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"Sure. I have a bone to pick with you too!"

Davin pursed his lips. I haven't had it easy all this while either. Were all my efforts for naught? Instead of praising me, the first thing he says is that he has a score to settle with me. Is he even my brother?

As the two men got up and headed to the study room, Kyle and Nina sat next to Nicole and listened to her recount her experience during the trip.

Although Kyle was all ears, Nina was clearly distracted. She was too preoccupied with her thoughts about Chris. I wonder what he'll think when I don't show up?

Over in the study room, Davin told Evan everything that had happened while he was away.

By the time Davin stopped talking, Evan's expression had turned unusually grave.

"Why didn't you tell me all this earlier?" Evan demanded.

Davin hurried to explain. "I was going to tell you, but Kyle wanted you and Nicole to have a good time. He's such a considerate child. He was afraid that if we told you, Nicole would worry, thus affecting her health and her pregnancy. Anyway, you came back at the right time. There's a serious problem we need to resolve. In order to heal Nina, we'll need Resurrecting Herb from Wicked Hill and Exquisite Flower from Jade Hill. Oh, and also Crystal Rose from Nepenthe Valley. I was able to find some information about the first two ingredients, but I'm afraid it won't be that easy to obtain Crystal Rose. I couldn't find out anything about it."

"Crystal Rose?" Evan echoed, falling into deep thought.

Why does that name ring a bell? However, I vaguely recall that Crystal Rose was someone's name, not the name of an herb!

He frowned as he pondered the matter.

Seeing that Evan remained silent, Davin cleared his throat and said, "We only thought to let Nina meet with Chris because of her condition. We want her to live every day to the fullest in the time that she has left. That's why we thought about letting Chris come over to accompany her.

Besides, Chris really does like Nina. There's no denying that he used her in the past, but now...he really has fallen for her. When Nina went to meet him in K Nation, he was protective of her and did not allow her to help him. As a result, he suffered a crushing defeat in the power struggle with his sisters."

Evan snapped out of his thoughts and shot Davin with a piercing gaze. "Nina is only sixteen years old. It's still too early for her to be involved in a romantic relationship. Right now, we should be directing all our attention to finding a way to cure her!"

"That's a given. But, it wouldn't hurt to make Nina happy, even if it's just for a day. We just wanted to help," Davin muttered.

"That was your mentality when you dated Renee, wasn't it? And how did that turn out? She still hasn't gotten married yet!" Evan retorted.

Davin's face darkened at the mention of his heart-wrenching past.

That relationship with Renee... It did end up hurting her. It was an immature relationship, and there were many irreversible regrets. Such as how Renee will never be able to conceive again. Is Evan saying all this because he's worried that Nina will suffer the same fate?

"I understand your concerns, Evan. I won't meddle in Nina and Chris' affairs," Davin finally said.

Evan looked at him and continued solemnly, "At her age, Nina isn't able to consider all aspects thoroughly. As her uncle, you shouldn't be egging her on. Regardless of the situation, that's something you shouldn't do!"

Davin let out an imperceptible sigh without saying anything. Perhaps I shouldn't have listened to Sheep. It was a waste of time.

Then, he piped up, "But Chris is in K Nation already. I'm afraid Nina won't let it rest until she meets him at least once."

After a moment's silence, Evan replied firmly, "You don't have to bother about that anymore. Oh, and don't let Nicole know about Nina's poisoning for now."

"All right. Nina doesn't suspect a thing. She thinks she has been feeling weak recently because she's sick. She has no idea it's because she has been poisoned. Nicole is pregnant, so it's best if she doesn't know either. Don't worry. I won't say anything."

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"That's good. I'll look into the Crystal Rose matter myself. You and Kyle don't have to worry about it. The both of you should just focus on taking care of the company and doing what you should do."

With that, Evan kicked Davin out of the study room and told him to send up Kyle.

When Kyle heard that Evan wanted to talk to him, he hurried upstairs immediately.

"You were looking for me?" Kyle said as he entered the study room.

Evan gazed at his elegant, poised, and confident son. His eyes lit up, and he looked pleased. "You're all grown up now, Kai."

"I was incompetent. Nina fell for Monica's trick because I didn't protect her well," Kyle lamented.

"That's not your fault! I already know what happened. I didn't call you up here to hear you blame yourself. The most pressing matter now is to gather all the required ingredients for the antidote so that we can heal Nina."

"I've sent the Hidden Masters to look for Resurrecting Herb and Exquisite Flower. As for Crystal Rose... I think it'll be difficult to find it. I sent someone to find out more about it, but there haven't been any updates so far. That's why I was thinking to make a trip to Nepenthe Valley to look for it," said Kyle.

"Are you sure that Crystal Rose is an herb and not someone's name?" Evan asked.

Kyle paused as he mulled over the possibility. Someone's name? If it really is a person's name, is it someone who can cure Nina? So, he thinks that Crystal Rose is someone who can use those two ingredients to cure Nina.

"Why would you think that? Do you know something?" Kyle asked.

"I seem to have heard of the name Crystal Rose before. Your mother is an acupuncturist. Maybe her mentor has heard of Crystal Rose before."

"Well, we'll have to ask her then," Kyle replied.

Evan nodded as he gazed at Kyle. "Leave it to me. You and Davin will be able to handle the company's affairs on your own, right?"

"That won't be a problem."

Although Kyle and Davin did not always see eye to eye, Kyle knew that Evan already had a lot on his plate. Daddy has to investigate the Crystal Rose matter while worrying about Nina's condition and taking care of Mommy. It doesn't matter if I have any disagreements with Uncle Davin about the company's affairs. I don't want to cause more trouble for him. Moreover, Uncle Davin teamed up with the company's board members to stop me from going to Nepenthe Valley and risking my life. So, I suppose Uncle Davin can be considered a good uncle! Because of that, I won't make things too difficult for Uncle Davin. I'll just argue with him occasionally like how I used to. I don't mind managing the company with him.

As Evan came out of the study room, he saw Nicole walking Nina back to her bedroom. The sight of Nina's frail figure sent a pang shooting through his heart.

"You've gotten so much thinner, Nina. Just let Maya know what you feel like eating so that she can prepare it for you," said Nicole.

"I will. Maya took good care of me when you weren't around. She kept making delicious food for me. But I just don't know what's wrong with me. I get tired so easily," Nina answered.

Nicole sighed. She thought that Nina's condition was because her lovesickness had worsened and morphed into depression.

When they were downstairs earlier, Nina had even asked Nicole whether she could go and meet Chris.

After giving it some thought, Nicole had told Nina that she would invite Chris to the house.

Nina had not said much after that.

"I'm tired. I'm going to take a nap," said Nina.

"Okay," Nicole replied. After watching Nina enter her bedroom and close the door, she turned around and saw Evan approaching her.

"I promised Nina that I'd invite Chris over," said Nicole, her voice faltering. She could not help sneaking a peek to see how Evan would take the news.

Evan knitted his brows. "I don't think there's a need for that."

"But Nina really wants to see him. Look at how thin she has gotten. Can you bear to see her suffer even more from being lovesick?"

Evan's expression was glacial, and he did now answer her. She's not feeling well because she has been poisoned. It has nothing to do with Chris. However, I can't let Nicole know about that. It looks like I need to do something about this!

Post navigation

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"Nicole, your priority now should be to get lots of rest and spend time with Maya and the others. I'll take care of this," Evan replied reassuringly.

"How are you going to take care of it?" Nicole pressed. She was worried that Evan would deliberately make things difficult for Chris, which would cause Nina to become even more depressed and ultimately create an even bigger mess.

"Nina is my daughter. I know how to take care of this in a way that will be best for her. Trust me." Evan spoke in a gentle tone, and his expression was serious.

Despite his assurances, a look of apprehension flashed across Nicole's eyes.

Evan reached out and stroked her pregnant belly. "Look at you. You worry about everything. All you need to do is take care of yourself so that you can give birth to a healthy baby."

With that, he pulled Nicole into his arms and was about to head to their bedroom when he heard Davin's frantic cries from downstairs.

"Mom! Mom, hurry up and come over here! Quickly!"

His cries alarmed everyone in Imperial Garden. Wondering what on earth had happened, everyone rushed downstairs to the living room.

"What's the matter, Davin? What happened?" Sophia asked anxiously.

Brimming with excitement, Davin showed Sophia the pregnancy test kit. "Mom, look! Sheila is pregnant! I'm going to have a child too! I'm going to be a dad!"

"Really?" Sophia's delight was evident on her face as she stared at the two clear, red lines on the pregnancy test kit.

She burst into joyful laughter and clasped her hands together, murmuring a sincere prayer. "Dear God, please watch over both of my daughters-in-law. I pray for safe deliveries so that they may bear healthy children. Please keep them safe..."

"That's amazing news! Congratulations, Davin and Sheila!"

Davin turned around and looked at Nicole. "This is a double blessing. Our child will be around the same age as the baby you're carrying, so they'll be able to play together."

"You're right! I'm sure it'll be very lively and fun then! I wish they could be born right now!" Sophia exclaimed.

"Right now? Mom, don't you think you're in too much of a hurry!"

"I've been longing to babysit your children, so of course I'm impatient," Sophia replied promptly.

Sheila bounded down the stairs happily, beaming from ear to ear.

Seeing that, Sophia warned hurriedly, "Oh, dear. Sheila, you can't jump around like that anymore. You're pregnant now, so you have to walk slowly and carefully."

"That's true, Sheep. If something happens to my son, I won't spare you!"

As soon as the words left Davin's mouth, Sophia glared at him and punched him. Davin rubbed his aching arm and asked with an aggrieved expression, "Why did you hit me?"

"Don't you know any better? Since Sheila is pregnant, you should say nice and positive things!"

Davin stared at her speechlessly for a moment. "I was just being honest. You saw her earlier. She's acting nothing like how a pregnant woman should."

Sheila's face darkened when she heard that. So, he thinks I don't act like a pregnant woman, eh? Fine. I'll show him what a pregnant woman can be like. That'll teach him a lesson, and I'll get to have some fun at the same time.

"Davin, I think what you said makes sense. I'm a pregnant woman now, so I should be extra careful. Come over here. Help me to the kitchen to look for something to eat," said Sheila.

Davin frowned. She wants me to help her to the kitchen?

"You were leaping around like a monkey moments ago, but now you want me to help you to the kitchen? You're trying to be a drama queen, aren't you? Uh-uh, I'm not helping you walk there. You're just in the early stages of the pregnancy."

Sheila replied smoothly, "That doesn't matter. It still makes me a pregnant woman. Didn't you say I should act more like a pregnant woman? Is it too much for me to ask you to help me walk to the kitchen?"

Davin was quiet as he racked his brains for a comeback. Suddenly, Sophia punched his arm again.

"Mom! Why did you hit me again?"

"Sheila is pregnant with your child. Is it too much for her to ask you for help? Go on. Go and help her!"

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Davin gazed at Sophia's clenched fist wordlessly, then went over to Sheila reluctantly. Holding Sheila's arm, he helped her walk carefully toward the kitchen.

Sheila was pleased with David's reaction, but she was even more pleased with how Sophia had acted. She turned to Sophia and said, "Mom, I bought some jewelry a few days ago, and I think they'll suit you perfectly. I'll bring them over to your room later."

Davin pursed his lips. She bought the jewelry for her own mother, but now she's going to give it to Mom! Honestly, she's willing to do anything to get Mom on her side.

Sophia chuckled. "That's quite all right. I don't need any more jewelry, so you can keep it. I was thinking about getting someone over to make some maternity wear for you and Nicole."

"Thank you, Mom!" Nicole and Sheila chorused in unison.

"There's no need to thank me. A harmonious family is a prosperous family. As long as the both of you are happy and I can see my sons lead comfortable lives, that's enough for me."

Davin quickly interjected, "Well, I'm not happy with how you dote on Sheep so much. It's as if she's your daughter and I'm just your son-in-law."

Sophia smiled and teased, "Have you only realized it now? You've always just been my son-in-law."

Davin was flabbergasted. My goodness! I can't believe that someone would actually choose her daughter-in-law over her own son. Anything can happen in this world! I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes!

The stunned and confused look on Davin's face caused the others to burst into laughter.

Nicole gazed at Sophia admiringly. Not only does she understand the concept of how a harmonious family makes a prosperous family, but she also knows how to make it a reality. She must be the most intelligent woman ever! I hope I'll be as wise of a mother-in-law as her after Kyle and Juan are married.

When they were in the privacy of their bedroom, Evan asked Nicole whether she had ever heard of Crystal Rose.

"Crystal Rose?"

Nicole thought for a long time before looking up at Evan. "I remember Wesley mentioning that name before. I think she's highly skilled at healing someone who's been poisoned. Why do you ask?"

So it seems that my vague memory was correct. Crystal Rose is a person's name.

"Oh, I heard some people mention her and was just curious. Is she able to heal people from all types of poisons?" Evan asked.

"I'm not too sure. I've heard people say that her poison healing technique is unrivaled and that she can cure one of any poison. However, I don't know the details. Wesley seems to know her, but he never mentioned her much. They've probably just exchanged a few pleasantries and such."

"Oh... Well, if he hardly mentioned her, then let's forget about it. You should get some rest. I still have some things to do," Evan replied.

Once he was in the study room, Evan sent Draven to find out who Crystal Rose was.

The following morning, Draven came back with more information.

"Crystal Rose is a strange woman. She can heal one of any poison, but I'm afraid it won't be easy to get her to heal Ms. Nina," Draven reported.

"Why do you say so?" Evan queried.

Draven explained, "I heard that doesn't just agree to heal anyone. Those who want to seek for her help have to fulfill three conditions."

"What are the conditions?"

"Since Crystal Rose is a woman, her first condition is that the person seeking for her help must be a woman as well. She only heals women."

Evan was relieved. Well, Nina fulfills that condition.

"What's the second condition?"

Draven continued, "The second condition involves three tests she has devised. For every test one passes successfully, she'll heal that person by thirty percent. Once one passes all three tests, they'll be ninety percent healed."

"So, one will only be completely healed if they fulfill the third condition?"

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After a knock on the door sounded, Davin came into the room. "Nina, are you guys done chatting? Your mother had Maya make some soup for you and wants you to have some at home."

Nina looked at Chris reluctantly, but he encouraged, "You should go, Nina. Come look for me when you're all better!"

"Yeah, I'll stay strong and get better quickly. So you'll have to wait for me, okay?"

"I promise you!"

With Chris promising her like he was making a vow, she finally left the room with Davin.

Watching Nina's figure that was moving away, Chris reverently begged the heavens to watch over her and ensure her safe return.

While on the way back, Nina clasped the pendant she received. At that moment, it had become a lucky charm that would stay with her in Chris' stead.

"Nina, I'm taking you to Nepenthe Valley to see Crystal Rose. Are you afraid?"

"Nope. This will protect me."

Upon steadily loosening her fingers, the incredibly exquisite pendant on her palm shocked both Davin and Evan.

"This looks really valuable. Where did you get it, Nina?"

"Uncle Davin, Chris gave this to me as a good luck charm."

"Wow! You should keep it safe—it might be priceless."

Without saying a word in response, Nina beamed happily.

A look of appreciation appeared in Evan's eyes as he complimented Chris for handling the matter tactfully.

Nina can definitely get through this!

"Hey, Nina, your mom doesn't know about you being poisoned yet. Can you tell her about it before we leave?"

After a moment of contemplation, Nina proposed, "Mommy's expecting, so I don't think she should know. We'll just tell her that you're taking me to an excellent makeup artist for my conference! She definitely won't suspect a thing."

Touched by Nina's sensibility, he uttered, "Nina, you're strong and understanding. I'm really thankful for that."

"Oh, Daddy! I'm thankful that you have let me see Chris."

Gazing at the father and daughter who were expressing their gratitude to each other, Davin chimed in, "Nina, you should be thanking me instead. If it weren't for your aunt and me being the go-between, Chris would have never had come to his senses!"

"Thank you, Uncle Davin."

"Good girl. Don't you worry! If that punk ever mistreats you, I'll make sure he regrets it!"

Feeling warmth welling inside of her, she wondered if she had done numerous good deeds in her past life for her to have such great loved ones in this life.

Showing a look of concern, Evan pondered deeply.

There are still four years until she turns twenty. Chris might not be able to wait that long, and Nina might not like Chris anymore. Well, I guess only time will tell.

Once they returned to Imperial Garden, they spotted Nicole and Sheila enjoying Maya's soup.

"Nicole, I don't think you should treat Sheep this well. Giving her good food and treating her kindly will only give her an excuse to not return to the Seet Residence."

"It's fine if she stays. We're pregnant so we can talk since we're bored."

Sheila beamed at Nicole before turning to Davin. "I'm the one eating this, but all the nutrients are going to your son. You should be happy that I'm eating well here! If you think that all we do is give more work to Maya, then you can always buy me more things and work harder, you know?"

"You don't have to buy anything. Imperial Garden has everything you need."

Sheila whispered beside Nicole's ear in response to the latter's utterance, "Nicole, Davin has a secret stash of money, so this is a great opportunity to get him to spend it."

Nicole took in the woman's words and thought that the couple had an interesting way of interacting.

"I'll buy it! Nicole, whatever you want to eat, I'll get it!"

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"Well, I want some fruits," Nicole commented without a second thought.

"Buy some fruits and also supplements for pregnant women. Get a lot of them and make sure that they're expensive!" Sheila added.

Davin nodded. "Sure. I'll be going then." As he finished his reply, he showed Sheila his palm, gesturing for her to give him money.

"Davin, what you'll be buying should be from the heart. That means you need to use your own money to be sincere!"

"You took all of my money from me. My pockets are emptier than it has ever been. How can I have any money?"

"You do have money! You definitely do!" Sheila glared at him.

Displeased, Davin stared back at her. "Sheep, you've gone out of line. You're the one who suggested that I go buy stuff yet you don't want to pay for it. A sheep like you can't be this lazy now!"

It was a given for Sheila to be upset over Davin calling her Sheep again.

"Davin, if you call me by that one more time, I'll have your lips sealed shut! Also, how can a grown man ask for money from a pregnant woman? Have you no shame?"

"Getting money from the pregnant woman who swiped all of my money clean isn't shameless at all! Give me the money!"

It was reasonable for Davin to ask for money. After the bickering a few days ago, Sheila succeeded in obtaining the family's assets, and he did not dispute it. Nevertheless, he decided to ask for money whenever he needed it. That way, once she was sick of him asking for money, his assets could potentially return to him one day.

That was why he would never let go of the chance to ask for money, like the current one.

The way he was acting like a debt collector made Sheila smirk. "Davin, if you insist on asking me for it, then it's fine by me. Say goodbye to your secret stash of money. I'm going to confiscate it—all of it!"

"W-What secret stash? Sheep, you'd better not be accusing me!"

Seeing the way Davin was stumbling with his words made her chuckle. "Just look at you! You're stuttering because you're guilty! You can't possibly think that I don't know where it is."

Sh*t! This sheep sure has some detective skills! Does she really know where it is?

"W-Well, s-so what if I do have a stash? Would you really take away such a small sum of money? You can't be this heartless."

"Davin, tell me—will your stash be emptied out just from buying fruits and things for pregnant women? Do you think I'm stupid?"

When he was about to retort, Sophia hollered, "Just go and buy them already! A man shouldn't be dragging his feet like this over something trivial like shopping! In fact, you deserve to be taught a lesson!"

She walked over to him and stuffed a card in his hand. "Be sure to buy healthy and high-quality items that Sheila and Nicole like. Go on now!"

Davin gripped the card before nodding. "I'll go immediately." He flew out of the door the moment he finished speaking.

After getting into the car, he stared at the card in his hand, sighing in relief at the thought of Sophia treating him so well.

In the living room, Evan and Nina's eyes met for a second before Nina went over to sit beside Nicole.

"Mommy, my last press conference for my product launch had problems, and I want the next one to be a success. Daddy got me a world-renowned teacher, and he wanted to take me to them to learn from them. Hence, Daddy and I are going to leave for some time. Will that be okay with you, Mommy?"

"Where are you going? Is it far? Nina, you're unwell. Are you fine enough to travel long journeys?" Nicole responded with a myriad of questions.

"We're going to Nalanica. Don't worry; I'll take good care of her," Evan interjected.

Nicole still felt uneasy by the whole idea. "Why does it have to be now? Can't you wait until she's feeling better?"

They couldn't wait as they needed to treat Nina's poison quickly.

"Mommy, I really want to get away and do some sightseeing. My physical state will be better once my mood is better."

Nicole fell silent. As she did not know about the poison, she thought that Nina's current state was due to her state of mind and that it had something to do with Chris. With such a thought in mind, she found it reasonable for Nina to want to go traveling. She might get better once her state of mind is better.

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Swiveling her head around toward Evan, she urged, "You have to take good care of Nina."

"Don't worry."

Sheila, who knew about Nina's condition and was watching from the side, had a feeling that this matter had something to do with the poison. As such, she also comforted Nicole, "You should relax, Nicole. Traveling and meeting a fine makeup artist will be good for Nina. You should be happy for her."

Nicole nodded a little and gazed at Nina with a heartbroken look. "Don't pressure yourself too much. You have to know that your happiness is much more important than the press conference."

"Thanks, Mommy." Nina snuggled into Nicole's embrace and held her tightly. I promise you, Mommy. I'll get myself treated and come back to be with you right after!

About an hour later, Davin came back with loads of supplements for pregnant women and a variety of fresh fruits. After he had the maids prepare the fruits, Sheila ate them with gusto. Nicole, on the other hand, lost her appetite at the thought of Evan and Nina leaving.

"It's okay, Nicole. It's only a getaway; she'll be fine."

"Yeah, I know."

A mother would always be worried about their children when they were far from home. Even if it was only for a short period, Nicole was still reluctant to see her children go, and that was more so as Nina was a girl.

"Nicole, have some of these supplements. Take some and I'll eat the rest."

"Well, I'll take some then. Thanks."

"You don't have to thank me. We're family after all."

Sophia, who was watching the two getting along famously, was rather pleased. She truly hoped that they could always be on good terms and for the family to prosper.

Back in the bedroom, Sheila asked Davin, "Is Evan taking Nina to get treatment?"

"That's right. He told me that they're going to Nepenthe Valley to see Crystal Rose, but it is said that that woman is quite an eccentric character. There are quite a number of requirements to meet before one could get the treatment, so I worry that Evan will have a hard time fulfilling them."

"What kind of requirements?" Sheila asked out of curiosity.

"How should I know!" Davin answered in a matter-of-fact tone.

Sheila mused for a moment. "Is your brother taking Nina there alone?"

"There'll probably be bodyguards."

"Aren't you going with them?"

The cascade of questions bothered Davin. "What are you going on about? Do you want me to go with them?"

An idea came to Sheila after contemplating it for a while. She had been worried that Davin would fool around with his shady friends since she was pregnant. This was an excellent opportunity to keep him in check as she would rather have him go to Nepenthe Valley with Nina.

Hence, she suggested, "You should go if you want to, Davin. I support your decision."

Dazed, he wondered when he had said that he wanted to go. Wait... She's telling me she wants me to go!

"Sheep, I heard that brain fog is a side effect of pregnancy. You still seem pretty smart to me, though."

"Do you want me to become stupid? You can do whatever you want if I am, right?" She was about to pull his ear when she seethed.

Dodging her hand in an instant, Davin sighed as he looked at her with a speechless countenance. Ever since Sheep got pregnant, she has been much more irritable, but she's still as sharp as ever. I should just leave this place for a while for some peace and quiet instead of being here and getting into arguments with her.

"Okay, I'll go. I'll accompany Evan and Nina to Nepenthe Valley."

"That's great. If you act like a caring uncle, Nina will definitely appreciate you more."

"It is only natural for me to treat my niece well. I don't need her to appreciate me."

As soon as he finished speaking, Davin went to Evan to ask for the details of the departure to Nepenthe Valley.

Surprised by Davin's sudden question, he asked, "What's wrong? Do you want to go?"

"Yeah. Kai can handle the company matters for the two of us, and staying at home all day with that nagging Sheep is insufferable. That is why I would rather go to Nepenthe Valley with you. Who knows? I might be of some help there."

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"Sheila is pregnant, so you should be staying with her and taking care of her. She's literally risking her life to bear your child, so what's a little nagging going to do?"

Davin choked out, "Actually, she's the one that wants me to go. Her pregnancy has been making her act strange lately, and I think that she just doesn't want to see me for the time being."

Evan scrutinized Davin for a moment.

When Nicole was packing for us a while ago, she seemed incredibly reluctant for us to leave. Sheila and Nicole are both pregnant, so what's up with this big difference in treatment? I would not be able to bear parting with Nicole too if it weren't for Nina's grave condition.

"I guess you've really failed at being a husband." Evan took the opportunity to take a jab at his brother.

Stunned by the remark, Davin refuted with a dissatisfied look, "Evan, that is only because they are different people. If Sheep were as gentle and considerate as Nicole, I would never be treated this way."

Evan shot him a glance before saying, "That's just an excuse. You should look within."

"I'm not wrong," Davin insisted.

"What do you hope to gain from being so headstrong? Don't you know that people who are headstrong with their wives end up in a divorce? Is that what you want? If you have that thought in mind, then Mom will never go easy on you!"

Davin felt wronged from being blamed by his brother on top of the way Sheila was always enraging him.

When did I say I wanted a divorce? I want to be a dad! All they do is blame and criticize me. Huh, I should talk less and let my actions speak louder than my words.

"You know what, Evan? You're right. You're always right. Whatever you say is reasonable, so I'll just keep my mouth shut, all right?"

Casting him a glance, Evan said, "Oh, yeah. Draven called me and told me that Crystal Rose has some kind of history with Uncle Morris. I think we should get Levant to come with us. If there really is a history, we'll just have him do us a favor."

The thought of Crystal Rose and Murphy having a history roused Davin's curiosity.

"Whatever you say, Evan! You're always right after all!"

"Then, I'll leave this to you. We're leaving tomorrow, so there should be enough time tonight for you to convince him to come along, right?"

This is for your daughter, yet you want me to convince Levant? It is only right for you to go!

Thinking about the way his brother chastised him before, Davin did not dare to speak his mind. With that, he responded, "No worries, Evan. I'll definitely get Levant to come with us."

"Great. You should get going then."

Filled with dread right after leaving the study room, Davin reluctantly drove to Levant Winery to relay the information to him.

Levant was surprised to hear about Nina being poisoned, but he was even more shocked by the other matter. "You're telling me that my dad has a history with Crystal Rose? What kind of history?"

"I'm not too sure about that. All I know is that it is said that Crystal Rose is an eccentric woman and that she has a history with your father. I mulled it over, and I think there's a possibility that your father was promiscuous. Maybe something happened between them, and he tossed her aside, causing her to hate him. That's the only kind of history I can think of between a man and a woman. What do you think?"

Levant was dumbfounded.

Could my father really have that kind of history with Crystal Rose? That can't be. Doesn't he have an ambiguous relationship with Lady Musgrave and, for that reason, made my biological mother leave in a fit? How could he also have that kind of relationship with Crystal Rose?

"You think it's possible too, right? I think it's normal for Uncle Morris to have a few affairs for someone of his status."

Coming back to his senses, Levant turned to Davin. "If your speculation is right, then why am I going? To be a sacrifice?"

"A sacrifice? Don't be ridiculous..."

"You think that that woman hates my dad, so she would undoubtedly hate me, right? Won't I be dead if I went?"

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1234

Davin could not rebut Levant's conclusion. However, if Levant didn't go, then he would have a hard time explaining it to Evan.

He then altered his train of thought and reassured Levant, "No, that can't be it. It could very well be your dad saving Crystal Rose in the past, rendering her grateful for him and wanting to repay him! She'll definitely be grateful to see the son of the man who saved her."

Levant stared daggers at Davin. Do I look like an idiot to you? His thoughts were written all over his face.

Uncomfortable from his gaze, Davin lowered his head and continued, "Of course, these are just speculations. Only Uncle Morris and Crystal Rose know the kind of history they have."

"If you want me to go with you, then I have to know about this history first."

Levant pulled out his phone to call the person in question.

Almost immediately, the call was answered.

Levant blatantly asked, "Dad, do you know Crystal Rose?"

"Who?"

"Crystal Rose!"

"Who's Crystal Rose? I don't know her. Are you looking for her or something?"

"Dad, are you sure you don't know her? I heard that you and that woman have some kind of history."

"History? What kind of history? Anyway, who's this Crystal Rose?"

Unable to recall anyone by that name, Murphy found what Levant was asking to be fairly odd.

Levant exchanged glances with Davin, and they both concluded that Murphy must have done something ridiculous and dishonorable for him to not want to bring up the past.

"Dad, stop hiding it from me. I'm your son. Mom sent me away as a child to be in the care of someone else, so I don't have any deep feelings for her. I would never criticize you in her stead. So just be honest, Dad. Were you involved with Crystal Rose but failed her in the end? Is that why she hates you and wants to get back at you?"

The more Murphy listened to his son, the more he was perplexed. "You brat! Where did you even hear such a thing? I do everything righteously, and I own up to everything I do. I don't know anyone that goes by the name of Crystal Rose!"

Hearing Murphy's loud and clear denial, Davin and Levant were startled.

Is he telling the truth? Has Evan fed me with the wrong information?

While the two were still wondering the legitimacy of what he was saying, Murphy went on in anger, "Get that Crystal Rose in front of me and ask her if she knows me. If she doesn't know me and you're just slandering me left and right, then I'll break your leg, you little brat!"

In the face of Murphy's raw fury, Levant hung up instantly and questioned Davin if the information was even from a reliable source.

"It's likely that the information is inaccurate based on how Uncle was acting. Anyways, this means you don't have to worry about any grudges between them since they don't know each other. There's no hate involved, so you won't have to feel anyone's wrath. Just relax and come with us!"

"When you first came here, you said that I needed to go because of the history between Crystal Rose and my dad. If there isn't a history, then why am I going?"

Oh, that's true. Evan would be furious with me if Levant didn't go, though. If I tell Evan that Crystal Rose and Murphy have no such history and that his information was wrong, he'll surely be mad.

"Just treat the trip as a short getaway. You're bored from being holed up in Levant Winery all day, aren't you? Nepenthe Valley might have something interesting to see and things to do!"

Levant did not respond immediately as he was busy considering it. "Sure. I'm interested in seeing what this Crystal Rose looks like for her to have rumors about having a history with my dad."

"Great! You should pack up. We're leaving tomorrow."

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1235

During the cold night, the gentle moonlight illuminated the bed in the bedroom.

Nicole tossed and turned in bed under the moonlight as the thought of Evan's departure on the following day kept her awake, saddened by the idea.

Lifting her head to take a peek at Evan, who appeared to be sleeping, she asked in a whisper, "Evan, are you asleep?"

"Not yet."

"When are you and Nina going to be back?" She placed a finger on his chest and began to draw circles with it.

Evan unhurriedly opened his eyes before turning to look at her. "What's the matter? You're already looking forward to me coming back even before I leave?"

"I-I just can't bear to be away from Nina. You have to look after her and ensure her safe and quick return."

"You can't bear to be away from her, but you are fine with me leaving? Won't you miss me?"

A moment of silence ensued as she didn't know how to respond.

Nicole cast him a glance, shifted into a comfortable sleeping position, and shut her eyes. Under the moonlight, her fair and delicate face was highlighted by the soft light, making her features even more captivating.

Entranced by the view, Evan smiled as he wrapped his arm around her to pull her into his embrace. In a gentle tone, he comforted, "Don't worry, I can't bear being away from you for too long, so I'll come back

as soon as I can. You have to take care of yourself while I'm gone. Whatever you need or want to eat, just let Mom know."

She nodded and replied, "You shouldn't worry about me when you're away. I'll be sure to eat my fill and have a nice and chubby baby."

"That's great to hear!" The hand Evan used to touch her stomach began to wander without restraint.

Tensed from the sudden action, Nicole got up. "What are you doing, Evan?"

"I'm leaving tomorrow. I want to do some exercise before leaving. You don't have a problem with that, do you?"

"I don't, but the child in my belly does!" Nicole fumed.

After a moment of silence, Evan chuckled devilishly. "That's no problem. It's two against one. You and I don't have a problem with it, so the baby's opinion is of no use."

Utterly speechless, only then did she remember that a certain someone had always been extremely shameless.

On the following day, by the time Nicole had awoken, Evan, Davin, and Nina were already gone.

All who was left in the living room was Sheila. When Sheila spotted her, she said, "Maya's making us a nutritious meal. We should eat together later."

"Okay."

Nicole sat beside Sheila, casting a look at her own stomach before turning to look at Sheila's. A tiny smile appeared on her face. "Do you think, once these two are born, the house will be filled with endless commotions as they fight over toys, just like my four little ones did before?"

Sheila gave it a long thought before laughing abruptly. "It's only natural for kids to fight over toys and cause a ruckus. I won't be biased toward my children, so that's not something you should worry about. Nothing that happens between the children will ruin our relationship."

While touching her belly, Nicole remarked, "This baby will be born a few months earlier. No matter the gender, I hope that he or she will be kind and look after your child."

"Nicole, I don't mind if your child doesn't look after mine. All I want is for your child to be merciful when they do fight."

Sheila remembered the time when Kyle and Juan were young. The way the two messed with Davin and even their own father was still vivid in her mind. Davin's child would stand no chance!

Nicole and Evan's child would undoubtedly be intimidating based on the four exceptional children.

"You don't have to worry about that. I'll educate her well so fights will not happen," Nicole promised earnestly.

Letting out a chuckle, Sheila stated, "Yeah. I believe they won't get into fights."

Presently, the two chatting women could never have imagined that their children would fight over anything and everything in the future.

Unable to stand watching his child being bullied so much, Davin was even forced to become the child's strategist.