

## Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 929

Nicole thought about it for a second before replying, "It's getting late. Good night."

She hung up after that.

Sheila looked at her phone and then glanced at the two men. "She hung up on me. I don't know if she's willing to help us."

John sighed. "Looks like she still refuses to trust Mr. Seet..."

"If she's unwilling to help, then it'll be down to the three of us to figure out a plan then," Davin said with a frown.

Sheila stood up all of a sudden. "I'm going to the Wicked Palace. I have to see her and convince her!"

"I'll go with you," Davin said, he was worried for her safety.

"There is no need," Sheila said. "Levant will definitely send someone to track you down. I'll go there myself."

John nodded. "I think Ms. Muir should go alone on the pretense of bidding her farewell. Bringing you along would only raise suspicions."

He turned to Sheila and said, "I need you to cut back on the coaxing and just tell her a story. If she isn't moved by the story, then it would mean that Mr. Seet and Nicole were never meant to be."

"Story? What story?" Sheila asked, raising an eyebrow.

"The story that I didn't get to finish..." John said, his gaze downcast.

The next day.

Sheila arrived at the Wicked Palace early in the morning to meet Nicole. Noticing that the latter's face was rather pale, she told her to take care of herself before she cleared her throat and revealed the true intentions of her visit.

"Ms. Nicole, you're not going to like this, but I need you to listen to me," Sheila pleaded. "I'll leave after this. Is that alright?"

Nicole simply stared at her wordlessly, waiting for her to speak.

"I'm sure John had already told you the story of Evan sleeping with the urn that supposedly contained your ashes in his arms, right?" Sheila started. "Would you like to know how he brought the urn back home?"

"It had been raining heavily that fateful night. Evan unearthed the urn with his bare hands, ignoring the mud and grime that coated his arms as though his germaphobia never existed. When he finally dug the urn out, he held it close to his body, fearing that the rain would mar its surface. The elders from the Seet family had tried to stop him from bringing the urn back home, but he refused to obey their orders. He wanted to keep the urn and his love for you safe, even if it meant going against his family's wishes."

“Sending you to jail was a decision he hated himself for making. The victim had been his beloved grandfather, and you would never hear the end of it from the Seet family if Evan had not intervened.”

By then, Nicole face had already turned a ghastly shade of white. Her fingers dug into the fabric of her shirt.

Sheila took a deep breath. “If this isn’t true love, then I don’t know what is. Maybe the two of you are just not fated to be together.”

She moved closer to Nicole before continuing. “I’m done with my story, but I still have a question for you. How would you feel if you pulled the same trick in order to stay close to Mr. Seet?”

When Nicole did not answer, she decided to try another angle. “I know you aren’t actually in love with Levant, and I’m sure Mr. Seet feels the same for Susan. How would you feel if you were forced to impersonate Susan just to get close to him?”

Tears fell from Nicole’s eyes.

She used to berate Evan in her mind for stealing Levant’s identity, but Sheila’s story made her realize how powerless he had been against fate and circumstance.

An arrogant man like him has gone this far to stoop so low.

He must have hated using someone else’s identity just to talk to me.

I won’t be able to do the same even if I don’t have a choice.

The thought of it almost made her gag.

“By the way, there’s something else that I need to clarify,” Sheila said. “Remember the jar of paper stars that you said was a gift from Mr. Seet to Susan? John and Davin have taken a closer look at it after Mr. Seet mailed it over. The truth was Mr. Seet had made those stars for Susan back when she saved him and got hospitalized, but the words on them seemed freshly written. The person who wrote them is pretty adept at forging Mr. Seet’s handwriting, but it’s still pretty obvious that those words weren’t written by him”

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“John managed to get his hands on the security footage from Mr. Seet’s office,” Sheila said, glancing at Nicole. “Susan had given Mr. Seet the bottle not too long ago, and he’s kept it in the drawer ever since.”

Nicole’s face was a ghastly shade of white while her eyes were swollen and teary. After a long period of silence, she managed to squeeze out a sorrowful grin and said, “Maybe you’re right, Sheila...maybe we were never meant to be...”

Sheila frowned. “Are you saying that you still don’t trust him?”

Nicole fell silent.

She found the events from the previous night highly suspicious, and it made her have second thoughts about her treatment towards Evan.

It looks like this must have been a misunderstanding...

“Are you done? You may take your leave now,” Nicole said calmly.

Sheila was taken aback by her words, but she had no choice but to take it. She stood up and let out a sigh as a strange feeling of irritation began to bubble up inside of her.

Why can't she just forgive Mr. Seet? Can't she see just how much he loves her? Why is she so stubborn and stuck in her own ways? Maybe she didn't deserve all that love after all...

Maybe separation was the way to go after all.

As Nicole watched Sheila stomp out of the room, tears began to spill out of her eyes.

Her tears slid into her mouth, and it tasted bittersweet.

She felt bitter about how badly she had treated Evan, and how she had gotten him into so much trouble because of all the misunderstandings. Maybe we weren't fated to be together.

However, she was moved by the intense love he had for her.

I'm sorry, Evan. I'll do everything to rescue you and make sure you leave this safe and sound, but I don't think we can be lovers anymore.

“So? How did it go?” Davin asked the moment Sheila returned. “Is Nicole going to help us save my brother?”

Sheila glared at him as her temper flared. “What kind of sister-in-law is she? She didn't even bat an eyelid when I told her that story! She even thinks that she isn't fated to be with Mr. Seet! Why is she so cold-hearted?”

Davin's face fell. What now? With Nicole refusing to help, how are we going to save Evan?

John had a deep frown on his face as well. After a moment of silence, he looked up and said, “I think it's time we gather our forces and infiltrate the Wicked Palace, Mr. Davin.”

“Wait! We can't make my brother's predicament public! The Seet Group and my family will suffer a huge blow from this!” Davin exclaimed. “We need to come up with another plan.”

“What plan? What options do we even have at this point?” John asked, panicking.

“The estate,” Davin answered with a gloomy face and knotted brows.

“The estate?” John repeated anxiously.

Stephen had been released from the Wicked Palace by Evan posing as Levant. Even though his power was never to be underestimated, John was reluctant to place all bat on him to win in the battle against the Wicked Palace.

In fact, Nicole was dead set on marrying Levant, who was Stephen's adopted son and future son-in-law. John figured that he would be torn between helping his own family members and Evan, who was an outsider.

John decided to voice his concerns to Davin, who pondered over them for a moment. "It doesn't hurt to try, I guess. Didn't Evan let Sir Musgrave out of the Wicked Palace while he was impersonating as Levant? I'm sure he won't mind helping us out in return."

John nodded in agreement.

Sheila slammed her hand on the table. "That's right, Davin! Having him return the favor would even things out. Your brother would have nothing to do with the estate or Nicole once that happens!"

Davin turned around to shoot Sheila a look. "That's up to my brother to decide. Besides, I don't think Ms. Nicole is as heartless as you think."

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"Ms. Lane had no problem leaving Mr. Seet to die, but Mr. Seet would never do that to Ms. Lane. I believe it'll be hard for the man to part himself from her," sighed John.

"I get it, but saving Evan is more important now. There's only so much we can do about the other things."

Davin turned to look at Sheila. "Will you go to the estate with me?"

"Sure. Let's head there now," the latter replied without hesitation.

Having stayed on the estate for quite a while, John offered to go with the two since he was more familiar with it. He believed that he could be of help to them.

The three were shocked to see Portia and Stephen at war when they arrived on the estate.

They seemed to be fighting over a woman.

"No wonder you stayed at Wicked Palace for so long! You enjoy the company of the pretty women, don't you? For all the years I've been with you, never have you even smiled at me, and I thought that's because you only have eyes for Rosalie. Never did I expect you to treat Murphy's daughter differently! You two aren't really together, are you? That little shit even told me that you're eloping with her. Is that true? If so, I'll make sure that you're ruined, and I mean it!"

The three exchanged looks when they realized Stephen was in trouble and stopped dead in their tracks.

Though, they had never expected Stephen to be in a fight because of an affair.

"This is nonsense! We're done talking here. Go home!" The three could hear Stephen ordering angrily. "It better be, or you'll never hear the end of it! From now on, you're not allowed to see Avril. That girl is just like Murphy. She'll do anything to get you, and if she ever does anything disgraceful, the Musgrave name will be tainted!"

Portia babbled on for a while until Stephen grew impatient with her. Only then did she finally decide to leave.

When Portia passed by the three, she was as embarrassed as she was furious, so she continued to stomp out without a word.

John breathed a sigh of relief. He had thought Portia was going to vent on them, but the woman just walked away.

He had learned that Portia was not an easy person to get along with when he lived on the estate with the amnesiac Nicole and her four children for a year.

Nicole and the children had quarreled with the duchess on more than one occasion.

After the three entered the living room, John introduced Davin and Sheila to Stephen.

Having lived on the estate before, Sheila was no stranger to Stephen, so she went straight to the point.

“We’re here today to ask for a favor.”

The duke responded in kind, “This is about Evan, isn’t it?”

“Yes! So you know about it?”

“Avril was here, and she told me everything. I’ll do what I can for him.”

Davin was relieved to hear him say that, and he asked the man cautiously, “Are you sure you can do it?”

Stephen smiled faintly. “I’ll do my best.”

John and Davin then looked at each other. Although Stephen only gave them a simple reply, he seemed sincere. That alone made them willing to believe in his words.

After the three left, Stephen immediately called Nicole to talk about Evan.

When the woman heard how Stephen was ready to risk it all to save her husband, her spirit instantly lifted. The duke planned to threaten Levant with the hospitalized Murphy so that the couple could find a chance to run away.

“That’s too dangerous, Dad. You don’t know that they’ll take the bait for sure. What if it fails?”

“It’s better than doing nothing at all. If this works out, you’ll be able to return with Evan. Don’t worry about what Levant will do after that.”

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After some thought, Nicole realized that if her father were to do that, those at Wicked Palace would never stop going after him, and the estate would never have peace.

Look at what happened to Evan. How can I let the same thing happen to the estate?

Since it all happened because of me, I’ll bear the full responsibility so that others can have peace.

“Dad, I’ve already promised to marry Levant. We’ll have the wedding soon, so you don’t have to do anything for Evan. Levant’s already promised to let him go.”

Stephen was shocked to hear that. “What are you saying, Nicole? Are you really planning to marry that man?”

“Dad, Levant’s good to me, and I want to marry him.”

“Nicole... “

“Forget about kidnapping Murphy, Dad. Levant’s decided to take him back to Wicked Palace to recuperate. You don’t have to do anything other than attend my wedding.”

Even after the call had ended, Stephen remained in a daze because he understood the relationship between Evan and Nicole. He thought it was too cruel to have the two destined lovers separated.

That was exactly what happened to Rosalie and him, so he was familiar with the excruciating pain of being separated from a loved one.

His relationship with Rosalie was his greatest regret, so he wished for Nicole to spend the rest of her life with Evan without regrets.

Never did the duke expect his daughter to be separated from her love because of life’s cruel circumstances.

Is this her fate?

That evening, Davin and John went back to the estate to see if they could lend a hand regarding the situation.

“It’s my brother we’re talking about here. There must be something I can do to help.”

Stephen smiled somberly at Evan’s younger brother. The former had received news that Murphy had already been taken back to Wicked Palace. It was no longer possible to make a move on the man.

The duke regretted telling Nicole about his plan because he was sure that she had deliberately made Levant move Murphy to stop him from taking any risks.

Stephen also heard that Levant fortified his defense at Wicked Palace. The man gathered almost all of his forces to guard the place and made it near impossible for anyone to get in.

It seems Nicole is determined to sacrifice her relationship with Evan to keep him and the estate safe.

The thought pained Stephen, and he took a deep breath to calm himself down.

“You don’t have to do anything. Just go home and wait.”

Stephen was just as helpless as the two were – he had no idea what to do.

“We do nothing at all? When will Evan be rescued, then? When are you going to make a move?” asked Davin with concern.

“Just... Go back and wait for the news.” Stephen did not seem to want to converse on the topic any longer.

Davin and John felt lost after leaving the estate, but their thoughts were interrupted by Sophia, who called to inquire about the date of their return.

“We ran into some problems here, Mom. We won’t be going back so soon.”

“What kind of problems?”

Davin did not want to worry his mother, so he told her nothing about Evan being trapped in Wicked Palace. Instead, he told Sophia that Nicole wanted to marry Levant and how Evan was trying to win her back.

Sophia felt uneasy after the phone call and wondered why her son had to get involved with those at Wicked Palace.

Wicked Palace is nothing but trouble!

Sophia was sure that her older son would never marry anyone else if he could not marry Nicole, so for her son's sake, she was forced to go back to the place she hated.

When Jonathan noticed the blank expression on Sophia's face, he too asked about Evan and Davin's return date.

"Jonathan, I need to go to Wicked Palace," responded Sophia when she came to her senses.

Jonathan froze for a second before sighing, "You severed ties with Wicked Palace when you married me. Will they still recognize you as one of their own if you go back there?"

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"I have to go back there no matter what."

After a moment of silence, Jonathan lifted his head to look worriedly at his wife. "I'll go with you then."

Sophia thought for a while before finally nodding in agreement.

Meanwhile, at Wicked Palace, Levant was overjoyed that Nicole wanted to marry him as soon as possible.

However, worry flitted across the man's eyes when the woman requested him to let Evan go.

The man knew how much Evan loved Nicole, so he was sure that Evan would stop at nothing to ruin his wedding.

"I have no problem letting him go, Nicole, but it'll have to wait until after our wedding. I'll have someone escort him out of here then."

After the wedding, huh?

Levant sure is careful. He must be worried that Evan will cause trouble if he's released too soon.

"Don't worry, Nicole. I'll make sure Evan is safe for the next few days."

Levant had made up his mind, so Nicole knew that there was nothing she could do to change it. If anything, it would only make things worse for Evan.

In the end, she nodded slightly in agreement.

Davin and John waited for news about Evan to come, but instead, they received news of Nicole's and Levant's wedding.

Sheila let out a long sigh. "How's Levant better than Mr. Seet? Why would Nicole want to marry him instead?"

John was surprised as well. If Ms. Lane's busy with her wedding, she probably couldn't care less about Mr. Seet's welfare.

"I don't think we can count on Ms. Lane anymore, but why haven't we heard from the children either? Do they think they belong to Wicked Palace like their mother now? Is that why they don't care about their own father anymore?" sighed Davin.

Suddenly, his phone rang – it was Juan calling.

"If Juan really says he doesn't care about his father anymore, I'll do anything to sneak into Wicked Palace to twist his ear and spank his butt to teach him a lesson," muttered Davin before answering the call.

"Uncle Davin, we finally found where Daddy, Jeremy, and the others are being held! Hurry up, come over and save them!"

Davin was baffled by the boy's words.

Me? Save them? I don't think I'm capable of doing that.

"They've added more guards, Uncle Davin, so you'll have to be careful when you sneak in."

Even without the extra guards, Davin thought it would be difficult to rescue anyone from the heavily-guarded Wicked Palace. The strengthened defense made it nearly impossible.

"Juan, do you think I could be locked up too if I sneak in?" asked Davin timidly.

His nephew gave it some thought. "Uncle Davin, you're not backing out because you're scared, are you? You have to do this! He's your brother!"

Brother? Even if it's my father we have to rescue, I can't just waltz in without a solid plan!

Why should I get locked up for nothing?

Of course I'd sacrifice myself if it's necessary, but we're not that desperate yet, right?

"Just tell me where your father is being held. I'll try to figure something out."

"Okay, I'll send you the location. This place is like a maze, but you should know where it is once you look at some pictures."

"Alright."

After looking at the location Juan had sent him, Davin forwarded it to Stephen because he thought it would help the duke with the rescue.

However, it only made the other man distraught as he wondered if he should just let Nicole marry Levant.

After much thinking, the duke decided to visit Nicole in Wicked Palace for a good talk.



When Portia found out that her husband wanted to go to Wicked Palace, she hurried to stop him.

“Why are you going to Wicked Palace? Are you going there to see Avril?”

“I’m going to see Nicole,” replied Stephen coldly.

“Why? She’ll be marrying Levant in two days, and you’ll be able to see her by then. I’ll be going to the wedding with you.”

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“I have to go now! I can’t wait for two days,” insisted Stephen, throwing a pointed glance at his wife, but she would not get out of his way.

“It was Nicole’s fault that you were imprisoned at Wicked Palace for months, and now you want to go back there to see her? I seriously doubt that you’re going there to see her. You’re probably going to see Avril!”

Stephen thought his wife was being unreasonable, so he tried to walk away.

Besides worrying that Stephen would be imprisoned in Wicked Palace again, Portia also worried that her husband would meet with Avril. Seeing how her husband insisted on going, the woman held onto Stephen’s arm tightly like a madwoman and would not let him leave.

Having never seen his wife like that before, Stephen was at a loss.

“If you dare walk out of Musgrave Estate, I’ll kill myself! And if I die, you can be sure that my family will bury you with me in my grave!”

Although the Ankings family was not to be underestimated, Stephen would not be threatened.

He squinted at his wife before ordering, “Let me go, Portia!”

“No! I’ve been silent for far too long, Stephen! I’m your wife, and I will not allow you to go meet another woman!”

“I told you that I’m only going to see Nicole, my daughter!”

“I don’t care! You are to meet no other women!”

“Stop this nonsense now!” he growled before breaking free of Portia. Then, he ordered someone to drive him to Wicked Palace immediately.

Rage pulsed through Portia’s veins as she watched her husband leave.

How dare you treat me this way, Stephen!

I’ll make you pay!

Portia stalked back to her room to make a phone call, and when she was done, a devious smile appeared on her face.

When Stephen arrived at Wicked Palace, he was surprised to see Levant waiting to welcome him.

“What brings you to Wicked Palace, Stephen?”

“I want to see Nicole!”

“The wedding will be in two days. You’ll see her then. I’m sure Mom’s waiting for you at home. It’s best if you don’t keep her waiting.”

Only then did Stephen realize Levant had been expecting him because Portia had called the man to inform him of his arrival.

Levant sure knows how to please his foster mother.

Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned! Portia will stop at nothing to stop me from seeing Nicole.

With so many people guarding Wicked Palace, there’s no way I can get in. I guess I’ll just have to come up with another plan.

When she saw her husband return not long after he left, Portia’s mouth curved into a smirk.

“I’d like to see how you save Nicole or meet with Avril now.”

Stephen headed straight to a room where a portrait of Rosalie was hung and gazed at the art longingly.

How do I save Nicole, Rosalie?

Will she be like us, destined to be separated from the love of our lives?

Wait. I think I’ve got it, Rosalie. I’ll wait until the wedding day to rescue her.

It’ll be risky, so I’ll need you to watch over us. Let our daughter spend the rest of her life with her love and no regrets.

I miss you, Rosalie. I miss you so much.

The next day at Wicked Palace, instead of feeling excited, Nicole was downhearted about the coming wedding.

She would never see Evan again after marrying Levant, so all she could do was let her four children accompany Evan on her behalf.

She specifically urged Juan and Kyle to take good care of the man. She also asked Nina and Maya to be good girls for their father.

The four children all pouted unhappily when they heard their mother’s sincere request.

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“Mommy, are you really marrying Levant?”

“You’re only marrying Levant because you want him to let Daddy leave with us, right?” asked the ever-perceptive Kyle.

The boy could tell that his mother was not happy about marrying Levant.

Nicole often stared out the window in the direction of where Evan was being held. She would also whisper Evan's name to herself while doing it.

Kyle was sure there was a reason his mother forced herself to marry Levant, and after what he heard her mumble time and again, he finally figured out the reason.

Nicole plastered a smile on her face. "Nonsense! I'll be very happy as Levant's wife."

Nina then voiced, "Mommy, you don't really want to marry him, so how will you be happy?"

Nicole was surprised by how mature her daughter sounded. This child will probably also grow up troubled by love.

"Nina, we don't always get what we want in this world. Sometimes, it's better to just go with the flow instead of going against the current. I'll get what I want if I marry Levant. That'll be enough for me."

Juan blinked his obsidian eyes at his mother. "Mommy, you'd rather leave Daddy so that he can get out of here safely?"

Nicole did not expect her children to be so mature; she was impressed by their insight at such a young age.

She gently patted Juan on the head. "Don't worry about Daddy and I. Tomorrow, you'll get to leave with him. Now, go play."

Maya continued to pout because she had realized that her family would never be whole again if her mother married someone else.

The children walked out to the courtyard and sighed.

"Didn't Uncle Davin say he would rescue Daddy? Where on earth is he?" Maya asked Juan.

The latter froze, for he too was curious about why Davin had not made a move yet.

"I don't think we can count on him anymore," sighed Kyle.

Frowning, Nina suggested calling their uncle, so Juan took his phone and tried to make the call, but it would not go through.

"How can this be?" muttered Juan to himself. Moments later, a realization popped up in his mind.

"It must be Levant's doing!"

Kyle nodded in agreement. "His wedding with Mommy has already been ruined twice, so he must've cut off all connections with the outside world to prevent such a thing from happening again."

Maya pursed her mouth and exclaimed, "Levant sure is devious! He'll do anything to get Mommy!"

"Actually, Levant is just trying to marry the love of his life," sighed Nina. Her remark made her siblings stare at her, wide-eyed.

"Nina, are you actually sympathizing with Levant?" asked Juan curiously.

"Well, he did fall in love with someone he shouldn't. That's very pitiful."

“What about Daddy and Mommy then? They’ve been forcefully separated! You’re supposed to be on our side, Nina!” Maya glared at her sister, but Nina only rolled her eyes in response.

“You don’t know what love or empathy is. I may be on your side, but that doesn’t mean I can’t pity Levant. Plus, it’s not just him who deals with such pain. Many in this world deserve pity.”

Maya rolled her eyes back at her sister. Juan and Maya knew how good Nina was in an argument, so the two exchanged looks and decided to leave her alone.

Kyle kept quiet, but he thought his sister’s argument made sense.

People often say that you’ll always find a reason to pity a dislikable person if you look close enough.

I didn’t understand what that meant before, but now I believe Levant is such a person.

Since they could not make a call to anyone, the children decided to visit their Daddy and figure out a plan with him.

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However, the guards around where Evan was being kept had been doubled, making it extremely difficult for the children to sneak in.

Juan sighed, “It’s such a shame that we don’t know how to fly. With that many guards surrounding the area, it’s impossible to get in!”

The four had staked out the place for most of the day, but the number of guards showed no signs of a decrease, so they had no choice but to retreat.

“There’s nothing we can do now. We’ll have to see if Uncle Davin can stop the wedding tomorrow and rescue Daddy.”

After Juan finished speaking, Maya nodded vigorously and put her hands together to pray.

Nina looked at her sister in puzzlement and asked what she was doing.

“I’m praying for a miracle for tomorrow,” replied Maya.

All her siblings widened their eyes silently.

Kyle was amused because his mother would always do the same thing. Nicole would often put her hands together before mumbling something.

Will there really be a miracle tomorrow?

The wedding venue was extravagantly decorated with a dazzling chandelier, a red carpet, bottles of champagne, and rose petals everywhere. There was an ambiance of romance and celebration in the air.

The guests lamented on how the previous two weddings had not worked out. Everyone wondered if the third time would really be the charm.

“If you ask me, I think the couple should break up if the wedding fails again this time. That’s three strikes!”

“If I failed to marry the same woman twice, I’d just give up on her even if she’s a goddess!”

“But it was because of Murphy’s condition, wasn’t it? I don’t think it had anything to do with the bride.”

“Bad things always happened on their wedding day. The bride’s probably a jinx!”

“He’s got a fair point.”

Light from the chandelier shone down on the carpet as Levant walked slowly to the center of the stage with Nicole on his arm.

All the woman could think about was how Evan would be released to leave Wicked Palace with the children as soon as she got married.

To her, the wedding was just part of the deal for Evan’s freedom – it was nothing worth feeling happy or sad about.

Seeing that the wedding was about to start when the couple reached the stage, Stephen suddenly rose to object to the wedding.

“I’m Nicole’s father, and I’m not giving my daughter away to Levant!”

“What’s going on?”

“What’s happening?”

“Damn, is something happening again this time? This is going to be good!”

As the guests continued their discussions, Portia looked at her husband in surprise before growling, “Have you lost your mind? Why would you say such a thing?”

Stephen paid his wife no mind and continued to stare at Levant and Nicole.

“I raised you, Levant. Even though you’re not my biological son, I treated you like my own, so I’d know that you’re not the right one for Nicole. She doesn’t love you. Of that, I’m sure. There’s no point in marrying someone who doesn’t love you. You won’t be happy, Levant. Better a finger off than one wagging. It’s not too late to let go now. Trust me. You’ll find someone better.”

An intimidating glint flashed across Levant’s eyes. The man had done everything he could to make sure his third wedding go smoothly, but never did he expect Stephen to be the one to ruin things.

I’m a wedding away from marrying Nicole. We’ll then stay together forever, and I’ll finally have the love I’ve always dreamed of.

I won’t let anything go wrong!

Levant turned to Nicole, who stood beside him in a white wedding dress and whispered a warning. “If you want Evan to walk out of Wicked Palace alive, you will shut your father up now!”

The woman’s heart skipped a beat. She knew Levant would only let Evan go after their wedding.

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I have to make sure Evan leaves this place alive.

So, she rushed over to Stephen and pulled him aside. "Please don't this, Dad. I'm begging you! Just let me marry Levant."

"I know what you're trying to do, but I've already sent people to rescue Evan from Wicked Palace. Even if you refuse to go on with the wedding now, Levant won't dare do anything to you. Not with so many people watching. You'll be able to leave this place with Evan and never come back."

"You don't know Levant like I do. He'll never stop coming for us, so please just let the matter be. I owe Evan too much, Dad. I have to make sure he walks away safely."

She grew so anxious that tears welled up in her eyes. She held her father's hand tightly as if she were holding onto Evan's last chance of survival.

As long as Dad lets the wedding go on, Evan will be released.

Portia walked over to dissuade her husband from causing trouble by threatening to expose his relationship with Avril.

"It doesn't matter if it's true. You and the Estate will be ruined if I tell anyone about the matter. You think about that, Stephen!"

The man turned to glare at Portia. "Do it! I know I'm innocent, so I'm not afraid."

"Why you... "

Portia never expected Stephen to sacrifice his own reputation and that of the estate for his daughter's sake. Does Stephen really love Nicole that much?

Nicole was also shocked by the grand display of fatherly love.

Dad is willing to give up everything for me, but I can't let him do that!

"Dad, if you insist on ruining my wedding, I'll actually kill myself. I mean it."

Nicole knew Portia meant business, so she had no choice but to threaten her father to protect his reputation and the estate.

Upon hearing those words, Stephen was filled with sorrow.

He never wanted Nicole to suffer his fate, but there was nothing he could do when his daughter was that stubborn.

"Nicole... " he called out before taking a deep breath and closing his eyes in pain and silent surrender.

Nicole breathed a sigh of relief when it was over and turned to return back to Levant's side.

Levant was also relieved to see Stephen change his mind.

When the ceremony began, the former could almost see happiness itself descending on him and Nicole. A soft smile appeared on the man's face.

"Mr. Levant, do you take this beautiful lady to be your wife? And do you promise to take care of her for richer or poorer, in sickness and health, for as long as you both shall live?"

Levant looked at Nicole sincerely and promised, "I do."

"And the Beautiful bride to be, do you take Mr. Levant to be your husband? Do you promise to be there for him for richer or poorer, in sickness and health, for as long as you both shall live?"

Nicole was silent; she could not seem to get the words out of her mouth.

She clenched her hands together tightly and reminded herself that she had already decided to marry Levant.

Come on. Say "I do!" Say it! I have to do this for Evan. There's no other way.

Nicole held her breath and parted her lips slowly. "I... "

"She doesn't!" interrupted a deep voice suddenly.

That voice could not be more familiar to Nicole.

It's him!

It's Evan...

Nicole turned her head and saw Evan, Davin, Sophia, and Murphy walking towards her. Beside them were Sheila, John, and her four children.

Their appearance at the wedding caused a stir, and people flew into gossip again.

"I told you, didn't I? Levant really shouldn't marry this woman. Three times he's tried and failed. That woman is bad luck!"

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"What's going on? Why was Murphy absent before but now appears with the opposing group?"

"There must be a reason. Let's continue to watch how the scene unfolds..."

"Now we're talking!"

Evan and the others walked to the stage before he and Levant engaged in a stare down. Their eyes were sharp like razors, causing sparks to fly as the atmosphere around them became tense.

"Why are you here, Sophia?" Nicole looked at Evan's mother in surprise.

"Go to your Nicole now, Evan!"

Evan then stepped onto the stage to stand beside Nicole.

That was when everyone noticed that Evan was also in a groom's suit.

"Wait. Who's the groom here?"

"There are two of them. This is ridiculous! How can something like this happen?"

Nicole shot the man a puzzled look. "What's going on? When did you get out of Wicked Palace? And how?"

Levant was just as baffled as Nicole was when he looked at Murphy. "What is going on, Dad? This is your son's wedding! Why are you with them?"

"Your father is my father's uncle. That's why he's with us," answered Juan readily.

Frowning, Levant thought about what the young boy said. If Murphy is Evan's uncle, he and Sophia are considered siblings, which makes Evan and I... Cousins.

Levant found the idea confusing.

"Dad, since when did I have an aunt? How did I not know about such a thing before?"

Sophia stepped up to explain the situation to the man herself.

"Of course, you wouldn't know. You only found out about Murphy recently. I left Wicked Palace a long time ago. To be exact, I left more than twenty years ago with my mother. That was even before I got married, and I never came back. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for you. Evan and Nicole love each other, Levant. Even if you manage to marry her with your schemes, you won't be happy. Instead of the three of you suffering, why not let Nicole go so that she can be with Evan? I'm sure you'll find someone better eventually."

Sophia's words were loud and clear. Levant felt as though those words were a death sentence to his love for Nicole. The man felt as if the sky itself had fallen.

He refused to listen to reason, so he turned to Murphy. "Dad, today is my wedding day with Nicole. Don't you want to see us get married?"

Murphy let out a long sigh. "Levant, when I agreed to help you make Nicole lose her memory, you said you'd let her go if she didn't end up falling for you even with her amnesia. Why are you still refusing to let her go now? There are plenty of fishes in the sea. It doesn't have to be her you marry. Listen to your old man, Levant. Let her go because you deserve better."

The sudden turn of events was like a bolt from the blue to Levant.

He had thought that he would spend the rest of his life with Nicole after that day because he had done everything he was supposed to. The third wedding with the woman was supposed to be foolproof.

Never did he expect everyone to be against him on his wedding day. Even Stephen, the one who had raised him, stirred up trouble in the middle of the ceremony. His biological father, Murphy, somehow managed to find his aunt and almost every member of the Seet family to stop his wedding.

Levant had given his all and was so close to realizing his dream, only to watch it shatter to pieces.

He felt as if his heart had been torn out.

Looking at Stephen and Murphy, the man sneered, "My stepfather chose to ignore my feelings for his daughter's sake, and my own father made the same choice for his nephew's sake."