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Yoda could sense John's hesitation. "Have you been affected by Davin's attitude after working for him for too long a time?"

At the mention of Davin, John steeled himself to list down all Davin's mistakes and unethical actions to Evan.

At last, he came to a conclusion. "Mr. Seet, there are people who've been eyeing to usurp the control of Seet Group recently. Although Mr. Davin has improved a lot to become a better businessman, I'm afraid he still isn't shrewd enough to fend off the threats."

"I'll go back and deal with them after I finish settling my stuff here. In the meantime, this is a good chance for Davin to gain some experience too."

John did not respond to what he said.

I'm sure Mr. Seet's return is going to frighten them out of their wits!

But before that can happen, I'm worried that Mr. Davin will be reduced to a battered soul having to deal with the villains.

"By the way Mr. Seet, you revealed your face to Daphne just now. Won't you be worried that..."

"I did that just to make sure she remembers me as the bodyguard of the estate. That identity is going to help in a lot of ways."

John immediately looked enlightened. "Oh, I see. I thought you were trying to seduce Daphne just now!"

Evan whirled around and sized John up suspiciously.

Has John been learning all the wrong stuff from Davin?

Did he actually hear how ridiculous he sounds?

A girl like Daphne clearly isn't worth my effort to do something like that!

Just then, Juan and Kyle were making their way to Yoda's room as they thought of trying to collect more clues on Nicole's father from him. When they reached his room, they happened to catch John saying the last sentence.

Juan furrowed his brows in displeasure. "Did John just say that Daddy is trying to seduce the bad woman?"

Kyle nodded at him. "I heard the same thing too."

Nina and Maya, who had been trailing behind the boys, heard what they said too.

When they were back to their room, Maya approached Nicole to ask about what she heard. "Mommy, what does it mean when someone tries to seduce the other person?"

Nicole looked at the chubby girl who was blinking her innocent eyes at her. Why is a little girl like her curious about stuff like that?

How should I phrase it so that she can understand my explanation?

After some contemplation, Nicole's eyes glimmered with inspiration. Then, she crouched down next to the little girl to answer her question.

"That's what a boy does when he wants to fool a girl into doing bad things. So, if you meet a boy who does that to you, you have to stay away from him, okay?"

I can't believe I actually have to start worrying about my daughters meeting jerks when they are still at such a tender age. Oh, parenting is so hard!

Maya, who did not look like she fully understood Nicole's explanation, muttered to herself, "Oh, so does it mean that Daddy is trying to fool the bad woman into doing bad things?"

Daddy?

Nicole managed to capture the most crucial piece of information and she immediately probed Maya about it, "Daddy? What has this got to do with Daddy?"

Staring at her with her huge sparkling eyes, Maya told Nicole in a solemn tone, "Daddy has got everything to do with this because he's going to seduce Daphne."

Nicole eyed Maya disbelievingly. "How did you find out about that?"

"The four of us overheard that when Uncle Lindt was talking to Daddy in his room with the door closed!" Nicole was rendered speechless.

How Maya described it made John and Evan sound like perverts who were up to no good.

After hearing what Maya said, Nicole's face grew increasingly sullen and her fists were clenched tighter. Seems like Evan has another facet to his personality which I have no knowledge of. It's about time I make some effort to look into it. If Evan is really doing the thing Maya just said...

She gritted her teeth resentfully and her knuckles cracked as her fists were clenched tightly.

"Maya, Mommy is going to assign a very important task to you. Do you think you can handle it?"

Seeing how serious Mommy sounded, Maya nodded as she felt honored to be given the task.

"I can. Mommy, what do I have to do?"

"Can you help me keep an eye on Daddy when I'm not around?"

Maya was slightly taken aback to hear that as tasks like that were usually done by Juan before this. *Am I capable of doing it? I can't run fast with my chubby and short legs.*

"Mommy, why don't you let Juan do it? He can run faster than the bunnies."

Indeed, Juan could move faster and was better suited to the task. However, he was also sharp enough to know that he would be betraying his Daddy by carrying out the task. Thus, Nicole felt safer to assign the task to Maya, who was less scheming and honest.

"Mommy, I can help you with that!" Just then, Nina approached Nicole and volunteered to take on the task.

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Seeing how keen Nina was on doing the task, Maya immediately agreed to do it too. "Mommy, I'll do it together with Nina."

Nicole was touched by the sweet gesture of her daughters.

"Great! Mommy will assign this important and glorious task to the two of you then!"

Maya took it very seriously as that was the first time she had been assigned such a significant task by Nicole. Without further ado, she immediately went to look for Yoda and start spying on him.

At first, Nicole intended to go with the girls so that she could react as soon as they found anything fishy.

Yet, one of Levant's underlings came and told her to meet him as he had something important to discuss with her. In response, Nicole let out a sign in resignation.

Maya and Nina stared at her with determination shone in their eyes. "Mommy, we can handle this on our own!"

"Please be careful and just call me if there's any issue."

"Don't worry about us, Mommy!"

After Nicole were off to Levant's room, Nina and Maya went into action right away.

Maya started tiptoeing her way to Yoda's room in a surreptitious manner.

Seeing how sneaky she looked, Nina strode off to keep up with her and grabbed her shoulder.

Her touch took Maya by surprise. Frightened, Maya whirled around and glared at her. "What're you doing?"

Nina is such a troublemaker. Why is she disturbing me when I have to hurry up to go spy on Daddy!

"How you behave is going to expose our mission! Daddy will surely get suspicious if he sees you like this!"

Maya was left stumped.

Eh?

Fiddling with her chubby fingers, Maya started seeing sense in what Nina just said.

"Follow me," Nina ordered.

One after another, the two girls made their way to Yoda's room excitedly.

When they finally arrived at their destination, Nina gestured at Maya for her to keep quiet. Then, they squatted down and pressed their ears against the door.

Coincidentally, John happened to be having a discussion with Yoda on how to make Yoda be the hero who saved Daphne, the damsel in distress.

"If someone who saved her life happens to be in need of an acupuncture treatment, do you think she would seek help from her acupuncture master?"

John pondered over the question before answering, "Generally speaking, all normal people wouldn't hesitate to do that. However, can we judge someone like Daphne by the standard of normal people?"

Yoda flashed him a sly smirk. "I bet she's just as emotional as all human beings. As long as we make sure everything looks real enough, I'm sure she would feel the urge to approach her master."

Seems like we have to hope that she still has a shred of conscience in her, and she's a person who knows how to appreciate someone else's kindness then.

But...

John eyed Yoda worryingly. "Mr. Seet, what if gratitude is not the only thing she develops for you? What if she ends up lusting after you too?"

After all, there were many ladies out there who were swooning over Evan's good looks.

In fact, those girls were not to be blame for falling in love with him as very few girls in the world could resist the attraction of his flawless and handsome face.

Evan did not take what John said seriously.

In Daphne's impression, he was only a bodyguard of the estate. For a gold digger like her, what she yearned for was the position of the duchess and Levant was the man she needed in order to get what she wanted. How would she be interested in a humble and nameless bodyguard like him?

Yoda looked up at John and said, "You're overthinking."

John kept his eyes downcast, hoping that his concern was really unnecessary.

If Daphne really ended up falling in love with Evan, he would have a hard time trying to explain it to Nicole.

"Mr. Seet, when should we carry out the plan then?"

"We should do it at night, with less people watching us. The fewer the people who gets to see my face, the better."

After completing this mission, he would continue to appear as Yoda, who was Nicole's bodyguard.

"I'll do the preparation now!"

Hearing that John was about to leave the room, Nina immediately dragged Maya away to a stone table behind which they crouched down and hid.

They watched John leaving the room and walking further away. Then, they started a discussion in whispers.

"What did you hear just now?" Nina asked Maya.

Blinking her large eyes, Maya tried hard to recall their conversation. However, she only managed to catch a few snatches of their conversation as it contained too many information which sounded too convoluted for her comprehension.

"I heard they mentioned Daphne and something about being emotional. Also, they talked about appreciating kindness and lust."

Nina widened her eyes in surprise, quite impressed by Maya's memory.

"What did you hear then?" Maya threw the question back at her.

Nina took some time to sort out the information she managed to collect. Together with the information Maya contributed, she formed a conclusion.

"I heard them saying that there was something wrong with Daphne. So, Daddy and John agreed to put on an act in front of her to make her appreciate Daddy's help and lust after him. Also, John said he was going to make the arrangement so that Daddy could meet her at night without wearing the mask."

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Maya blinked her eyes in surprise as Nina managed to remember a lot more information than her.

She made up her mind to eat more walnuts to boost her memory from then on.

"Let's go back and tell Mommy this."

"Alright."

The girls cast a furtive glance in the direction of Yoda's face before taking to their heels. They rushed back to their room so that they could relay what they just heard to Mommy as soon as possible. They were sure they had done some pretty laudable work.

"Nina, wait for me!"

"Run faster! Why're you moving as slow as a bear?"

"I am not!"

After yelling at Nina, Maya tried her best to catch up with Nina.

Meanwhile, Nicole let out a heavy sigh of relief as she walked out of Levant's room.

Levant was in a good mood that day as he invited Nicole for a tea-tasting session. However, Nicole appeared distracted throughout the entire thing as she had been thinking about ways that could lead her to the jerk who dumped her mother years ago.

During the tea-tasting session, she even made use of the chance to ask Levant whether Daphne was an acupuncturist and who was her master.

Yet, Levant only shook his head with a smile in response.

It was obvious that he was not going to reveal any information about Daphne's master to her. All Levant wanted to achieve at the moment was to get married to Nicole as soon as possible. Thus, Nicole would be wrong if she thought Levant was the man who could help her in looking for her biological father.

But then again, why is he unwilling to help me with that?

Nicole couldn't help but wonder. Forget it, I'll do the digging myself.

She then returned to her room at a quick pace. At the sight of Nicole, Nina scuttled in her direction and repeated the conclusion she reached to her.

Nicole was puzzled after listening to Nina.

"They're going to put on an act in front of Daphne to make her appreciate Daddy's help and lust after him? Now, John is arranging for Daddy to meet Daphne later tonight?"

Nicole knitted her brows in confusion. Thinking of Maya's previous question regarding seduction, her heart gave a lurch.

Is Evan going to seduce Daphne so that she will fall in love with him and do everything as he says?

Otherwise, why does he have to meet her at night and show her his face without the mask on?

I'm sure it's because he knows his face is attractive enough to lure Daphne to bed!

With that thought in mind, Nicole couldn't help but start picturing how their secret rendezvous would play out. In the bright, moonlit night, the two would meet each other at somewhere secluded in the estate. While Evan flirted and seduced her, Daphne would be so smitten by him that she would not hesitate to throw herself into his arms. Then, they would start getting lovey-dovey and intimate with each other.

Damn it!

Nicole could barely control her temper as her anger began to hit the ceiling.

Evan, I can't believe you're interested in a woman like Daphne! Your taste in women is horrible!

"Do you know what time they're going to meet each other?" Nicole asked the girls through gritted teeth.

Maya shook her head. "They didn't mention the time just now."

They didn't mention the time?

Fine, I'll just spend the entire night watching him then.

If I really catch him doing anything to Daphne...

"Evan Seet, you'd better watch out!"

Thump! A loud noise was produced as Nicole landed a punch hard on the table next to her. Seeing this, Nina and Maya exchanged glances as both of them thought there was something not right with Mommy's reaction.

At dusk, Nicole entrusted the kids to Sheila before exiting her room hurriedly and making a beeline for Evan's room.

When she reached there, she hid herself at a secluded spot which provided her a perfect angle to spy on Evan.

Her eyes were glued on his room without blinking.

Evan Seet, I have to watch how you're going to make Daphne lust after you!

After watching his room for more than an hour, the sky slowly darkened and lights around the estate were turned on to illuminate the place.

Nicole started mumbling to herself, "Why isn't he leaving his room? Did Maya and Nina hear him wrongly just now?"

Just as she was doubting the information she received from the girls, she spotted someone walking out of Yoda's room.

Nicole could tell the owner of the body at one glance.

It was none other than Evan.

He was dressed as a bodyguard of the estate and he was not wearing the human skin mask.

Is he really going to seduce Daphne?

Evan Seet, you're so shameless!

As he was walking away, Nicole quickly followed him all the way to the garden.

Evan stopped at one of the pavilions in the garden where he stared at a huge round-shaped object on the ground contemplatively.

It was a habit of Daphne to take a stroll in the garden after dinner and she would always walk past the pavilion. So, Evan chose that to be the venue where he was going to put on a scintillating performance later.

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According to his plan, the round-shaped object would rolled away from the pavilion toward Daphne when she reached the area later.

As for himself, he would act like he only passed by the area by chance. When he spotted the rolling ball, he would lunge forward and stop it from hitting Daphne. Then, he would pretend to be injured because of the ball.

The final part of the plan, which was also the most crucial one, involved convincing her to seek help from her acupuncture master. In that way, Evan would be able to find out her master's identity and to see whether he was Nicole's biological father.

While waiting for Daphne the protagonist, he used the time to run through every step of his plan in his mind to familiarize with them.

He glanced at his watch and reckoned Daphne was on her way over to the garden.

Immediately, he hid himself somewhere off the beaten track.

Eight minutes later, Daphne indeed arrived at the garden as per his expectation.

Just as Daphne was reaching the middle of the garden, the huge ball indeed rolled out from the pavilion at a high speed in her direction.

Meanwhile, Nicole was stupefied when she saw that. Just moments earlier, she caught Evan staring at the round-shaped object, but she had no idea that the thing would move by itself and charge toward Daphne all of a sudden.

Is Evan actually trying to injure Daphne to avenge my grievance instead of seducing her?

A surge of warmth filled up her heart in an instant. Just as she was straining her eyes to see whether the round-shaped object was going to hit Daphne, Evan suddenly materialized out of nowhere and grabbed the ball to stop it from hitting Daphne.

Seeing his reaction, Nicole's eyes widened in shock.

Seems like I was overthinking just now. This is nothing but a well-planned scheme of Evan made in an attempt to seduce Daphne!

Daphne, who was scared stiff by the rolling ball, gaped at Evan in consternation.

"I-It's you again?"

"Yes." Evan nodded at her.

"Bring more bodyguards over here now!"

After giving out the instruction to the maids, Daphne approached Evan.

"Are you alright?" she asked him worryingly.

"I'm fine!"

"It must have been fate that you happened to be here and saved my life, don't you think so?"

The way Daphne stared at him was full of affection.

Evan did not answer her.

This isn't fate but a pre-arranged show!

Several bodyguards rushed to the scene in order to move the huge ball back to the pavilion. Noticing that Evan was flinging his arms uncomfortably, Daphne asked, "Are you injured?"

"It's nothing serious."

"You're injured because of me... Now, please follow me back to my room and I'll get the doctor to check out your condition."

Evan hesitated for a second. His plan would be a success if Daphne were going to get her acupuncture master to give him treatment.

While watching them go, Nicole was tearing the petals in her hands into pieces resentfully.

I must say Evan's plan is quite brilliant. After what took place just now, I'm sure Daphne is going to see him as her benefactor from now on.

So, this is how he made Daphne see him as her benefactor and lust after him.

Unable to accept Evan's behavior, Nicole hurried off to catch up with them.

Evan Seet, don't you think you can keep me in the dark of what you're going to do to Daphne because I've witnessed everything!

I have to make sure he knows I was there just now!

On their way back to Daphne's room, she asked, "Hector, how long have you been working as the bodyguard here?"

"I'm a new recruit."

"No wonder. I don't remember seeing such a good-looking bodyguard like you before this."

Evan remained silent and did not respond to her comment.

If it weren't because he needed to track down Nicole's biological father as soon as possible so that they could bring the kids home earlier, he would rather not have anything to do with a woman like Daphne.

Would Nicole be touched when she knew that he had made such a huge sacrifice for her sake?

"Hector, have you ever thought of being promoted to much better role than the bodyguard?"

Evan shook his head.

Although he had been maintaining a poker-faced expression, he did respond to her questions.

To Daphne, Evan was much better than Levant who obviously loathed her.

In her opinion, he could turn out to be the type of man who was quiet but knew how to express his love through actions.

"Whoever gets to be your wife will be very happy for the rest of her life," Daphne remarked all of a sudden.

Evan paused in his tracks. Could John's prediction turn out to be correct? Is Daphne actually interested in him?

Meanwhile, Nicole was inching closer to them, looking incensed. Suddenly, she froze and stopped moving.

Oh, I'm still an idiot to Daphne!

It would be out of her character if she just strutted over and blocked their path like a normal person.

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Thus, she had to approach them in a way no normal person would.

She tousled her hair and made it a mess. Then, she plucked two flowers and kept them in her grasp. Putting on a blank look to make herself look like an idiot, she tiptoed her way in their direction.

In the meantime, Daphne posed Evan another question, "You're still single, aren't you?"

He did not answer her as he was not in the mood to entertain her pointless questions. Instead, he only kept his eyes straight on the road ahead.

Just then, Nicole scurried toward them and landed a punch on Evan.

When Evan spun around and saw her, surprise was written all over his face.

Meanwhile, anger was evident on Daphne's face when she saw Nicole. "What is an idiot like you doing here at this hour?"

Nicole shot a fleeting glare at Evan first before she started giggling foolishly.

Damn, why does my voice sound so croaky?

Nicole did not really lose her mind, so it was hard for her to laugh when she saw her man spending time with another woman.

Thus, she stopped forcing herself to smile before she walked up to them and seized Evan's arms.

"W-What are you doing? Let go of him now!"

Since Nicole had already snatched Levant away from her, Daphne would never allow Nicole to do the same thing to Hector again.

However, it seemed like Daphne's words had fallen on Nicole's deaf ears as she went on to sink her teeth into the flesh of Evan's arm.

Then, she snapped, "Ass*ole, this is the punishment you deserve!"

Instead of pushing her away, Evan put up with the pain and let her be.

Judging from the glare she just shot him and how hard she was biting him, he knew the silly lady was being jealous.

Yet, for some reason he was pleased, because it showed how much she cared about him.

"Let him go now!" Daphne was ready to summon the maids over to haul her away.

Nicole only let go of his arm when she felt that her anger had been alleviated. She then made a run for it the next second.

"I really should teach that fool a lesson some other time!"

Suddenly, Evan turned around and gave her a penetrating gaze.

Daphne's heart skipped a beat under his gaze and she couldn't help but wonder whether what she just said was wrong.

"Ms. Ankins, may I ask you a question?"

"What is it that you want to know? I happen to have some questions for you too. You may ask me first!"

"I heard that your acupuncture master is famous for his skill. May I have the honor to have him check my pulse?"

My acupuncture master?

Pfft! Daphne burst out laughing all of a sudden. "Who told you the rumor?"

Evan was rendered speechless. Rumor?

He furrowed his brows in disbelief.

Is that a mere excuse because she isn't willing to speak truthfully?

Seeing he was unconvinced, Daphne gave him a detailed account of how the rumor eventually came about.

After listening to her narration, Evan finally understood what the matter was all about.

As it turned out, there was a bodyguard working at the estate who had some health problems. His life was saved by a mysterious person who gave him an acupuncture treatment.

The moment the bodyguard regained his consciousness, Daphne was the first person he saw and she happened to be holding a packet of silver needles left behind by the mysterious acupuncturist. That was the reason why the bodyguard assumed Daphne to be the one who saved his life.

Just like that, the rumor that she was an acupuncturist started spreading among the people at the estate because she did not bother to make any clarification.

Evan's face looked extremely glum upon knowing the truth.

To his utter dismay, the information which they had thought to be an important clue turned out to be nothing but a rumor.

How ironic was that!

Just as he was about to walk away, Daphne spoke, "Now, it's your turn to answer my questions."

Evan did not respond to her.

After instructing the maids to give them some space, Daphne looked at Evan with a smug expression. "Are you interested in becoming the most respectable man in this estate?"

Surprise flickered in Evan's eyes as he was at a loss for words.

He was both baffled and shocked by the question she posed.

Seeing his confused expression, Daphne explained, "I think we're somehow destined to be together. Since Aunt Portia is going to make me the future duchess, you will become the future duke if you marry me."

Evan remained silent as he did not quite get what she meant.

As Evan still looked puzzled, Daphne decided to tell him all about her plan. After all, she needed to make sure he was on the same page with her if they were going to marry each other in the future.

Fate had arranged him to meet her and save her life. In Daphne's opinion, he was the perfect man sent by God to take care of her in Levant's place.

"Let me share with you a secret – Levant isn't Aunt Portia's biological son and they aren't related to each other. Meanwhile, I'm Aunt Portia's niece and she adores me."

Evan was stunned to hear that.