Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 691

Evan and John almost reached the study when they saw Stephen exiting his study and headed in the direction of the tea room of the Musgrave Estate.

"Follow him."

Stephen brewed some tea after entering the tea room. Then, he took a cup of tea with him to the window. He sipped his tea and stared into the distance as though he was waiting for someone.

Even though Stephen rejected to see Evan earlier, he knew for sure that Evan would get to him, given his obstinate character.

The tea room was a good place to meet him. There was no one to interrupt their conversation.

Before he even finished his cup of tea, Evan and John appeared at the door steps.

He leisurely put down his cup of tea on the table. Yet, he didn't address the two of them.

Stephen acted as if he didn't notice his uninvited quests.

John furrowed his brows. What does this old fella have in mind? He coughed purposely as if to remind Stephen that there was someone else in the room.

Stephen poured himself another cup of tea before raising his head to look at the two of them.

"Is there anything I can help you with?" Stephen sounded nonchalant.

Evan's eyes darkened. He sat down on the chair opposite Stephen in a brusque manner. "Are you sure you don't know what I am here for?"

Why doesn't my wife remember anything? Why is she now the fiancée of Levant? I need an explanation!

Stephen's lips curled up. He replied with an indifferent tone, "I do not know."

John was irked by Stephen's indifference as if nothing had happened.

He uttered, "Sir Musgrave, why didn't you want to meet Mr. Seet? Also, why couldn't Nicole recognize Mr. Seet at all?"

John had a feeling that Stephen was the mastermind behind everything.

Stephen's eyes drifted to John and Evan. "Are you done with your questions?"

"Yes. Now please answer our question!" Evan was desperate to know what happened to his wife.

However, Stephen only smiled. "Now it's my turn to question you. Nicole was all fine when she left with you earlier, but how did you lose her in such a short period of time? What happened? Aren't you supposed to take good care of her?"

Evan was speechless.

His expression was grim. "It's all my fault for failing to keep her safe."

"Mr. Seet, don't blame yourself. You couldn't have seen it coming. It must be that evil witch—Sylphiette and Levant's doing!"

"No, I insist that it is my fault. Sir Musgrave, I am willing to accept any punishment."

Stephen scoffed. "I'm sure all of us don't want such a thing to happen to Nicole. Anyway, Nicole now remembers nothing from her past, and that includes you."

Evan froze in his place.

My dear Nicole has forgotten all about me?

She's really forgotten about all of the precious memories we had together?

At that moment, Evan could feel his heart hollowed out and his blood seeping out of his body.

"How did she lose her memory?"

"She was already in this state when she got back. I tried acupuncture on her but it didn't work."

Stephen deliberately left out the fact that Murphy had the cure and his promise to Levant.

There were two reasons. First of all, the chances of Evan obtaining the cure were slim. If he actually went to Murphy, he would be risking his life. Stephen didn't want this to happen as he knew that Nicole would surely wish that Evan were safe and sound.

Secondly, he made a promise to Levant. Stephen was afraid that Levant would harm Nicole if he told Evan the truth.

After much rumination, Stephen decided to keep Evan in the dark.

Evan paused for a while before setting his steely gaze on Stephen. "I'll look for the best doctor for Nicole. Please let her leave with me. No matter how big of a price I have to pay, I will cure her."

Stephen's face twitched a little. If he allowed Evan to bring Nicole away, Levant and Murphy would certainly make him pay the price.

Furthermore, there was only one unique cure for Nicole's amnesia, and it was in the hands of Murphy.

Thus, there was no way Stephen could give Evan his green light to take her daughter away.

With that in mind, Stephen sneered, "You can't even take good care of Nicole when she was well. I can't let her go with you this time. Also, it's not like Nicole will want to go with you."

Stephen's words reminded Evan of Nicole's forbidding attitude towards him earlier in the morning.

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Nicole thought Evan was a loser who went under the knife to deceive women.

Naturally, Evan figured that she wouldn't want to leave with him right now.

John suddenly spoke, "Sir Musgrave, why can't you explain to Nicole about her relationship to Evan. They have four children together. I think it's enough to convince her."

Stephen widened his eyes. He knew he could not tell Nicole about Evan as it would be against the promise he made to Levant.

Also, there was no saying that Nicole would get cured if she followed Evan. Stephen figured it was safer for him to continue with the current arrangements he had with Levant.

After a moment of silence, he replied, "Nicole has absolutely zero recollection of her past. If I brought it up to her, she will definitely be stressed. She's living quite a carefree life right now. I say just let her live the way she's living now. Perhaps, she might wake up and remember everything one day."

As long as Nicole didn't fall in love with Levant within one year, Levant would give her the cure, and her amnesia would be lifted.

However, the future was still unknown. There was a possibility in which she would fall in love with Levant. Does Evan have enough patience to wait a whole year for Nicole?

Stephen's eyes fell upon Evan. "There's nothing we can do now but wait. Regardless of what ideas you have, it won't change the fact that Nicole can remember nothing from her past."

Evan sunk into contemplation. He could fathom Stephen's rationale to not tell Nicole about her past as it might be too much for her to process. After all, Stephen was Nicole's father. Of course, he would not want her daughter to go through unnecessary stress.

"I respect your choices. However, I would like to ask you for a favor."

"What is it?"

"Please let me stay at the estate! I want to see Nicole all day every day!"

Stephen pondered in silence. He could notice the sorrow hiding behind Evan's deep eyes.

Stephen was also once in love. He knew clearly what Evan was experiencing at the moment.

At the same time, as Nicole's biological father, he was moved by how far Evan was willing to go to recover his daughter's memory.

Stephen lifted his head. Instead of the beige-colored ceiling, Rosalie Wells appeared in front of her eyes. Even though Rosalie was no longer present with him, it brought both bliss and solace to Stephen to be able to see her.

"You may do as you please. However, you cannot bother her too much."

She can't remember you now. If you pester her too much, she might dislike you instead.

"Rest assured. I won't."

Evan just wanted to be by Nicole's side, not to pressure her. He just wished for her to remember him one day, which he figured would be more likely to happen if they could meet every day.

Evan hoped he could find the cure for her loss of memory as soon as possible.

Later that day, Evan and John moved into a guest house they had previously stayed in while they were at the estate.

The room reminded Evan of the time he accompanied Nicole as her bodyguard on her search for her biological father under the alias of Yoda.

However, everything had changed. Evan was now a nobody to Nicole. He could only watch her from afar.

When will I finally be able to visit this place as Nicole's husband?

"Mr. Seet, don't be too down! You and Mrs. Seet were deep in love. She'll definitely remember you!"

Is it really so?

Earlier that day, when Evan bumped into Nicole at the restaurant, he made a terrible impression. Evan had no idea how to make Nicole look at him in a new light.

The next day.

Nicole stared at the tableful of dishes on the dining table. It was very appetizing.

The more she indulged in the food, the more delicious it was. For some reason, she felt like she had tasted the dishes before. That afternoon, she ate more than usual.

Only after breakfast did Nicole notice how much she had eaten as she rubbed her bloated belly. She peeped at Stephen bashfully.

There was only a fatherly smile on Stephen's face. He sighed internally. Turns out, I wasn't wrong to let Evan stay at all!

The dishes served just now were Nicole's favorites. Evan was the one who suggested them for breakfast. Two of the dishes were even prepared by Evan himself.

Stephen didn't expect a high-class man like Evan who was the president of a conglomerate to cook for a woman.

Whether Evan or Levant would earn the love of his daughter was all up to themselves.

For a long while, there was only silence at the dining table. Nicole mulled for a moment before shooting her question.

"Dad, can I ask you something? When did I get engaged to Levant?"

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Stephen didn't want to answer her daughter's question as it was obviously a lie fabricated by Levant to fool her. However, because of the promise he made to Levant, Stephen could not give Nicole a truthful answer. Thus, he gave her a vague reply, "Back then, you two wanted to keep your engagement personal. I have no idea when you two decided to get engaged."

Huh?

Getting engaged is such an important life decision! How could I not tell my dad about it?

Nicole was baffled by the choices her old self-made.

All of a sudden, she thought of all those touching tales of sacrificial love, just like that of Romeo and Juliet. She wondered what Levant had done in the past to win her love, and whether if she and Levant were a match made in heaven. Is our love really that sacred that we have to hide it from our parents?

Alas, Nicole was unable to recall anything from her past.

She made a mental note to ask Levant when he came to visit her.

Nicole bore a pensive look on her face as she stepped out of the dining room.

As she wandered mindlessly down the corridor, a loud and sonorous voice came from behind.

"Ms. Nicole!"

Nicole snapped out of her trance.

When she saw the man who was calling her, she was taken aback. "Aaaah!"

Evan took a few steps back at once. What is that dramatic response? Didn't I just call her "Ms. Nicole?"

Nicole reacted as if she just saw a monster.

After recognizing who the tall man ahead of her was, Nicole goggled at Evan with utter displeasure on her face.

Isn't that the crazy man who went under the knife to seduce women and called me his wife at the café yesterday?

"W-Why are you here?"

Evan spaced out for a second before replying politely, "I got hired as a bodyguard by the owner of this place."

Nicole's face was full of doubts. Hmm, something smells fishy. Is it really a coincidence that I just bumped into him yesterday and now he's here to guard our house?

Nicole seriously suspected that Evan was up to no good.

In her opinion, he had other motives for getting a job at her house.

What if he wants to take the chance to get close to me in hope that I will fall for him and give him a piece of the Musgrave's fortune?

Now that Nicole took a closer look at him, she realized that Evan was quite an elegant person for a man who wanted to leech off a woman.

Too bad he is rotten on the inside.

Nicole rolled her eyes at Evan internally. She then questioned him, "Why did you come to the estate to be a bodyguard?"

Because you are my wife and I want you to remember me? How can I leave you now when you need me the most?

Nevertheless, he couldn't divulge to Nicole the truth. She would never buy his account of her past.

Evan simply muttered a few words, "The salary here is quite good."

Nicole scoffed. He hesitated for so long just now before he replied. He must be lying.

Her doubtful eyes sized Evan up. She figured that she needed to give a loser like him a warning.

"Being a bodyguard at our house is not a stroll in the park. If you have any other motives, better get rid of them! Or else, I will make your life living hell!"

Having said her words, Nicole glared at Evan one last time before she strode down the corridor.

Evan's eyes were glued to Nicole's back as she left. He looked downcast.

He remembered himself treating her in the same manner when Nicole first came back from overseas.

Back then, Evan thought that Nicole employed a lot of schemes just to get close to him. In fact, he was even more forbidding towards Nicole than she was to him now.

Who knew that in just two years' time, we will exchange places with one another? Sigh, karma sure never misses its shot.

Only when Nicole was no longer in his sight did Evan turn around.

John, who was standing next to Evan all along, could only sigh. Is Mr. Seet trying to atone for his past?

Two years ago, Mr. Seet was the one who tormented Mrs. Seet every day. Now, it's Mrs. Seet's turn to torture him. This sure feels like a plot from some soap drama!

Oh right, I better take note of what words Mr. Seet use on Mrs. Seet to win her back. They might come useful when I have to pursue my girl.

Nicole returned to her room. Before she could settle down on her bed, her maids came to inform her that Levant was here to visit her.

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Nicole's heart nudged her to not meet up with Levant, but Nicole remembered what Stephen told her during breakfast. Now that she knew Levant and her were a pair of committed lovers in the past, she felt guilty that she wanted to turn him down.

I can't push my fiancé away just because I have lost my memory, right?

Nicole bit down the discontent within herself and replied, "Let him in."

Levant walked to Nicole with a big grin on his face. He had an expensive present for her.

"Nicole, this is a limited edition wristwatch. I think it will suit you well. Let me put it on you."

"I already have a wristwatch. You can keep this." Nicole outright rejected Levant's gift.

Levant stared at Nicole in all seriousness. "This wristwatch is made to order specifically for you. It represents my feelings for you. If you reject it, I will be very sad."

Levant's puppy eyes were begging for Nicole's pity. All of a sudden, Nicole felt sinful for not accepting his gift as though she had cheated on him.

She writhed her lips and stuck out her hand hesitantly. Glee instantly broke out on Levant's face. He gently enwreathed her wrist with the watch. "It's so pretty! Do you like it?"

Nicole nodded her head gingerly.

Out of the blue, Levant put his arm next to Nicole's. "I also have one on me too. It is made to match yours. Us wearing the same watch means that we will think of each other all the time."

It's a couple's watch?

Nicole was stunned.

Why did he have to make me wear it before saying it's a couple's watch?

Nicole was perturbed. She felt disrespected.

"Nicole, it's pretty sunny outside. Let's go out for a walk."

"Levant, I'm not feeling very well. I think I'll need to rest. Sorry, but I won't be joining you." Nicole had a sheath of ice over her face.

Levant froze for a moment before he replied, "Alright then, rest well. I will see you tomorrow."

"Mmhmm. See you tomorrow."

Nicole nodded curtly.

After Levant left, Nicole let out a breath in relief and unlatched the watch from her wrist. She murmured to herself incoherently as she placed the watch in her drawer.

Tsk! As if I'm going to wear it all the time once you get it on me!

No way, José!

Nicole shut the drawer with a nonchalant push. She took an apple from her nightstand to eat.

In the afternoon, Stephen ordered a maid to fetch Nicole to the study. He said he was going to teach her the ways to manage the Musgrave family's business.

Stephen had always wanted to let Nicole succeed in his position, but she always turned down his offer in the past. Now that her memory was wiped clean, she was willing to learn the ropes to run her family's business.

Truth be told, Nicole accepted Stephen's offer as she was getting bored dawdling around in the estate. She figured that some work would help her kill time.

Nicole ambled gracefully across the hallways in the direction of Stephen's study.

She halted in front of the garden as she was passing the garden.

Huh, didn't he apply to become a bodyguard at our place?

What is he doing next to the swing?

Apart from feeling curious, an uncanny thought crossed Nicole's mind.

Is he trying to tamper with the swing so that I will fall from it? Just so he can show up in time to save my day?

Holy crap! What a scheming fox!

Abhorrence was scribbled all over Nicole's face as she tiptoed over to watch him from his back.

He's actually trying to spoil the swing!

"Hey, loser! I knew it! You are up to no good! Have you forgotten what I told you? I asked you to forget about what agendas you have to get into the Musgrave's household, and now here you are wrecking my swing?"

Evan, who was in the middle of dismantling the swing, was shocked by the ear-piercing shrieks of Nicole.

He was especially irritated at Nicole for calling him a loser.

He turned around and glared at her.

If she had not lost her memory, he definitely would have gone off on her for shaming him.

"I have a name. It's Evan, not loser. Please call me by my name."

Evan's tone was warm and gentle, but at the same time, it carried weight and sounded like a command.

Nicole furrowed her brows and repeated Evan's full name. "Evan." Hmm, this name sounds quite...

Midway through her thoughts, Nicole noticed a hopeful gleam in Evan's deep set of eyes.

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Does she have any inkling about my name?

The next moment, Evan could hear Nicole sighing. "Sigh, what a waste to your beautiful name!"

Nicole's words put out the light in Evan's peepers.

It seemed that Nicole did not find Evan's name familiar at all.

However, Evan still had faith that one day Nicole would remember him, or at least his name.

He swore that even if she couldn't restore her memory in the near future, he would never leave her.

"Why are you taking apart my swing?" Nicole's interrogation disrupted Evan's thoughts.

Evan turned around and pointed to a spot nearby that had more sunshine.

"If I move the swing there, you'll be able to get your daily dose of sunshine even in the late afternoon."

Nicole casted a doubtful gaze at Evan.

Tsk, there you go again. Don't think I don't know that this is just part of your plan to win my heart! No way I'm going to let you have any of the Musgrave's fortune! Nicole promised herself to not fall for such gimmicks.

He must have disregarded everything I said! Does he really think he can fool me that easily?

"Whatever you are trying to do, it's all nothing to me! I know what you do for a living. You please women in hope that they will take you in. Pft, I am not a woman who will fall prey to a man like you. The only feeling I have for you is disgust!"

Evan scrunched his brows. He was taken aback by Nicole's speech.

He never thought that even after she had suffered a memory loss, she still had a sharp tongue. In fact, she seemed to have gotten better at the fine art of insulting.

"That's all your assumptions."

Evan turned around to continue his work once he sputtered his reply.

Wow, even when his true motive has been uncovered he can still be so chill? You've got a pretty thick skin, eh?

Alright, fine!

Let's see how long you can keep up with this act!

Nicole took one last threatening glance at Evan before heading towards Stephen's study.

As Evan was fixing the swing, he suddenly had flashbacks of the past.

Years ago, Nicole came to the Seet Residence to perform acupuncture on Sophia Chinton—Evan's mother. That was when Evan bumped into Nicole. Back then, he thought she had other motives and had talked her down in front of his parents and his younger brother Davin Seet. To his surprise, Nicole was sharp-witted enough to come back at him, which pissed him off a great deal.

Evan curled up his lips bitterly. He wished time could just roll back.

If he knew how important Nicole would be to him in the future, he would never have hurt her with his words.

Meanwhile, Nicole arrived at Stephen's study. Right away, Stephen passed her a few booklets which contained all the information she had to know about Musgrave's business.

"These few files contain the basics you ought to know in order to run our family business. Get familiar with them."

"This is just the basics?" This is a lot!

The Musgrave family sure has quite an extensive background, huh?

Nicole browsed through the booklets in a cursory manner. She wanted to have an overview before diving into the bulk of the information.

There was indeed a lot for Nicole to learn about. It took Nicole several hours to finish reading. She concluded that the Musgraves was a powerful family with many valuable assets.

"So, what do you think? Which of the fields are you more interested in?"

Suddenly, Nicole could feel a crushing pressure descending on her.

However, as she was still in the midst of contemplating, the doors of the study were pushed open.

Portia Ankins rushed into the room.

"I just went back to stay with the Ankins for a few days and she's already moved in?"

Portia glared at Nicole like the latter was a thorn in her flesh. Her strong aversion towards Nicole was unsettling.

After losing her memory, Nicole couldn't remember her history with Portia and Daphne Ankins. Naturally, she did not understand why Portia was so hostile towards her.

Stephen stared at Portia and slowly explained, "Nicole is my daughter, and you are aware of it. On the other hand, I now know that Levant is Murphy Morris' son. You may stay here, or return to the Ankins family. You can even move to the Wicked Palace if you want to. It's all up to you—as long as you don't hurt Nicole."

Portia's face darkened. "There is nothing between me and Murphy."