

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1316

Chapter 1316 Unlike The Others

On his way home, Juan was feeling down in the dumps. He thought that he would be able to hear Sally's apology and receive some compensation by meeting her. Instead, she had chastised him. I really can't underestimate her!

"Sally is not an easy person to deal with. Who is she, really?" He was confused.

Kyle asked, "That night when the Hidden Masters were following Catherine, I thought you did a background check on her. Did you not find anything?"

"No. Damien said that she was an orphan. It was as if she had appeared from nowhere. There was nothing about her past."

Nothing?

Kyle's eyebrows knitted. "Is someone keeping her identity a secret?"

"I think that's definitely the case! Sally's background is a mystery. We don't know what her motives and intentions are, so we have to be wary."

Right after Juan finished speaking, he turned around and studied Kyle. "I realized that you looked at her differently. Do you like her? Is it love at first sight?"

Kyle's lips formed a careless smirk. "You're thinking too much. She's just unlike the others."

Unlike the others? Indeed, she's quite unlike anyone we've ever met. Will she really match well with Kyle?

It was past midnight by the time the both of them finally reached Imperial Garden.

As Evan exited the study room, he noticed his sons had returned home. His face turned grim in an instant. "Where did both of you go?"

The sudden deep voice surprised Juan and Kyle. Kyle froze, and Juan immediately paused in his tracks. The two then turned to look at their father.

Does Daddy think that we went to do something bad?

Juan suddenly had an idea and smiled cunningly at Evan. "Daddy, what do you think we went to do at such late timing?"

Evan narrowed his eyes. Juan is too playful and uninhibited. His personality is more similar to Davin's than mine.

Thinking about Davin's troubled past and what he heard Juan had done, Evan's gaze turned cold as he looked at his son.

Juan was a little fearful and immediately stopped smiling when he noticed Evan's fierce expression.

I was only joking. Daddy can't even take a joke!

Kyle told Evan in a serious tone, "Daddy, we went to investigate the spy in the company."

"Until now?"

Not really. We also went to visit a woman.

Kyle felt that he should omit this, so he nodded in agreement.

"So, what did you find out?"

"Felix Synder from Synder Group used Naomi Pearson from the Translation Department to obtain company secrets."

Evan's eyes darkened. Synder Group? How dare an insignificant company like Synder Group touch Seet Group! They're playing with fire! It seems that Seet Group has been too lenient recently!

He asked Kyle coldly, "How do you think we should settle this matter?"

"Daddy, Naomi has betrayed the company. Regardless of the reason, it's still the truth, which means she's no longer suitable to work for Seet Group. As for Synder Group..."

Seeing Kyle hesitating, Evan deadpanned, "It would be a sin to let scum companies like Synder Group exist."

Kyle understood immediately. "Daddy, I understand. After three days, Synder Group will no longer exist in Y City anymore."

Evan was satisfied with Kyle's proposal. He let out a sound of approval and advised Kyle briefly. Then, he cast a wry glance at Juan before retreating to his bedroom.

Juan was slightly confused. "Why did Daddy look at me like that?"

Chapter 1317 I Am Innocent

"Stop joking with Daddy. It's a miracle he did not kick you in the butt with these jokes."

"I'm too old for him to kick me. He—"

Before he could complete his sentence, he heard footsteps coming toward them. He turned around and saw Nicole rushing toward them with a feather duster in her hands.

"Mommy, it's late. Why are you still awake?"

Nicole looked at the grinning Juan and pointed the feather duster at him. "Juan, what have you done?"

Juan threw Nicole an innocent glance. "Mommy, I didn't do anything!"

"You came back so late at night. It would have been fine if it was just you rebelling. However, you even brought Kyle along! It seems that I have to punish you properly!"

"I-I'm innocent, Mommy!"

"How are you innocent? Evan has told me everything already. I need to teach you a lesson today!"

Daddy?

“Mommy, what did Daddy tell you?”

“Your father told me about everything you did!”

“Mommy, I’m innocent. I didn’t do anything! I was wrongfully accused!” Juan tried to object.

“Not only do you refuse to admit to it, but you’re also saying that Evan wrongfully accused you? Do you mean to say your daddy was lying? How despicable!” Nicole raised the feather duster as if she was going to hit him.

Juan avoided it nimbly and ran toward his bedroom while shouting, “Mommy! I’m really innocent! I’m going to ask Daddy!”

Right after he finished shouting and closed the door, the feather duster flew toward him and hit the door with a loud thud.

Kyle was bewildered. The way Nicole was teaching Juan a lesson was similar to how Sophia always “lectured” Davin. Are such violent methods passed on in the family? However, Juan is truly innocent in this situation. Daddy is too evil. Juan only made a joke, yet Daddy punished him like this.

“Mommy, in truth, Juan and I went to investigate the company spy. He wasn’t fooling around.”

“Kyle, I’m not punishing him because of the events tonight. It’s because...” Nicole hesitated.

Kyle frowned. “Mommy, what is it then?”

“Because...”

The actual reason was that Nicole had heard about Juan teasing and bullying female students at his private school.

He even used snakes and rats to scare off a female student who was infatuated with him. The girl cried for days until her throat was sore. Afterward, whenever the girl saw Juan, she would tremble as though she was seeing a monster. In the end, she dropped out before she graduated.

That was why Nicole felt she had to punish this out-of-control rascal!

Kyle did not say anything after hearing that. He, too, thought that Juan had gone overboard as he could have just rejected the girl instead of terrorizing her.

Nicole picked up the feather duster and returned to her bedroom. Evan stared at her nonchalantly. “You’re much kinder than my mother. I remember when we were young and Davin did something wrong, Mom would beat him until he was screaming. I didn’t hear Juan scream.”

Nicole was speechless. Is Evan entertained by this?

“It’s all right. I’ll continue tomorrow.”

Then, she took off her slippers and climbed into the bed. Evan stared at her as he said, “You’ve greatly helped the company with your two outstanding points on the proposal. What kind of reward do you want?”

Nicole gave him a smug smile. Is he acknowledging my skills?

"I was just doing my job. I don't need any reward." The gears in her head turned. "Do you think I'm capable of managing a company?"

Evan scrutinized her. "Yes! Is your current position not good enough? Do you wish to manage a company?"

"When I went to K Nation, Lane Corporation merged with Seet Group. Then, many things happened throughout these years. Now, my body has recovered, and I've even given birth a second time. I wish to focus on work and have my own career now. So, can you support me?"

Chapter 1318 Opening A Hospital

"Nicole, you've been through a lot these past few years. We've encountered so much together as well. You gave birth to five children, and that's an amazing feat. I hope you can have a peaceful future and do whatever you want. You don't have to make a career for yourself."

"But I'll have regrets if I don't do this. I want to do something!"

After pondering for a while, Evan replied, "How about we do something meaningful?"

"Like what?"

"Let's open a hospital. You can use your acupuncture skills and save people. We can waive the consultation fees for people who are in difficulty. It would be meaningful to help people, and you would feel a sense of satisfaction too."

Nicole pondered over the idea for a while. That's right. There are many people that can manage a company, but there aren't many that are as skilled as me and have as much medical expertise. If I could help more people, it would be great.

"What about my previous clinic?"

"That clinic was too small. You only opened it so that you could take care of the children. Also, the consultation fees were low as you wanted to help people. That's why your finances were not that good. That won't happen this time."

"Evan, are you trying to say that you're going to invest money in me so that I can save people?"

After a moment of contemplation, Evan suggested, "I can't keep investing money in it as it wouldn't be feasible in the long run. How about this? We can use the profits earned by the hospital and reinvest them back. If the hospital doesn't earn that much profit, then we can add on a certain amount of funds every month. What do you think?"

Nicole analyzed, "Not all those that go to the hospital will be people in financial difficulty. We don't have to do charity for those that can afford it. Then, we can use this revenue to fund those that don't have money for treatment. I think we wouldn't need to add on too much."

"Good. Then I'll leave the financial managing of the hospital to you."

Elation flooded Nicole as she nodded. "What shall we call the hospital?"

"You can name it yourself!"

“Me?”

“Yes. From now on, you’re in charge of the hospital. You can start by naming it.”

Nicole was excited and started thinking of names for the hospital. She was determined to find a meaningful name for it.

The next day, Juan was sitting opposite Evan as they ate breakfast. He recalled Evan’s wrongful accusation last night and felt indignant.

On the other hand, Evan was leisurely eating his breakfast and would look at Juan occasionally.

It’s now or never! Juan demanded in an upset tone, “Daddy, why did you instigate Mommy to beat me?”

“What did you say?”

“Mommy hit me using the feather duster last night because you wrongfully accused me.”

“Wronged you?” Evan glared at him coldly. “I have to ask, how did you even think of scaring your female classmate with rats and snakes?”

Juan’s heart lurched. Isn’t the school in a private facility? Aren’t all the happenings in school kept confidential? How did Daddy find out?

“Spit it out!” Evan suddenly raised his voice, leading to Juan jumping in fright.

“She brought it upon herself! Instead of going for lessons, she came to bother me. I just scared her a few times so that she wouldn’t come and bother me anymore.”

“Yes, and she became so scared that she doesn’t even dare to stay in school anymore and dropped out!”

Juan was dumbfounded. How does Daddy know so many details?

He carefully asked, “Daddy, how do you know all these?”

“Your grandma told me.”

Juan was shocked. “Grandma? How did she find out about it?”

“She wanted to introduce a girl to you. However, when the girl heard your name, she adamantly refused to meet you as if she had heard the devil’s name. She even said that she would never marry you even if you were the last man on Earth.”

Chapter 1319 Disastrous Consequences

“Hahahaha! That’s even better! If she ever dares to pester me, I’ll scare...” Juan suddenly trailed off as he felt Evan’s cold gaze on him.

What does Grandma see in that woman? She doesn’t suit me at all!

Looking at Evan’s tight expression, Juan’s heartbeat quickened. Is Daddy going to punish me?

Suddenly, he was caught off guard as a feather duster hit him from the back. He immediately turned around and saw Nicole glaring at him.

“Mommy, why did you hit me?”

“How can you bully your female classmates like that? Who will marry you in the future if you act like some sort of thug? I have to punish you so that you’ll behave yourself next time!”

Upon hearing this, Juan swiftly grabbed the sandwich on the table and ran out of the living room.

He knew that if he did not run away quickly, he would end up like Davin, who was always being chased around the house by Sophia.

Eh? Uncle Davin went through so many beatings, so he’s definitely experienced. I’ll ask him the next time I see him and learn about his experiences.

With his playful and devious nature, it was certain that he would have to suffer more beatings in the future.

“You’re lucky that you ran away so quickly!”

Just as Nicole returned the feather duster to its rightful place, she saw Maya and Nina walking down the stairs.

Although Nina had been working a regular schedule, her countenance did not look well. There was no longer a smile on her face.

Besides that, she had been binge-eating and had gained some weight. She looked like a completely different person now.

Nicole looked at her in worry.

“Nina, drink some milk.”

“Thank you, Mommy.”

Nina finished her milk and ate her breakfast. Then, she got up and said, “I’m going to the office.”

Looking at Nina’s retreating figure, Maya quietly heaved a sigh. “Nina is like a robot. She’s been in this state for days and has not talked much. She’s like this in the office too.”

“It takes time to heal a wounded heart. She really liked Chris. It would be difficult for her to let it go so soon. Let’s give her time.”

Maya nodded. Nobody could help Nina to heal except herself.

“Mommy, did Chris marry that woman called Felicia? Do you think he’ll remember Nina someday and return to find her?” Maya asked innocently with a doe-eyed look.

Nicole made eye contact with Evan before her face fell. “No. He’ll never come back to find Nina.” Nicole’s low voice was mixed with a hint of sorrow.

“Does he really like that woman that much?”

“He...” Nicole’s voice faltered as she gripped her fork tighter. She did not know what to say.

“Nicole, you should hurry and eat while the food is hot,” Evan said before looking at Maya. “Maya, let’s eat.”

Maya nodded her head and gulped down a mouthful of her milk. She sensed that the atmosphere had turned rather strange, and her parents’ expressions had changed too.

What’s going on?

She could not figure it out. After eating, she went straight to her food plaza.

Evan looked at Nicole and reminded her, “Let’s not tell Maya about Chris as she’s too innocent. I’m afraid that she won’t be able to hide this secret. If she tells Nina, the consequences would be disastrous.”

“Are you afraid that Nina would not take it well?”

Evan nodded. Nina loved Chris deeply. He was worried that she might not be able to handle it if she found out.

Nicole was silent for a while as she pondered the matter. Then, she let out a sigh. “I understand. I’ll be careful and not let anyone find out.”

“Come on, let’s go to work.”

“Yeah.”

Nicole went up to take her bag. As the two of them left the living room, she asked, “Where are you planning to build the hospital?”

“John is choosing the location. Once he’s settled on one, I’ll let you know!”

Chapter 1320 My Name Is Stephen

At Seet Group, Nina sat in her office like a soulless puppet. She slowly brought the newly developed skincare product on the table up to her eyes and examined it listlessly.

The design on the packaging was good, appearing elegant and classy. She unscrewed the cap and gently took a whiff of the content inside the bottle. A faint but pleasant floral scent drifted into her nose.

Back when Chris was still her tutor, they had researched this formula and scent together. Nina wondered if he would notice it when this product was launched.

As she thought of her former tutor, Nina’s heart rate began to fluctuate, her mood plummeting along with it. Nina, get a grip on yourself. He gave up on you and chose another woman. You should also let go of him as soon as possible! Nina thought to herself. I need to let go of him as soon as possible and go back to being the Nina from before...

Chris’ face appeared clearer in her mind the more she told herself to forget about him. Images of him when they were together flashed in her mind like they were scenes from a movie. The small fluctuations in her heart turned into a tide as her thoughts became increasingly erratic.

Then, a loud crash sounded as the bottle slipped from her hand and smashed on the ground. She was stunned for a few seconds before hurriedly bending over to pick the bottle up. Unexpectedly, her fingers were sliced by the glass fragments in her rush.

The door of her office just so happened to be pushed open at this time by her beautiful assistant. “Ms. Nina, this is the plan for the company’s next beauty—” Her words came to a halt as she noticed the injury on Nina’s fingers.

“Ms. Nina, your hand...”

“It’s nothing.”

A hand holding a band-aid appeared in front of her just as she finished her sentence. Nina was immediately surprised when she saw the owner of said hand.

“It’s you?”

“Yeah! You still remember me?”

The man had a healing smile that was like the sun, able to warm the hearts of people who had closed theirs and make them feel a trace of warmth again. Nina then remembered how he had suddenly appeared and saved her when she was in danger at the bar back then as well. In fact, even now she still wondered how he had appeared in such a timely manner to save her.

“Your name is...” Nina couldn’t remember his name.

“My name is Stephen.”

“Ms. Nina, do you know him? He’s the new designer selected by our human resources department and will be one of your subordinates from now on.”

“Designer? I remember you said you were a translator,” Nina asked curiously.

“Yes, I studied both language and design. I did some translation work before, but I want to do design in the future,” Stephen answered neatly.

Nina stared at him, getting the feeling that this man was not as simple as he seemed.

First, he appears out of the blue to save me, and now he’s here as a designer working for me. Why? What’s his purpose in getting close to me?

With this doubt in mind, she asked him without beating around the bush, “There are so many beauty care companies in Y City. Why did you choose to come to us?”

Stephen thought for a few moments before turning to look at her with a sincere gaze. “People will always choose the best. Seet Group is the leading enterprise in Y City, so it’s always the first choice for job-seekers, no matter the sector. A lot of people want to work for Seet Group and will be proud to be one of its employees. Naturally, I’m no exception.”

Nina didn’t say anything.

Although the reason Stephen gave was rational and sounded nice, she still felt that things weren't that simple.

"Seet Group is very strict with our staff. I don't think you're suited here. It's better if you find another job."

"Ms. Nina, the human resources department think I'm suited to work here and has already arranged a suitable position for me. If you doubt my ability, you can personally conduct an interview with me. I'll be happy to answer anything you ask."

Nina then proceeded to ask him several questions about designing, seeing as he was determined to stay in the company. She originally wanted to make things difficult for him, but Stephen unexpectedly answered all of her inquiries effortlessly.

It was clear that his knowledge of design was extraordinary.

Even her assistant, who had been standing on the sidelines, praised him when she heard his unique thoughts on certain topics.

Chapter 1321 Who Are You

Nina's gaze on Stephen became more complex as this went on. She acutely noticed that some of Stephen's opinions and words when he answered her questions coincided with Chris'.

Is there any connection between Stephen and Chris?

Her mind trembled at this idea.

When Stephen saw Nina was deep in her thoughts, he asked, "Ms. Nina, are you satisfied with my answers?"

Nina carefully eyed the unfamiliar face before her. She really couldn't find anything that suggested a connection between Stephen and Chris.

However, she finally decided to let him stay because he gave off the same vibe as a certain someone she knew.

"Thank you, Ms. Nina."

Stephen heaved out a relieved sigh once he was outside of Nina's office. "Do you always have band-aids with you?" the assistant asked.

"I've always been prone to injuring my hands, so I've taken to always carry some with me. It became a habit as time passed. I didn't expect it would be useful until just now."

"I see. No wonder you can hand one to Ms. Nina in such a timely manner. Ms. Nina is very nice, but she's been in a bad mood recently. You'll know why later."

Stephen smiled in reply and went to the design department with the assistant.

Meanwhile, Nina was in a state of confusion.

Stephen, Chris... What's the relationship between these two men?

Chris' face and voice are very different from Stephen's. They're poles apart, so I can say for certain that they're not the same person.

Or could it be that God pitied me and sent someone similar to Chris to soothe my heartache and mend my failed romantic relationship?

Could a person mend the damage done by another person? Nina thought that her little theory was quite absurd.

Smiling at herself mockingly, she turned her focus to work.

Her assistant sent the latest plans that the design department had made to her office near the end of office hours. She screened out the plans by herself and chose an outstanding one with the best design concept. She was surprised when she saw Stephen's name signed on the plan.

It seemed that Stephen was truly talented in design.

"Bring me Stephen's personal information."

"Yes, Ms. Nina. I'll bring it right away."

Nina read the information carefully after her assistant handed it to her. It seemed that the man was really a translator before but quit after he fell sick to recuperate.

"He was sick? What was his illness? Is he better now?" Nina murmured curiously to herself.

"Ms. Nina, this is a person's personal information, after all. We have no right to demand the other party to tell us if they didn't voluntarily state it..." her assistant replied. She then added hastily after seeing Nina's frown deepen, "Or I can ask him for you if you want?"

"Forget it. Let's not worry about other matters as long as he's serious and focused on his work. You can go now."

"Yes, Ms. Nina."

Her assistant then took back the file Nina handed over before leaving the office.

...

In the president's office.

Evan and Nicole sat together as they stared at the computer screen, which was displaying the customized floor plan of the hospital they had a specialist design. Both of them were focused as they carefully observed the floor plan.

Nicole studied it thoroughly while making a note on the materials best suited for the building. The design for every ward was incredibly detailed and impeccable, but Nicole thought that it was too much of a luxury.

"Mr. Evan, I think the design for the acupuncture clinic I had before was already fine the way it was. We're only planning to expand it and turn it into a hospital, so isn't this design a bit too excessive?"

Evan's initial budget for the hospital was five billion. He naturally felt that this was the standard and not too excessive.

"It's a hospital, so naturally, it will be bigger and much more proper than a clinic. Therefore, this is normal."

In an instant, the image of a hospital equipped with the most advanced equipment, the most luxurious rooms, and an extraordinarily pleasant environment appeared in Nicole's mind. She was worried that the patients would regard the hospital as a luxury hotel and would refuse to leave after their treatment was over.

Chapter 1322 I Did Not Do Anything

"Take a closer look at it. You can make some suggestions if there's anything you're dissatisfied with. They can then revise the plan."

"Ah, okay."

Nicole snapped out of her thoughts and focused back on the floor plan.

Her phone rang suddenly three minutes later. She glanced at the screen, which showed that it was Sophia calling, so she immediately picked up.

The voice that came out, however, was Joy's.

"Mommy, what are you doing right now?"

"Mommy is at work, Joy. Were you a good girl with Grandma? Did you make trouble?"

On the screen, Joy was silent for a while before looking at Davin and answering with, "Mommy, I was a good girl and didn't make any trouble."

The little girl's voice was a little faint and unsure. Next, Davin's voice rang out. "Oh, you didn't make trouble, huh? You were a good girl, you say? You caused plenty of trouble already, you precocious kid."

"What's the matter? What did Joy do?" Nicole asked curiously.

"Mommy, I didn't do anything!" Joy insisted.

"Your daughter is really something, Nicole. Mom took her and Zayden to a wedding in the morning, and you know what she did? She took our Zayden to compete on the stage and said that the one who won would be the boss." Davin continued, "But after that, she refused to fight and had Zayden do it. You know Zayden; there's no way he could win the fight. So Joy called up Luke for help. In the end, the three of them joined forces and beat up all the children attending the banquet, who then started crying. They made the wedding feel like a funeral with all the sobbing going on. Needless to say, the kids' parents were not happy either and tried to argue with Mom.

"You know Mom. She didn't get angry with these brats, but instead, she stood by their side and said that it was normal for kids to fight. She also bragged that her granddaughter and grandsons won the fight. So understandably, the kids' parents were even more unhappy and had a dispute with Mom. As soon as these brats saw those people arguing with Mom, they promptly played pranks on those parents. You can

imagine how the wedding turned out... The sound of kids crying alone was enough, and now there were additional noises from the adults. A nice wedding turned into such a mess. The hosts were furious and finally called me over, so I went there to pick Mom and those little devils up. Alas, these children are really out of control!"

Joy stared at Davin with a stubborn expression while he explained.

"What's with that look? Was I wrong?" Davin asked when he noticed Joy's stare.

Joy rolled her eyes and said, "What you said was wrong. They willingly agreed to participate in the fight and should have admitted their defeat after their loss, not started crying. They really are just a bunch of gutless crybabies."

After seeing the proud expression on Joy's round face, Davin said, "They wouldn't have participated in the challenge if you didn't start it. To put it simply, you are the initiator, little troublemaker."

Joy wasn't happy with Davin's words, so she rolled her eyes again and began to argue with him.

"I started the challenge because I wanted to seek justice for Zayden. A kid bullied him before, but Zayden didn't dare to fight back. A man shouldn't take that lying down, so I started the challenge. I wanted Zayden to avenge himself."

Davin was quite surprised to hear Joy's reason. He then turned to Zayden and asked, "Is what she said true?"

Zayden just fidgeted with his fingers without saying anything.

"Is it true?" Davin repeated.

The boy looked at him before lowering his head.

"Hey, why are you so timid? Why don't you fight back when others bully you? You're like a tennis ball, so easily smacked around..."

Zayden looked at him again with an aggrieved expression on his small face. It wasn't like he didn't want to fight back, but his mother always told him not to fight and to be brave. She told him that people should use their brains to solve their problems and win, not their fists.

Davin became angrier when he saw his aggrieved and pitiful expression. "Kid, I'm telling you now, you better hit the people who hit you from now on. If they hit you once, you pay them back double. And if they hit you twice, then make them cry! You're not my son if you let people hurt you so casually in the future, you got me?"

Chapter 1323 I Bit Him

Zayden nodded his assent, but his mind was tangled. Daddy is telling me to use my fists while Mommy advised me to use my head instead. Who should I listen to, Daddy or Mommy?

Sheila came down from upstairs just as Davin finished saying that. He saw her coming and immediately shifted his focus to her. "You're not allowed to teach the boy to use his brain and not use force in the

future. He won't dare to fight back if anyone bullies him in this case. Look at what your advice did! Does he still look like he's my son? The Seet family's children cannot be bullied!"

He then turned to Joy and said, "Let Zayden be more like Joy from now on. Let him try his best to make those who bullied him cry."

Joy's big eyes went to Davin as she said, "Uncle Davin, you said I was a little troublemaker just now."

"No, you're not a little troublemaker. You're a little thinking tank. You're a heroine among women. You were right to start the challenge this morning!"

All of them were silent hearing this.

On the other side of the video call, Evan and Nicole both felt Davin's opinion had changed too quickly and thought that he was holding a double standard.

Davin, on the other hand, had completely left his plan of complaining to Evan and Nicole about their daughter behind. All he could think about at the moment was how he would have to educate his son, all while praising Joy for helping his son out.

Evan didn't want to hear Davin's yammering anymore, so he promptly hung up the call. He then looked at Nicole and said, "Let's take Joy back from Imperial Garden in the evening."

"Yeah, I haven't seen her for a few days. I really miss her."

The two went to Imperial Garden to pick up Joy after finishing their work in the evening. Their daughter ran toward them with her arms wide open upon seeing them.

"Mommy, Daddy!"

Evan picked her up and held her in his arms. He scanned her over before pinching her cheek and saying, "It seems that you've gained some weight."

Joy followed his movements and pinched her own cheek with her little hand. She then smiled and said, "I sneakily ate a lot of cheese."

"Why sneakily? Just eat them in the open if you like them."

"Sneaking cheese from the kitchen is very exciting. The maids didn't notice and even thought the mice had gotten to it."

Evan didn't know what to say.

What kind of reason is that? What a mischievous little girl.

It was then Evan noticed a bruise that looked like it came from someone's pinch on her arm and asked, "Where did you get that?"

Joy's bright eyes wandered for a moment before she answered with, "A fight."

"Why? Was it when you were challenging the other kids this morning? Did you fight at that time?"

"No." Joy firmly shook her head.

Evan took another careful look and finally saw that the bruise appeared to be a few days old. It didn't look like it had happened just that morning.

"When did it happen and who did it?"

"A few days ago. A kid I bit did it."

Bit?

"You bit someone?"

Joy's large, mischievous eyes stared at Evan, though she said nothing in reply.

Nicole came closer to them and asked, "Why did you do that?"

"Because..."

"Joy wasn't at fault so you can't blame her for that! It wasn't her who started it! That brat snatched the balloon she was holding, so she asked him to return it. Not only did he not do that, he even pushed her. That's why she bit him," Sophia defended Joy before continuing, "Joy is the most similar to me among my grandchildren! Let me take care of her from now on."

Both Evan and Nicole were speechless upon hearing that.

Evan felt that his daughter was truly quite fearless and similar to a mouse from a certain cartoon.

Nicole was of the opinion that Joy should be taught how to restrain herself. It wasn't good for a girl to behave in such a violent and rough manner.

"Mom, we're going to take Joy back with us for a few days. We'll send her back to you later."

"I don't want Joy to go!" Zayden ran over to them and grabbed onto Joy's arm.

Nicole thought for a few moments before suggesting, "Why don't you stay over at Imperial Garden with us for a few days?"

Zayden hesitated, but Davin was quite happy with Nicole's suggestion. He strode over to join them and turned to the two children before saying, "Go on then, Zayden! Imperial Garden is much more fun than the Seet Residence. You can go and play there for a few days and return here together after!"

Chapter 1324 To Imperial Garden

Hearing that Imperial Garden would be more fun, the two kids became excited. Eyes sparkling with glee, Zayden asked Joy, "Is your house really more fun?"

Joy pondered over it and reckoned Zayden would like Imperial Garden since her siblings were there. Besides, there were plenty of toys in the toy room, and she also had the new Barbie doll her parents bought for her. Blinking her eyes, she nodded and replied determinedly, "Yes, we'll have more fun at Imperial Garden."

With anticipation and delight, Zayden exclaimed, "In that case, I'll go to Imperial Garden with Joy!"

“All right. Pack your things and bring the clothes and pajamas that you always wear. We’ll leave very soon.”

“Okay. We’ll do it now!” With that, the two kids ran to their bedrooms excitedly to pack their clothes.

Soon, they came out of their rooms, each dragging a small suitcase with them.

When the maid wanted to carry the suitcases for them, Joy refused. “It’s okay. We have to do things on our own. I can drag it downstairs by myself.”

After seeing Joy’s persistence, Zayden decided to carry his suitcase by himself as well. How can a boy like me rely on someone else when even a girl is independent!

In no time, both of them successfully dragged their suitcases downstairs.

“We’re done packing. Can we leave now?”

“Sure,” Evan answered.

“Then, we’ll take our leave now.”

Glancing at Nicole, Sophia exhorted, “Nicole, if you find it difficult to take care of the two kids, feel free to give me a call. I’ll be there to help you.”

“Sure. Thank you, Mom.”

Deep down, Davin was delighted to see the two troublemakers leaving with Nicole and Evan. Given their mischievousness in the past, he believed they would cause trouble at Imperial Garden as usual. At that moment, he could not help but smile as he imagined how Evan and Nicole would complain to him about the children.

Meanwhile, a thought occurred to Sophia, and she suggested, “Why don’t we send Luke over? That way, Levant and Tiffany can have a chance to spend some alone time together.”

“But Luke has to attend kindergarten.”

“Well, he can still go to kindergarten even when he stays at Imperial Garden. Just ask someone to chauffeur him.”

Davin could not help but frown upon hearing the suggestion. “Is that necessary?”

Standing next to him, Sheila replied determinedly, “I think it’s necessary! I heard Tiffany and Levant have been getting along pretty well recently. Without Luke around, they can use the opportunity to get closer to each other!”

“Sheila is right! Davin, pick Luke up from Levant Winery and drop him off at Imperial Garden.”

However, Davin stood still in hesitation. His voice sounded worried as he asked, “Can Evan and Nicole take care of three kids at the same time?”

“Why can’t they? Don’t forget that they raised quadruplets! Besides, Luke is already six. He won’t cause much trouble and can even help look after Joy and Zayden. Furthermore, they have maids to take care of the children as well. If the maids can’t do it, I’ll go to Imperial Garden myself and lend them a hand!”

Since Sophia had made up her mind, Davin stopped dwelling on it and drove to Levant Winery right away.

At that time, Luke was fiddling with his toys in the lobby of the winery. One could instantly tell that he was bored, unhappy, and lonely.

After fixating his gaze on the boy's desolate figure, Davin walked toward him.

"Luke, what are you playing with?"

Upon hearing Davin's voice, Luke stood up and looked around as though he was searching for someone.

"Mr. Davin, where are Zayden and Joy?"

"Zayden and Joy went to Imperial Garden. Do you want to join them?"

Luke nodded in response but then heaved a sigh like an adult.

Chapter 1325 Run Away From Home

"Mr. Davin, I'm so bored. No one plays with me here. Mommy's always busy with work, while Daddy's engaged with managing his winery. They are busy dealing with their stuff during the day and rarely talk to each other at night, even when sitting together. I-I feel..." After giving it some thought, Luke continued, "I feel that they are too courteous and distant with each other. It makes me feel awkward when sitting with them." With that, he lowered his head and sighed once again.

Shocked, Davin scanned Luke carefully and said, "How do you know what courteous and distant mean? Also, are you sure you know what it means to feel awkward?"

Luke looked up at him and explained, "I heard Mommy mention those words when she was on the phone with Aunt Sheila. She said that she and Daddy were being courteous and distant with one another. As for feeling awkward, I heard it from stories, so I know what it means."

My goodness! This kid has a good memory at such a young age! After coming to his senses, Davin stroked Luke's head and suggested, "How about I bring you to Imperial Garden so that you can play with Joy and Zayden?"

Luke agreed to it but began to worry about his parents the next moment. "Mr. Davin, will they stop talking to each other if I'm gone? Will they become even more distant?"

Davin mulled over it and replied, "Don't worry. They won't. Besides, I have a plan to make sure that they will grow closer to each other."

"Really? If that's true, I'll have to thank you in advance."

"Don't mention it. Let's go. Tell your mom and dad before I bring you to Imperial Garden."

"Okay."

After learning that Luke wanted to go to Imperial Garden, Levant asked in surprise, "Is the winery not good for you? Why do you want to go to Imperial Garden?"

Crossing his arms, Davin heaved a sigh and interrupted, "Of course, it isn't good enough. If not, why would he choose to run away from home?"

"Run away from home?" Astonished, Levant stood up from his wooden chair and eyed Luke. "Luke, have I not been treating you well? Why do you intend to run away from home? Do you hate this place?"

Before Luke could say anything, Davin added, "You've been treating him very well, and this place is wonderful. It's just that Luke can't feel the warmth in the family because you're not treating his mommy well enough. Hence, he has chosen to run away from home."

Levant frowned and retorted, "Nonsense! I've been showering him with love, so has Tiffany. Why can't he feel the warmth in the family?"

Davin remained composed as he argued, "There's something wrong with your statement. You and Tiffany shouldn't be two separate and independent entities. Instead, there ought to be true love between you guys before you love your child together. It is the only way for Luke to feel the warmth, harmony, and love in the family."

There ought to be true love between Tiffany and me? That's an uphill task.

Levant cast a skeptical glance at Davin upon hearing his suggestion.

I can treat Tiffany well and regard her as my family member. However, to love her... How can I force myself to love someone? I mean, if it's feasible, why are so many people troubled by love?

"Levant, you're a man. Be proactive and treat Tiffany well. After all, it isn't an arduous task, right?"

At that moment, Levant frowned. It was as though he was forced to do something he was unwilling to do.

As the adults fell silent, Luke gazed at his father and said, "Daddy, I'll stay at Imperial Garden for a few days. I hope you and Mommy can be happy together."

"Luke, how long do you plan to stay there?" Levant was reluctant to part with his beloved son.

"I'll stay there for..."

Since Luke had no idea, he scratched his head bewilderedly and looked up at Davin. Receiving his signal, the latter coughed and answered on his behalf, "Luke will stay there until you and Tiffany get along well like lovebirds. He will come home when he feels that he doesn't have to protest by running away from home anymore."

Levant's face fell once Davin finished his sentence. That's asking too much of me!