

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 514

With the upcoming showdown against Nicole, he could not possibly lose.

When he arrived at the study room, he stood by respectfully beside the desk.

Nicole had a poker face on but her icy stare still sends chills down his spine.

Unexpectedly, when she was angry, her fiery aura was not to be underestimated.

“Yoda, can you write?”

Nicole, being the woman with a straightforward character, did not beat around the bush.

Yoda crooked a slight smile as he nodded.

“If that’s the case, come, write me something.” Nicole motioned him to come over.

Yoda tiptoed to the desk, took the pen and paper she handed him, sat on the chair, and started writing just as she requested.

Nicole warily observed his handwriting and hand movements. He had written in graceful curves and powerful strokes in a somewhat similar fashion as Evan.

Upon closer inspection, his handwriting still differed from Evan’s.

Some of the lines in his letters were awkward and slightly skewed, in stark contrast to the handwriting on the note found in the box.

Therefore, he is not the one?

Nicole pondered for a moment.

Still refusing to give up, she turned her gaze on him, trying to gauge his expression as she asked, “Yoda, have you ever lost anything before?”

Yoda’s eyes sank. It was plainly obvious that she was not feeling any guilt for stealing his box.

How shameless could she be to take the initiative to ask him about it?

Seemed like he underestimated how thick-skinned she could be.

Taking out his mobile phone, he proceeded to type in two words calmly: Yes.

Her interest piqued, she asked further, “What did you lose?”

He typed: Not long ago, I’ve just lost a box.

Upon seeing the word “box”, a sudden flash of guilt flickered in her eyes.

She clenched her fingers tightly and reminded herself not to panic since he had no evidence to prove that she had taken it. Then again, she was the one questioning him, how could she back down?

Right!

Let's continue.

She coughed to cover her awkwardness and asked cunningly, "Are there any valuables in your box? What's in it?"

A glint of complicated feelings flashed in Yoda's eyes. Since she wanted to know more, he might as well lead her to a different path.

As Yoda was typing on his mobile phone, Nicole was studying him carefully, trying to detect any slight indication of his knowledge of the paper in the box from his facial expression.

However, Yoda's already sullen look got colder and colder, and after typing for a while, he showed his phone screen to her.

Nicole took a closer look and was stunned upon glancing at what was written on the screen.

The screen read: The deed to the burnt-down house, family heirlooms and pieces of jewelry, debit cards...

Nearly choking, she read on and pondered that this seemed too exaggerated.

Finally, she could not stand it any longer and gave the desk a slam.

"Yoda, I have never met a person who lies so blatantly. Who are your ancestors to be able to pass you such valuable treasures? Also, how could a box the size of a hand palm store so many things?"

A smile flickered across Yoda's expression as he furiously typed: Ma'am knows about the palm-sized box. You must have seen it, I presumed?

"..."

Nicole's face turned dark.

Damn you Yoda! How dare you trap me?

Does he know that I took the box?

"No. I don't know. I'm merely guessing. I've never seen it!"

As her heart pounded heavily, Nicole lied through her teeth.

Yoda fixed his pair of eyes on her as if he could look through her. He typed: I thought Ma'am was the one who took it.

Nicole could only look away and refuted, "No, no. I did not!"

The box you mentioned just now sounded like a treasure chest. Even if I were to take it I would never admit to it. Who could afford to compensate you for the treasure inside?

I'm afraid even the whole Imperial Garden would not be enough to pay you back!

Staring ahead uncomfortably, Nicole coughed and decided to let him go. "Go ahead with your work. Leave me be. You don't have to copy the documents anymore."

Yoda nodded and walked out of the study room.

Nicole stared at him as he left. She could feel that there was more to this man than met the eye.

Even though there was no evidence, she had a strong hunch that both of them would still be entangled further in the matter regarding the box.

It would be difficult to deal with him with mere cheap tricks. Seemed like she needed a more sophisticated plan.

“Just you wait, Yoda. I’ll come and get my due!”

Muttering in determination, she got up. As she was about to head downstairs, her WhatsApp notification promptly sounded. Upon opening it, she received a message from the paternity test center.

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The result of her paternity test with Zane Lane was ready.

Nicole’s heart was thumping.

The paternity test result showed that she had no parent-child relationship with Zane.

No relationship?

She carefully read and re-read the test result over and over again before finally accept that Zane really was not her father.

Who then, was her biological father?

Those who were privy to this matter, besides Zane, were none other than Levant and Sylphiette. Should she force herself to keep on investigating to get to the bottom of this matter?

Her deep contemplation was broken by a sudden announcement. “Ma’am, dinner is ready. The young ones are already grumbling that they are hungry.”

“Got it.”

Nicole was pulled back to reality by the maid’s words. She kept the test result in a safe place and walked downstairs.

Yoda had already seated the children on their respective dining chairs. They were waiting for her.

Per her habit, Nicole still prepared a set of dishes beside her for Evan before letting the children had their meal.

“Yoda, can you help me fix my tablet later? It somehow malfunctioned and I can’t use it anymore.”

Juan gave Yoda a pleading look, resulting in the latter agreeing.

Meanwhile, Nicole seemed to be spacing out as she ate her food.

She was still perturbed by the result of the paternity test. Her mind was filled with questions she currently had no answers for.

Could she be the offspring of her mother's affair with someone else?

Why did her mother never mention anything about her biological father at all?

The more she thought about it, the more she felt that she no longer had any appetite. Immediately, she came up with a blatant excuse and withdrew from the table.

Looking at her retreating figure, Yoda had a deep furrow on his face.

After the young ones were fed, he took them out for their usual post-dinner walk.

As Nicole was sitting in a daze in her study room, a panicked butler suddenly knocked urgently on the door.

"Come in."

The butler walked briskly up to her and addressed her respectfully, "Ma'am."

Seeing his solemn expression, Nicole asked curiously, "Is there anything wrong?"

"Someone wants to see you," came the reply.

"Who?"

"This is his business card."

With just a mere glance, Nicole frowned deeply as she saw Levant's name printed on the card.

Why did he suddenly come all the way here?

Initially, she had planned to refuse to see him. Before she could ask him to leave, she remembered that Levant might have some information on his biological father and hence changed her mind just as quickly.

"Let him in," said Nicole in a resigned tone.

"Yes, Ma'am."

The butler welcomed Levant in and took him to the study room.

"Ma'am is inside. Please go in."

Remembering the relationship stratagem formulated by Zackery which he had fervently studied before he came, Levant instantly gained a boost of confidence. After checking his composure and correcting his posture, he valiantly stepped into the study room.

"Ms. Lane, pardon me for the night visit."

Nicole looked up and sized him up. He was dressed in quite the similar state as the first time she saw him: a black high-profile suit clad on a tall and handsome figure. He still exuded the same extraordinary air of a gentleman with fine temperament.

“Please, take a seat.”

“Thank you.”

“Anything going on for you to come to visit me at such a late hour?” Nicole asked in her usual straightforward manner.

Levant remembered the advice written in the relationship stratagem, “The more you like her, the more reserved you have to be. If you lose yourself, not only will you fail to earn her affection, but you will also lose her respect.”

He coughed to break the ice before raising his brows, “I must say, Ms. Lane. I’m quite troubled by the fact that my goodwill night visit has not been rewarded with at least a cup of coffee. Is this your hospitality?”

Nicole was caught off-guard by his question. Since his reasoning made sense, she ordered the maid to serve coffee.

“Please enjoy.”

“Thank you.”

Lifting up the cup and contently sipping on the brew, Levant was thinking hard about the next step on the stratagem. After a while, he gently placed the coffee cup back on the table.

“Ms. Lane, my purpose here tonight is to bid you farewell.”

“Farewell?”

Nicole was obviously surprised by this, for she had thought that Levant had shown up to pester her.

“Yes. I shall be leaving for K Nation in a couple more days. Therefore, Ms. Lane, take good care of yourself.”

Uh, that’s quite sudden.

Nicole’s mind was in a spiral. Since Levant is about to return to K Nation, shall I take the opportunity to enquire about my biological father?

After pausing for a moment, she opened her mouth and said, “And I shall wish you a good journey and god speed.”

“Thank you.”

Right after, she followed up with a question, “How much do you know about my background?”

Levant stayed silent. The stratagem had mentioned that for one’s words to hold value, one must not give it away freely, for no one would cherish something which is easily obtained. Therefore, even though he clearly knew about her background in detail, he had to keep it to himself for now.

Not only he had to keep the information intact according to the stratagem, but it would be prudent for him to keep it in due to the current situation.

Levant cleared his throat, "Regarding this... I'm afraid I'm not too clear of it myself. If Ms. Lane wants to know more, you may have to investigate it on your own."

"..."

Nicole frowned. Investigate on my own?

What happened to the deal that he had mentioned earlier?

I have not agreed to the deal, but he could have negotiated further!

Seeing a smile etched deep on his face, it was clear that he knew something, yet he chose to keep mum.

Just as she was about to retort, Levant stood up suddenly and graciously said, "Ms. Lane, it's getting late, I shall take my leave now. Goodnight."

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“Mommy, I did not kick Nina,” Kyle said in a flat manner.

“It’s you! There’s no one else!” Nina held up her small arm and pointed her finger at him insistently.

“Mommy, I can testify that Kyle did not kick her.”

“Mommy, I can also prove it.”

Maya and Juan spoke up for Kyle.

Seeing her siblings turning against her, the anger in Nina’s heart burned more intensely.

“If Kyle is not the culprit, then that means both of you are the guilty ones. Both of you owe me an apology!”

Maya’s eyes were wide and round as she defended herself in disbelief, “You are talking nonsense. I did not kick you.”

Juan defended his innocence as well, “Me neither!”

“If the three of you did not kick me, then who did? The dog?”

The dog?

The face of Yoda who was standing behind them all this while suddenly sank. The look in Nina’s eyes was really unfriendly.

This young girl had a strong personality, mirroring someone he intimately knew.

Juan glanced at Nina before rolling his eyes and stepping forward.

“Mommy, Nina is framing us. She wants Rocky to be our daddy but we didn’t agree.”

Maya nodded blankly, “Yes, Nina wants a new daddy. The rest of us don’t agree since we don’t want to change daddy.”

Nicole’s sharp stare had been focused on Yoda all the while, and she did not really care about the conflict currently happening between the children.

However, when she heard the words “change a new daddy”, her red lips twitched slightly as she uttered, “Mommy agrees to give you all a new daddy.”

Juan was speechless.

Kyle was shocked into silence.

Maya was dumbfounded.

The three little ones were simultaneously astonished, as their jaws unanimously dropped down to form the standard “O” shape.

“Mommy! What are you babbling about? How can you agree to let Rocky be our daddy?”

Nina, being the prideful one, had not expected the sudden outcome. When she had casually mentioned changing a daddy just now, she was actually missing Evan dearly and had blamed him in her heart for not coming back.

But for Nicole to agree in such a nonchalant way, also caught Nina by surprise.

Nicole stood up and proclaimed as she paced around, "Mommy agreed to a new daddy, but it will not be Rocky."

"Then who will it be?" the children almost asked in unison.

Stopping her pacing right beside Yoda who was standing still, with a sinister smile and a pair of cold eyes staring at him, she asked casually, "Do you all like Mr. Levant?"

These words seemed to be targeted specifically at Yoda.

He managed to keep his face straight, but his heart was deeply troubled.

How did she suddenly come up with this idea?

"Mommy, do you like Mr. Levant?"

"Mommy, why would you choose Mr. Levant to be our daddy?"

"Mommy, what should we do if Daddy comes back? After all, you are Daddy's wife."

Questions were fired in succession from the shocked children. After Kyle, Juan, and Maya had respectively put forth their questions, Nina, who was just complaining fiercely just a short moment ago, earnestly persuaded, "Mommy, please think again about this. I know you love our Daddy."

The other three were warmed by Nina's attitude and realized that she was still Daddy's dear daughter, and they were still blood siblings after all.

"Mommy has thought it through. After all, your Daddy left us and married several wives thereon. Mommy can't be so lonely all the time. All of you wouldn't want to see Mommy in this pitiful state, right?"

As she said that, Nicole was eyeing Yoda fiercely.

"Mommy, how do you know about Daddy marrying many wives?" Nina questioned.

Yoda was both shocked and incredulous at the same time.

He was shocked that she had smelled out his identity so soon.

He was incredulous that she had accused him of marrying other wives. When did he marry them?

"Your daddy told me so in my dream!"

After the appearance of two inexplicable hickeys, she had thought that due to her overbearing yearning, she might have spent a night with his spirit or the sort. Now she finally understood what was going on.

As she finished making her statement, her eyes were still fixated on Yoda's ugly face. She wanted to see when he would finally tear off this layer of disguise.

She refused to believe that he would watch her marry someone else without doing anything.

“Mommy, this is a big deal. We strongly felt that you should reconsider.”

“Yes, Mommy. You should reconsider. Please.”

“Alright, we’ll leave this for now. It’s getting late and you should all go to bed. Meanwhile, Mommy will pick a good day and marry myself off in a grand and pompous manner.”

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The three little children looked at each other in surprise as they walked out of the study room, shell-shocked by the sudden revelation and feeling helpless to boot.

Juan mentioned to Kyle, "Do you have any idea why Daddy hasn't come back?"

"Anyway, I won't believe a word uttered by that witch regarding Daddy's death."

"I don't believe it either. How could our mighty Daddy die?"

"Exactly."

It was then Yoda realized, in their minds, Daddy was so omnipotent and powerful that he could control life and death.

Children were indeed innocent.

As they had never experienced life or death, they were not aware that death could be knocking on anyone's door at any point in time.

Kyle sighed, "But if he doesn't come back, what should we do if Mommy really ends up marrying Mr. Levant?"

"Then we'll do everything we can to sabotage the wedding. We can't let Mommy be with Mr. Levant, ever." Juan decisively said.

"I will sabotage the marriage too. Yoda, will you help us?"

Looking at Maya, Yoda nodded in agreement.

The children were unexpectedly so united. In this matter, he should be the one who should stop the marriage with all his effort.

The four children settled into their respective bedrooms to rest. As Yoda was walking downstairs, he stopped suddenly when he saw the lights were still on in the study room.

Should I just go up to her and confess?

Remaining silent, he decided that the time was not ripe yet. He still needed to hide behind Yoda's identity to pull off some important tasks.

Once his identity was revealed, all previous efforts would be in vain.

Nicole, I'm so sorry.

He clenched his fingers into a fist, moved his legs, and resumed walking downstairs.

In the meantime, Nicole was sitting at the study, staring in a daze at the human skin mask that the butler had passed to her.

Now she understood why it had not worked when she had forced him to wash his face several times. She had thought that he was wearing a makeup disguise. Instead, he had put on a human skin mask all along.

“Evan Seet, you bastard. You are obviously not dead. You know that I am grieving over your “death”, yet you are unwilling to reveal that you are still alive?”

Slamming her fist onto her desk, she continued to murmur, “Do you like to watch me lose my mind for you? Don’t even think about it! I won’t let you see me sad again. I will be happy and live happily ever after with another man. Just you wait and see!”

As she whispered those words, she was shredding up the human skin mask in her hand little by little.

The next day.

After Nicole got up, she got dressed in front of the mirror. She made up her mind to take a trip to Levant Winery.

Sylphiette had called her before and the former had first mentioned that she was not Zane’s biological daughter. Sylphiette had also mentioned that Zane had traveled to K Nation to investigate her parentage.

Obviously, even Zane was not aware of her parentage.

Then again, she had guessed that Levant would know some background information of hers, hence she had decided to seize this piece of clue.

Levant had wanted to marry her for his own agenda. Since that was the case, she should put on an act and play along, just to stimulate and rile up a certain someone who was hiding behind a mask.

“Let’s see how long you can keep up your act!” Nicole muttered under her breath resolutely.

Levant Winery.

As he was reading the relationship stratagem Zackery had laid out for him, Levant pondered about his next move.

He had gone over to Nicole’s to bid her farewell last night. It was obvious to him that Nicole still wanted to know about her parentage, and knowing her, she would take the initiative to ask him soon.

However, there were just so many unknowns. What if she did not show up?

Levant was uneasy the moment these thoughts struck him.

The manager gave Zackery an eye gesture.

Getting his hint, Zackery stepped forward reassuringly.

“Don’t worry, Mr. Levant. She’ll be here. If she doesn’t show up in the morning, she’ll definitely be here in the afternoon. If she doesn’t appear today, she’ll be here tomorrow. In short, within two days, she’ll definitely show up!” Zackery spoke in a very convincing and confident tone.

“She’s different. What if she never shows up?” Levant cocked his gaze at Zackery.

Meanwhile, Zackery was praying fervently in his heart. Please let this Ms. Lane be here; she must show up. She had to. Otherwise, his generous reward would disappear.

Although he himself was lacking in faith, he had to put up a brave front to boost Levant's confidence.

"Mr. Levant, don't you worry. I promise you she'll show up. If she doesn't, then well, you can just fire me."

"To merely fire you will be too lenient. Mr. Levant will first let his people beat you up so badly that you'll be beyond recognition even by your own birth parents. Only then we'll let you off," the manager chimed in a jovially dangerous tone.

Damn, what have I gotten myself into? I do not expect a relationship expert to be living a life on the edge.