

# Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 416

Evan instantly strode upstairs as he made his way into Russell's room.

At Russell's behest, Evan shut the door fully before a letter was handed to him.

"Don't say anything until you've read the letter!"

Accepting the letter, Evan quickly opened it.

Shock had him frowning when he saw the photos inside.

However, when he read the contents of the letter, his expression fell.

How can this be? Despite our efforts all of these years, we were never able to find out who was behind the hit and run that had killed Grandma. I honestly never expected that it would be...

He flipped through the photos once more in disbelief.

One photo showed his grandmother lying in a pool of her own blood.

Another showed two people sitting in a car, the car that had hit his grandmother. Zane was sitting in the passenger seat while a woman was in the driver's seat.

The letter explained that the woman was Zane's first wife and the mother of Nicole!

This means that the person who had killed my grandmother is Nicole's mother.

Evan was utterly dumbfounded at the news and found himself at a loss for what to say.

He lifted his head to look at Russell.

Profound sadness and fury were written across the old man's wrinkled face.

Now, he finally understood why Russell had such a sudden and great change of heart when it came to Nicole.

His grandmother was the woman whom his grandfather had loved the most in his life. After her death, his grandfather kept trying to find who the culprit was, hoping to bring them to justice.

For however much Russell loved his wife, such was the extent of his hatred for Nicole's mother.

Naturally, it would not be that far of a stretch for him to hate Nicole as well.

"Evan, do you think that I should still allow you to marry her?"

Evan did not reply, not knowing what to say to that. After a moment of silence, he finally spoke in a careful tone, "Grandpa, I know that you're very sad and angry. However, this accident had nothing to do with Nicole! She was still a little girl back then-"

"Even so, that doesn't change the fact that she's the daughter of your Grandma's murderer! No matter how much you excuse her, that's a fact that will never change! Evan, I will never agree to allow her to marry into the Seet family! If you still think of yourself as your Grandma and I's grandson, you will do this for us!"

"Grandpa, she's the mother of my children! She's also the woman I love! I-"

"That's enough! I don't want to hear you justify the situation for her! Remember what I've said!"

With that, the old man shot him a frosty look before spinning around and heading further into the room.

Evan was left staring at his grandfather's retreating back, the old man's figure looking so frail and lonely. At that moment, Evan felt like his heart was being pulled in two different directions.

On one side, it was the man whom he respected the most.

On the other, it was the woman whom he loved the most.

How can such a difficult situation happen to me? I have been put between a rock and a hard place!

He could not completely disregard his grandfather's feelings, but he could not give up on Nicole either.

Davin pounced on him the moment he exited Russell's room, questioning him about why their grandfather was angry and what the letter had said.

Evan scowled at him before stalking away.

"Evan, say something!" Davin pestered when he noticed the upset expression on his brother's face.

He followed his brother all the way down to the study, where Evan sat down in his office chair and lit up a cigar.

“Evan, judging by your demeanor, I’m guessing that it’s something really serious? Just what is it!”

“Nicole’s mother killed Grandma.”

“What!”

Davin was stunned at this revelation.

How could Nicole’s mother have been involved in Grandma’s death? If that’s really the truth, that means that there’s no way that Grandpa will ever forgive Nicole! Not with how much he loves Grandma! Not to mention...

“Evan, I have to remind you that while Grandpa’s attitude in this matter is very important, you can’t forget about Dad. If Dad finds out that Nicole’s mother had killed his mother, he’s not going to forgive Nicole anytime soon! If you’re really insistent on being together with her, the road ahead is going to be very, very difficult for both of you.”

Of course Evan understood what Davin was saying.

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This truth coming to light would be the perfect reason for the Seet family members to outrightly refuse Nicole from marrying into the family.

Noting that Evan was not speaking, Davin stood up and left him alone to his thoughts.

Evan had never once felt this helpless before.

Just what am I supposed to do now? What can I do that might affect the outcome of this matter?

Ten minutes later, his phone rang.

Letting out a deep sigh, he answered the call.

“Nicole, is there something that you need?”

“Evan, did Grandpa finally tell you about the unforgivable things that my father has done to the Seets?”

He did not immediately reply. After a while, he uttered, “I’ll tell you later.”

That means that he does know!

“Okay. Then when are you coming back?”

“Tonight. I have an important meeting later in the afternoon.”

“Alright. I’ll be waiting for you.”

Ending the call, Evan was faced with another dilemma.

How am I supposed to tell this to Nicole without making her too upset?

...

That night, Evan picked Juan and Kyle up before bringing them back to Summervale.

On their way there, Juan asked him curiously, “Daddy, is Great-grandpa still mad at Mommy?”

“Juan, Daddy will handle this issue. Both of you need to focus your attention on your schoolwork, okay?”

From that, the young boys understood that their great-grandfather had yet to forgive their mother.

They sighed. Maya and Nina fight all of the time but they’re back on good terms with each other within minutes. Adults make things so serious! Maybe we should give Great-grandpa more time?

“I understand, Daddy. We’ll work hard at school!”

“That’s the spirit!”

They arrived at Summervale just as Nicole returned with Nina and Maya.

Ushering the kids into the toy room, she quickly made her way over to Evan.

“What has my father done to Grandpa?”

It's not your father; it's your mother!

Evan's eyes darkened as he lied that Zane had used despicable methods to snatch some businesses from the Seet family.

Nicole furrowed her brows in thought. She would not put it past Zane to do something so reprehensible. It made sense.

Nevertheless, she still felt like Russell was overreacting over this matter. The old man is usually quite open-minded. To change his attitude over something like this seems rather out of character for him.

Noticing how she was mulling over his words, he took her pale hand in his.

"Hey, stop overthinking things. This is not your fault, you know. Grandpa is bound to get over it eventually. Go and cook dinner; I'm sure that the kids are hungry."

"Alright. What would you like to eat?"

"Anything is fine."

"Shall we have hotpot then? Maya kept suggesting that we have hotpot for dinner. She swears that she'll only eat the vegetables, not touching any of the meat."

As if Maya will only eat vegetables and not eat any meat! Her eyes shine so brightly every time she sees meat, the little glutton!

Evan chuckled in disbelief, knowing that his daughter must have purposely said that so that she could have hotpot for dinner.

She's probably desperate to eat meat!

"Sure."

Controlling her diet was not the only way for Maya to lose weight.

"We still have some leftover soup stock and meat in the fridge so we don't need to go out and get more."

"Then, I'll help you to wash the vegetables."

"Sure!"

The two adults headed for the kitchen.

Nicole selected the vegetables while Evan washed them. She took in the stress and worry that creased his expression. He seemed like he had something on his mind.

She asked him about it and he smiled, replying, "What else can I be worried about other than work-related matters?"

At this, she comforted him by saying that there was no need to be so worried. Seet Group was already the best in the business world. Nobody would be able to overtake them so easily. She also chastised him for always only having his work on his mind.

"Fine, fine. I'll put you and the kids before anything else in the future."

"Really?"

"You don't believe me?"

She pursed her lips in response.

"Then I'll use the rest of my life to prove it to you."

A brilliant smile bloomed on her face. "Okay!"

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She would use the rest of her life to watch him prove it to her.

Half an hour later, a feast was laid out on the table.

There were beef and mutton slices as well as a variety of vegetables.

Maya's eyes gleamed as her gaze remained locked on the meat slices.

These look so delicious!

Less than three minutes upon sitting down, she had completely forgotten her earlier declaration that she would not eat any meat. She stuffed slice after slice of meat into her mouth happily.

Nicole and Evan shot each other knowing grins.

Their gluttonous little daughter would use just about any excuse so that she could get to eat meat.

Evan gazed at his daughter in amusement as he suggested, "Let's go for a walk after dinner, okay?"

Since she clearly could not control herself, they would have to come up with a way to increase her exercise.

"A walk?" The little girl thought over his suggestion for several seconds before nodding.

The other three kids piped up eagerly, wanting to go on a walk too.

After dinner, Evan helped Nicole to clean up the table before bringing the children out for a walk.

Nicole stayed behind to wash the dishes. When she was done, she sat down on the couch to relax. Just then, her phone rang.

Checking the caller ID, she saw that it was Sheila.

"Nicole, how are you?"

"Hi. I'm okay. What's up?"

"What happened back then was not your fault! Don't be too sad, alright?"

Huh?

Nicole frowned in puzzlement. However, before she could even strike a question, Sheila was already continuing, "Davin told me all about it. You're not at fault for what your mother did so don't go blaming yourself, okay? Mr. Seet definitely won't break up with you over this!"

What did my mother do? Why would Evan want to break up with me? Just what is Sheila going on about! Unless... Evan is hiding something from me?

She probed, "Was my mother over the line?"

"Of course nobody wanted that car accident to happen! I'm sure your mother didn't mean to hit and kill Davin's grandmother. Nicole, don't think so much on this..."

Nicole's mind went blank.

Did Sheila just say that Mom had killed Davin's grandmother? How can that be?

On the other side of the phone, Sheila was still prattling on. However, Nicole did not hear a thing over the loud humming in her ears.

Her mind seemed to be stuck in a loop. There's no way that Mom had killed someone. She wouldn't commit a hit and run. She's too kind for that! It's impossible!

Then again, Sheila would not have dared to say something so outrageous unless it held some truth to it.

Besides, such an incident would explain the sudden change in Russell's attitude a lot better than a conflict of interest in the business world did.

Nicole's expression was grim as she ended the call and dialed Zane's number.

He would be the only one who had known the truth of this matter.

All she wanted now was an explanation from him about exactly what happened, all those years ago!

However, he did not pick up even after she tried twice.

Standing up, she grabbed her jacket and locked the door as she rushed toward the elevators.

She had to ask him for answers. She needed the answers now!

She sped toward the Lane family villa and hurried into the living room.

The maids were clearly surprised to see her there. One of them exclaimed, "Ms. Nicole, why are you back here?"

"Where's my father?" Nicole went straight to the point, not wanting to waste any more time.

"Ms. Nicole, Sir can't see you right now. Perhaps you could come again tomorrow?"

He can't see me now? No! I can't wait! I need to meet with him now!

"Tell him that I won't leave unless he meets with me."

Expression hard, she settled herself on the couch, looking to the rest of the world as if she would not be willing to budge an inch.

Feeling anxious, the maid scurried upstairs.

As Nicole continued to wait in the living room, she realized that something was off.

Sylvia should have been bearing down on me to throw me out of the house by now. Why isn't she doing so?

She questioned one of the maids who was wiping the floor nearby. The maid answered that Sylvia and Sylphiette were out of the country.

Nicole's brows knitted deeply as she wondered why they would suddenly leave the country.

"Why did they leave?"

"We don't know, Ms. Nicole."

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Nicole had nothing to say to that.

A short while later, the maid who had gone upstairs to report her arrival returned. There was a troubled look on her face as she informed, "Ms. Nicole, Sir doesn't want to see you. He wants you to leave."

In fact, Zane's words were more along the lines of telling Nicole to get lost. Not wanting to offend Nicole, the maid had changed them to sound a little more tactful.

Taken aback, Nicole got up and headed for the stairs.

None of the maids dared to stop her.

After all, Nicole was someone who dared to go up against Sylvia. With such a stubborn and strong personality, there was no way that they would be able to stop her anyway.

She was just about to climb up the stairs when her phone chimed.

Evan was calling her.

"Why aren't you at home? Where did you go?"

"I-I went out to buy something. I'll be back in a bit."

"Drive slowly, okay?"

"Yeah."

She was not in the mood to talk to Evan right now, at least not before she found out what happened back then from Zane.

Making her way upstairs, she stopped in front of Zane's bedroom. A woman's voice soon drifted out, "Oh you bad, bad man! That hurt..."

The woman's voice was playful and teasing.

Fury rose within Nicole. *The moment Sylvia leaves the country, Zane actually brings another woman back home? How did Mom even fall in love with a two-timing jerk like him? Poor Mom!*

*Despite putting on human skin and acting like a human, a beast was still a beast deep down inside.* That fact would never change.

Zane Lane was one such animal.

*As they say, a leopard can never change its spots. He would never change his cheating ways!*

However, that was not the most pressing issue at hand. She had more important things to worry about. Raising her fist, she pounded on the door.

Having been interrupted a second time, Zane was furious beyond measure. He bellowed, "I've already said to tell her to get lost! Are you deaf?"

Nicole ignored his shouting and brought her fist down even harder.

*Bang, Bang, Bang!*

The woman beneath him stared up at him fearfully. "You don't think that's your wife?"

Zane paused for a moment before he decided that it could not be true.

*If it really were Sylvia, she would be cursing and screaming her head off by now.*

The maids would not have had the courage to continue banging so loudly without saying anything either. That left only one person.

*That damn brat! Ever since she came back from out of the country, she has never once shown me an ounce of respect!*

"Stay here; I'll go out to see what she wants."

He got off the bed and yanked the door open.

Upon realizing that his suspicions were right, a vicious scowl twisted his features.

"What do you want?"

Nicole glared at him. "I have something to ask you."

Zane was rendered speechless. He knew that if he did not allow her to ask her questions, she would refuse to move away from his doorway tonight.

Wanting to get rid of her as soon as possible, he reluctantly led her to his study.

They had not even taken their seats when he stated impatiently, "Out with it!"

She knew that this was going to take a while as he would definitely not give her a direct answer. Hence, she made her way over to the black leather couch and sat down.

Once she was comfortable, she lifted her head to lock gazes with him. "Were you involved in the car accident that had killed Evan's Grandma?"

Instantly, panic swept through Zane.

*Why is she suddenly asking about this? Has the Seet family found out about it?*

Being incredibly observant, Nicole immediately detected the change in his expression.

*So, he does know about it!*

"Why don't you come clean? I already know about the accident."

Snapping out of his daze, he tried to deny everything, "I wasn't involved in anything! I don't even know what you're talking about!"

Unfortunately, despite his denial, his expression betrayed his current emotions.

*Guilt. Panic. Even if it was Mom who had caused that accident, it's evident that he's related to it somehow.*

Nicole pondered what she would say next. It would seem like she would have to resort to trickery to get her own answers.

"The Seets have already gathered the necessary evidence. I've seen the photos for myself. Did you seriously think that you could get away with it?"

*Evidence. Photos.*

Zane's heart skipped a beat at her words. "What photos?"

"The crime scene photos, of course! The photos of Evan's Grandma's death!"

"The crime scene?"

The memory of the bloody scene from all those years ago played out in his mind.

He had been utterly dumbfounded and terrified when he realized that he had killed someone. His mind had gone blank as he stared at the bloodied form on the ground.

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Back then, Nicole's mother, Rosalie Wells, had grabbed his hands as she made a suggestion out of desperation.

After that, they purposely tampered with the crime scene. *Now, the question was whether the photos showed me at the driver's seat or Rosalie?*

Taking in how pale her father had turned, Nicole understood that her family was definitely involved in the accident.

"Still not admitting to it?"

"Nicole, I wasn't the one behind the wheel back then! I-it was your mother! Your mother killed that old woman, not me! I had nothing to do with it!"

Nicole's heart clenched in her chest as she stared at him in disbelief. "It was Mom? Really?"

Putting on a heartbroken expression, Zane added, "I was in the passenger seat while your mother was driving. After she hit that old woman, she was afraid of the consequences of killing someone. That's why we fled out of there!"

She found that even harder to believe.

Her mother had always taught her to be brave and to admit to her mistakes. She had lectured her on the importance of taking responsibility for her actions. *It doesn't make sense that she would run away back then!*

"Is that really what happened?"

Zane could not meet her eyes. Turning his head away, he walked toward the chair beside his desk and sat down.

“Yes!”

She still did not trust his words. Gathering her thoughts, she pressed, “Then why did you let Mom drive?”

He tensed slightly as his mind whirred, seeming as though he was trying to come up with an excuse. Finally, he let out a regretful sigh and answered, “Your mother insisted on it! She was in a hurry to visit your grandfather. This is all my fault! I should have stopped her!”

*Is that so?*

Noting how she seemed to be thinking over his words, Zane plastered on a grieving expression on his face and uttered, “Nicole, you’ve always asked me how your mother died. I didn’t dare to tell you the truth last time. Your mother’s guilty conscience ate at her, causing her a lot of psychological stress. She continued to blame herself for what had happened and would even wake up screaming from all the nightmares that she had! She suffered from severe depression and her disease didn’t help matters... In the end, the pressure finally got to her. That was the reason that she had died so young!”

Zane’s words reminded her of something incredibly important.

Back then when she had been making a deal with Sylphiette at Rose Garden, Sylphiette had told her the reason for her mother’s death.

She had said something that was akin to what Zane had said, that her mother had died due to being unable to withstand the pressure of killing someone.

Nonetheless, there was one very notable difference. Sylphiette had also informed her that Zane was involved in the murder case as well.

*By “involved”, did she mean that he was in the car with Mom at the time? No, her expression back then was practically screaming that things were not as simple as that. It’s obvious that she knows something about this accident!*

She also remembered how Sylphiette had uttered, “Nobody knows the reason for your mother’s death better than Sylvia.”

This meant that Nicole had someone else she could ask, regarding the matter that happened all those years ago.

Coming to such a conclusion, she soon decided that there was no point in wasting any more time here. She left the villa and sped back home to Summervale.

The house was quiet since the four kids were already in bed.

She could faintly hear the low timbre of Evan's voice drifting over from the balcony.

Surprised, she tiptoed over to the balcony and spotted him on the phone.

She held her breath as she eavesdropped, watching as he massaged his temples before replying, "Mom, I'll handle this."

He was talking to Sophia.

"I understand, Mom. Let's leave it at that for now, okay?"

Evan ended the call and turned around, jumping a little in shock when he saw Nicole standing there. The woman had her arms crossed before her chest as she stared at him.

"When did you get back?"

"A short while ago."

Evan's face fell. *Did she hear my conversation with Mom?*

Sophia had been telling him about how Jonathan had reacted to the truth regarding the car accident.

Jonathan had absolutely refused to allow his son to be with the daughter of his mother's murderer!

He demanded for Evan to cut off all ties with Nicole. Otherwise, he would disown Evan!