

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 251

Even Maya herself could not describe that man.

Noticing Evan's cold expression, Sylphiette smirked happily. *Mission accomplished!*

"Apologies, Nicole. I shouldn't have intruded on your private matters," she said. "Let's go, Evan. I don't need an apology from her."

Evan looked at Nicole for a while longer before turning around and leaving.

"Thanks for helping me out, Nicole!" Sylphiette sneered before rushing out of the door. "Evan! Wait for me!"

Nicole watched as the two of them walked back to the main house together as she struggled to catch her breath.

Sylphiette's tricks did not matter to her; what mattered was Evan's attitude towards her.

'I'll never fall in love with her no matter what'...

Her heart twitched painfully whenever she thought of his words.

The pain reminded her to steer clear of him and keep all inappropriate thoughts at bay.

"What are they doing here, Mommy?"

She looked down to meet Nina's eyes. "Everything's fine, don't worry."

Nina stared into her mother's eyes, noticing how moist they were. *I bet evil Daddy and the witch ganged up against Mommy!*

"It's time for dinner, Nina. Tell your siblings to come here," Nicole said.

Nina nodded and ran off to get her siblings.

During dinner, Nina stared into space as she pondered over her plan to teach her evil daddy a lesson.

However, she could not come up with a good plan.

What if we targeted evil Daddy's favorite witch?

We'll be able to take revenge for Mommy and teach them a lesson!

After dinner, she dragged her siblings into their room to discuss her plans.

The other kids were indignant to find out that their mother was bullied, and were determined to take revenge for her.

The two boys suggested punishing Sylphiette first, since she was the one who guilt-tripped Evan into bullying Nicole.

Maya seconded their opinion as she was on good terms with Evan after he served them a sumptuous lunch.

Nina, however, insisted that Evan was to blame as well.

She wanted to punish him alongside Sylphiette.

Juan grinned. “Why don’t we beat the witch up someday?”

The others shot down his idea immediately. “We’re never going to win!”

“Why don’t we just...make her disappear?” Kyle suggested.

Disappear?

That seemed like a good idea...

“But...how?” Nina asked. “Daddy’s going to find her no matter what...”

Maya stuffed her last French fry into her mouth and wiped her hands clean on her shirt. “Why don’t we just throw her into a pond?”

“...”

The kids looked at each other in silent agreement.

“Will she drown?”

“I don’t think so. The water isn’t that deep.”

They figured that the chilling cold of the pond would be sufficient to teach Sylphiette a lesson.

“What if she calls for help?”

“Well, we could...”

“I think Maya should...”

“...”

The kids decided to execute their plan on Saturday afternoon.

The next day...

Evan returned to Rose Garden only to see Sylphiette talking to a stranger.

Sylphiette stood up and ran over to him the moment she saw him. "Welcome home, Evan!"

"We have a guest today?" he asked.

Evan studied the man from head to toe. He was tall and slender, though not as handsome. Even so, he was still better-looking than the average Joe.

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"He's here to look for Nicole, Evan."

He's looking for Nicole?

Evan trained his eyes on the man again, his face becoming less and less appealing in his eyes the more he looked at him.

"You're looking for Nicole?" Evan asked coldly.

"That's right. How is Nikki doing?" the man asked.

Nikki...

What a cute nickname...

Evan's stare turned into a glare. "What's your relationship with her?"

The man smiled brightly. "Nikki's an attractive woman. We used to live together, you know. Do you understand how great it is to see her everyday?"

'Live together'...

'How great it is to see her everyday'...

Could he be Maya and Nina's biological father?

Evan grimaced.

Sylphiette smiled at the man. "Nicole should be back soon. Why don't you wait for her inside?"

However, before the man could answer, Nicole walked in with her kids in tow.

When she saw the man standing in the yard, her jaw dropped. "Why are you here?"

"I'm here to look for you, Nikki. I'm sure you need someone to help out in your clinic?" he asked.

"H-how did you know about the clinic?" she asked, dumbfounded.

"Oh, I told him about it," Sylphiette said hurriedly. "He asked about you just now."

Nicole stared at Sylphiette in shock. *No wonder she asked me if I loved someone else last night! She planned all this!*

However, she had to give Sylphiette credit for tracking him down so quickly.

The man's name was Rocky, and he had been Nicole's classmate back when they were learning acupuncture. He had tried and failed to propose to her, and they lost contact after returning home.

Nicole knew that Sylphiette had a part to play in this since there was no way Rocky could have known where she lived.

Is she trying to push me into another man's arms so that she could have Evan to herself?

The dedication...

Evan's fiery gaze bore into her as he spoke, "Hey, aren't you going to tell us who he is?"

Nicole glanced at Rocky. "Introduce yourself."

Rocky nodded. "My name is Rocky, and I used to be in the same med school as Nikki. I specialize in acupuncture, so I was wondering if I could join Nikki's clinic."

Evan did not seem satisfied with his answer. "Are you Maya and Nina's father?"

"He isn't," Nicole answered curtly.

Rocky grinned. "Maybe it'll be true in the future."

He isn't their father!

Evan walked over to Nicole with a cold expression on his face. "How many men have you slept with so far?"

Nicole frowned and glared at him. *Just one so far, you jerk!*

You're Maya and Nina's father, for goodness' sake!

I've got nothing to do with this!

“Why are you looking at me like that? Are you scared that I’m going to tell him...?”

“Just say it.”

Nicole could not care less about what Rocky thought.

After all, she had no feelings for him.

Evan turned around to glare at Rocky, much to her excitement. “You can be the girls’ father, but I’m the father of the boys! You’d better remember that!”

Nicole was a little taken aback by his words, but she put on a calm expression and looked on with her hands crossed in front of her chest.

Why is he so eager to tell Rocky about this!

Is he trying to make Rocky suspicious of me?

Sylphiette began to panic. *Can't he just let that man take Nicole away from him?*

Why is he tearing everything down already?

“Evan, let bygones be bygones. Just let Nicole have a fresh start, would you?” Sylphiette asked as she walked forward and linked arms with Evan.

It seemed like a harmless gesture, but everyone could tell that she meant to emphasize her relationship with Evan.

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That particular gesture made Nicole uncomfortable.

They're poking fun at me again!

Rocky froze for a moment. "You're right, Miss. I'm sure Nikki is looking for a lifelong partner, am I right?"

Nicole stared at Sylphiette and Evan's linked arms before walking over to Rocky and pulling him into her embrace.

"That's right. I just need someone who will love me wholeheartedly for the rest of my life."

Boasting about your relationship? Easy!

Evan narrowed his eyes before pushing Sylphiette aside and walking into the house.

Sylphiette ran after him without missing a beat.

Nicole pulled away from Rocky too as she stared at Evan's retreating figure.

Rocky noticed it and smiled. "Do you like him?"

Nicole shook her head. "I don't. Please don't make things up."

Rock grinned. "Fate can't be forced. You'll only get to keep those you're bound with. Why don't you give me a chance, Nikki?"

'Fate can't be forced'...

Were Evan and I never meant to be?

What in the world was I trying to do just now?

A bout of jealousy had taken over her mind the moment she saw Sylphiette link arms with Evan.

Was I really that jealous of them?

She wanted nothing more but to slap herself at that very moment. He told me that he'll never fall in love with me!

I have no right to be jealous!

Reluctant to do it in front of Rocky, she imagined herself smacking her cheeks in regret.

"What's wrong, Nikki?" Rocky asked, pulling her back into reality.

She turned around to meet his eyes. "Why did you come here all of a sudden, Rocky?"

Rocky merely grinned. "God sent me here."

Nicole could tell that there was something he wanted to hide and decided not to press him for an answer.

After all, she was indeed shorthanded at the clinic, and having someone as capable as Rocky would be a godsend to her.

“So...you want to work at my clinic? What’s your desired salary range?” she asked.

“It doesn’t matter. I just want to see you everyday,” he said.

“I’ll give you the standard salary then.”

Rocky nodded. “Shall we have a meal together? I spent days travelling here just to meet you, you know.”

“Sure,” Nicole replied. “Get in the car. Let’s eat out for today.”

Soon, they arrived at a restaurant that served unique yet tasty food.

Nicole hoped that Rocky would be fine with an average restaurant like that, since preparations of the clinic’s opening ate up a large portion of her savings.

To her relief, Rocky was an easygoing person. The kids loved the food in the restaurant as well.

The atmosphere at their table was light and relaxed, though Kyle and Juan spent the entire meal whispering to each other while stealing glances at Rocky.

Maya gobbled down her food as usual, while Nina chattered away happily with Rocky.

“Does Nina want him to become our stepdad?” Juan asked Kyle anxiously.

“No! We can’t allow that!” Kyle replied sternly. “Mommy and Daddy must be together!”

Juan stared at Rocky. “Let’s wait and see. Now’s not the time to act rashly.”

Meanwhile...

Sylphiette watched as Rocky left with Nicole and her kids with a wide grin on her face.

Evan will belong to me once Rocky marries Nicole!

She took out her phone and sent Rocky a message. Try your best to make her fall for you. Marry her as soon as she agrees!

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Rocky sneered at himself for having assumed that Nicole's intention to help her step-sister was genuine and she really wanted someone to be there to care for her.

It was not until now did he realize that Sylphiette was actually afraid of Nicole getting into a relationship with the man she had a crush on.

Indeed, humans were really a bunch of selfish creatures.

He then kept away his phone and ignored her.

With a loud thud, Evan shut his laptop in frustration.

He found it unbelievable that any man would be interested in a woman like Nicole and the fact made his blood boil in fury.

"Evan, what's the matter?"

“Nothing, let’s dig in.”

At the dining table, Sylphiette made use of the opportunity to bring up things in the past. “Evan, do you still remember how I used to sneak in here through the dog hole just to pick the flowers?”

Images of the past soon emerged in Evan’s mind.

Sylphiette, who was still a little girl at the time, often had her body covered with mud because she had sneaked into the garden of the mansion through the dog hole to pick the flowers. There was a time when Evan deliberately filled up the hole and as a result, she burst out crying in anxiety because she had no way out.

At the sight of her weeping miserably and her helpless gaze, he decided to clear out the hole for her as his heart went out to her immediately.

With the images playing in his mind, the way Evan looked at her softened considerably because he couldn’t help but feel remorseful for what he had done to her in the past.

At the same time, he reminded himself that she was the woman he should care about.

As for Nicole, he shouldn’t care about what she did and who she hung out with. *That’s right! Sylphiette is the one I should care about. Who cares about Nicole?*

Deep down inside, he warned himself not to be too concerned about Nicole’s matter.

“Sylphiette, you know someone who can read and speak the language of A Nation, don’t you? You may ask the person to arrange an interview with my company.”

Sylphiette was ecstatic to hear that. *Does that mean Evan is going to fire Nicole?*

With Rocky around, Evan had really started distancing himself from Nicole.

How nice was that?

She knew no man in the world could stay calm and unbothered when there was a possibility that the woman he was interested in was dating another man.

The more a man fancied a woman, the more bothered he would be.

“Very well, I’ll give him a call and ask him to arrange an interview then.”

After lunch, Evan drove to the office.

As for Nicole, she brought Rocky to her clinic after sending the kids to the kindergarten.

Rocky was an adept acupuncturist. Back then, Nicole and him used to be similarly accomplished in their medical skills. She counted herself having more luck than him because their master, who favored her, had taught her more stuff.

Otherwise, she couldn’t even be sure that she would turn out to be a better doctor than him now.

Being satisfied with the environment and facilities of her clinic, Rocky persuaded her to go all out and hire more employees because he was sure the size of her clinic could be expanded to be several times bigger in the future.

Nicole only chuckled in response to his suggestion. She was not too ambitious for the time being because she was contented enough if she could provide a more comfortable life for her kids.

When it was time for her to pick up the kids at the kindergarten, she didn’t close her clinic earlier because Rocky was there. She left her patients to him while she made her way to the kindergarten.

After sending the kids back to Rose Garden, she helped them settle down as usual and then scuttled off to Evan's study at a hurried pace.

When she reached there, Sylphiette suddenly appeared out of nowhere and stopped her from entering the room with her outstretched arms.

"Evan is not interested in meeting you and he's hired another translator. So, your presence is no longer needed and you'd better stay out of his way!"

He has hired a new translator? Why didn't he tell me about it?

After some contemplation she came to the conclusion that she must be too insignificant for Evan to see the need to inform her anything.

But anyway, she would be able to put her whole attention in managing her clinic from then on without having to work as a translator for him.

Just as Nicole turned around to leave, she spotted Evan making his way over.

Since he deemed her to be such an unimportant presence, she really couldn't see why she needed to treat him with respect.

Being caught in a trance for a moment, Nicole quickened her pace and walked past him as though he were non-existent.

Did she just pretend not to see me? Very well. Just stay as far away from me as possible in the future! It would be best if she just ceased to exist in my life from then on!

While Evan was criticizing her in his mind, Nicole suddenly scrambled to his front and blocked his way.

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Evan, who was caught off guard by her sudden movement, eyed her in puzzlement.

Nicole extended her palms toward him.

In response, he frowned at it wondering what it was supposed to mean.

Is she proposing to make peace with me so that we could get along well with each other again?

Or, is she doing that because she would like to salvage her job?

Whichever it is, that's a sensible decision.

At that thought, a trace of contentment emerged in his brooding eyes as he posed her the question, "I don't understand what you're trying to do."

He wanted to hear his presumption from her mouth.

Seeing that his attitude was not as cold as how she expected, Nicole thought it was the perfect time for her to bring up the money's issue. She spoke confidently and determinedly thinking that it was not necessary for her to be too tactful, "Please give me the money."

Money?

Is she asking money from me or is she trying to borrow some?

Evan narrowed his eyes slightly when he queried, "How much do you want?"

"I charge five hundred per hour and one thousand for a whole day's work. Mr. Seet, you may pay me the amount according to the hours I've worked for you."

Turns out that she was asking for her salary. So I was wrong!

Noticing the flicker of astonishment in his eyes, Nicole thought the sly smile on his handsome face rather frightening.

Hence, she quickly clarified, "Since you've found yourself a new translator, please pay me my salary."

After a long beat, Evan asked breezily, "Would you prefer payment in cash or via digital wallet?"

"I'm fine with both."

"I'll pay you in cash then."

Nicole nodded in agreement.

A moment of hesitation later, Evan said, "I'm sorry, I don't have enough cash with me right now."

"You may pay to my digital wallet then."

She replied readily because the payment method didn't matter to her as long as she received the money.

Once again, Evan paused for a moment before sharing her the bad news. "It so happens that my digital wallet is experiencing some technical issues."

Nicole was left speechless. *So that means he will not be paying me today?*

At the thought of the scant balance in her bank account, Nicole mustered her courage and asked, “When would you be able to make the payment then?”

Evan replied after a brief moment of silence, “I’ll be able to do that when the technical issue is resolved.”

Nicole was stumped.

How nonsensical was that excuse?

Obviously, it was just his lousy excuse to avoid paying her.

Soon, a blaze of fury was ignited deep down inside her as she wondered whether he would refuse to pay her forever with that reason.

Tsk, tsk. She didn’t expect him to be so hesitant in making the payment because the amount of her salary was nothing compared to his wealth.

Her eyes sparkled with menace when she suggested, “Mr. Seet, I’m afraid I’ll have to frequent your place from now on to check whether your digital wallet is free from issues.”

She was trying to warn him that he stood no chance to avoid the obligation to pay.

The money was desperately needed by her to provide a living and buy some winter jackets for the kids.

On top of that, she also deserved to receive the reward for her effort and what she demanded from him was nothing more than reasonable.

All of a sudden, Evan’s eyes lit up. *Is she going to watch over me to make sure I pay her? Great.*

He was really curious to see how far she could go.

“I’m pleased to hear that. Ms. Lane, please feel free to visit me as frequently as you can.”

Nicole couldn’t come up with any response.

Is he trying to say that he isn’t going to be disturbed by my pestering in the future?

What a jerk!

Can’t he just give me the money?

Evan gave her a once-over before moving in large strides toward his study.

Without the need to turn around and check, he was sure Nicole must be admonishing him under her breath at his back.

Being an outspoken and straightforward person, Nicole wouldn’t give up so easily for sure.

He couldn’t help but turn around to take a peek at her out of curiosity when he reached the door of the study.

However, what he saw soon put a crease on his forehead.

She wasn’t whispering obscenities at him at all.

Instead, she was pointing her slender finger in his direction and performing a kick in the air toward him from time to time. Judging from how furious she looked, she wouldn’t hesitate to beat him up if she could.

Evan was having a great time watching Nicole venting out her frustration.

“Ms. Lane, are you going to get physical with me over just a few thousands?”

Stupefied, Nicole forced a faint smile at him as she quickly retrieved her legs to stand still.