

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 276

Nicole was surprised as well.

Maybe Evan has to meet a client over here? Maybe he happened to see us and walked over?

Rocky's eyes shone with displeasure, but he didn't say anything. He simply observed Evan.

Maya hopped down from her chair and extended her chubby legs to run to Evan. She tattled, "Nina called you evil."

Evan turned to Nina suspiciously.

They were eating together, so how did I get into their conversation? Calling me evil... They must've said something bad about me!

Evan's gaze on Nicole instantly turned cold, and when he turned to Rocky, his gaze only became colder, freezing even.

Rocky didn't react to it. He simply picked up his wineglass and took a sip.

"Nicole Lane, say something nice if you have to talk about me."

Nicole was speechless.

She never mentioned him. The kids were the ones who suddenly steered the conversation in his way.

“You misunderstood, Mr. Seet. I never mentioned you.”

“Why would they call me evil if you never taught them that?”

Nicole glared back at Evan’s accusing gaze. She scoffed, “You’re right. They steered the conversation to you and insulted you on their own. That just proves how terrible your impression on them is.”

No one spoke for a second there.

After being dissed like that, Evan tilted his head down and asked Maya, “Did I leave a bad impression?”

Maya thought about it for a while before she shook her tiny head.

Evan instantly looked proud. He turned back to Nicole and pointed out, “The kid said no.”

Nicole scoffed and turned to Nina, “Did he leave a bad impression?”

Nina nodded without hesitating. It wasn’t enough for her to nod so much and so hard, though. She had to shoot a mean glare at her evil daddy as well.

Nicole mimicked Evan and sounded just as proud when she refuted, “The kid said yes.”

The two of them glared into each other’s eyes and furious sparks flew everywhere. They mutilated each other in their minds.

Rocky stared for a little while before clearing his throat and saying, “Mr. Seet, I am treating Nicole and the girls to dinner tonight. If you’re free, you can join us.”

“He’s busy.”

Nicole answered for Evan before he could speak.

When Nicole moved out of the Rose Garden, she decided that she would minimize her contact with Evan.

She warned herself that she must cut off any potential interaction between them.

Her lips moved as her brain had planned, and she cut that potential interaction off immediately.

Evan's eyes darkened. Is this woman worried about me getting in her way? Is that why she refused to let me stay? She enjoys being with that guy that much, huh? Okay, fine!

Evan walked out of the private room. He immediately sent Nicole a text afterward.

She'll have to come running now.

Nicole read the text on her phone. She hesitated for a while before she excused herself, claiming she needed to use the washroom.

Before she left, she told Nina and Maya to stay in the room with Rocky.

The kids nodded obediently.

Rocky was curious about why Nina didn't like Evan, so Rocky turned to her and asked about it.

Nina deliberated. Evil daddy might be mean, but still, I shouldn't tattle on him. She changed the subject after coming to that conclusion.

"I'm more interested in telling you what my mommy likes."

“That’s fine, too.”

Maya had her head down and was eating away as Nina and Rocky chatted.

Evan was relaxed and enjoying his wine when the door to his private room was knocked.

“Come in,” said the deep, sexy voice that Nicole was all too familiar with.

She opened the door and walked in. When she saw Evan there, she cut to the chase and said, “Mr. Seet, you asked me to come to collect my pay, so I am here.”

“How many days did you work? I forgot. How about I just wire five thousand to you?”

Nicole glared at him. She worked for exactly five days, so it was obvious that Evan remembered it. What’s the point of acting dumb?

“Sure.”

Evan fished his phone out. Nicole was excited to receive the money when he suddenly placed his phone down again.

Nicole frowned as he did that.

He’s not playing another trick, is he?

“Mr. Seet, you’re not going to claim that your phone is not working again, are you?”

“Oh, my phone is working just fine, but...”

Evan trailed off at that point and stared at her.

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“But what?” urged Nicole.

“But the minimum amount my phone can transfer is six thousand, so you will have to earn that extra thousand.”

Nicole was speechless.

Yet another stupid and obvious lie.

Nicole suddenly realized that the a*shole, Evan, can always come up with the weirdest excuses when he wanted to annoy her.

It was likely that the extra thousand wouldn't come from translating another document from A Nation. Nicole couldn't figure out what else he could've wanted her to do, so she cut to the chase and asked, “Mr. Seet, how should I earn that extra thousand?”

“Do you know how to pour wine?”

Nicole frowned. Does he want me to drink with him? I can't really drink, and who knows what will happen after I'm drunk?

Nicole thought about the potential consequences of being drunk and immediately said, “I won't drink with you.”

Evan scanned her from head to toe before saying, "Like I'd want to have a drink with you? No way! You only need to pour the wine."

Nicole sighed a breath of relief in her mind after hearing his response. Pouring wine was much simpler, and it is a bargain to earn a thousand just by pouring a few drinks. More importantly, I will be able to receive the five thousand he owes me. With that money, I can buy loads of new clothes for the kids, and I can have even less interaction with him after this. It's a win-win!

"Fine, I'll pour the wine, but you have to clarify the rules. How many glasses do I have to pour for you?"

Evan's eyes glowed a little brighter after hearing her response.

His sexy lips curved up as he asked calmly, "How many glasses do you think you'd need to pour to earn a thousand?"

Nicole was stunned. If I answer one bottle, would Evan finish this entire bottle? More importantly, what do I do about Maya and Nina if he took all night to finish this bottle? Staying up late is unhealthy for them, and they need to rest early.

After thinking it through, she turned to Evan and replied sincerely, "It's not healthy to drink so much, Mr. Seet, and I have to take care of the girls, so I can't stay too long. As such, will three glasses of wine do?"

Three glasses...

The glow in Evan's eyes dimmed, but he nodded in agreement.

"Let's get this started then."

Nicole walked to Evan's side and picked up the bottle of red wine. She checked the label and saw that it was the Romanée-Conti. That was a luxury brand and was so expensive that only millionaires could afford it.

Nicole suddenly felt like the bottle in her hand weighed over a ton. She was a little nervous and was especially careful when she poured the velvet red liquid into the glass. After that, she placed the bottle aside quickly because she was terrified of dropping it. She couldn't afford to compensate for it.

Evan held the wineglass up and swirled the red wine around. The beautiful red wine danced under the reflected light and looked delicious.

Evan admired the beauty for quite some time before he took a sip.

"Wanna try some? It's a superb wine," said Evan as he turned to Nicole.

Nicole shook her head and in a serious tone, she reminded, "Mr. Seet, I've said that I won't drink with you."

Evan grinned nonchalantly before downing the rest of the wine in his glass.

He placed the glass on the table, and Nicole stepped forward to top it off for him.

Evan didn't pick the glass up. Instead, he turned to Nicole and asked, "How long have you known Rocky?"

Nicole replied honestly, "Almost three years."

"What do you think of him?"

Nicole deliberated before answering, "He is kind to me. He helped me out a lot when we were studying abroad together."

Evan didn't say anything about that.

His eyes shone with a hint of sorrow, and his expression turned cold. He slowly lifted his wineglass.

Nicole thought that he drank rather quickly. Ah, great! Let's just get this over with. She was about to step forward to pour the third glass of wine when he placed the wineglass back on the table.

He hadn't had a sip.

Why pick the glass up if you're not going to drink any? C'mon, just down it quickly.

Nicole couldn't help pursing her lips a little, and Evan caught that when he suddenly turned around.

"Got a problem?"

Nicole was stunned, and she shook her head like it was a rattle drum.

She was just the hired help, so she didn't dare to complain.

Evan was satisfied with her reply and attitude.

If that woman had complained, I would have dragged this on until tomorrow morning!

Evan turned around. He grinned gracefully before he picked the wine glass up once more. After that, he murmured a single sentence.

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“Rocky isn’t a simple guy.”

Nicole frowned. For a long while, she thought about what Evan said before she nodded in agreement.

Given the house he loaned her, it was obvious that Rocky’s identity wasn’t as simple as she used to think.

However, she wasn’t all that curious about him. She only saw him as a friend, and everyone had a past. She was okay with her friends having some privacy.

Evan turned around to examine her when he realized that she wasn’t asking any questions about it. Does that mean she already know about his identity?

“So do you like him or his...” Power?

Evan didn’t utter that last word because he thought that Nicole would understand his question.

Nicole, however, remained quiet. She didn’t like Rocky or any of his things, so there was no point in discussing it.

Why is Evan so curious about me and Rocky?

Nicole crossed her fingers and asked, “Do you like Sylphiette, Mr. Seet? What do you like about her?”

Evan was taken aback.

He didn't expect those questions from Nicole.

His expression turned grim, but he didn't answer her question. He didn't demand an answer from her about Rocky either. He simply picked up the wineglass and downed the wine.

Nicole saw him drinking like that and assumed that he was admitting to being in love with Sylphiette by drinking.

That makes sense. He is the renowned Mr. Seet, and no one can force him to do anything he didn't want to. As for why he likes Sylphiette... Well, that is his business, so why did I even bother to ask about that? Man, I am such a busybody.

Nicole was having an internal monologue when Evan turned around. His sharp gaze was stuck on her, and his voice was distant when he ordered, "Pour the wine."

Nicole came around and stepped forward. She had just picked up the bottle when she suddenly felt Evan's arm naughtily circled around her waist.

Her heart thumped faster, and she said, "Mr. Seet, please move your arm away."

"Ah, sorry. I am a little drunk," claimed Evan, who pinched Nicole's waist despite his words. Nicole instantly blushed hard.

She turned around and glared at him while her face was utterly reddened. She was about to lose her temper when he suddenly pulled her in.

That surprising move ambushed Nicole and made her fall. She hadn't had a chance to place the bottle down before it zipped in the air and Smash! fell onto the floor.

Nicole's heart instantly froze over.

Shoot!

The ridiculously expensive wine had spilled everywhere.

She retracted her gaze from the wine bottle and nervously turned to Evan.

Evan's beautiful eyes were staring at her at the time, and his lips were grinning mischievously.

"You broke my bottle of wine, so pay for it," said Evan.

Pay for it? I can't afford that. Besides, this wouldn't have happened if you hadn't suddenly acted up. How is that my responsibility?

"Mr. Seet, I think you should apologize to me in addition to paying for that bottle on your own."

Evan stared at the fuming, beautiful face that was right in front of him, and his eyes shone like he was enchanted.

Nicole saw that, and her heart skipped a beat. She then realized that the position they were in was actually...

Why haven't I pushed him away? What is wrong with me?

Nicole quickly hopped out of his arms and adjusted her clothing.

"Looks like you won't be collecting your pay again today."

"What is that supposed to mean?" blurted Nicole after hearing what Evan said.

Is this b*stard going to cancel out all my pay to compensate for the bottle of wine?

“You seduced me and destroyed a bottle of excellent wine. How will you compensate for that?”

Nicole stared at Evan in bewilderment. She was tempted to run over and mutilate him at that moment.

Who’s the undisciplined idiot who tried to seduce the other? Ask yourself that and be f*cking honest!

Who would’ve thought that Evan’s specialty isn’t just misreading the situation and accusing me? He is freaking good at framing me too! That a*shole.

“Evan Seet! You were the one who... Have you no shame?”

Evan looked at her as if he were actually in the right, and he announced formally, “Nope.”

Nicole was speechless.

She was stumped because there was nothing she could say when he behaved so shamelessly.

Isn’t it worse if I keep quiet? Well, I can’t get my money anyway, so I might as well yell and vent out all of my frustration.

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How satisfying it is to rake someone over the coals!

She heaved a long sigh while pointing fingers at Evan.

“I shouldn’t have believed you and thought that you would give me the money. Had I known things would turn out this way, I wouldn’t even let you treat me to a drink, let alone taking the initiative to pour you a glass. Have you seen a jerk? You’re one notable a*****e in real life. The ULTIMATE jackass!”

The more she lashed out at him, the more infuriated she got. On the contrary, Evan was just staring at her calmly, waiting patiently for her to finish before asking a question, “Are a few thousand really that important to you?”

“Yes! Money is my priority!”

She knew how pathetic life would be to have no money. Having to raise four children single handedly, how could she not be thrifty?

Seeing how serious she looked, Evan narrowed his eyes.

“Don’t get so worked out. Look, you don’t have to pay for this bottle of wine and I’ll still give you the money. Are you cool with that?”

Nicole looked at him in confusion.

Why did this jerk change his mind suddenly? Is the scolding taking its effect?

“However, as per our agreement, you’re supposed to pour me three glasses of wine. Two down and one more to go. I’ll give you six thousand but you owe me one more glass, of which I can claim anytime.”

Each of them had to take a step back; fair and square.

When Nicole was still in deep thoughts, Evan digitally transferred six thousand to her account.

She accepted the cash transfer curtly, but deep down she felt like she had accepted a time bomb. Hmm... I have to attend to him as and when? Can I reject him when the time comes?

Evan seemingly knew what Nicole was thinking. “Don’t you dare think about breaking your promise. I’ll hunt you down.”

She got an idea and quickly transferred four hundred back to him.

“It’s a thousand for three glasses. Since I’ve only poured you two glasses, I’d gladly return you four hundred and close this episode with a win-win solution. Henceforth, we have completely nothing to do with each other.”

We owe each other nothing; just like two strangers who never knew each other. How could she say it so casually...?

With a glint of coldness in his eyes, Evan stared at her. Doesn’t this woman want to see me again? Probably not, for she only has eyes for Rocky. I guess she can’t wait to cut off ties with me and not be in contact anymore. Otherwise, she wouldn’t have moved out from Rose Garden.

As for me... What am I thinking? Why am I still longing to get entangled with her?

Evan’s expression sank instantly, exuding an intimidating aura.

He got up and said coldly, "It's up to you!" and left promptly after that.

Nicole watched his figure slowly disappeared from her sight. An inexplicable feeling rose within her.

From now on, I assume there will be no further interaction between us. He will live happily ever after with Sylphiette; I should also shatter all unrealistic fantasies, and move on with my life.

She walked away in disappointment but when she got to the entrance, she heard Evan talking to somebody.

He sounded exceptionally gentle. Oh, it's Sylphiette he was talking to. Of course, who else could make him as gentle as a lamb.

She peeped through the window and saw them cuddling as they left together.

What a handsome couple! Yet, it was also an unpleasant sight that pierced right through my heart. I wish I hadn't seen that.

She then recalled a scene when Evan pulled her into his embrace. That was just him being a jerk. Wake up, Nicole Lane, stay away from him!

When she returned to her dinner table, a heart-warming scene greeted her. Rocky was chatting happily with Nina whereas Maya was pouting and rubbing her round tummy.

"I'm regretting my decision to finish up all the food. I don't know how to control my mouth or my appetite, for that matter."

Lovingly stroking Maya's head, Nicole responded, "Mommy will supervise your every move."

"Mommy, you're back! What took you so long?"

“Ya Mommy, Uncle Rocky and I were about to go look for you.”

“I’m sorry, I met a friend so we caught up for a bit. Carry on with your meal and let’s call it a day thereafter.”

“We’re done eating, Mommy. You’re the only one left.”

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Nicole grinned awkwardly. “I’ve finished eating too. Let’s go then.”

Suddenly, Rocky’s phone rang. It was a text message.

There was a glint of confusion in his eyes after reading it. When he was getting up, he accidentally hit the wine glass and it spilled on Nicole.

He apologized at once and helped her to clean up.

“It’s okay, I’ll do it myself.”

“I’m really sorry. It’s cold outside, why don’t you take my jacket?” Rocky removed his jacket and put it on Nicole without any hesitation.

Although she wanted to decline, she was more concerned of the embarrassment it would bring her if she walked in public with a big patch of red wine stain on her chest.

Hence, she nodded while adjusting the jacket.

“I’m really sorry about it. I’ll buy you a new blouse tomorrow.”

“No worries. I can still wear this after washing.”

“Come on, Mommy, why don’t you just let Uncle Rocky buy you a present?” Her little rascal was coaxing her and she would not stop until Nicole glared at her.

When they were leaving the hotel, someone bumped into Nicole. She stabilized herself and was taken aback when she realized who gave her that hefty shove.

“Sylphiette?”

“Oh what a coincidence, Nicole!” She was scrutinizing her jacket, which belonged to Rocky.

Rocky explained casually, “Her blouse was stained by red wine, so she’s wearing my jacket.”

Sylphiette was secretly delighted while showing off the jacket she was wearing.

“Well, Evan was afraid that I’d catch a cold, so he gave me his jacket too. Rocky, you’re such a gentleman to my sister.”

“We have to head back soon. Let’s get going now.” Nicole could not be bothered and strode off. The children followed.

Rocky intentionally walked closely by her side. From a certain angle, it looked as if he was hugging her.

Snap! Sylphiette took the opportunity to capture pictures of them with her phone and smirked satisfactorily.

“Nicole Lane, just wait for the next exclusive tabloid.”

You're a flirtatious mother of four who don't deserve to have your own Cinderella story!

Sylphiette knew that Evan was with Nicole. Hence, when she got into his car, she pretended to be unwell and borrowed his jacket. Then, she schemed 'the encounter' to show off the jacket and implied her closeness with Evan. Sylphiette was pleased to see the reaction she had expected from Nicole.

Her red lips formed a coquettish smile as she turned around and rushed towards the parking lot.

The impatient Evan asked, "Where did you disappear to for so long?"

"I had a tummy ache, Evan. Sorry to keep you waiting."

Throughout the journey back to Rose Garden in his Rolls-Royce, Evan did not speak another word.

Meanwhile, after putting her children to sleep, Nicole sat by the window, gazing at the stars.

Evan is treating Sylphiette so well, would he help Lane Corporation to stage a comeback?

It's been very challenging to seek revenge for mom and claim possession of Lane Corporation. If Evan becomes the pillar of support for the Lane family, then it would make it even harder for me to achieve anything.

When she thought about that, she felt so lost and down. How many more hurdles await me? Will I be able to accomplish what I desire to do?

She sighed while going through an emotional turmoil. Right then, a text message from Rocky came in: Nikki, I have a question for you.

She regained her senses and replied: What is it?

After some time, another message came in: Forget it, have a good rest.

Nicole knitted her brows in confusion. What did he want to ask me?

Rocky was reflecting on what he just did and he felt uneasy being caught in a dilemma. Is this the right thing to do?

Rocky knew very well that Nicole liked Evan, but Evan already had Sylphiette.

If only Nicole realized that she had no future with Evan, she could move on with her life happily. I reckon I'm actually helping her by doing this, aren't I?