Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 321

"I'm sorry Maya, I didn't mean it that way. I was trying to say that you're chubby and adorable!"

"Seriously?" Evan scorned.

Nicole had not even had a chance to speak yet.

The moment he said this, all eyes fell on him.

Sheila was bewildered. Wait, what's going on here? Doesn't Evan have a bone to pick with them? Why are they ganging up on me now?

She then turned to Nicole and whispered, "I thought Mr. Seet would be going on a rampage here. What trick did you use to pacify him?"

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Pacify? Are you sure about that?

Nicole cleared her throat, "We are still in the process of negotiation."

Sheila's eyes widened.

"Looks like this is going rather smoothly. I'll take Nina and Maya out shopping, so I'll leave you guys alone!"

She gave Nicole a knowing glance and whispered, "Good luck! If all else fails, seduce him! Have faith in your womanly charms!"

Seduce Evan? Surely not! What kind of a lousy idea is this?

Sheila slipped into the bedroom with Maya to call Nina and made up some fanciful excuse to bring them both out. When Nina heard that she can choose whatever she wanted, she nodded immediately.

"There's no need..."

Before she could finish, Sheila left with the two kids in tow.

The door closed once again, leaving Nicole and Evan alone in the room.

When Nicole turned back and saw that Evan had not calmed down yet, she cleared her throat.

She headed back to her seat and began, "Mr. Seet, we can continue on our previous topic now."

Evan scrutinized this woman. Based on what she said earlier, there are some things she would not accept. What's the best way to get back at her within her tolerable range?

When she saw that Evan had remained silent, Nicole started to worry. What on earth is this man thinking about?

"Mr. Seet, you're the president of the Seet Group. Surely you won't make life difficult for a child because of her innocent mistake?"

Her gentle voice interrupted his line of thought.

Evan chuckled. What an excellent word choice. Now, if I demand something overboard, it'll sound like I'm being petty!

"Of course not. In fact, I wish to help you instead."

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Are my ears deceiving me? He was storming here to cause trouble for me earlier. Why is he helping me now? There's definitely a catch somewhere.

She laughed awkwardly, "Mr. Seet, how do you intend to help?"

"It's simple. I'll help you take control of the Lane Corporation!"

Wait, really? Help me to take control of the Lane Corporation?

Nicole did not even dare to imagine it happening.

She stared at Evan in doubt and decided that he must be plotting something.

This was too good to be true.

What on earth is he planning to achieve by this?

"Mr. Seet, why are you helping me?"

Why? Simple. Since you want the Lane Corporation so much, I'll give it to you, but I'll take control of its survival at the same time. In order to ensure I don't make it close down, she'll work as a cleaner, or agree to even more absurd terms!

"I want to see if you are capable of managing the Lane Corporation," Evan replied calmly.

Nicole was dumbfounded. Why would the president of a multinational corporation waste his time on me?

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He definitely has an agenda behind this!

"Mr. Seet, I'm sure you have many things to take care of, as busy as you are. Why would you care if I can manage a company or not?"

"Enough talk. Decide!"

Nicole was lost in thought. No matter what Evan is after, if I manage to take the Lane, the fruit of my mother and maternal grandfather's labor, back, I'll have nothing to complain about. As for his agenda... I'll cross that bridge when I come to it.

She decided on a simple answer.

"I accept!"

A pleased expression flashed across Evan's eyes. You'll be in for a lot of trouble soon enough! I'll make sure to pay you back tenfold!

"What shall I do then, Mr. Seet?" Nicole inquired. She needed to see if Evan was sincere about helping her.

Evan's eyes narrowed and lay on the sofa lazily. Does this woman intend to let me do all the work for her? Dream on!

"I said I'd help you, not do all the work for you! I will come to your aid twice in your attempt to regain control of the Lane Corporation. Treasure them well!"

"Twice?" Nicole frowned. I thought that he'd help me unconditionally. So this is how it goes. That filthy capitalist has his own way of counting favors, huh.

"Does that include asking questions?"

"Yes, even if it only requires a single word as an answer!" Evan jeered.

"I can answer your previous question, but that will only leave you with one chance left to ask for help! You may decide if you want my advice now."

It'll be a complete waste if I get a short answer. I need to make sure to make good use of both chances. Hopefully, I can force him to spend a lot of effort helping me!

"It's fine then. I choose to preserve my two chances."

Evan nodded.

He was curious as to how Nicole would utilize her chances as well.

After the matter was settled, Nicole decided that it was pointless for him to stay and responded, "Since we have come to a consensus, I won't keep you here, Mr. Seet. I'm sure that as the busy man you are, you have more important things to tend to."

Evan turned to look at her. Is she chasing me out? Fine! It's not like I'd like to stay!

As he slowly got up and prepared to leave, someone had knocked on the door.

Nicole got up to open it.

"Rocky? I didn't expect you at this timing."

Rocky had come with toys and snacks for the kids.

"I came to visit and brought the kids some toys."

Evan was taken aback when he heard Rocky's voice and took a seat on the sofa once again.

He glanced at the two of them lazily.

Rocky was taken shocked to find Evan here as well.

"Why are you here, Evan?"

"Got a problem with that?"

Evan placed an arm lazily on the armrest and stared at Rocky calmly.

He acted as though he owned the place, even though this was Rocky's house.

Rocky smirked, "Of course not. I welcome all guests."

Although he sounded polite, he was asserting his authority as the owner of the place.

By saying that he welcomed Evan as a guest, he was emphasizing that he was the owner here!

Evan scowled. It's about time this place changed hands.

Nicole felt worried when she saw the two of them bickering. What on earth do they have against each other?

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"Have a seat, Rocky."

Rocky nodded and took a seat beside Nicole.

Evan demanded, "What business do you have here?"

Rocky smiled, "Nothing much. I just came to visit Nicole and the kids."

He then replied with a question of his own, "What about you, Mr. Seet? What brings you here?"

The two of them locked eyes and the room was filled with tension.

Evan declared, "We had something to discuss. If there's nothing else, you may leave. The kids are out."

• • •

Rocky frowned. This is my house! Who do you think you are, chasing me out?

Nicole glanced at Evan, speechless. We were already done and you were ready to leave! Stop being so shameless!

However, she did not dare to say anything for fear of offending Evan. Who knows what he'll do next? I need to count on him to take over the Lane Corporation, so I can't afford to make him angry!

Rocky was not a pushover. It made no sense for him to be chased out of his own turf either.

He turned to Evan with an endearing smile, "What a coincidence, Mr. Seet. I have something to discuss with Nicole as well."

He did not move from his seat.

"Go ahead."

Evan implied for him to say his piece and to get out!

"Mr. Seet, since you were here first, perhaps you should go first."

Rocky could tell that Evan did not want him to be alone with Nicole, but he would not give up so easily.

What now, Evan? This is my house. You don't have the right to chase anyone out!

No one had dared to talk back to Evan so directly before.

Evan glowered at him, but Rocky had a gentle smile and was unaffected by his intimidation.

Both of them had not said a word and stared at each other.

Nicole was perplexed. Do these men have nothing better to do? Is this really the time for a staring contest? It's getting late, you know? Do they intend to stay for dinner, or even longer? Argh, if that happens, dinner will be intense!

This went on for half an hour.

Initially, Rocky would start small talk with Nicole and she would reply.

However, Evan stared daggers at her with every word she said.

She felt like she was impaled all over by the time she had finished.

She decided to retreat to her bedroom.

I can't let this carry on. I'll die before they reach a conclusion!

After some time, Nicole got out of the bedroom and smiled, "I have something I need to buy outside immediately. Let's continue this another day, alright?"

"What do you need? I'll accompany you."

Nicole glanced at Evan and knew that he would not let her off if she agreed.

She needed him to take over the Lane, so she decided not to anger him.

"No need, Rocky, I'll go on my own. You guys should get back as well. I'll change and leave soon."

Evan was satisfied with Nicole's reply and left after giving Rocky a cold glare.

Rocky turned around and Nicole gave her a smile and a "farewell." He left reluctantly.

After the two of them left, Nicole closed the door and locked it. She slumped against the door and heaved a sigh of relief.

Why is Evan always at odds with Rocky? Do they have conflicts when doing business? Looks like I'd better avoid having both of them appear at the same place.

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Evan questioned Rocky, "I heard that the Yan Group has set its sights on a project in the Northern Suburbs."

Rocky frowned. What does he mean by this?

"Are you interested as well, Mr. Seet?"

Evan scoffed and left. Figure it out yourself!

Rocky had a bad feeling about this. He knew that Evan did not waste his breath on small talk. Don't tell me he's set his sights on the same project! They've attempted to contract the Seet Group before this, but Evan found this project not worthy of his attention. Why did he suddenly change his mind?

He turned back and looked at Nicole's apartment. Don't tell me he wants to take revenge on me at the workplace!

Half an hour later, he received a phone call that confirmed his suspicions.

Evan didn't just "want" to take revenge. He's already executed it!

The Seet Group had taken over the Northern Suburbs project at a lower price than the Yan Group had agreed on.

It was highly likely that Evan would lose money from this project.

It was clear as day that Evan was taking his revenge at the workplace!

However, Rocky's thinking proved to be too naïve.

lan, Rocky's father, could not understand the reason behind Evan's actions. He only found out through his connections that Rocky had offended Evan.

Ian called Rocky over and chided him harshly, "Do you know what losing this project means to the Yan Group? The entire world is talking about how we've offended the Seet Group and Mr. Seet is now attacking the Yan Group! If the rumors continue, those fearful of Evan will stop doing business with us! We'll lose out on a lot of projects in the future! In business, we can't afford to make enemies. How could you offend Evan Seet over a woman?"

Rocky was astounded that Ian had guessed all of this correctly.

He defended himself, "It's not what you think it is, dad. I didn't offend him. Evan..."

"That's enough! You caused this mess, so it's pointless arguing about who started it now. Settle this mess yourself. Rocky, if you continue causing trouble for the Yan Group, I might change my mind about appointing you as my heir."

Rocky was overwhelmed.

Does that mean he'll choose one of his illegitimate children instead? No way I'll let that happen. I won't be able to walk with my head held high at home otherwise!

"Settle this mess yourself and don't expect others to clean up after you! Call Mr. Seet now!" Ian ordered angrily.

Rocky reluctantly made the call. In order to inherit the Yan Group, he could not afford to let his father detest him. Otherwise, he would have stayed overseas for nothing.

The Yan Group is mine!

He set his pride aside and dialed Evan's number.

Evan had seen this coming. He knew lan's personality inside out.

"Mr. Seet, can you please go easy on the Yan Group and let us have the Northern Suburbs project?"

Evan replied without hesitation, "Yes!"

However, Evan was not one to let things settle down so easily.

"What are your terms?"

"Simple. I want your apartment at Summervale."

Just as Rocky was contemplating whether or not to agree, Ian snatched the phone from him and replied, "Mr. Seet, we are willing to accept your terms. You can have the apartment at Summervale for free if you'd like."

"Mr. Yan, I'm a businessman, not a beggar!" Evan smirked. "I'll buy that apartment, so name your price!"

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Ian did not dare to name a high price as he was the one asking a favor.

"Mr. Seet, I'll leave the price to you."

"Alright then, I'll pay the market rate. As for the Northern Suburbs project, can I assume you're happy with the price I agreed on?"

lan was taken aback.

What a scheming move from Evan! He knew that he wouldn't be taking this loss-making project and pushed the unfair deal to the Yan Group instead.

He had no choice but to accept.

Otherwise, they would suffer greater losses if word got out that Evan was targeting the Yan Group.

"Alright then."

After hanging up, Ian commanded, "Transfer ownership of the apartment at Summervale to Evan immediately. You're no longer allowed to set foot there!"

. . .

Evan was swift and efficient. He managed to get the property rights within the blink of an eye!

Rocky was indignant, but he was powerless to do anything about it. He could only bear with it for now.

Evan was in high spirits and slumped against the sofa. He started mulling over how to assert his dominance over Nicole at his newly acquired apartment.

I'd like to see the look on that woman's face when she finds out that the house is now mine.

Just as he was rejoicing over his victory, he received a call from Sylphiette.

"Evan, why haven't you returned yet? I'm waiting for you to have dinner together."

Evan spat in disgust when he heard the sickening tone, "I'm staying in Hillside Villa tonight and won't be going home!"

He hung up promptly.

He knew how Sylphiette was able to answer Davin's questions accurately and was sure that Sylphiette was not the girl from back then!

If it were not for the fact that she might know who the girl was, he would have tortured her to let her know the consequences of deceiving him!

Sylphiette stared at the blank screen of her phone disappointedly.

Looks like even though I managed to answer Davin's questions, Evan is still suspicious. What can I do to regain his trust?

She was lost in thought.

Evan phoned Davin.

"What's up, Evan?"

"Since you managed to find out that Sylphiette is an imposter, did you also manage to find out who the actual girl is?"

"Evan, who else is there other than Nicole? She's the only daughter of the Lane family other than Sylphiette!"

"What if the girl isn't from the Lane family? I suspect that Zane is making all of this up!"

"In other words, you want evidence?"

"That's right! Sylphiette is our best clue. Make use of her!"

Davin glanced at his injured leg and responded, "Evan, you know that Sylphiette is a tough nut to crack. How do you expect me to get any leads from her with the state I'm in?"

"That is very true!"

Just as Davin felt touched by his brother's concern, Evan concluded, "Find someone to help you, then!"

So it's back to me again?

"Who else can I count on? Evan, please!"

"You have Sheila, don't you! That way, you can improve your relationship! Mom will be happy to hear this!"

"Evan, are you trying to find evidence, make mom happy, or do you have some other motive for this?"

Evan chuckled, "Both are important! I can definitely stand to learn from you and get a new sports car from mom as well!"

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Davin gulped. Which busybody told Evan that I got my car by betraying him?

"You have five days!" Evan suddenly set a deadline.

Davin paused and the first thing he thought of was to bargain.