

## Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1087

“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?"

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Chris' expression dimmed and he bowed his head to look at the equipment. "Change is a constant. We'll never know what happens next. You should prioritize your studies for now. Do you have any questions about the experiment just now? If you do, you may ask me."

Nina fell silent.

Did Mr. Sanders just decline my invitation? Is he not willing to work with me to develop a new skincare product? But why not?

Right when she wanted to inquire further, the roaring sound of thunder distracted them.

“Nina, I’m afraid it will be raining cats and dogs later. Why don’t I take you home now?”

“It’s fine, I don’t feel like going home just yet. My driver will be here to pick me up when the class ends.”

Chris hesitated for a while and stopped pursuing the matter. He then handed over a reference book to Nina. “Take a look at this book, it might come in handy in the near future.”

Nodding, Nina packed up the equipment and put them back one by one. After cleaning up the working desk, she sat down to read.

With a book in his hand, Chris sat opposite her. No one spoke a word. The room fell into a state of pin-drop silence.

Within moments, whooshing sounds of a rainstorm filled the room. Nina continued to bury her head in the book as if she heard nothing. Chris withdrew his gaze from the window and fixed it on Nina. Her small face looks so fair and proud, hinting at her headstrong personality. And the way she would draw and write from time to time, with the pen in between her slender fingers... She seems to be indulging in the ocean of knowledge.

Following a thunderous rumble, the wind blasted as the rain got heavier. Chris could feel a chill settling in. He grabbed his own jacket and covered Nina.

Smelling the man’s unique scent from the jacket, Nina looked up and gave him a thin smile. “Thank you, Mr. Sanders.”

“You’re welcome. Carry on with your reading then.”

“All right.” Nina’s heart skipped a beat. This is an amazing feeling. It feels really wonderful to be cared for.

Half an hour had passed and the driver of the Seet family came to pick up Nina.

She returned the jacket to Chris. “Mr. Sanders, there’s a faint floral cum fruity scent on your jacket. It smells really good, giving people a very comforting and warm feeling.”

“You like the scent? I made this cologne myself. If you like it, I can make you one that’s for ladies.”

“Really? Thank you so much.”

“Don’t mention it. I’ll bring you a bottle in our next class. In the future, you can learn how to customize your own fragrance.”

“I’d love to learn that. Thanks again, Mr. Sanders.”

Nina left with her driver. During the journey home, she could not help sniffing her clothes to inhale the calming scent.

Back at Imperial Garden, Nicole and Evan were watching the rain on the balcony and chit-chatting away.

“Daddy, Mommy, I’m home.”

Nicole saw that Nina’s clothes and hair were a little wet. “Go take a hot bath, Nina. Get changed so that you don’t catch a cold.”

“All right, Mommy. You have a sweet time with Daddy then. Haha.” With that, she darted upstairs.

Nicole felt something was off with Nina and nudged Evan. “Did you notice the changes in your daughter?”

“Changes? In terms of what?” Evan frowned and looked towards the direction of the staircase.

“She used to look exactly like you, always wearing a cold face. But look at her now. She seems to be more active and down-to-earth. She’s actually smiling more often. I’ve caught her giggling for no apparent reason too. That look she has...”

Evan interrupted her, “Being active is good. She’s still a child and it’s totally normal for girls her age to be laughing and crying as they learn how to express themselves freely.”

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Nicole raised her head and stared at Evan blankly. Normal? How could this be normal? You didn’t get me the first time. Nina’s behavior now clearly shows that she’s...

Hmm... I’d better not say a word more as Nina is very sensitive about these things. Puppy love during the teenage years comes and goes very fast. Oh well, I’ll just let it be.

“Why are you staring at me like that?” Evan was puzzled.

“Because you’re good looking,” Nicole simply answered.

“Oh, really? I’m glad to receive your compliment.”

“There’s no need for you to grin from ear to ear. I was just saying and didn’t really mean it.”

Evan was dumbstruck for a moment.

He pulled her into his arms. “Then, praise me like you mean it.”

Praise him like I mean it?

She blinked her rounded and she said in a serious tone, “You have such exquisite taste in women and as a result, you found yourself a terrific wife.”

Evan furrowed his brows at that.

“You’re very lucky too, for your wife has blessed you with four smart and adorable children. Your sons are handsome and your daughters are gorgeous.”

Are you even praising me?

“Do it properly!” He pinched her on the waist.



Nicole thought for a while. "Um, you have an attractive face, a hot body, and a fantastic career. Everything about you is awesome."

"Is that so?"

"Of course. Look at my face, I'm dead serious."

"Since you said so, I think I shouldn't waste any of my incredible genes then. Since you're recovering very well, I think it's time for us to catch up on our childbearing plan."

Nicole was rendered speechless.

He wants to have more children? Seriously?

He surely has a knack for connecting any topic to making babies.

"Well, some things are beyond my control. The right timing is key to getting conceived successfully."

"I concur with you that the right timing is of utmost importance. However, hard work is necessary to make it happen too. We should work on that... now!"

As soon as he finished his sentence, Evan carried Nicole and strode upstairs to the master bedroom. She snuggled in his embrace, listening to the rhythm of his heartbeat, and a smug settled upon her face.

Seeing how sweet the couple were, the maids hid away to give them their well-deserved private space and time. Seems like there might be a new addition to the Seet family very soon.

Meanwhile, Nina came out from the shower and was met with Maya who was about to send her laundry to the maids. She looked at Nina and asked, "Where are your change of clothes? I can pass them along with mine to the maids."

Nina paused for a second. "No worries, I'll do that later."

"It's fine, just give them to me."

"No need," Nina insisted.

Curious but couldn't be bothered to inquire about it, Maya simply turned and went to look for the maids. When she returned, she caught Nina in a daze with a silly grin on her face while hugging her laundry tightly.

Intrigued, Maya approached her. "Nina, why are you holding on to your laundry?"

Nina took a glance at her. "I like the cologne smell on my clothes."

Maya sniffed. There's indeed a light, citrusy scent. "What fragrance is this? It's quite pleasing."

"It's Mr. Sanders' cologne. He mixed it himself."

Maya's forehead creased. How did Mr. Sanders' cologne get on Nina's clothes?

When she was about to ask further, she noticed Nina was hanging up the clothes.

"Nina, aren't you going to send them for washing?"

“No, I don’t want the smell of cologne to be wash off.”

Maya was stunned into silence.

What’s going on?

The ever-so-cool Nina is refusing to wash her clothes in order to keep the smell of the cologne?

Something isn’t right...

Something fishy is definitely going on...

In the evening, one of the maids brought in a well-crafted box with floral carvings on it and placed it on the table.

“Mr. Seet, this is a gift from Mr. Levant. He said that Mrs. Seet would like it.”

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“A present for Mrs. Seet?”

The maid nodded. “Yes. Mr. Levant asked for the gift to be passed to Mrs. Seet because he knows that he’s not welcomed in the Imperial Garden. He left the moment he passed us the gift.”

Evan was silent for a moment.

He narrowed his eyes as he opened the box. Your presence is not welcomed here and neither is your gift. Such a persistent man who’s still thinking of Nicole even now.

He whipped out his phone and made a call.

“Hello Evan, to what do I owe the pleasure?”

“Hello, Uncle Morris, I would like to know how’s Tiffany doing now?”

“How did you know that she’s here with me? Did your mom tell you?”

“No, she didn’t say anything. I just took a wild guess.”

When Murphy called Sophia at the Seet Residence the last time, Evan already noticed Sophia’s reaction and had suspected that since.

Murphy chuckled. “That’s a brilliant guess. Indeed, Tiffany is here with me. She’s pregnant with my grandchild, so it’s only natural that I’ll ensure both mother and child are safe and sound. Speaking of which, I have you to thank for keeping the baby alive. I know that you called the hospital when Levant wanted her to go for an abortion. Rest assured that when the baby arrives, I’ll thank you in person.”

“No worries, you don’t have to thank me, Uncle Morris. Once the child is born, don’t forget to bring me along when you present the baby to Levant.”

Thinking deeply, Murphy said, “I know, this stubborn rascal is still pursuing things in the wrong way. I should really teach him a lesson. When the time comes, I’ll definitely get you involved.”

After hanging up, a gleam flickered in Evan’s eyes.

I wonder if Murphy will accept this daughter-in-law of his after a few months of observation period?

Levant, enjoy your last few months of freedom while you can. When the baby arrives, you'll have no time to think about Nicole but to pay full attention to the child.

"Put this away. There's no need to pass it to Mrs. Seet. Use it where you see fit."

"Understood, Mr. Seet." The maid went away with the box.

The next morning, Levant rang Nicole happily, thinking that she had accepted the present since it was not returned.

He went straight to the point when the line was connected. "Nicole, did you like my present?"

"Present? What present?" Nicole was completely baffled.

"The box that I personally sent to Imperial Garden yesterday; the one with a nice floral design on it. There are many rare items inside the box which money can't buy. Tell me which one do you like and I'll keep searching to bring you the best gift in the world."

Nicole was stunned.

What? I didn't receive any present, let alone any rare items!

"Why aren't you talking, Nicole? You don't need to be shy. I'll give you anything, as long as you like it."

"Um... Are you sure that..."

"Was the present for me?" Before she could finish her sentence, Evan interrupted her and snatched the phone away.

Looking at the screen, he uttered, "I thank you on behalf of Nicole. She likes many things, so feel free to keep searching and bringing them to me. I'll organize an auction, sell them off, and make sure that all proceeds go to charity."

Evan Seet?

"I'm having a conversation with Nicole. Why did you interrupt us? Also, who are you to auction off my gifts to Nicole?" Levant squeezed those words through his gritted teeth.

Evan laughed out loud. "Who am I? I'm the rightful husband of Nicole and I do things my way." With that, he hung up.

Nicole heaved a long sigh as she finally understood what happened. Apparently, Evan put away my gift from Levant.

"Evan, what did he give me?"

"Why? Are you interested in his gifts?"

"I'm just curious."

"There's nothing good about his gifts, if you want anything, I'll just buy it for you."

Nicole fell silent at that.

So, I can't even have a peek?

She sighed inwardly. I can see that Evan finds Levant and anything related to him annoying.

Looking at the dimmed cell phone screen, Levant was infuriated that his effort was in vain. I didn't expect all the precious goods to end up in Evan's hands, and the worst part was that I delivered them personally. I would not have sent them if I had known Nicole wouldn't be there to receive them.

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Should I go take it back?

I doubt Evan would return the gift to me easily. Even if he intends to do so, it would come with a great price.

But why should I be forced to suffer in silence? I can't stomach the sense of aggrievement. What should I do?

To go or not to go?

After pondering over the matter, Levant decided to pay Imperial Garden a visit.

The moment he stepped foot into the residence, he made a scene and requested to see Evan.

"Mr. Levant, are you looking for Mr. Seet to retrieve your box?"

He nodded. "Yes, it belongs to me and I'm here to collect it." Since Nicole can't keep it, I sure as hell am not going to let Evan have it for free. After all, it's a special item that I've obtained at an exorbitant price.

"Mr. Seet has ordered us to return it to you if you're here to claim it."

What?

That's it? He's giving it back just like that?

Levant was surprised.

The maid brought the box out and placed it in front of him. "Here you go, Mr. Levant."

He grabbed the box and scrutinized it. It's the same one I brought here; everything is in one piece, not an item more or less.

"Mr. Levant, Mr. Seet also reminded us to send you off immediately once the box is returned."

Levant scoffed, "Do you think I'm willing to linger around any longer? Well, I won't! Not even if you beg me."

At the urging of the maids, Levant took the box and drove away.

Back at Levant Winery, he opened the box and took out a first-grade white jade and a pair of ruby jade bangles. He noticed something strange when he held the jewels in his hands.

The ruby jade was supposed to be crystal clear, with its marble design clearly seen from all angles. This one looks polished but where are the marble designs which look like blood veins? And the white jade... it doesn't quite look like the one I had.

Levant mulled it over and finally figured out what had happened.

"Evan Seet! How dare you swapped out my stones?"

No wonder he gave it back to me promptly. He had the items replaced!

"What a shameless man!" Levant slammed the box lid shut.

I guess I have to endure the loss. Evan must have planned a way to work around this. If I keep harping on it, he might turn it around and frame me for trickery or fraud.

"Just you wait and see, Evan!"

Meanwhile, back at the Imperial Garden.

Evan was enjoying a cup of tea on his mahogany chair while visualizing the look on Levant's face when he discovered that the stones had been swapped.

A smirk appeared on his face. Hopefully, Levant would learn from this episode and refrain from gifting Nicole anything. Otherwise, the consequences are his to bear.

I have to admit though, the white jade and ruby jade are such magnificent jewels. Soon, they will be put to good use.

Two months later.

Evan received a sudden phone call from Sophia, asking him to bring Nicole to the Seet Residence for an urgent matter.

Both of them speculated a million agenda during their journey.

"Could it be that Sheila found out about Renee and how she has been pestering Davin?"

"Perhaps. We'll find out when we get there."

Nicole thought long about it. "I think I heard your uncle's voice over the phone but I can't be sure if I heard it right."

Murphy?

But why would Murphy be there?

Could it be... Looking at the calendar, it's almost time.

The Maybach sped all the way and rolled to a stop at the Seet Residence. When they got off the car, they were met by Levant who arrived at the same time.

Huh? Why is he here too?

Just when the curious Nicole was about to greet Levant, Evan grasped her wrist and pulled her toward the direction of the living room.

Evan seemed to have predicted Levant's presence, so he did not even bother to take a glance at him.

Levant was displeased by how the couple ignored him. I'm a guest. How could they be so rude and treated me with disrespect?

Then, he recalled the jade which had been replaced by Evan and resentment surged within him. This won't do. I must get back at Evan for his actions.

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Levant swiftly caught up with Evan and yelled at him, "Evan Seet! How can the president of Seet Group conduct such a shameless act?"

Evan turned and looked at Levant. "Now, now, hold your tongue. You must present solid evidence to back your claim. You went to Imperial Garden and collected your belongings personally. The process was recorded clearly in the CCTV footage."

"But what I retrieved was not mine. The originals had been replaced!"

"Really? Why didn't you say so back then?"

"I... I didn't check on the spot."

"Well, that's your problem then, seeing that you are one who didn't check."

"I..."

Levant suddenly recalled that the maids were pressuring him to leave right away after handing the box over to him. There wasn't any time for me to check the contents then. Come to think of it, that was probably part of Evan's plan too.

"I'm not letting this matter off so easily, Evan. I'm going to complain to Aunt Sophia. You ought to return everything to me."

In response, Evan simply chuckled and led Nicole forward by holding her hands.

Levant followed suit when an idea came across his mind all of a sudden. "Nicole, did Evan give you my precious white jade and ruby jade? He replaced the ones returned to me. But if he gave it to you, that's okay then. Just know that they are gifts specially prepared for you, from yours truly."

"He didn't give them to me. I didn't even get to see it," Nicole replied truthfully and glanced at Evan.

"Nicole couldn't be bothered about those things," Evan responded with a sneer.

Levant retorted disdainfully, "Evan, since you took those stones but didn't present them to Nicole, are you planning on giving them to someone? Your mistress, perhaps?"

He then turned to Nicole and said, "Nicole, I'm pretty sure he's keeping them for another woman. Those are very precious stones. He's probably using them to please other women, hence, he kept it from you. It's best if you interrogate him. I wonder which mistress of his has them now."

Evan stared daggers at Levant. "Well, your things will indeed fall into the hands of a woman. Brace yourself, as I'm going to show you which woman is the new owner to those stones."

Both Nicole and Levant were dumbfounded by Evan's statement. Did he mean it? Or was it just a passing remark?

"Are you really going to gift them to a woman?" Nicole asked.

"Yes." Evan answered firmly.

She pursed her lips at his reply. What nonsense is this? He didn't let me accept any presents from another man, yet he offers them to another woman?

Evan Seet, you're doomed if I ever find out that you did something you shouldn't have.

Levant scoffed disapprovingly. Is Evan keeping them for Aunt Sophia? If that's the case, perhaps I can sweet talk her into giving me back the jade.

After all, those belong to me in the first place. Even if I can't have them back, I can still ask for some interests or other benefits. There's no way I'll let Evan have it for free.

The trio entered the living room and was welcomed by Murphy and Sophia with big smiles. "Evan, Ms. Lane, I can't thank you enough for this."

Thank us? Nicole was perplexed.

"Don't mention it, Uncle Morris. That's what we're supposed to do."

"Hahaha, all the credit goes to you, Evan! I'll be sure to repay you a favor in the near future." Murphy looked at him with an ecstatic expression on his face.

Levant was bemused by the situation at hand. What did Evan do for my father?

"Dad, why bother asking him for help? You can just task it to me."

As soon as Levant opened his mouth to speak, Murphy turned in his direction to give him a cold stare with a stern face. Levant was taken aback by his father's terrifying look and his heart started pounding.

"Dad, your expressions changed too quickly! You were beaming at them just seconds ago! So why is it when you're facing me, you're acting so hostile? I haven't seen you for ages, so I don't think I've upset you in any way, have I?"

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"You whelp! I can't believe you still have the cheek to speak! Evan's children are all in their teenage years now. And you're not young anymore. So tell me, how did you deal with Tiffany's baby?"

"Dad, don't bring up the past. My only wish is to bear a child with the woman that I love. I don't care for the other women at all."

"Is that so? So you can't be bothered? What if a chubby kid shows up in front of you right now?"

A chubby kid?

I would like it very much if the woman that I love give birth to our very own chubby kid.

“Dad, just wait and see. I’ll spend the rest of my life chasing after the woman that I love, be with her, and fulfill your wish of having an adorable and chubby grandchild.”

Murphy let out a scornful laugh. “I can’t wait any longer. But your decision doesn’t matter anymore since I’ve got a grandchild now.”

Levant looked at him, confused.

Dad doesn’t have other sons, so how did a grandchild come about?

“Dad, are you daydreaming?” Levant poked fun at him.

“Son, I’ll present to you my grandchild in a while and then you tell me if I’m daydreaming.” Murphy hurried upstairs.

Seeing Murphy’s strange behavior, Levant turned to Sophia and asked, “Aunt Sophia, is everything okay with my dad? Is he really searching for a grandson upstairs?”

“Yes.” You’ll be flabbergasted soon enough.

Hearing the vague answer, Levant decided to change the topic. “We’ll discuss about Dad later. Aunt Sophia, I have something important that I need you to be the judge of.”

“What is it?” Sophia asked.

Levant took a good look at Evan and told Sophia about the replaced stones.

“Aunt Sophia, I’m not trying to take advantage out of this situation, I just hope that you can advise your son to return me my belongings.”

Sophia lifted her head. “Evan, is what he said true?”

Evan nodded and answered in affirmation.

Hearing his confession, Levant added, “At least you still have the guts to own it up like a man.”

“If this is the case, Evan, why don’t you return Levant’s belongings? I believe he won’t send any more gifts to Nicole. Right, Levant?”

Aunt Sophia’s words are like a double-edged sword. On one hand, she seems to be siding with me; on another, she’s warning me to stop sending Nicole things.

Fine, I won’t send her gifts then. If I do, I won’t repeat the same mistake of delivering it to Imperial Garden and directly into the hands of Evan.

“Rest assured that I won’t send any more presents to Imperial Garden, Aunt Sophia.”

“All right. Evan, please return the items to Levant.”

“Sure, I’ll get someone to deliver it here as soon as possible.” He contacted his butler right away and made the necessary arrangements.



Levant was extremely satisfied with the outcome. He glared at Evan and gave him a smug look. Who has the last laugh now?

Evan approached him and said in a low voice, "Don't get too excited. You won't get to touch them even though they will be delivered here soon."

What does he mean?

Aunt Sophia has agreed to this. Does he intend to go back on his words?

"Evan, what games are you playing at? Don't ever think of using the same trick twice. I'll definitely check the box thoroughly this time."

"Don't you worry. Your items will be presented before your eyes, it's just that they won't land in your hands at the end."

I doubt you'll be able to snatch it away right under my nose.

Levant sneered at him.

"We shall wait and see," he said confidently.

As soon as he said that, distinct sounds of a crying newborn could be heard from upstairs.

Levant was absolutely stunned. "Is that the cry of a baby? Why is there a baby in Seet Residence? Whose baby is that?"

Evan gazed at him in amusement whereas Sophia remained silent but wore a cheeky grin on her face.

As for Nicole, she was secretly counting the days of Tiffany's pregnancy and reflecting on Murphy's reaction previously. I'm almost certain that the crying baby is Levant's child!