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Susan blurted out, "Only Leah knows why."

But Kyle kept on asking, "Ms. Susan, you don't dare to analyze the situation?"

"Well... No one could guess a mental patient's intentions." Susan replied simply.

Listening to her excuses, Kyle's suspicion deepened.

It was so obvious she was feeling guilty.

She must have something to do with all of this.

We have to be wary of this bad woman.

In the meantime, Evan took care of Maya when she was in the hospital for a week.

It feels so great to be with Daddy.

But why did Daddy let the baddies hit Mommy?

With these thoughts in her mind, Maya blurted out suddenly. "Daddy, can you stop instructing people to hit Mommy? Mommy's bleeding!"

Evan's face fell a little when he heard her words, as he couldn't understand why Maya said that.

"Maya, how do you know Mommy's bleeding?"

Maya was startled as she realized she said something wrong. Rubbing her hands nervously, she refused to talk.

She didn't dare to tell Evan she saw the pictures on Susan's phone.

What if I tell Daddy, and Mommy's trapped forever?

Noticing how Maya was spacing out, Evan didn't take the matter to heart. He thought she merely dreamt of it or overthought it.

Then, Evan said, "Alright, Maya. Let's drink up this fish soup. When your Mommy was hospitalized, she liked this soup the most."

Maya nodded as she held the bowl and gulped the soup. It tasted delicious, so she drank the entire bowl.

After she finished, Evan took the bowl from her hands and wiped her mouth with a piece of tissue. "Maya, let's go home. You've stayed in the hospital for a week, and you've recovered."

Once Maya heard the word "home," fear resurfaced in her eyes.

I'm scared.

Susan's not here, so no one will hurt me as long as I'm in the hospital.

Thus, she begged Evan, "Daddy, can I stay here for a few more days?"

Evan frowned. Why does Maya like this place so much?

At this moment, his phone rang. He took out his phone and saw it was an incoming call from Juan, so he immediately answered. "What's the matter, Juan?"

Juan said, "Daddy, have you seen Levant's tweet? Something is wrong!"

"What is it?" Evan asked nonchalantly as he felt Juan was overreacting, let alone something related to Levant.

"Daddy, Mr. Levant is going to marry Nellie Musgrave. Isn't Musgrave my grandpa's surname? And doesn't Nellie sounds familiar?"

Evan was thunderstruck by Juan's analysis. And this matter instantly attracted his attention.

Nellie Musgrave?

Nicole?

Juan said, "Daddy, do you think Nellie is actually Mommy?"

Instantly, Evan replied, "Juan, Daddy got it. Daddy needs to hang up and call someone else now."

After hanging up, Evan quickly dialed John's number.

When the call got through, John joked, "Mr. Seet, you've finally called! Time seemed to sit still without your calls."

Reluctant to drag on the conversation, Evan instructed, "I need you to send Damien, Darius, Jeremy, and Jensen to K Nation and investigate Nellie, the woman whom Levant is going to marry."

Nellie?

John froze.

Mrs. Seet died, so there's no way she's Nellie.

Despite having doubts, John obeyed his command. "Yes, Mr. Seet. I'll get straight to it. I'll let you know if I find out anything."

"I want to know the soonest possible!"

"Yes, Mr. Seet." John hung up after that, and he was excited.

Mr. Seet won't use his men just to investigate someone unimportant, so this "Nellie" might really be Mrs. Seet.

With that, he immediately took his phone and dialed a few calls to inform Evan's men about his orders.

At the same time, the three kids in the Hillside Villa were making a wild guess while holding in their anxiousness.

Worried, Nina asked, "What if she's really Mommy?"

Juan asked curiously, "If she's Mommy, why would she agree to marry Mr. Levant?"

When Juan asked that question, Nina felt puzzled as well. "True. Isn't Mommy in jail? Why is she at K Nation? And why is she marrying Mr. Levant?"

Kyle, who was staying quiet all the time, said, "It must be because Mr. Levant helped Mommy escape from the prison and brought her to K Nation. His kindness touched Mommy, so she agreed to marry him."

Then Nina and Juan exchanged looks with each other.

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"You're saying that Mommy agreed to marry Mr. Levant because he helped her?" Juan widened his obsidian eyes, finding it hard to believe.

This is so unbelievable. Things sure are complicated among adults.

Nina sighed. "Daddy got what he deserves. If he didn't lock Mommy up, Mr. Levant would not have the chance to come to her rescue as her knight in shining armor. And Mommy won't marry him."

At that, Kyle and Juan became speechless.

Yeah... Daddy shouldn't have locked Mommy up in jail. Now everything's a mess, and Mommy's marrying another person. What will Daddy do?

The next day, Evan received a photo from Jeremy in the evening. It was a photo of Levant and Nellie.

It was taken by Jeremy when he sneaked into the Wicked Palace, but the photo only showed Nellie's back.

Evan studied the photo, and it was just like looking at someone he hadn't met for a long time.

His slender fingers trembled uncontrollably as he confirmed that the familiar figure in the photo was indeed Nicole.

He couldn't comprehend why Nicole, who was dead, became Nellie and Levant's fiancée.

There's only one explanation for all of this.

Nicole's still alive. Levant saved her from prison and brought her back to K Nation.

And she changed her surname to Musgrave, following her biological father's.

But did Nicole agree to marry Levant willingly?

Unless... she is so heartless that she can pretend everything between us never happened and abandon our kids.

The more Evan thought about it, the more distressed he felt.

And I thought prison is the safest place for her to be away from Levant, and a barrier to prevent her from staying in touch with him. But in the end, she still ended up in his arms.

Evan was lost in thought. Why? Just why did Nicole fall for Levant?

He just couldn't figure it out.

Suddenly, Maya stared at him and asked, "Daddy, when will Mommy come to see me?"

Evan assured, "Be a good girl, Maya. Mommy will come back soon."

However, Maya was still hesitant and scared she would never see her Mommy again. So, she urged, "Daddy, can you bring Mommy back?" I heard Juan said that Mommy will marry Mr. Levant.

Evan was silent for a while before he nodded. "Alright. Daddy promise you to bring Mommy back."

After Nicole's death, he finally realized the love he had for her, and he loved her to her very core. So, he wanted to bring her back, even if he might get hurt, and the hope was slim. I have to, no matter what.

Then he suggested, "Maya, Susan will look after you, and Daddy will go find Mommy. Is that okay?"

Once again, Maya's eyes were filled with fear. The little girl held Evan's hand, reluctant to let go. "Daddy, can I go with you? I'll be a good girl."

Gazing at Maya's timid look and the plea in her eyes, Evan's heart ached.

Maya gripped his hand tightly, as she felt safe doing it.

Upon seeing that, Evan extended his other hand and caressed her chubby little face. "Alright. Daddy will bring you along."

Nodding with delight, Maya's eyes lit up, glowing like stars in the night sky.

If I get to go with Daddy, then Ms. Susan won't be able to prick me with needles. And I can meet Mommy. This is perfect!

It was midnight when Evan, John, and Maya boarded a plane, flying all the way to K Nation.

The next morning, the plane arrived at K Nation's airport safely.

They met up with Jeremy, Jensen, Damien, and Darius and got to know the situation in K Nation.

Levant and Nellie's marriage was three days later.

John was extremely shocked. "Three days? In that case, did you guys find out if Ms. Lane is forced to marry Levant, or did she agree to it willingly?"

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Damien heaved a sigh and said, "Our deepest apologies. The Wicked Palace is heavily guarded, so this photo's the only thing we could get."

When John saw their dejected faces, he scoffed. "Nothing else? How useless!"

Everyone fell silent at his remarks.

Right then, Jeremy argued in defiance. "Mr. Lindt, I wouldn't say that if I were you. Maybe you're not even at our level, and you couldn't even bring back a photograph."

John frowned. "How can you be so sure? Maybe I could've brought Nellie out from the Wicked Palace and sent her to Mr. Seet."

Upon hearing his words spoken out of confidence, the four men looked at him and demanded, "Fine. Do it then."

Evan turned around and narrowed his eyes at John. Sensing Evan might send him on this mission, John slapped himself. "Let's pretend I never said that... I never said that."

Looking at his pathetic actions, Jeremy mouthed a word – Coward.

John consoled himself, devoid of any shame. I'm not a coward. I'm just resilient, that's all. Yeah, that's normal.

Right then, Evan announced, "That's enough. We have to go somewhere important."

"Where?" Evan's subordinates looked at him, waiting for his instructions.

About fifteen minutes later, Evan brought them to the estate.

The one who welcomed them was Portia, not Stephen.

John greeted, "Lady Musgrave, where's Sir Musgrave? Mr. Seet wishes to have an audience with him."

Lady Musgrave took a glance at John with her head held high. "Stephen's at the Wicked Palace."

Evan and his men were surprised.

Nicole isn't officially married to Levant yet, so why is Stephen at the Wicked Palace?

Then, John asked politely, "May I know when will he return? We'll wait for him."

The duchess grew impatient and frowned. "It has been a while since he's here, so I'm not sure when he'll return. There's no use waiting for him, as you guys may have to wait for several months."

What she said had Evan lost for words. Can I trust her?

Stephen hasn't return to the estate for a long time? Something feels strange.

After a while, Evan said, "If that's the case, we shall excuse ourselves."

"Please do." Portia replied nonchalantly.

With that, they stood up and left the estate.

Jeremy looked at Evan and shared his analysis. "Mr. Seet, could it be that Sir Musgrave wants to attain Murphy's power, so he forced Ms. Lane to marry Levant? Ms. Lane refused, that was why he went to the Wicked Palace."

After digesting his analysis, Evan shook his head. The Stephen I know won't do something like this.

There must be more behind the matter.

But these are not important. My priority is to find out whether Nellie is Nicole.

He muttered, "No matter what, we'll have to meet Nellie."

Beside him, Damien strongly agreed and reminded, "Mr. Seet, the photo only shows her back, and we have yet to confirm if she's really Ms. Lane. If she's not, please don't get upset."

Evan replied, "I'll have to meet her tonight to know."

From that familiar silhouette in the photo, he had a strong hunch that the woman was none other than Nicole.

Damien assured, "Mr. Seet, we'll think of a plan for you to meet Ms. Lane tonight."

Hearing his words, John frowned. He couldn't even find out if that woman's Nicole. And he had the audacity to say that? What a load of crap!

"Alright. You guys get associated with the guards of the Wicked Palace with money. Then we disguised ourselves as the guards to sneak in secretly. That's probably the safest method," Evan replied.

Obeying his command, Jeremy and Jensen said, "As you wish, Mr. Seet. We'll get on with it."

"I'll go with you guys." John offered and rushed to the Wicked Palace along with Jeremy and Jensen.

Noticing that Maya was getting tired, Evan was thinking to find a place to stay and for Maya to take a nap.

One of Evan's subordinates suggested, "Mr. Seet, why don't we go to the Darkmoon Manor? There will be safer because it's our territory."

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Since we're in K Nation, it is better to be safe than sorry. Evan nodded in agreement, and off they went to the Darkmoon Manor.

Maya's weariness immediately disappeared without a trace as she scrutinized the beautiful house.

She was busy marveling at the surroundings, as everything seemed new and interesting.

Seeing something that attracted her attention, she asked, "Daddy, can I play with this?"

After getting Evan's permission, she reached out her chubby hands to touch the silk flowers and stuck her tongue out.

Looking at the chubby little girl, Damien absolutely adored her. "Mr. Seet, can I play with her? She's so cute! I want to carry her."

Evan froze and reminded, "Be careful when you carry her. Make sure she doesn't fall."

"Don't worry, Mr. Seet. I promise to treat your princess with the utmost care," Damien assured.

After hearing that, Evan finally had his mind at ease and nodded.

In just a few minutes, Maya was laughing delightfully in Damien's arms.

Damien carried her aside after caressing her chubby face and her arms. He whispered, "How can you be so cute? Why don't you tell me about yourself, like what types of food and drinks you like, what time do you sleep, and what you do every day?"

Maya looked at him curiously. Why does he want to know?

Noticing the shock in her eyes, Damien hurriedly explained, "I want to have a daughter. And I hope to raise her according to your standards, so she can be just like you – chubby and cute."

Well... Looks like some people do like chubby children, and I've become a role model for them.

Maya was excited just by thinking about that. Thus, she stood in front of Damien and listed out her preferences one by one earnestly like a superstar who was being interviewed by reporters.

When talking about food, her eyes glistened, and she listed out the food she liked while counting on her fingers. "I like cake pops, desserts, seafood..."

Her adorable actions made Damien melt from her cuteness.

Damien took out his notebook and wrote everything down in detail.

In the end, he smiled happily at Maya. "Alright. I've written everything down. Thank you, chubby little girl."

When Evan overheard what he said, he kicked Damien.

Stunned at the sudden kick, Damien turned around and looked at Evan in confusion. "Mr. Seet, why did you kick me?"

Evan warned, "Don't call her chubby little girl. She's a pretty fairy."

Damien was speechless.

I see... Mr. Seet not only protects his wife, but also his daughter.

Damien nodded quickly and addressed Maya as a pretty fairy.

Maya's eyes lit up. It seems even me, a chubby girl, can be called a pretty fairy.

Hehehe... This is great!

Maya ran to Evan and wrapped her arms around his legs shyly.

At that moment, Evan sensed Maya was embarrassed.

He leaned down and ever so gently held Maya in his arms, treating her like a treasure as he gazed at her affectionately.

It was nearly evening when John, Jeremy, and Jensen returned to the Darkmoon Manor.

Jeremy announced, "Mr. Seet, we bribed two guards, and we can sneak in tonight. But we have to leave before dawn because the next shift will arrive."

This entire night is enough.

Evan complimented, "Great. You guys did well."

Jeremy boasted, "Of course. I'm better than four of them, so this is a piece of cake."

Jensen, on the other hand, rolled his eyes at him. "Mr. Seet, he has money to carry his weight. Now that I understand the power of money, it's really an eye-opener for me."

John glared at Jensen. Why is he talking about money?

Does Mr. Seet look like someone who's poor?

What a country bumpkin!

Jeremy added, "That's right, Mr. Seet. Mr. Lindt actually gave those guards a few million and promised to give them a drone each. The guards were so happy. Indeed, we couldn't be Mr. Lindt's match."

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Evan looked at John with a surprised expression. "So, who should pay for the drones?"

"Sir, you should," John answered, devoid of any shame or guilt.

Speechless at his words, Evan sized him up.

John reasoned, "Mr. Seet, didn't you say you'll do whatever it takes to meet Ms. Lane? If you can meet her, it is worth sacrificing your money for two drones. Unless you prefer money over Ms. Lane, and if that's the case, I'll tell her when we meet her."

I never thought he can sound so justified when threatening people to hold his ground. Getting bolder now, are we?

Evan smiled wickedly. "John, since you're so good at predicting, how about resigning your position as the secretary and work in the company's forecast team?"

John's heart skipped a beat as he remembered the company which went bankrupt because of a false prediction was hiring a forecaster.

It's just a few millions with two drones! Mr. Seet, do you wish for me to go bankrupt?

As expected of a capitalist.

Sighing deep down inside, John hurriedly retracted his statement. "Mr. Seet, we can take care of everything with one million."

"Are you sure?" Evan raised his brow as John immediately replied, "Definitely."

Jeremy and Jensen gave John a thumbs up because he knew to give in when it was due.

Thinking up a plan, Evan announced, "Alright. Damien, you stay here and look after Maya while John and Jeremy shall follow me to the Wicked Palace."

Jeremy suggested, "Mr. Seet, maybe John should be the one staying here."

Evan turned to look at Maya, and Maya was dragging Damien's hand. It seems she likes Damien more.

After confirming his final decision, Evan said, "No. John had been staying back at the estate for a year, so he's more familiar with Stephen. Once I meet Nellie, he can think of a way to meet Stephen."

Mr. Seet has taken everything into consideration. In that case, we can all act separately if we follow his plan.

Later that night, the three of them sneaked into the Wicked Palace.

John fumbled his way alone to Stephen's residence while Darius followed Evan to the Moonlight Pavilion, where Nellie stayed.

They wore the guards' clothing and stood at the door of the Moonlight Pavilion. It was nighttime, so their plan went on smoothly.

At that moment, Darius whispered, "Mr. Seet, did you and Mr. Lindt become Mrs. Seet's guards when she lost her memories? I heard it from Mr. Lindt."

Looking at John, Evan squinted. John is such a busybody. But now everything's different. Nellie isn't the Nicole back when she lost her memories.

I wonder how she will react when she sees me?

Suddenly, Levant walked out of the house. He took a glance at the guards, who were standing on both sides of the entrance. "I've said before. Guards should stand in the courtyard. So, why are you guys here?"

Evan's heart skipped a beat. Will he notice me?

Quick to react, Darius immediately replied, "Mr. Levant, we'll guard the courtyard."

"No more next time." With that, Levant walked away.

Only then did Evan feel relieved. He turned around and stared at the tightly shut door.

There was only a door so thin, separating him and his love. I'll know who you are, Nellie.

He glanced around, making sure no one was around, before beckoning at Darius. Then he pushed the door open carefully, without a sound.

In he went, and he saw a woman applying skincare products in front of the dressing table.

Her actions were exactly the same as Nicole's.

As silent as he could, Evan tiptoed his way to the dressing table and Nellie, who was putting on make-up, gasped when she saw a figure in the mirror.

She turned around and looked at Evan in his guard outfit. She was shocked, but she regained her composure quickly and scolded, "Who are you? Get out!"

Evan stared at her and sized up her facial features. Her eyes, nose, lips, and her features all look the same as Nicole.

"Nicole, it's really you!" Evan was exhilarated to see his beloved.

Thump! Thump! His heart raced at an incredible speed because he was thrilled to see Nicole. Seeing her again, he felt alive, and a ray of sunshine rained down on his dark world.

"Nicole..." Unable to hide his excitement, he called out to her passionately while walking toward her.

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Nellie avoided him as if she was guarding herself against a thief. "I don't know you! Get out!"

Evan's heart dropped with a thump as he scrutinized her. Did Nicole lose her memories again?

"You know me. I'm Evan."

Nellie froze for a while, subconsciously clenching her fingers into a fist.

"My name is Nellie, not Nicole whom you're looking for!"

Evan carefully observed her. When he noticed that she instinctive clenching her fists and averted her gaze, he was certain that Nellie was indeed Nicole, and that she had not lost her memories. She was probably still angry, so she was reluctant to acknowledge him.

"Regardless of whether you're called Nellie or Nicole, you're still the Nicole whom I'm looking for!"

Evan stared at her with a determined gaze.

However, Nellie spun around and asserted firmly, "You're wrong. Nicole's dead. She was killed in prison, so I'm not her."

Evan was shocked. Did she say that Nicole was killed in prison? Did something bad happen to her there?

That must be it!

It's my fault.

It's all my fault!

"I'm sorry, Nicole."

Hah! Is the ruthless Mr. Seet actually apologizing to me?

A look of agony flashed across Nellie's face.

She would never want to mention the hellish suffering she had experienced.

When she was locked up in prison, she got beaten up and bullied – even on the verge of being raped and killed. These horrendous and devastating memories were forever engraved in her mind, never to be forgotten.

If she had not experienced all that personally, she would not even believe that Evan would treat her like that! And if Levant did not arrive in time, she would have been dead by now.

The moment Levant saved her, she had already thought it through – she would leave Evan, the reaper.

"Go now! You've already buried Nicole. She's dead now. I have nothing to do with you."

"Nicole, I understand if you hate or blame me. But don't you miss the kids? Maya misses you a lot. She came with me too. Don't you want to see her?"

Upon his mention of Maya and her children, those lively and energetic kids, Nellie felt her heart soften. Her children were like heaven's gifts to her.

One day, she would bring them all back to her. However, it was better to cut all ties with Evan now.

"It's useless regardless of what you say. Please leave!" snapped Nellie firmly, not even sparing him a second glance.

Evan took a deep breath. He understood that it was impossible to bring her back with her acting like that.

However, this was not a wasted trip. At least, he was certain that Nellie was Nicole.

Nicole, I won't give up on you!

After Evan left the room, Darius walked towards him. He looked at Evan and asked, "Mr. Seet, is that Mrs. Seet?"

"Let's talk after we go back."

"Okay."

Evan and Darius quickly left Wicked Palace.

Even after spending the entire night searching Wicked Palace, he still could not find out where Stephen stayed. This massive place is like a maze. No wonder the four of them can't get much information.

Indeed, Murphy is not a simple man.

After roaming around for a while, John still could not find anything much. Hence, he left too.

When they returned to the Darkmoon Manor, John was surprised to see Evan and the other four still awake.

"Are you guys waiting for me?"

Jeremy nodded and teased, "Yeah. We want to see what you, who's superior to the four of us, have found."

"Tell us, Mr. Lindt. Where does Stephen stay in Wicked Palace? Did you see him? What did he tell you?"

Staying silent, John sighed.

How the tables have turned! If I had known that I won't discover anything, I wouldn't have mocked the four of them for being useless this afternoon.

"John, did you see Stephen?" questioned Evan.

Feeling embarrassed, John merely shook his head and remained quiet.

"You didn't see him?"

"Mr. Seet, Wicked Palace is just like a maze. I could not even find my way around, let alone meet Stephen. If we don't bribe anyone from the Wicked Palace, it'll be an incredibly challenging feat to find anyone there."

At that moment, Damien sneered coldly. "Wow. It's surprising to hear that you find it challenging too, Mr. Lindt."

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John glanced at him, noticing the smug look on Damien's face.

Hmph! Your words are nothing but big talk.

"Mr. Seet, Levant's wedding day is approaching. Why don't we come up with a plan to snatch Mrs. Seet away on that day?"

Right after Jeremy spoke, Darius was stunned. "Stealing the bride? This is a good idea. But if Mrs. Seet is unwilling..."

"If she's unwilling, we can knock her out cold and kidnap her. Anyway, as long as we can bring Mrs. Seet back, I'm sure that our mighty boss can definitely win her favor again. After all, he's certainly willing to go to great lengths to win her back."

Evan narrowed his eyes as he gazed at the four men. There are four brains here, and they could only think of one method – stealing the bride? Are you kidding me?

He then turned around and looked at John. "What do you think?"

John mulled over it silently. "I think that stealing the bride is a feasible backup plan. We can still fall back on it if we're left with no choice. However, in these two days, I think that you still have a chance to touch Mrs. Seet's heart and persuade her to willingly return to you."

The four men pouted. Touch Mrs. Seet's heart within two days?

That's absolutely impossible. If Mr. Seet pleaded with Mrs. Seet for the entire day, it would still be futile. Furthermore, it's a tough feat to even enter Wicked Palace. It's uncertain whether we can meet Mrs. Seet or whether she'll chase Mr. Seet out.

Is John being too confident or too self-assured?

"Mr. Lindt, do you have some amazing tricks to woo women? Can you think of a plan for Mr. Seet?"

"I'm... I'm still single. I don't have any amazing tricks to woo women. However, I have many ways to break up with women in a way that'll make them despise you. Will they prove useful in this situation?"

Glancing at John from the corner of his eyes, Evan stood up and returned to his bedroom.

Jeremy and Jensen shot a judgemental look at John before returning to their rooms as well.

On the other hand, Damien inched closer to him and whispered, "Can you teach me? I've been experiencing too much luck with love recently. I need to chase all the women I dislike away!"

Looking at Damien's humble expression, John chuckled. "Of course! How would you like to pay me? Slow and draggy break-up methods cost one thousand. Short and swift ones cost ten thousand. Which one would you like to hear?"

What the heck? He's actually demanding money.

How stingy!

After thinking about it for a while, Damien decided. "Tell me the best way to do it. Go on."

Inching closer to his ears, John whispered, "Let them 'accidentally' find out that you're gay. By then, they'll definitely break up with you!"

Damien glanced at him coldly. This is indeed a harsh method!

"Okay, give me that ten thousand now."

"I need to try if this is effective first. Only then will I pay you."

"Sure! It works all the time."

Damien instantly followed John's method. However, after that, he glared at John resentfully.

"What's wrong? Isn't it really effective? Pay me now!"

"It is indeed effective—to the extent that my fiancée also believed that I'm gay and immediately broke up with me. John, you must get me another girlfriend!"

John looked at him in disbelief. "Your girlfriend has never slept with you? I don't believe it."

"Never. I'm a chaste virgin."

Hah!

He doesn't even flinch when lying!

John glared at him fiercely. I probably won't get that ten thousand from him.

"Forget it. I don't need the money. As for finding you another girlfriend, I'd recommend you to scratch that idea too."

After mulling over it, Damien nodded.

"Okay. Since you're a miserable single man, I won't put you in a tight spot."

John looked at him bitterly. After Mr. Seet manages to woo back his wife, I'll immediately find a girlfriend once I'm back home.

"Where's Mr. Seet? Is he still sleeping?"

"No. He brought Maya out to buy some food. Let's wait for a while longer."

"Why don't you take this opportunity to tell me the love story between Mr. and Mrs. Seet?"

"Their love story? Now, this is something I'm willing to share. Although Mr. Seet always shows us such a cold side of him, he's actually..."

They drank coffee and snacked on some chips. While one gossiped excitedly, the other listened with utmost attentiveness.

Back home, the three children were surprised when they found out that Maya and Evan went to K Nation to look for their Mommy.

Thinking about it, Juan exclaimed, "Why did Daddy bring Maya there instead of us?"

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Nina sighed. "I'm perplexed too. Maya is the least smart amongst us, and she always loses her way. I can't believe that Daddy brought her along! He didn't even tell us when he left. He's so biased as if Maya is his only daughter. It's not like we aren't his children as well!"

"Daddy's probably worried about Maya. After she was abused, he's afraid that something bad might happen to her again," analyzed Kyle calmly.

Juan was stunned. "That sounds logical. However, since Mommy's going to marry someone else, it must've meant that she was furious. Do you think that Daddy can manage to win her back?"

Nina eyed Juan smugly. "Why are you saying all this unnecessary stuff? Just admit that you want to go too."

Juan threw a question back at her. "You mean you don't want to go?"

"I do! But without Uncle Davin and Ms. Sheila around, how are we supposed to go? Grandma and Grandpa will definitely not let us."

Suddenly, a gentle voice sounded. "Are you guys going to look for Evan? I can bring you guys there!"

After knowing that Evan went to K Nation to look for Nicole, Susan became extremely restless. The only thing stopping her was that she did not know what excuse she could use to leave!

Nicole is really lucky. To think she actually managed to survive in prison! Yet, here I am, foolishly thinking that she's dead.

"You'll bring us there? Will Grandma and Grandpa agree?"

Susan looked at them mysteriously. "If you really want to go, we can keep it a secret from them first. After reaching the place, we can give them a call to assure them that we're safe."

This is a good plan.

However, Kyle was a bit worried. This woman can't be so helpful without a reason. There must be something else! But we don't seem to have any other solutions now.

After some deliberation, Nina declared, "Then, let's pack up now and leave as soon as possible."

Susan gladly agreed.

We should go as soon as possible. By the time Evan brings Nicole back, it will be all too late.

Before leaving, Kyle softly reminded Nina, "You must follow closely behind us. Don't let that bad woman sell you off."

Nina snorted proudly. "If she dares to sell me away, I'll bite her!"

At the same time, Juan was thinking that if Maya's temper was like Nina's, she would not have been abused in the first place.

Hmph! I'm going to teach Maya how to be a bad chubby little girl with a fiery temper. That way, she'll never be bullied again!

Just then, Susan walked out of the bedroom, pulling a suitcase behind her. As she did not want to delay it any further, she urged the kids to leave quickly.

The three of them looked like they were about to enter the battlefield. Dragging their suitcases along, they valiantly strode to the garage.

Half an hour later, Kyle and Juan strode into the airport while carefully guarding Nina.

At that moment, Nina felt blessed that she had two older brothers protecting her.

At K Nation, John and the Hidden Masters were sitting in the living room and discussing their plan for that night.

In the midst of their discussion, Jeremy asked, "Who'll go with Mr. Seet to the Wicked Palace?"

Damien thought about it before suggesting, "I think Mr. Lindt should go. Although Mrs. Seet is not familiar with us, she's familiar with him. Perhaps, he might be able to persuade her."

John glanced at him and replied calmly, "I'll go. I want to have a good chat with Mrs. Seet, anyway."

Right after he spoke, Evan walked out of his bedroom and looked at them. "Maya's asleep. When she wakes up, tell her to drink her milk."

"Yes, Mr. Seet!" replied Darius.

Then, John offered, "Mr. Seet, I'll follow you. I want to meet Mrs. Seet too."

Evan glanced at him. "There's no need for that. I'll go alone tonight."

The Hidden Masters started to become nervous. It's too dangerous for Mr. Seet to take the risk alone. This can't happen!

Jeremy protested, "Mr. Seet, you can't go alone!"

Following that, Jensen agreed, "Yeah, Mr. Seet. If you go alone, we will be worried."

Then Darius chimed in as well, "Mr. Seet, just let John accompany you."

Damien volunteered, "Mr. Seet, I'll accompany you with John!"

John shot the four of them a glance. It's really obvious that they don't really understand Mr. Seet.

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Since Mr. Seet wants to go alone, he certainly had his own reasons.

"Mr. Seet, I agree. I think that you should go alone."

Immediately after John spoke, the four of them simultaneously stared at him in shock.

It was obvious what all of them were thinking. If something bad happened to Mr. Seet, can you afford to take responsibility for it?

Thinking that it was pointless to explain to them, John urged Evan, "Mr. Seet, time is ticking away. Don't worry, and just go. Leave Maya to us."

Evan nodded and left. The moment he stepped out of the living room, John became the target of everyone's condemnation. Everyone glared at him furiously.

John sighed. "Don't look at me like that. I've worked for Mr. Seet for the longest time here, so I know him the best. He definitely has something to say to Mrs. Seet. If we tag along, it'll make things more inconvenient for him."

"Aren't you afraid that something bad will happen to Mr. Seet? Wicked Palace is a really hostile place that's chock-full of dangers."

"Jeremy, you dimwit. Even if Mr. Seet prohibits us from following, we can still secretly follow and protect him. Haven't you thought of that?"

Damien and Jensen agreed that it was a good idea. "Then, what are we waiting for? Let's follow him quickly."

After speaking, Jensen impatiently shoved John forward.

He spun around and shot daggers at Jensen. "If I didn't have to waste time explaining to you stubborn fools, I would've already followed him."

Damien shoved him again. "Cut the crap, and let's go now."

While bickering, they left Darkmoon Manor and rushed towards Wicked Palace.

When they reached, they coincidentally spotted Evan sneaking into the palace disguised as a guard.

"Let's follow him quickly."

"Okay."

At that moment, Nicole was standing in the living room and carefully checking out the wedding gowns Levant had sent her.

The selection of wedding gowns included both elaborate designs and simple ones.

For all of the wedding gowns, Levant had hired the best designers to create unique, limited edition designs.

From how meticulous Levant was in preparing the wedding gowns, it was evident that the wedding was of the utmost importance to him.

Levant must really love me a lot.

Perhaps, it's better to marry someone who loves me than marry someone I love.

I love Evan, but it was such a painful experience. It's too tiring to love him. Perhaps, if I spend the rest of my life with someone who loves me, life might be easier.

But, is this too selfish of me?

When the maid noticed Nicole staring at the wedding gowns in a daze, she thought that Nicole couldn't make a decision. Hence, she took a few steps forward and gently reminded, "Ma'am, why don't you try them on? It'll be easier to compare that way."

Having sprung back to reality, she returned to her senses and nodded. "Okay, then I'll try them on."

She casually took a wedding gown and walked to the bedroom. After changing into it, she walked out while holding the hem of the dress.

"Wow, you're so pretty! You're the prettiest bride I've ever seen."

The maid stared at her excitedly, her eyes sparkling. A longing look crossed her face as she fell into a daze.

Undeniably, the designers Levant had hired were exceptionally talented. All of the designs were breathtakingly beautiful.

The heart-shaped strapless dress was elegant and sexy. Layers of veils, embroidered with exquisite roses and encrusted with dazzling jewels, draped across the dress. However, when Nicole wore it, she felt that it was overly luxurious.

"I'll try on a something simpler."

"Ma'am, you look really good in this."

Nicole stared at her reflection in the mirror again. Not only was the wedding gown's design very eyecatching, but it also hugged her waist in the most perfect manner to display her curvaceous figure.

"Okay, then. I'll wear this one."

Immediately after, someone pushed the door open.

When the maid saw Evan, who was wearing a guard uniform, enter, she was surprised.

She chided, "Why did you enter? Who let you come in? Go out and guard the door!" She assumed that Evan was actually a guard at Wicked Palace.

However, Nicole's expression became solemn.

Judging from how Evan normally handled matters, she knew that he would not leave so easily after coming here.

Evan strode towards the maid. Before she could figure out what was going on, he quickly knocked her out cold.

"Why did you come?" asked Nicole hostilely as an icy expression hung on her face.

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Evan stared at Nicole's wedding gown grimly.

The woman I so deeply loved, whom I dream of marrying, is finally donning a white wedding gown. Yet, she's marrying someone else other than me!

The bride's going to marry someone, and I'm not the groom.

I've never expected myself to be in such a situation or experience such emotion.

He felt like there was a fist squeezing and wrenching his heart forcefully. The feeling of suffocation made him struggle to utter out a single word.

His eyes secretly reddened.

"Get out! Or I'll call someone over!"

Evan took a deep breath. "Nicole, you look really pretty in a wedding gown."

Nicole's heart skipped a beat. Evan's voice is so nice – deep, mellow, and charismatic.

However, his words had such an unsettling effect on me.

It's as if a bitter and gloomy feeling was trying to engulf me whole.

I don't know why I'm feeling this way, but I don't like it.

I hate it when he appears in front of me again, disrupting my tranquil and peaceful life.

"Go away and don't come anymore! If you do, I'll hand you over to Murphy!"

As if he could not hear her at all, Evan strode towards her without a care in the world.

"Nicole, are you marrying Levant because you truly love him?"

Nicole did not expect him to abruptly ask this question. After a moment of silence, she exclaimed with tears brimming in her eyes, "Because he loves me! He loves me more than you do! When my life is in danger, he would risk everything to save me. On the other hand, you cruelly pushed me into hell. You tortured me, humiliated me, and even tried to kill me!"

The memories of her experiences in prison were engraved in her mind. She could never forget them.

Evan, since you want me to die so much, why did you come here to look for me?

Evan stood there motionlessly. A cold expression crossed his face while an intensely sorrowful look crept into his eyes.

Is she really willing to marry Levant? She's really...

"Nicole, is there anything about me that's worse than Levant? I'll change, okay?"

Evan, who was always so dignified, arrogant, and mighty, had now humbled himself completely. There was even a trace of imploration in his voice.

As long as Nicole would not leave him, he was willing to do anything.

However, Nicole scoffed coldly and spat, "It's impossible for you to change your innately vicious and heartless character!"

Vicious and heartless.

Those few words were like sharp daggers tearing through Evan's heart, filling him with hurt and despair.

Words were always too futile and weak to express one's love. Yet, when they were used to express hatred, they always sounded so cruel.

He could be vicious and heartless to anyone, but not Nicole.

The only reason why he locked her up was to prevent her from meeting Levant and leaving his side!

He never wanted to hurt her.

Hence, how could he ever bear to treat her viciously and heartlessly?

"Nicole, what should I do for you to believe that I'll change so that you'll be willing to stay by my side?"

Nicole forced out a bitter smile. She closed her eyes, concealing the turmoil of emotions within them. She instructed, "Leave! I don't ever want to see you again!"

Even if you'll change, I can never forget the hurt you've caused me, the torture I experienced in prison, and the burden of a human's life.

Evan, this is the end of both of us...

Nicole walked to the door and pushed it open.

Through this action, she made her desire to chase Evan out very clear.

Evan walked towards the door. However, before leaving, he stopped in his tracks, turned around, and gazed at Nicole, his deep-set eyes filled with longingness and sorrow.

Nevertheless, Nicole turned her face away, refusing to look at him.

Sighing deeply, Evan left the room.

Nicole slammed the door shut before slumping against the door. The emotions, which she tried so hard to suppress earlier, crept into her eyes. Gradually, a look of utter despair appeared on her pale face.

Evan, why did you treat me that way? Why?

After killing me, you're now trying to win me back. You're even crueler than the Devil himself! Not only have you become the devil, but you also appeared in front of me disguised as an angel...