

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 391

“The cutest and the most honest” was what the teacher had described her with.

Maya’s adorable pair of big round eyes blinked twice, all the while rubbing her fingers with a hint of dilemma.

“Uncle Evan, you really won’t steal us from mommy? I don’t want to be separated from mommy! I don’t want to be taken away like Juan!”

Gazing at Maya’s timid look, Evan Seet leaned over and gave her a bear hug.

“I swear I won’t!” He soothingly promised.

Nodding her head, Maya pointed out, “You are our daddy!”

Evan was stunned. He did not anticipate that Maya would know since the beginning.

He remembered then that she had called him daddy once in the past. At that time, he thought Maya called him that because she was a glutton who would call anyone daddy for the sake of getting good food.

Thinking about it now, she had been wanting to call him “daddy” for the longest time, and she had let it slip that one time.

She had always liked to follow him around, and perhaps in her heart, she had already regarded him as her daddy ever since.

“If you’ve known I’m your daddy, why don’t you call me that from the beginning?”

Maya's small pair of lips twitched, and as she reached out her tiny hands to touch Evan's nose tip, he could see tears flickering in her eyes.

She dared not to say.

After all, if she had revealed everything, she might not see mommy ever again.

Nina who was beside her all this while raised her head and looked at him, and with a displeased tone said, "If we have told you everything, then you would have snatched us away from mommy's side as well. After all, you have taken Juan away. Do you know how hard mommy has tirelessly worked to raise us all?"

"..."

Evan was speechless as he felt a sharp sting to his heart.

It's all his fault!

He had always been prejudiced against her ever since she left Kyle behind. He had even considered her unworthy to be called a mother. Unbeknownst to him, she had single-handedly raised up three young children alone.

When Kyle had fallen ill, luckily, there were maids to take care of him. If taking care of even one child had been a great headache, how in the world Nicole could wholly raise three kids on her own?

It must have been a painstakingly difficult endeavor for her.

No wonder she had developed her stoic persona. Her perseverance amidst hardships had hardened her heart.

With that realization, sorrow and bitterness washed all over Evan.

As he exited the elevator, he handed over Nina and Maya to his secretary, John. Putting the two young girls in his good care, Evan immediately rushed off.

"Mr. Seet, where are you going?" John called after his boss.

“I have a score to settle!” Evan responded.

I’m going to find their mommy to square things up!

John was left puzzled. Did he just left his daughters like that to “settle some scores”? What’s going on?

Shaking the confusion out of his head, he turned towards Maya and Nina. As he was patiently discussing where to bring them to play, he suddenly heard someone calling for him.

Looking back, he saw that Sophia was the one who called him.

Quickly, he led the two adorable girls over to her.

“Madam, why did you come by to the company? Anything I can help you with?”

Sophia glanced back and forth at Maya and Nina.

“Having seen the broadcast, do you think I can sit tight and do nothing? That rascal Evan is causing us a lot of trouble...”

When Jonathan had seen the live stream, he was infuriated. He believed that Evan must have planned all these behind his back for the sake of Nicole.

Someone must have tampered with the result of the paternity test.

Sophia, on the other hand, was different from her husband. She was willing to believe in its authenticity and had dropped by to hopefully confirm the fact.

“Madam, the paternity test is true. These two adorable and lovely girls here really are your granddaughters.”

Hearing the affirmation from John, she was overjoyed.

Eagerly stepping forward, she grasped Maya’s chubby hand, and Nina’s as well.

“They’re really my granddaughters? Such grown-up girls! I have never dreamt that I would have granddaughters! That rascal Evan! Why did he deliberately keep this knowledge from us for so such a long time?”

Hearing this, John quickly defended Evan.

“Madam, Mr. Seet himself only found out about this today. He did not know about this at all beforehand. In fact, this discovery is purely a coincidence. Ms. Lane has been concealing this truth really well for far too long.”

Hearing John’s words, Nina quickly spoke up for her mommy’s sake, “My mommy is afraid that daddy will take us away from her side and she will never get the chance to see us again. That’s why she dares not to reveal the truth.”

Sophia sighed heavily upon listening to Nina’s honest outburst.

Between her son and Nicole, there had been a lot of missed opportunities, misunderstandings, and hardships. Their road to happiness had been one strewn with setbacks. Good things take time after all.

At least everything was crystal-clear now.

“Where’s Evan?” asked Sophia.

“Madam, Mr. Seet rushed off just now ‘to settle some scores’ as per what he had said. I myself don’t know the specifics.” John obediently explained.

Settle scores?

Sophia was silent for a while before looking tenderly at Nina and Maya. “Are you both willing to come home with grandma?”

The two children looked at one another. Both of them were worried that Nicole would not be able to find them later.

Sophia understood their worry just by observing them. She assured both of them that she would inform Nicole of their whereabouts and therefore they should follow her back home without worry. After all, Kyle and Juan missed them terribly and would like to hang out with them.

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Upon hearing the names of their two brothers, both Nina and Maya nodded their heads gingerly.

John watched on as the two adorable girls left with Sophia, gladly waving goodbye to them both.

He felt relieved as if a heavy burden were lifted off his shoulders. After all, he did not really know how to take care of children, and he was afraid of upsetting both of them. He might even end up being scolded by Evan!

Mr. Seet has doted upon both the young masters. Surely he will pamper his two daughters even more!

Thinking about this issue, his curiosity was piqued. What was the score Evan was trying to settle?

Meanwhile at Lane Corporation.

Nicole Lane, who was seated in her spacious office worrying about the future of her company, gawked in surprise at Evan who suddenly barged through the door.

Immediately she stood up from her seat and questioned, "Mr. Seet, what brings you here today?"

"I've come to square things up!" he retorted.

"Huh? Square things up?" Nicole frowned. What was there to settle between them?

Nothing that she could think of.

“Mr. Seet, I don’t quite get your meaning. You’ll have to be more precise. Please.”

Fixing his eyes on her, Evan calmly sat down on the swivel chair across from her and motioned her to take a seat too.

Looks like there’s going to be a long talk between both of them!

Nicole was clearly feeling uncomfortable. Her sixth sense was warning her about an impending predicament.

When it came to dealing with Evan, she had always felt complicatedly conflicted.

He was her benefactor when she was young and the love of her life now. He was also the father of her four children, as well as someone she had to sort out her relationship with.

Just two days ago, he had helped her clinic by channeling one hundred million to her.

Right at this moment, she had no idea how to face him. “Nicole, remember back then when you went abroad and secretly took my precious with you? How will you propose to settle that score?”

The question was just too out of the blue.

Nicole looked at him quizzically, failing to comprehend. “Mr. Seet, what do you mean by that? I did not take anything belonging to you back then.”

Twitching his lips, Evan hinted, “Think carefully again!”

She furrowed her brows and thought deeply for a while before shaking her head again.

Evan stood up suddenly, and as he looked into her eyes deeply, he approached her step by step.

Feeling a little unaccustomed to such close proximity, she got up from her chair and shied away to the side.

“Mr. Seet, what are you trying to say?”

Just as she finished speaking, a strong hand stretched out and yanked her abruptly out of nowhere.

As her body turned due to the strength of the pull, her eyes flashed a panicked look as she held onto her desk to steady herself.

Staring right into the good-looking features of Evan's face, her heart throbbed faster and faster. Having his face so close to hers made her turn red.

What is he trying to do?

"You stole away my genes. How do you suggest to make up for it, hmm?"

His warm breath brushed against her ears, making them tingle tenderly as a tickling sensation trickled down all over her. She blushed even more as she stammered. "What are you implying? I've already given Juan to you. What else are you thinking of?"

Evan's lips thinned and curved upwards as a faint smirk appeared on his expression. He slyly asked, "Yes, you've returned Juan to me. But what about the other two?"

The other two?

As Nicole heard his words, her eyes widened instantly. A sense of dread dawned on her.

What does he mean? Don't tell me he refers to both Nina and Maya?

He has found out about them?

How?

She could feel her beating heart almost jumped out from her chest as panic flashed across her face.

"Feeling the guilt?" Cashing in on the change in her expression, Evan playfully stroked her fair cheeks gently with his fingers.

Nicole shivered as she tried to regain control of her composure. She erected a fake facade as she feigned ignorance.

Seeing through her charade, he shook her harshly. Held in his mighty grip, Nicole felt helpless as her body stiffened and her heart thumped loudly.

“If you still decide not to spill the beans, then I’ll have to seriously interrogate you with my own set of techniques.”

Having said that, he ran his slender fingers across her collar and was about to unbutton her clothes.

Nicole quickly stopped him.

“Mr. Seet, please control yourself. You’re in an office, and there’re eyes all around.”

Evan scanned the surroundings before focusing once more on her. He disapprovingly stated, “I don’t really care.”

“...” Nicole rolled her eyes.

Of course, you don’t care! This is my office after all. I do care!

It would be such an embarrassment if someone were to walk in right now!

However, ignoring everything, Evan’s fingers naughtily wandered all over her body, setting off fires wherever they touched, igniting her deepest desires. Mustering up her restraint, she managed to voice out her disapproval.

“Evan Seet, what are you trying to do?”

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“I want to settle my scores one by one with you.”

As soon as those words escaped his mouth, he whipped out a piece of paper containing the paternity test result and dangled it in front of her. Recognizing what it was, Nicole was instantly dumbstruck

What drove him to take the paternity test in the first place?

“Nicole Lane, you secretly took my children away and deceived me the whole time. How are you supposed to make it up to me?”

Taken aback for a moment, she regained her wits and shoved him away.

“Mr. Seet, this is not how you settle a score! Since I’ve raised three of your children all by myself, how will you thank me instead?”

Hearing her confession finally, Evan was jubilant. He found it hard to keep up to hide his joy.

After pretending to ponder for a while, he asked, “What do you think is the best way to show my gratitude?”

Ah?

He doesn’t even argue, and immediately agrees to thank her?

What a sudden change in attitude!

Nicole was stunned by the sudden change and nearly lost her composure. “I haven’t thought about it yet. Give me some time to think about it.”

Something rang in her as she quickly added, "Also, I won't hand over Nina and Maya to you! They are my life! I single-handedly raised them both with my sweat, blood, and tears! If you ever try to take them away, I'll face you head-on! Mark my words! I'll make them count!"

Seeing her stubborn face filled with resolve, Evan was at a loss momentarily. As he locked onto her uneasy gaze, he stretched out both his hands and forcefully pulled her into his tight embrace.

"I won't ever separate them from you! In fact, you don't have to think about how I should repay you anymore! I've already helped you do the thinking!"

"..." She was speechless, her mind blank from the suddenness of it all.

"From now on, I, including everything I have, will be yours!"

Having heard his words filled with such determination, Nicole was overwhelmed with mixed feelings. Indescribable. Indistinguishable. It was difficult for her to even catch her breath.

A whirlpool of emotions in the midst of a maelstrom.

She suspected that she was dreaming.

Even in her dreams, she dared not even to think about such a wonderful thing befalling her.

"I will use my whole life to make up to you and the children!" Evan emphasized convincingly.

Right this moment, the floodgate opened as her eyes burst into tears.

It had been a long, tiring, wild ride. Her one drunken deed had led to one absurd encounter which led to a one-night-stand which led to the birth of a set of quadruplets...

She had been running away from reality, avoiding him, and never dared to ask him to make amends.

However, hearing his sincere words, she could not help but felt an embracing warmth in her heart.

Those simple words comforted all the difficulties and hardships she had suffered before.

But does she have the right to offer Evan this chance?

No. She is unworthy to deserve him!

“Evan, we are not compatible,” she sputtered unwillingly.

“Nonsense! We are a pair made in heaven!”

Looking at her tenderly, Evan soothed, “I forbid you to say such things from now on. I will settle everything. Don’t worry. Just leave everything to me.”

He perceived in his heart that Nicole loved him. And that was the only thing that mattered.

He knew what Nicole was worried about: his parents, the world, everything. But no matter! He would bear all things and endure everything! It would all work out in the end!

Seet Residence.

Jonathan Seet studied Nina and Maya carefully. No matter how he scrutinized he felt that both of them did not look like Evan at all.

Frowning, he looked questioningly at Sophia, “No problem with the paternity test?”

“John guarantees the authenticity. No problem!” Sophia decisively answered.

Jonathan was still in disbelief. For Nicole to be giving birth to quadruplets was something very rare and incredible. Too incredible that it bordered incredulity.

After all, the probability for that was too minuscule!

Meanwhile, old Russell Seet had rushed into the living room when he heard the news. His face was glowing with joy and a kind smile was plastered onto his wrinkled face.

Juan and Kyle gleefully rushed up to him and called him great-grandpa.

Russell was greatly amused by their antics.

He complimented them for being smart and witty and for being good boys.

Turning to the rest in the room, he changed the conversation, “I heard that I now have two additional great-granddaughters. Is that true? I specially rushed over to have a look.”

In response, Sophia presented Nina and Maya to him.

“Dad, look. Here are Evan’s two beautiful daughters, and your two adorable great-granddaughters.”

Old Russell scanned both Nina and Maya with his aged piercing eyes, his weather-beaten face full of tender affection.

“Such fair and plump girls they are! Evan is so blessed to have two cute and healthy daughters!”

“Yes. Two sons and two daughters. All of them clever, witty, charming, and adorable! A real blessing for our Evan to meet Ms. Lane.” Sophia deliberately mentioned Nicole in front of old Mr. Russell, wanting to judge his reaction and hear his thought towards her.

Since her son liked Nicole, as a mother, she wanted to give her son a chance to be with his beloved.

Old Russell nodded repeatedly and acknowledged, “Ms. Lane gave us four precious children. They’re our Seet family’s treasures! Raising the three of them on her own was not an easy feat. She’s the pride of our family!”

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Hearing old Russell’s words, Jonathan immediately put forward a dissenting view.

Pointing out the previous scandals, he used them as a reason not to allow Nicole and Evan to be together.

“Anyhow, her behavior and style were unfitting to be a candidate for Evan. I prefer a socialite like Sofie Sweeting who hails from a well-to-do upbringing to be a superior suitor for our Evan.”

“You audacious a**hole! What are you blabbering about? Methinks Sofie is in the same mold as Anthony the crook! Humbug! How can that spoilt doll be compared to the strong mother who single-handedly raised three excellent kids? Besides, surely Sofie will never treat the kids sincerely nor well. In my opinion, Ms. Lane is the most suitable partner for Evan.”

“...”

Seeing old Russell’s agitated stomping of his walking cane and adverse reaction towards his suggestion, Jonathan dared not to argue. It was rare for the old man to speak up so passionately.

Trying to calm the situation, Sophia took the opportunity to suggest that everyone should gather for a meal to get to know Nicole better once more.

Jonathan glared at her and muttered bitterly under his breath, “If she really marries Evan, with her disposition she will surely have conflicts with you in the future. Don’t expect me to bail you out then!”

Looking at her husband with indifference, Sophia spoke up confidently, “Although it is said that mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law are natural enemies, I sincerely believe that as long as we treat one another with respect and love, I will certainly get along with my daughter-in-law just fine!”

“...” Jonathan sullenly swiped a squint at his wife. He felt as if he was the odd one out.

Old Russell meanwhile was extremely satisfied with Sophia’s positive enthusiasm.

He chided Jonathan, telling him that he should learn more from his wife.

After all, only with a constructive mindset could a family be harmonious. How could one be prejudiced against Nicole who had yet to even step into the family? All those biases and preconceptions would be detrimental to a family’s relationship. How could the family get along happily in the future?

“Yes. I understand, father.” In front of the old patriarch, Jonathan dared not oppose further, hence he grudgingly nodded in agreement.

After that, Russell turned and looked fondly upon the four children. He wondered in his heart what gift he should bestow upon Nicole.

Since Evan himself is not short of money, therefore when Nicole marries him, naturally they will not be in want of anything in the future, hence...

The best gift therefore is something meaningful. An object maybe.

After mulling over it for a moment, he came up with a bright idea.

He felt both Evan and Nicole would definitely appreciate this planned gift.

Peering at Sophia, he requested her to call Evan as soon as possible, intending to invite Nicole along for a meal.

“I’ll call him right away.” Without delay, Sophia gingerly dialed for Evan.

Upon relaying old Russell’s invitation, she hung up. On the other end of the line, Evan was elated by the news.

Eyeing Nicole tenderly, he asked for her opinion.

“When are you free? Grandpa had just invited us for a dinner as a family.”

As a family?

Nicole was stupefied when she heard this.

Do the Seets finally agree to bless their relationship?

Now that the Seet patriarch himself invited her over for a meal with the family, this...

In fact, when she walked into the company building this morning, she was feeling insecure and unsure. She felt like there were dark clouds all over her head and thorns everywhere under her feet, as her looming future seemed so bleak.

In a blink of an eye, everything magically seemed to turn for the better. Evan suddenly wanted to marry her, even offering to compensate her with his all. Out of the blue, the Seet family accepted her and even extended her an invitation for a meal together.

Is this what they mean by the adage “dark clouds will always pass by and the sun will always shine another day”? Dare I hope for a rainbow after the storm?

Ah! Life is such a fickle thing.

One day you're up, the next day you're down.

In that moment of contemplation, she felt unused to the turn of events that just happened.

She could scarcely believe it, nor dare to accept this new reality.

Secretly, she gave herself a pinch.

Ouch... It does hurt.

I guess I'm not dreaming after all!

Seeing her silence, Evan was worried that she might be feeling uncomfortable and unwilling to accept the invitation. He planned to reject it outright for her sake.

Instead, she stopped him halfway and explained, “Eating with your family is a big and important event. I don't want to screw it up. Hence I need some time to prepare well.”

Evan studied her cautious expression and could not help but felt amused. “Well, you can take your sweet time to prepare!”

“How about noontime the day after tomorrow?” Nicole started her planning in her head.

I'll have some time to shop for some clothes tomorrow. It's always a good idea to dress up better when meeting his parents. Impression matters!

"Sounds good!" Evan relayed the time to Sophia. The latter even asked him to accompany Nicole for her shopping tomorrow.

Hanging up the call, Evan scrutinized her from the top to the bottom.

She had been dressing modestly, trying to save up as much as she could for the sake of raising the kids. She must have suffered a lot.

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Evan had made up his mind. Tomorrow would be the first day to start his "compensation plan".

He would take Nicole and the children to wherever their hearts desired. Be it shopping or having fun, what mattered most was that they were happy!

At noon, Evan went over to the Seet Residence to pick up his four children for school. Taking the opportunity, Sophia enquired about his plan to marry Nicole.

"Mom, we haven't discussed this yet."

"Dear son, this is a matter of utmost importance. Good things are hard to come by. What if something happens again? Take this opportunity to perhaps register your marriage first. At least you'll have the certificate as proof..."

Evan's gaze dimmed. He felt that Sophia was overthinking things. Casually, he echoed her sentiment and took the children out.

Seeing them departing, Sophia felt an ominous premonition.

Hoping that nothing untoward might happen, she secretly prayed that everything would be fine. "Dear God, please don't let anything bad happen again!"

That evening.

Nicole glanced at the time as she prepared to pick up Nina and Maya from the school.

Her phone suddenly rang.

It was Evan. He asked her to concentrate on her work for he would pick up the kids.

He reminded her not to stay back too late.

She had assured him not to worry, however, she had not taken her own words to heart.

After all, Evan's morning press conference had created an extraordinary effect. Everyone from the lower all the way to the upper echelon of the business world regarded her as the future mistress of the Seet household.

Suddenly, there were countless representatives from big companies walking through the door, offering to cooperate with the Lane Corporation.

However, some of these companies came to her, not for the purpose of cooperation, but rather merely to be acquainted with her.

They hoped to use her as a stepping stone to build a business relationship with the Seet Group.

For an entire afternoon, she was rendered busy beyond belief, affecting her actual work in the process.

Finally, as a last resort, she had to place some people at the entrance to her company just to politely turn visitors away.

Just as she had finished her workload for the day, her cell phone rang repeatedly.

Upon a glance, it was Evan calling again.

Looking at her watch, she realized that she was late by an hour.

“Hey, all! I’ll be home soon. Right away!” Hurriedly, she packed up to go home.

“Be careful while driving. Dinner is ready and waiting. We’ll dine together when you get back.”

“Roger that.”

Nicole quickly tidied her messy desk, grabbed her bag, and rushed downstairs hastily.

Driving back to Summervale, the moment she opened the door, four delightful cubs pounced on her...

“Mommy, you’re back!”

“Mommy, I miss you!”

“Mommy, just now Maya sneaked some food that daddy had prepped from the kitchen!”

“...”

Nicole leaned over and picked up Maya, whose mouth was splattered with sauce.

“Oh Maya, what did you just eat?”

Maya shook her head vigorously.

Her mouth was tightly shut, as she refused to admit anything.

Feeling amused, Nicole stretched out her hand and pinched Maya’s chubby cheeks. Taking a piece of paper napkin, she gently wiped it around Maya’s mouth, erasing the evidence of her shenanigans.

Surveying around, she did not see Evan. Hence she curiously asked the children, “Where’s your daddy?”

“Daddy went out shopping. He’ll be back soon.”

Just as Kyle spoke, the door opened again.

Evan walked in, laden with groceries in his hands.

“Daddy!”

The children perked up as their big piercing eyes stared straight at what he was carrying.

Just as how they had swarmed around Nicole as she walked through the door just now, they now surged towards Evan in an instant.

Seeing the four eager children in front of him, Evan laughingly handed each of them a large package from the pile of things he was carrying.

The four kids happily rushed off to their corners enthusiastically, eager to unwrap their newly-acquired gifts.

Maya gawked longingly at a big pack of exquisite snacks, her greedy eyes glittering with anticipation.

However, she did not spot any sweet dessert amongst the snacks.

When she asked, Evan told her that the tidbits he bought were healthy snacks to prevent weight gain.

From then on, he would monitor Maya’s snacking habit to ensure she only ate healthy and nutritious snacks.

Blinking her big round eyes, she wondered if those snacks were delicious.

Can’t wait to tear open a packet to try.

Nina admired appreciatively the newest makeup set that she got. Turning to Evan, she politely said, “Thank you.”

Those mere two words made Evan smile. This girl was the most adult-like of them all. Even though she was now polite, she still kept her distance from him. However, compared to her previous hostile attitude, this was way better. A huge improvement in our relationship, methinks!