

## Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 719

Maya's chubby hands gripped Nina's tightly as she declared, "I want Mommy to remember us. Otherwise, we won't have a Mommy to love and spoil us anymore!"

"Okay, then we have to find a way to get to the estate."

John heard everything from where he was standing by the doorway. He sighed silently.

Mr. Seet doesn't want Mrs. Seet to remember the past but these children are insistent. Just what will be the best for her? She's someone who's always been straightforward and bold with her feelings. She would not want to live in a lie for the rest of her life.

Ultimately, John actually agreed with the kids. He deliberately created an opportunity for the two girls to sneak out before following them from afar. He only left after they safely arrived at the estate.

On his way back, he agonized over how he would answer if Evan asked him where they had gone to.

Stepping back into the hotel room, he was immediately faced with a stony-faced Evan.

His heart leaped up to his throat and he stuttered out, "M-Mr. Seet!"

"Where are they?"

John fell silent before an embarrassed smile crossed his face. "Mr. Seet, your children are just too smart! They must have inherited their intelligence from you. How could someone as stupid as me manage to keep them contained here?"

A menacingly cold aura emanated from Evan as his sharp gaze cut into his assistant. He demanded, "Where are they!"

Terrified out of his wits, John shuddered and replied, "T-They went to the estate."

Evan's fingers curled into fists before he roared, "Go there and bring them back here!"

"Y-Yes!"

John spun around and fled out of there, rushing to the estate as per his orders.

At the estate.

Nicole scrutinized the two young girls before her closely. The more she looked, the more weirded out she felt. Why do they look so much like me?

"Who are you?" she asked in a gentle tone.

Maya blinked her big doe eyes. "Mommy, we're your beloved babies!"

"Babies?"

How very strange. Those two little boys from earlier said they were my kids too! Now, here are two young girls that look a lot like me. Just what is going on here? The boys' father is Evan Seet. Don't tell me these two belong to him as well!

“Who is your Daddy?”

“Meanie Evan Seet!”

“Big, bad meanie Evan Seet!”

Nicole was so shocked to hear their answers that she choked on her saliva. She stared at them in amazement, honestly not expecting they would be Evan’s kids as well.

Oh my god, just how many kids does he have! And these two girls look so similar to me too! The world really is a wondrous place.

Now she understood why Evan was always helping her—probably because she looked so much like his daughters!

“Mommy, you really don’t remember us, do you?”

“Mommy, you have to hurry up and remember us! You need to get revenge on Daddy! He’s been such a bad meanie!”

Nicole could not help her lips twitching into a smile. She explained to them patiently, “Although we might look a lot alike, I’m not your Mommy. You should go back to your real Daddy and Mommy.”

“Mommy, does that mean you want us to go back to our stepmom? I don’t want to. You’re our real Mommy!”

“I don’t want to go back either!”

The little girls attached themselves to her legs, refusing to let go.

What do I do? They’re clinging to me! She could not bear to be too rough with them. They were just so soft and adorable...

Forget it. I’ll just have someone contact Evan Seet and let them stay here for a few days.

“Would you like to stay with me for a bit?”

The girls nodded their head fervently. Yay! Mommy’s letting us stay!

Hence, the four children managed to successfully persuade their mother into letting them stay at the estate.

When John came to pick them up, they resolutely refused to leave with him.

He grimaced, at a loss for what to do now. On one side were the quadruplets who were being incredibly stubborn. On the other side was their absolutely terrifying father, Evan.

“How am I supposed to explain this to Mr. Seet?” He cried out desperately.

Juan’s mind whirred before he exclaimed, “I have a plan!”

“What is it?” John queried.

“You can stay with us. You won’t have to explain anything if you don’t go back!”

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"I..." John trailed off uncertainly with a troubled look on his face.

Nicole, however, agreed with Juan's idea. "John, why don't you remain here with the four kids and continue being my bodyguard? When they want to leave, you can take them away with you. You would have done your duty as best as you could under the circumstances."

John looked between Nicole and the kids, who stared back at him defiantly. Left without any other choice, he nodded.

"Alright. Sorry to disturb you then."

"It's fine."

Evan was absolutely furious when he heard that John and his children would be remaining at the estate.

"John, you and the kids don't ever need to come back again!"

"Mr. Seet, I..."

Poor John did not get a chance to speak before Evan hung up.

Davin shot his brother an anxious look and stated, "Evan, Mom keeps calling and demanding we go back. She says Dad's heart condition is acting up with how angry he's been. We have to hurry back! What do we do now?"

At this, Susan stood up and walked toward Evan. "Evan, maybe we should go back first. Of all the virtues one should have, filial piety is the most important. Mom and Dad are getting rather old so we shouldn't make them worry so much."

Sheila secretly rolled her eyes at Susan's words. If you were so worried about the elders of the Seet family, you wouldn't have insisted on having a wedding ceremony here! Who was the one kicking up a huge fuss, hmm? Now that you've gotten what you want, you're pretending to be such a nice person. What a hypocrite!

"Fine. Check for flights. We'll take the earliest one possible back home."

Susan smiled sweetly at his agreement.

This is just perfect! Those brats are going to be left here with Nicole, which means Evan and I can have a new beginning after we return!

...

At the Seet Residence.

There was a distinctly unhappy expression on Sophia's face as she watched her sons and their significant others. She had noticed the missing members immediately.

"Where are my grandchildren? Where are the kids!"

Evan had a cold look on his face as he kept quiet.

Davin and Sheila exchanged glances, not sure what to say either.

Sophia loved her grandchildren dearly. If she knew the kids had not come back with them, she would be furious.

Since nobody was answering, Susan pasted a small smile on her face and stated, “Mom, the kids have decided to stay with their mother. They absolutely refused to return with us no matter what we said. Don’t worry, John is staying behind to look after them.”

Sophia’s expression was chilly as she swept her gaze across Susan.

“Susan, please don’t call me Mom. I can’t possibly accept that title. If you had even the slightest bit of respect for us, you wouldn’t have forced Evan to marry you so hurriedly. And out of the country too!”

Susan was stunned at the blatant disapproval she could hear in Sophia’s voice. She got up and walked over, holding up the elder woman’s hands.

“Mom, remember back when I saved Evan and you visited me? You told me you were going to treat me like your own daughter. Now, I’m your actual daughter-in-law! That brings us even closer, doesn’t it? So no matter how you look at it, I should be calling you Mom!”

Sophia sneered at the younger woman’s words. This was an obvious attempt by Susan to capitalize on their gratefulness for saving Evan back then.

Having always been someone who made her feelings known, Sophia looked Susan in the eyes as she replied, “Susan, our entire family is very grateful to you for saving Evan back then. But just because I’m willing to treat you as my own daughter doesn’t mean I accept you as a daughter-in-law. These are two completely different matters.”

The smile on Susan’s face froze. She heard the implication behind Sophia’s words—she didn’t like Susan as her daughter-in-law. Having already expected this, she widened her smile. “Mom, I know they’re two different things. However, I’m already your daughter-in-law now, which means we’re all family. I’ll take good care of you and Dad from now on.”

With that said, she flashed a smile over at Jonathan as well.

Jonathan sighed. Seems like Evan and Nicole just aren’t fated to be together. Since he’s already married Susan, I guess we can do nothing but go with the flow.

“Susan, we leave Evan in your hands. He’s rather stubborn, so please look after him well.”

“Don’t worry, Dad. I will.”

Frustrated, Sophia rolled her eyes at her husband. If it had not been for the fact that Susan had once saved Evan, she would have chased the younger woman out of the house without any qualms.

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“Evan, where will you two live now? At Imperial Garden or Hillside Villa?”

“Hillside Villa!” Evan answered without any hesitation.

Susan furrowed her brows and asked, "Evan, where is Imperial Garden? It sounds like an amazing place. Could we live there instead?"

Evan barely glanced at her before replying in a firm tone that brooked no argument, "No!"

Imperial Garden belonged to Nicole and nobody but her was allowed to live there. If she were to return one day, that would still be her home.

The abnormally fierce look on his face surprised Susan. She bit her lip as tears welled up in her eyes, looking incredibly pitiful.

Clenching her fingers, she repeatedly reminded herself that everything was fine. She was his wife now, and that gave her plenty of time to make him open up to her and eventually, fall in love with her.

All she needed was time.

One year later, at K Nation.

It was a sunny day. Nicole was standing in the garden, watching as Nina and Maya played around the swings while Kyle and Juan practiced their Taekwondo nearby. Inexplicably, her heart swelled with warmth.

Time had flown by so quickly. Before she knew it, the four kids had been staying with her for a year now. Strangely enough, they still seemed to have no intention of going back to their own parents.

"Hey, you four, when are you going back home?"

The children tensed as anxious expressions appeared on their faces. They began to whisper among themselves.

"Mommy is trying to shoo us away again."

"Sigh. It's been a year yet we still haven't managed to make Mommy remember us. What a failure!"

"I think this is pretty good though! At least Mommy seems happy."

Nina rolled her eyes at her sister. Pursing her lips tightly, she explained, "That's not true! Mommy's not happy at all. Levant keeps bugging her and urging her to marry him! She doesn't like him so she's very upset about it!"

"Levant is a big, fat liar! He keeps lying to Mommy."

"Yeah, exactly! What do we do? How can we help Mommy?"

Juan racked his brain for ideas before he suggested, "How about we bring Mommy back home? Take her far away from Levant."

"Oh, that's a good idea! If we take Mommy away, she won't have to marry Levant anymore!"

John, who had been staying close by and listening to their discussion, had to agree that was a splendid plan. Another reason he approved of their decision was that he had not seen Evan in over a year. He wondered how the other man was doing.

“Nina, Maya, how about this? You two tell her that you want to go back to see your father. After that, insist that you want her to take you all back,” John proposed.

Nina snorted and retorted, “We’re not going back to see meanie Daddy!”

“Yeah! Even if we go back, we wanna stay with Mommy! I don’t want Daddy anymore!”

John thought it over before reassuring them, “It’s just an excuse to make her go back with you. After you return, you guys get to call the shots, don’t you?”

The girls pondered his words but did not immediately reply. It was only after their brothers nodded at them that they agreed.

Nicole had already been toying with ideas on how to escape her marriage to Levant. Thus, she readily agreed to the children’s suggestion.

In the past couple of months, Levant had been persistently trying to find all kinds of reasons for them to get married. Every single time, she had to find a different excuse to reject him.

She was slowly running out of excuses to use. In fact, she had barely been able to refuse his most recent two advances. Temporarily leaving the country sounded like a great idea.

“Alright, I’ll accompany you guys back home.”

The quadruplets cheered at her agreement. They would not need to see that liar Levant again and their mother could escape his clutches. How very wonderful!

Worry clouded Stephen’s mind the moment he heard that Nicole was bringing the children back to their home.

“Nicole, you really should stop pushing back your wedding date.”

Although Stephen did not really approve of Levant, he had seen how well the younger man had treated Nicole in this past year.

Other than Evan, Levant was the only other man in this world who treated her so nicely.

Since Evan had already married someone else, there was no better choice than Levant.

Nicole grinned at him in response and swore, “I know, Dad. I’m just taking them back home. I’ll be back in no time; you’ll see.”

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Stephen mulled over it before sighing. “Fine. Come back as soon as you can.” He prayed nothing else would happen during this time.

After saying their goodbyes to Stephen, Nicole happily went back to her room to pack.

John watched Nicole and the four kids, his thoughts racing.

I wonder how Mr. Seet is going to react when he sees Mrs. Seet after so long. She hasn't managed to regain any of her memories in the past year. Would being back in a familiar place trigger anything? If it does, what will she do? She does have an explosive temper.

At this, John's brows creased in a worried frown.

Why is it so difficult for them to be together?

"John, what are you standing around for? C'mon!"

Seeing that John was still rooted to the spot, Nicole shouted back at him.

Her voice snapped him out of his thoughts and he hurried over to help them with their luggage.

Half an hour later, they were sitting in the private plane Stephen had arranged for them.

The moment they stepped off the plane, Nicole had John call Evan.

John took out his phone and did as told, telling Evan of their arrival. After a brief moment, he ended the call and pointed over at a nearby cafe. "Ms. Lane, it's going to be twenty minutes before Mr. Seet gets here. Let's wait for him over there."

The children instantly agreed so Nicole nodded as well.

"Okay. Let's go."

John went off to order a cup of coffee while Nicole sat down with the kids at a table. They started to prattle, telling her about all the fun places in the country.

When they were done, Maya mentally sighed. Mommy was the one who took us to all those places last time. But now she doesn't remember a thing! How are we supposed to help her?

Nina grabbed Nicole's hand and asked her earnestly, "Stay with us, please?"

Stay with them at Evan's house? That's not very appropriate and convenient, is it?

Just as she was thinking of how to answer, Evan arrived.

"Daddy!" Juan called out sweetly.

To his surprise, his siblings rolled their eyes at him.

Daddy is a meanie! Why are you acting so cozy with him!

Hearing the shout, Evan turned around. His gaze brushed past John and the children before fixing on Nicole.

He noted how she seemed to have lost weight since they last met one year ago. However, her face was still as beautiful as he remembered, with a pair of bright and intelligent eyes.

Their gazes locked together. Nicole could see the passion and affection in his dark orbs. Her heart pounded in her chest and she hastily ducked her head.

I must be seeing things. There's no way Evan will look at me like that! Ugh, it's already been a year yet I still have such crazy thoughts when I see him. Snap out of it, woman!

When Evan came to a stop before them, Nina glared at him before pointedly turning her head away.

Kyle's expression was cold and hard as he stared at his father.

Maya had to remind herself that her father had been a bad, bad man. Remembering what he had done to their mother, she scowled at him.

Juan grinned a little nervously. He was worried if he expressed his delight at seeing his father, he would become the public enemy among his siblings. Without any other option, he lowered his head to avoid looking at Evan.

Nicole was taken aback by the children's reactions. She was tempted to ask if the man was actually their father or their enemy. They haven't seen each other in a year! Just what grudge are they holding against him to treat him like that?

Sensing the tense atmosphere, John chatted with Evan briefly before excusing himself.

Nicole shifted uncomfortably at the awkward silence that surrounded them. She opened her mouth and said, "I've brought your four children back. However, what kind of a father are you? How could you not worry about letting them live with a stranger for a year!" She was clearly complaining on behalf of the kids.

Your four children. A stranger.

From these words, Evan could tell Nicole had not regained her memories.

Pinning her with a loving look, he expressed from the bottom of his heart, "Thank you for what you've done. It must have been hard!"

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Evan's gratitude made Nicole feel a lot better. Things really had been hard in the past year.

"Your children are incredibly mischievous and cunning. It truly has been rather difficult to look after them. If you want to repay me then arrange for me to stay in a good hotel for the next few days."

This isn't an outrageous request at all for taking care of your kids for a year!

At this, Nina instantly piped up that she wanted to stay with Nicole. Beside her, Maya nodded as well.

Having always been a boy of few words, Kyle used his actions to express his intentions as he moved to stand beside Nicole.

Grinning slyly, Juan suggested, "It's not comfortable to stay in a hotel at all! Daddy, is anyone living at Imperial Garden? Why don't we all stay together at Imperial Garden?"

Of course there was no one staying at Imperial Garden.

That place was Nicole's.



Evan did not even need to think about it as he nodded. "Okay, I'll take all of you there."

Nicole was honestly perplexed by the man. How can he agree to let them continue living with me? Isn't he going to bring them home to enjoy a luxurious life?

After that, the children stuck like glue to her sides, escorting her into Imperial Garden.

The moment she stepped foot inside the yard, a wave of hazy images flashed through her mind. The images seemed connected to this yard somehow but she could not be sure.

Suspicion rose in her and she wondered if she had been to a similar yard before she lost her memories.

In the living room, she had barely taken a seat when Nina sped upstairs. A few seconds later, the little girl zoomed over to her before tugging her into the master bedroom.

Although Sylphiette had trashed the room, the family photo of Nicole, Evan and the four kids on a family outing was still fine. All of her clothes were also untouched.

Nina pointed the photo out to Nicole, who was shocked to see who was in it.

"That woman in the photo looks exactly like me!"

The little girl looked her right in the eyes as she replied, "That's because it is you!"

"It's me?"

Doubt surfaced in her mind. If that woman really was her, why had Stephen never mentioned anything before? What about her engagement to Levant? How did that happen?

"Mommy, look! All the clothes in the closet are your favorite styles and colors!"

Glancing at the clothes, Nicole was amazed to see that it was indeed her preferred styles and colors. What was even stranger was the sense of familiarity that niggled at her as she stared at them.

She reached out a hand to stroke a pink skirt that caught her attention. The instant her fingers brushed against the fabric, another jumbled series of images appeared in her mind.

The images were of her hanging up these clothing, yet they seemed hazy and unreal. When she tried to focus on those images, her head felt like it was splitting open. She stumbled a little at the pain.

"Mommy, what's wrong!"

"I'm fine."

Now she finally understood why the children kept calling her "Mommy." She looked exactly like the woman in the photos.

However, the fact that the clothing and design of the room matched her tastes was an incredible coincidence—too coincidental. Suspicion rippled through her.

She headed back downstairs. Evan had not left yet but was lounging on the couch. The casual posture did not diminish his noble and elegant air though.

Nicole sat down opposite him, twisting her fingers together uneasily. After a while, she focused her attention on Evan and asked, "Err... Mr. Seet? That woman in the photo upstairs that looks a lot like me... Is she your ex-wife?"

Evan felt a lump lodged in his throat. How was he supposed to describe their relationship?

"Ex-wife" did not sound like the right term because they had never actually gotten their marriage certificate.

His eyes darkened slightly and he replied solemnly, "She's my only wife!"

She knitted her brows at his strange wording. Only wife? Then what about the woman he married, Susan?

Right then, she was certain that him running into her at K Nation and becoming her bodyguard most definitely had something to do with this mysterious woman.

"Daddy, hurry up and tell Mommy that the woman in the photo is her!"

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Evan's expression was blank while his emotions raged in him. He was feeling extremely conflicted. He wanted to tell Nicole the truth yet he was worried she would remember her past.

If he said anything that might make her regain her memories, she would be utterly heartbroken at their current predicament. Especially since he was now married to Susan.

A moment later, he spoke in an icy voice, "That's not her!"

His children had obviously not expected he would say that. Their loud protests rang out simultaneously.

"Daddy, you're lying!"

"You liar, Daddy!"

So it really was not her. His answer caused an inexplicable sense of disappointment sweeping through Nicole.

"Thank you for arranging this wonderful place for me to stay, Mr. Seet."

"You're welcome." This place belongs to you in the first place.

"Daddy, maybe you should stay here with us?"

Juan's suggestion caught Evan off guard.

Nicole frowned, thinking that it was a bad idea. Evan was already a married man. It would not be appropriate for him to stay with them.

Noticing her expression, Evan replied, "I have to go back to Hillside Villa."

Seeing as his first plan failed, Juan tried again. "Daddy, the roses at Rose Garden are blooming, right? Could you bring us there tomorrow?"

If we bring Mommy to all the places we've stayed in before, maybe she might recall something!

After some thought, Evan nodded.

Juan then asked Nicole for her opinion. She mulled over it before questioning, "Is Rose Garden fun?"

The young boy nodded. "Very! The flowers there are so colorful and beautiful!"

Well, I came here so I could escape Levant and get my mind off of him. As long as it's fun, I guess it doesn't really matter where we go.

Thus, she agreed.

Although Maya begrudged her father for marrying another woman, in the end, he was still her father. After a couple of hours of playing with him, she tugged on Evan's arm, not wanting him to leave.

"Daddy, could you eat dinner with us?"

Evan took in the hopeful glint in her eyes. It had been a year since he had eaten with his four children, so he was reluctant to deny her this. Besides, he wanted to stay with them too. He nodded to show his agreement.

He made a call to have his chef and maids come over. After a mad scramble, a feast was spread out on the table.

They had only just sat down when a maid hurried over to inform, "Mr. Seet, Ms. Susan is here."

Evan's eyes darkened. Before he could do anything, Susan sauntered over. In an overly sweet and affectionate voice, she greeted, "Evan."

Then, she sat herself down at the table.

The quadruplets looked at her before scoffing as hostile expressions appeared on their faces.

To them, any woman who dared to snatch their mother's place was an enemy.

Nicole swept an assessing gaze across Susan. Dressed in a pale pink dress, the latter looked a lot more feminine now than she had at the wedding. Her silky hair draped across her shoulders loosely while her eyes shone brightly. There was a sheen to them that almost looked like tears, giving her a pitiful look. She was like a fragile flower that screamed for someone to protect her.

At that moment, she had to admit that Evan had a good taste to marry a woman as beautiful as Susan.

"Evan, I couldn't stop worrying about you when you didn't come back. So I decided to come over and have a look."

"Yeah," Evan muttered.

"Evan, when are you going back?"

"After dinner."

"Can I stay here to eat with you? We can go home together after we finish."

Evan did not get a chance to reply as Nicole spoke up warmly, "Sure you can, Mrs. Seet."

Both Susan and Evan were stunned at the address.

In Evan's heart, the position of Mrs. Seet would always belong to Nicole. He did not expect she would address someone else as that.

His heart felt like a fist was squeezing it tightly and he found it hard to breathe.

Immense pleasure shone in Susan's eyes.

She snuck a glance at Evan, noting his tension. It was clear he did not like Nicole addressing Susan as Mrs. Seet.

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Since the children were repulsed by Susan's presence, they rushed through their dinner before disappearing upstairs.

Susan did not care about what they thought of her. All she cared about was how Evan was treating Nicole.

The way he looked at Nicole was different—a realization that had Susan feeling distinctly uncomfortable.

After they finished dinner, Susan told Nicole she wanted to have a look upstairs. This was the first time she had been here and she wanted to see how Imperial Garden differed from Hillside Villa.

Nicole did not even think twice before agreeing to her request.

The two women headed to the second floor. When Susan caught sight of the photo in the master bedroom, her fingers curled into fists by her sides.

She purposely let out a loud sigh before commenting, "You really do look a lot like Evan's ex-girlfriend."

"That's Evan's ex-girlfriend?"

Susan turned to look at Nicole with teary eyes, nodding. "Yeah. Unfortunately, she was involved in a car accident a few years ago and died tragically. Evan felt the kids were too young to lose their mother so he's been trying his very best to find someone who looks a lot like her. He's hoping to find a substitute who would be willing to look after the kids."

So Evan has been treating me as a substitute all along. No wonder he looks at me with such affection! He's taking me for someone else!

Nicole subconsciously clenched her fingers as an inexplicable sense of disappointment coiled in her.

Noticing how Nicole's face had fallen, Susan grabbed one of her hands in both of her own. "Ms. Lane, maybe you could stay here and be her substitute? You could look after the children while also helping Evan deal with his regret. As long as you're willing to do this and do it well, I'll definitely make it worth your while."

Stay here to be a substitute? I'm the daughter of a duke! I have my own feelings—my own path to walk. Why should I stay here and be the substitute for a dead person? I would have to be crazy to do something so humiliating to myself!

"I'm sorry. I can't agree to that because I'll be going back to K Nation in a few days."

Susan's eyes flashed and she tightened her grip on Nicole's hand. "Evan is a man who places a lot of value in his relationships. He's always felt regretful of his ex's death. Please don't take it to heart if he does anything untoward to you in the next few days!"

In other words, any affection he shows me is not specifically aimed at me. I'm just a substitute to him.

Nicole smiled blandly and replied, "I trust that he won't cross the line. Don't worry, I won't think too much of his actions either."

"That's great."

Susan's words had successfully planted the idea of being a substitute in Nicole's mind.

Now, Nicole knew that she wasn't hallucinating when she saw the affection in Evan's gaze. The truth was that he had been looking at someone else instead.

Just the thought of this had anger rising in her.

Damn you! How dare you think of me as a substitute for your ex? You b\*\*\*\*\*d!

She tossed and turned in the bed, her mind going a mile per minute as she planned her return to K Nation. She wanted to end her life as a substitute as soon as possible!

While she really did like the children a lot, she was entitled to living her own life. She was not obligated to be their substitute mother!

She woke up in the middle of the night feeling parched. Blinking her eyes blearily, she crawled out of bed and made her way to the small pantry. To her displeasure, there was no water in the water boiler.

She exited the pantry grumpily and made her way to the stairs. Just as she was about to head downstairs, she abruptly stopped in her tracks.

This was the first day she was living here in this house. There was no way she would be familiar enough with the layout of the second floor to know there was a pantry just around the corner. Not to mention that she clearly knew where the water boiler was.

Confusion and suspicion swirled inside her.

But no matter how hard she racked her brains, her mind came up blank on the reason why.

A long while later, it clicked. Maybe she had noted it subconsciously when she came upstairs earlier!

That sounded like a flimsy excuse and she knew it. However, she could not think of any other explanation.

Shrugging, she continued her way downstairs to get a glass of water. When she was done, she returned to her room and flopped back on her bed. She pulled the blankets up over her head and was soon deep in slumberland.

The next morning.

She was awoken by a loud knocking on her door before the voices of the kids drifted in.

“Mommy, Daddy promised to take us to Rose Garden today! You have to wake up!”

“Mommy, wake up! It’s time to eat breakfast!”

“Mommy!”

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“Mommy!”

Hearing their persistent cries, Nicole sighed. The word “Mommy” was particularly irritating today, as if reminding her that she was just a substitute.

They’re thinking of me as a substitute—Evan too!

But as she thought it over, she decided that was unfair. The children just wanted a mother’s love. There was nothing wrong with that.

Perhaps it was fate that she and the kids met each other.

I’m going to be leaving in a few days anyway. I might as well act as their mother’s replacement for now.

With this thought in mind, she curled her lips up in a happy smile and got out of bed.

Opening the door, she was greeted by four excited faces staring up at her.

“Mommy, hurry! We have to eat breakfast! We’re going to Rose Garden today.”

“I got it.”

Breakfast was all of Nicole’s favorite foods. Evan had left specific instructions for the maids about what the old Nicole used to love to eat. Since everything was suited to her tastes, she did not hesitate in eating more.

Maya stared at her mother with a pout on her lips. “Mommy, you passed on your shameless genes to Nina and gave me your gluttonous genes!”

Nicole blinked, staring at the small mountain of shrimp shells and empty plates in front of her. She stopped eating and shot the girl a sheepish smile. “The food here is just too good.”

“Then you should stay here forever! That way you’ll be able to eat all this delicious food every day!”

Nicole was rendered speechless.

This chubby little girl has the most interesting ideas! Does she seriously think I'll be won over by some tasty food—that I'll be willing to be their substitute mother just like that? No way! I still plan on having a few adorable babies of my own!

"So will you?"

Seeing that Nicole was lost in her thoughts, Maya reached out to tug on her mother's sleeve. A pair of earnest and bright eyes gazed up at her.

Pulling her lips up into a smile, Nicole's eyes glinted as she replied, "We'll see. I'll think about it."

Maya pouted and declared, "I'll go wherever you go!"

Nicole sighed. She's really become dependent on me as her mother!

"Daddy's here!"

The words had barely left Juan's mouth when Evan strode over.

Upon noticing the empty plates before Nicole, a small, amused smile curved his lips.

Nicole ducked her head in embarrassment. He doesn't think I'm as gluttonous as Maya, does he?

He did not bring the topic up. Instead, he said, "If you're done, go get ready. We're going to Rose Garden."

She stood up and rushed to her room.

Evan watched her retreating back, adoration shining in his eyes.

Turning his head to look at the maid who came to clear away the table, he ordered, "Take note of what she likes to eat. Prepare the same for her tonight."

"Yes, Mr. Seet!"

The maid glanced at the table, mentally taking note of the empty plates. After that, she continued cleaning up the table.

Nicole changed into some casual clothing before exiting her room. The four kids instantly surrounded her, complimenting her attire and saying how pretty she looked.

Delighted, she smiled down at them. Sensing a gaze on her, she lifted her head to lock eyes with Evan. His eyes were filled with affection.

Her heart skipped a beat. He's thinking of me as her replacement again, isn't he? Jerk! I'm no substitute!

She mentally rolled her eyes at him. Taking the two little girls' hands, she led them toward the living room and out the house.

Evan held the boys hands and followed them.

The Maybach exited Imperial Garden and headed in the direction of Rose Garden.

The entire way there, the four children chattered happily and the atmosphere in the car was cheerful.

At Hillside Villa.

Susan's frail form stood in the yard, staring at the vegetation glumly.

The first thing Evan did after waking up today was to hurry over to meet with Nicole and the children. He had not even eaten breakfast before he left!

It's obvious they all hold important places in his heart!

"Ms. Susan, breakfast is ready. You should come in and eat while the food's hot."

Susan smiled and answered, "Have the butler prepare some children's toys. I'll be visiting the children later."

"Understood. You're really nice to them, Ms. Susan."

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 727

"It's nothing. I should be doing this anyway."

Susan's lips twitched upward slightly.

At Rose Garden.

A myriad of colorful roses bloomed across the entire place. The scene was absolutely stunning.

Pointing at the rose trellises, the kids asked, "Mommy, do you remember this?"

"Mommy, we used to live here."

"We stayed at the rear house while Daddy stayed in the main house!"

Nicole took in the beautifully designed courtyard. However, she did not feel a single speck of recognition. No memories came rushing at her.

As they continued to pester her, she smiled and shook her head wordlessly.

They sighed miserably at her response.

Evan had been following them at a distance. His emotions churned inside him chaotically. At that moment, he thought that Nicole not remembering anything might be for the best.

He hoped that she would be able to live out the rest of her life happily and without worry—free from her past.

That way, she would not need to remember him nor deal with his current marriage to Susan.

Maya twisted her head around to look back at Evan. "Daddy, could you make a flower wreath for me?"

Evan stared at his daughter's chubby face and innocent eyes. Grinning slightly, he nodded.

Since her sister was getting a flower wreath, Nina piped up saying she wanted one too. Evan readily agreed to weave two—one for each of them.



Something occurred to Nina and she said, “Daddy, how could you be so petty? Why don’t you make another one for Mommy?”

Evan turned to look at Nicole, the adoration and affection practically overflowing from his gaze. She stiffened uncomfortably.

That jerk has that look in his eyes again! He’s thinking of me as his ex-girlfriend again, isn’t he? The flower wreath he’ll make is probably for her and not truly for me! If that’s the case..

She stared him straight in the eyes as she refused sharply, “I don’t want one!”

The disdain was clear in those words.

Evan’s heart clenched in his chest. If this had been the old Nicole, she would have pestered him relentlessly until he made one for her.

The Nicole before him now was not the same Nicole he knew. She did not care for him and did not want nor like anything from him.

This is all normal. I shouldn’t treat her the same as the old Nicole. She has her own path to walk now. A path that will never cross with mine again...

At this thought, desolation and grief swelled in him.

Bowing his head, he focused his attention on making flower wreaths for his daughter.

A short while later, he abruptly questioned, “Ms. Lane, are you married?”

There was a slight tremble in his deep voice.

He wanted to know the answer, but at the same time, he was afraid.

Nicole’s chest felt tight at the question as she suddenly remembered that Levant was waiting for her back at K Nation.

Her heart stuttered while her emotions were all over the place.

Deep down inside, she was well aware that her rejection to Levant’s proposal had something to do with Evan.

However, she could not bring herself to face the reason why. She was in denial herself.

She would always fantasize about Evan returning to the estate someday. He would become her bodyguard again and accompany her on strolls through the garden. He would help her do so many things...

Even though she knew he was already married, and that she had witnessed it herself, she still...

She did not know why she still hoped that he would suddenly appear by her side one day—that he would stay with her.

I really must be crazy!

She pushed such dangerous notions aside, burying them deep within her subconscious. She did not dare tell anyone of these thoughts. How could she? Every time such thoughts haunted her in the middle of the night, even she could not help mocking herself.

Since Nicole was being quiet, Nina answered for her, “Daddy, Mommy hasn’t married yet. That Levant keeps bugging Mommy though! Mommy found him too annoying, which is why she’s trying to avoid him...”

“Nina!” Nicole cut the little girl off.

Anxiety had her heart beating a little faster. She was worried Evan would be able to tell her reluctance in marrying Levant was because of him—that she was having impure thoughts and feelings for him.

With his head still lowered, Evan allowed his delight to flash through his eyes.

The news that Nicole had not yet married Levant made him immensely happy.

But in the next second, he began to feel conflicted. She was still so young! She should not be alone all the time.

He did not want her to marry Levant, but he did not want to see her alone either.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 728

Star-crossed lovers really have it the worst! All these outside forces are forcing us apart but yet I can’t bear to let her go!

Pushing aside his heartbreak, Evan squeezed out through gritted teeth, “Levant seems to love you very much. You should consider accepting him.”

Nicole was incredibly uncomfortable hearing those words coming from his mouth.

She snapped, “Whether I marry him or not is my business! What does that have to do with you?”

With that, she shot him one last glare before stalking toward the rear house.

Evan watched her storm off, his eyes reddening.

She said it was none of his business, yet her happiness was the most important thing to him right then. For the rest of his life, he would worry about whether she was happy or not.

How did we become like this? How...

“Daddy, have you finished the flower wreaths?”

Evan nodded and handed them to his daughters. They eagerly placed the wreaths on their heads, making them look like fairy princesses.

“Let’s show Mommy!”

“Yeah! We have to show her how pretty we are!”

The two girls skipped to the rear house to look for Nicole.

“Mommy, look! Aren’t our wreaths pretty?”

“Mommy, how do we look?”

As Nicole spotted the flower wreaths on their heads, several images flashed through her mind.

A young girl who was a little older than Nina and Maya was skipping along happily. On her head was a flower wreath similar to the one the girls were wearing now. The flower wreath had been given to her by a boy.

The images refused to leave her mind, making her believe it was real.

She suspected the little girl was her, but who was that boy?

Whoever it was, she was certain it was not Evan!

Perhaps it’s one of my relatives’ kids at the estate!

“Yes, they’re really beautiful.”

“Mommy, why won’t you let Daddy make you one?”

Nicole sighed and replied, “It’s not like he truly wants to make it for me!” I couldn’t care less about it anyway!

Evan, who had been standing nearby, heard her words and frowned.

What does she mean? If I’m not truly making it for her then who does she think I am making it for?

Feeling envious, Nicole plucked Nina’s wreath and placed it on her own head. However, it was too small so she returned it to the young girl.

Noting the crestfallen look on her face, Evan turned and headed for the front again.

It did not take him much effort to weave another flower wreath. He handed it to Nicole.

Nicole was stunned at the wreath being offered to her. It was obvious a lot more care had been put into making it compared to the ones Nina and Maya had.

“For you!”

She shot him a suspicious look. “You’re really giving this to me?”

“Of course!”

She stared at the beautiful flower wreath. Although she suspected he was still treating her as his ex-girlfriend’s replacement, her hand reached out to take it like she had been possessed.

Watching the delight that crossed her features, Evan smiled too.

Susan arrived just in time to see this touching scene. At first, she was surprised. When she realized what she was seeing, her fingers tightened into fists. She called out in an infinitely sweet voice, “Evan!”

Her shout effectively broke the intimate moment.

Nicole's heart thumped harder as she wondered what she was doing.

Evan's smile seemed to have some sort of a devilish power, drawing her in. She also found it incredibly familiar, like she had seen it a long time ago.

Ugh, what happened to keeping your distance from him!

Susan made her way over to them, her curvaceous hips swaying alluringly as she walked. There was a warm smile on her face when she spoke, "I came to see the kids. I went to Imperial Garden but nobody was there. The maids told me you guys came here, so here I am! I even prepared some gifts for them. I wonder if they'll like them?"

"That's very thoughtful of you, Susan."

"Evan, we're husband and wife. There's no need to be so courteous with me."

The mention of their marriage made Evan extremely uncomfortable.

Susan glanced over at Nicole before walking toward the rockery, a clear invitation for Nicole to follow her.

Susan's eyes glimmered with tears as she surveyed the garden. Sighing mournfully, she stated, "Evan's ex used to live here. He's probably back here to relive his memories."