

Mistaking the CEO for a chapter 539

“Even if you don’t love me, you must marry me! You have no other choice!”

As Daphne seemed emotional, Levant shot her a glance and left the dining room.

Her gaze darkened as she watched him walked away.

“Nicole Lane, how dare you take him from me in my turf! I’ll teach you a lesson!”

With that, she left the dining room angrily.

After returning to her room, Nicole was still wondering how could she get clues from Daphne.

If she isn’t related to Levant, could she be my sister?

Perhaps my father taught her the acupuncture skills.

That is a possibility.

She told Yoda about her assumption.

Frowning, Yoda replied, “You found out they aren’t related?”

“If they are related, they can’t get married. Daphne was obviously mad at me. She likes Levant and thinks I’m her love rival.”

Huh, something feels off.

She looked up and saw him gazing at her frostily down at her.

Nicole let out a guilty cough and explained, “It was a misunderstanding. Levant and I are not acquainted in any way.”

The man said nothing as he stared at her.

Nicole furrowed her brows. Is he upset? Why would he be upset?

She sighed and muttered, “It was rather exhausting to talk to Daphne. Stop doing this to me. I came here because I want to find out who my birth father is. Otherwise, I won’t suffer silently after being bullied.”

She was bullied?

Even though this wasn’t in his territory, there was no way he’d stand back and let his woman get bullied without retaliating.

“Just go back. I’ll take over the investigation,” he announced.

Nicole lifted her head, puzzled. Why would he ask me to go back? Has he misunderstood my relationship with Levant?

Well, my conscience is clear. I’m not afraid.

She glared at him and announced, “I won’t go back.” I’m not someone who gives up halfway!

Yoda fell silent and stop trying to convince her. Instead, he left her room without saying anything else.

Huh? Why is he leaving?

I haven't even finished talking yet. I was planning to bring him along at midnight to find some clues in Daphne's room.

Fine, I'll have to go alone, then.

Nicole told her maids to leave earlier than usual in order for her to carry out her plan. She even put on a maid uniform and waited for midnight to come so she could head to Daphne's room.

When it was almost time, she sneaked out of her room silently and walked to that woman's room in her maid uniform.

The moment she reached the room, she finally realized why the latter had stayed here for five whole years. Her room was decorated so prettily and looked so cozy.

Daphne's a stubborn woman, so it isn't easy to dig out information. I shall steal a strand of her hair to do a DNA test. That will tell me if she's my biological sister.

If she isn't my sister and continues to insult me, I'll make sure her misery is ten times worse!

Then I'll find out who taught her the acupuncture skills.

If I found my birth father, I'll bring him to Mom's grave so he can apologize to her.

After making up her mind, she knocked out a maid who came back after retrieving something and took her place.

When she entered Daphne's room, she could hear the latter yelling out of the window.

"You vixen, do you think you can seduce Levant after moving into the estate? You're nothing but an ugly toad. I'll send some men to teach you a lesson tonight. When your reputation is ruined, Levant will kick you out of the estate! Ha!" she declared angrily and kicked her table in frustration.

Thump! Nicole was shocked by the noise.

Damn it! She is so ruthless!

Luckily, I came to her room tonight. Otherwise, I wouldn't have found out about her plan.

The other maids stood rooted to their positions like they hadn't heard Daphne's words.

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With her heart in her throat, Nicole prayed. Dear Lord, please don't let this cruel woman be my sister.

Wait, how should I get her hair now? It's midnight. I can't help her comb her hair, can I?

She was deep in thought when the door suddenly burst open. A masked man appeared in a flash.

"Who are you?" demanded Daphne.

In no time, a row of silver needles came at them. Nicole immediately avoided the needles agilely.

The other maids fell to the ground after the needles pierced their skin. Daphne couldn't escape in time and slumped to the ground.

As everyone was down, Nicole pretended she was hit by the needle and lay on the ground, waiting to see what the masked man would do.

There was a knife glinting in his hand as he pointed it right at Daphne's face.

Is he going to ruin Daphne's face?

What if Daphne's my sister?

I need to save her.

Nicole rose to her feet cautiously and ran toward the door. "Help! There's an intruder here! Help!"

The masked man stopped in his tracks before coming to her. "Stop yelling. It's me."

Nicole recognized his voice at once.

"Yoda? Why are you here?"

Yoda said nothing.

Is he here to teach Daphne a lesson as she bullied me earlier?

When both of them were in a daze, a bunch of helpers rushed in.

"Leave now!" shouted Yoda.

A thought occurred to Nicole. "Go ahead without me. I'm wearing a maid's uniform, so they can't recognize me."

Yoda was stunned, then nodded.

When he was facing the maids, Nicole plucked a few strands of Daphne's hair and headed for the door.

In no time, units of bodyguards arrived at Daphne's room.

Nicole hurried away. She was running through the hallway when she bumped into something that stopped her.

"Who is this?" a raspy sound demanded.

Oh, it's a man.

Relieved, she retorted, "Why would someone block the hallway at this hour? How silly."

The man frowned. "Who are you talking about?"

"There's no one else here. You, of course!"

The man's expression soured as he glared at her.

Suddenly, footsteps sounded behind her. Nicole panicked at the sound. Is Evan here?

He can't get caught.

Praying hard, she gazed at the man standing in front of her as an idea popped up in her mind.

She turned and shouted at the bodyguards, "Come here! The intruder is here! The intruder is here! Help!"

Nicole was pleased by her idea as she yelled for help. I'm diverting their attention so Yoda can escape.

The bodyguards arrived and looked at her. "Where is the intruder?"

She pointed at the man. "There!"

The bodyguards looked in the direction she was pointing. When they saw the man in question, they froze in their tracks before lowering their heads quietly.

"It's him! He's the intruder. Take him away!"

Alas, the bodyguards didn't even move an inch after her announcement. She turned to face the man behind her as uneasiness crept up her heart.

Nicole didn't take a good look at this middle-aged man earlier. She belatedly realized that he seemed different and unusual.

He was dressed elegantly, radiating an authoritative aura silently.

Is he a member of the Musgrave family? she wondered.

She was busy making guesses when Levant arrived anxiously. He glanced at her before greeting the man, "Dad, are you alright?"

Dad?

Levant's dad is Sir Musgrave.

Sh*t, I was too worried about Yoda earlier.

I didn't even recognize Sir Musgrave and accused him as an intruder.

What do I do now? Will I be punished?

She fidgeted nervously before looking up.

Instantly, she realized the man was scanning her intently.

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“Whose maid is this?”

Levant glanced at Nicole’s outfit wordlessly. He didn’t know how to introduce her to his father. She had kicked up such a big fuss, so if he introduced her as his girlfriend, his father might kick her out at once.

If that happened, all his efforts would be wasted!

He knitted his brows and answered, “She’s my maid.”

“Your maid?” Stephen repeated dubiously.

The young girl doesn’t seem like an obedient maid in our household.

Besides, Levant’s maid would’ve recognized me. She has accused me as the intruder earlier.

Stephen knew Levant was lying, but he didn’t expose his son. He glanced at Nicole before leaving the hallway.

Once he left, Nicole heaved a sigh of relief.

Levant came to her and asked why she was dressed in a maid uniform.

“I wanted to get used to the surroundings, so I put on a maid uniform to not disturb others.”

“Is that so?”

The twinkle in Nicole’s eyes told him she was lying.

However, he didn’t press on and told her to go back to her room.

The moment Nicole returned to her room, she texted Yoda to find out if he had returned to his room safely.

Yoda: Yes, I’m back in my room. I saw you entering your room. Sleep tight!

Nicole: I can’t sleep. I just accused Sir Musgrave as the intruder. Will I get into trouble?

Yoda mused. Well, she definitely thinks and acts differently.

He replied: I’m here, so don’t worry.

Nicole: Don’t harm Daphne for now. I got her hair. We need to make sure if she is my half-sister.

Yoda: Of course she’s not. Stop overthinking.

Nicole: How can you be sure?

Yoda: Let’s wait and see.

Nicole didn’t reply to his last text. She flopped back on her bed and stared at the ceiling.

Sir Musgrave’s intimidating figure came to her mind once again.

“Mom, if Sir Musgrave is your lover back then, that will be easy. I’d be able to find him after entering the estate. But as you didn’t tell me anything, it’s hard to find my birth father. But don’t you worry, I won’t give up. I’ll continue my search tomorrow!”

After muttering her thought, she picked up her phone and scrolled to a photo of her and her kids.

My handsome and cool Kyle, cheeky Juan, snobbishly cool Nina, and adorable Maya.

Her lips curved up as she gradually fell asleep.

Stephen sat in his study as he gazed at the moon, who was appearing behind the clouds. Sorrow filled his gaze.

“The reckless girl whom I met tonight resembles you a lot,” he murmured to the moon.

He stood there for some time before he went back to work.

The next morning, Nicole paced around her room listlessly.

She handed her hair and Daphne’s hair to Yoda. He’d help her to get a DNA test. He’s been gone all morning. He should be back by now.

Just then, someone knocked on her door.

Without hesitation, she yanked the door open.

But when she saw Levant’s face, the smile on her face froze.

“It’s you?”

“Are you expecting someone else?”

“I-I thought you were a maid.”

“Without your permission, the maids wouldn’t disturb you. It’s a rule in this household.”

Levant walked into her room and sat on the leather sofa.

“Nicole, what are you doing today? Let’s spend some time together.”

“You’re free? Sir Musgrave doesn’t need your help?”

“Working isn’t as important as spending time with you.”

“Don’t say that.”

“I have an hour. After that, I need to go back to work.”

An hour?

I can’t stay with him in this room for one hour. Otherwise, someone might get mad when he returns.

“Let’s take a walk around the estate.”

“Sure.”

They were strolling along the hallway when someone stood in their way.

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“Levant,” Daphne called out.

Her gaze fell on Levant before shifting to Nicole. Immediately, it turned malicious.

Levant looked at the woman beside her and greeted. “Mom!”

Nicole studied the middle-aged woman, who still looked great for her age. She was fair and curvaceous; her figure clad in a delicate dress.

“Nicole, meet Lady Portia Musgrave.”

At his words, Nicole bowed down politely. “Lady Musgrave.”

Portia glanced at Nicole and concluded she didn’t like the latter.

After all, Nicole had moved into the Musgrave family’s estate suddenly. It must be because she was after their family’s wealth and status.

“Not everyone can move into the Musgrave Estate. Stop bringing any peasant home.”

Peasant? Is she talking about me?

How rude is that.

Nicole looked up at a stern Portia. Daphne, who was standing behind the duchess, was looking at her triumphantly.

“Mom, Nicole’s my friend. Please don’t say that.”

“Levy, are you talking back to me over this woman?”

“No, Mom. This isn’t how we treat a guest.”

As Levant insisted on defending Nicole, Portia wasn’t about to argue with him. She shot a disgusted look at Nicole before leaving in a huff.

She stared at their retreating backs as her expression clouded over.

Last night, I accused Sir Musgrave of being an intruder. Today, I met Lady Musgrave who seems to despise me. This family and I are destined to be archenemies.

I need to find out who my birth father is and leave as soon as possible.

“Don’t take my mom’s words to heart.”

“It’s fine.”

Nicole shook her head. Let her be. After all, it’s obvious Lady Musgrave won’t approve of Levant going after me.

What more, I have also offended Sir Musgrave last night. Both Sir and Lady Musgrave hate me now.

I haven’t even come up with a plan to make them hate me yet.

As they walked, Nicole spoke, "Levant, I have a question for you."

"What is it?"

"I think Daphne likes you. Isn't she your cousin? How can you marry her, then?"

Levant's expression blackened as he turned to face her. "You're right. I won't marry her because I love you."

"No, that wasn't what I meant. She knows you are her cousin, but she still wants to marry you. Aren't the two of you related?"

Daphne resembles Lady Musgrave, so the latter should be her aunt. They are obviously related.

Levant said nothing.

Nicole glanced at him. As he seemed troubled, she didn't press on.

After a while, Levant told her he had to go back to work and left.

Nicole promptly returned to her room. She wondered why Levant didn't answer her question.

When she returned to her room, Yoda was already waiting for her.

She immediately urged him to reveal the results.

"You're not related to her by blood."

"Seriously?"

"Yes!"

Then who taught her acupuncture?

The maids have no idea, and Levant won't tell me either. I need to find out myself, then.

Meanwhile, an upset Daphne accompanied Portia back to her room.

Portia sat on her custom-made armchair and sipped on the fresh milk served by her maid. She glanced at her niece and asked, "What's wrong?"

"Aunt Portia, there's something going on between Levant and that lady. Do you think he'll marry her?"

"Marry her? Of course he won't," said Portia.

"I think Levant really likes her. She's different from those socialites who used to fawn over him. I'm terrified."

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“Don’t worry. I can assure you, the dukedom is going to be Levant’s. You’ll be the next Lady Musgrave. No one is going to take that away from you.”

Daphne hesitated. She glanced around anxiously before whispering, “Aunt Portia, I heard Uncle Stephen has a daughter. Will she—”

“That’s just a rumor.”

“What if that daughter does exist? What if she returns? She’s Uncle Stephen’s daughter. Will Levant and I end up with nothing?”

“Don’t worry. If that daughter exists, Levant will get rid of her. After all, all he wants is to be the next duke, right? He won’t give the title up easily.”

Aunt Portia’s right, thought Daphne. Levant won’t give up on the dukedom.

“I hope I’ve worried for nothing.”

Portia took Daphne’s hand and comforted her. “Daphne, I’ve always treated you as my daughter. I didn’t give birth to Levant, so I need to be cautious around him. The only way to be Lady Musgrave is to make him fall for you, do you understand?”

“Aunt Portia, I understand. Don’t worry, I’ll take good care of you.”

“Alright then. I trust you.”

“I shall leave now. I’m going to prepare some snacks for Levant.”

“Be observant. If you think Ms. Lane is an eyesore, just send her away.”

“Got it,” Daphne answered with a smile as a ferocious glint appeared in her gaze.

Everyone who will threaten my future must die. I’ll clear all obstacles blocking my path.

At night, the Musgrave Estate was brightly lit.

Nicole left her room to go for a stroll in the garden. She couldn’t wait to bump into Daphne.

I can ask her where she learnt her acupuncture skills.

That might be a clue.

She was enjoying her stroll when footsteps suddenly sounded behind her.

Before she could find out who it was, a blow landed on her and she blacked out instantly.

The person picked her up and left swiftly.

Unbeknownst to him, someone who was upstairs had witnessed the entire incident.

The man’s brows creased in perplexity. Why would someone kidnap her at night?

I can’t believe something like this is happening in the estate.

He summoned the bodyguards at once.

Nicole was brought back to Daphne's room.

"Ms. Ankins, it's done."

"Bring her to the darkroom. Wake her up by splashing water on her. Don't forget to stuff her mouth lest she shouts for help."

"Got it."

Nicole only gained consciousness after a pail of ice water was poured on her.

When her eyes fluttered open, another pail of water was poured down over her head.

"Mm! Mm!"

She wanted to yell for help, but there was a cloth stuffed in her mouth. Her limbs were also tied up.

As the water dripped down her body, she was shivering, thoroughly drenched.

Sh*t! I'm like a helpless animal waiting to be slaughtered!

Did Yoda and my bodyguards realize I'm missing? Will they come save me?

"Ms. Ankins, she's awake."

The door opened, Daphne stood in front of her with a smug look as she towered above Nicole disdainfully.

"Don't you know your place? How dare you wander around the estate? In the morning, you stuck by Levant's side. Were you on your way to his room just now? What a wench!"

Nicole instantly regretted stopping Evan from ruining this arrogant Daphne's face last night.

Is it too late to repent?

Can I turn back time?

Nicole was praying fervently when suddenly, Daphne took a step forward and grabbed her dripping wet hair. "Tell me," she demanded. "How did you seduce Levant?"