take one and put it on."

Realization dawned on Nina. Mr. Sanders only praised my attire because he was worried that I might stain it. Silly me!

Sulking, she took a lab coat and headed to the changing room.

Chris looked at her again when she returned. Seeing the oversized sleeves, he did not hesitate to adjust them for her. Shortly after, he swiftly brushed her hair to the back with his fingers.

"Thank you, Mr. Sanders."

No one has ever rolled my sleeves up or fixed my hair before. Nina was touched by his action.

"You're most welcome. Shall we begin?"

"Yes!"

Chris began to explain to her about the ingredients mix. Holding the test tubes with his long and slender fingers, he looked exceptionally serious.

Mr. Sanders is so handsome. Nina thought he was shining bright like a diamond.

Unlike Daddy who exudes an arrogant, cool, yet noble aura; Mr. Sanders is as warm as the sun, his gestures and demeanor are very charming.

Nina was mesmerized.

It wasn't until Chris finished speaking and prompted her to operate the equipment that she finally stopped daydreaming.

"Sorry, Mr. Sanders, I didn't get the last part. What is the ratio of Squalane and Blue Copper Peptide?"

"Okay. I'll explain again."

Chris repeated patiently. This time, Nina paid full attention. She had demonstrated an extraordinary flair in understanding beauty products since she was a child. Learning about the ingredients mix was a cakewalk for Nina. Chris praised her greatly for her talent.

"Nina, coupled with your intelligence and natural talent, you'll surely make it big in the skincare industry if you keep working hard."

Feeling over the moon by his praise, Nina looked at Chris. "Mr. Sanders, can you be my teacher forever? Why don't we join hands to develop a new line of skin care products in the future?"