

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 636

The children were taken to a room. As soon as they entered, the door was closed and a crisp click told them they were locked in.

Maya's eyes glowed with terror. "I'm scared. I want Mommy!"

"Stay strong, Maya. Mommy and Daddy will come to rescue us," promised Nina as she held Maya's plump hand tightly.

Juan and Kyle examined the place. They were inside a room with three solid walls and one glass door that led to a balcony. Unfortunately, bodyguards had that glass door heavily guarded so that not even a bug could fly out without them noticing. It was virtually impossible for the kids to flee under those circumstances.

Kyle couldn't figure out the motive so he asked his siblings, "Why do you think he brought us over?"

Juan sighed and guessed, "Maybe it's because he likes Mommy and wants to force her into marrying him."

Nina scolded angrily, "Stealing another man's wife and kidnapping children. How despicable!"

Maya was upset as well when she heard how Levant wanted to take their mommy away from their daddy.

Her round eyes burned with fury as she growled, "How can Mr. Levant do something like that?"

"Why are you still calling him Mr. Levant? Call him 'meanie' from now on!"

Maya was a little out of it after being scolded by Nina, but the former still nodded.

Kyle suggested, "We should focus on getting out of here. Daddy and Mommy must be worried sick now."

Juan chimed in, "That will only happen if we can fly. Actually, scratch that. Even a bug can't get out under these circumstances."

"Nevertheless, we still have to try. We can't be sitting ducks here."

The four little ones ended up staring at the walls as they thought long and hard about how they might be able to escape.

At the estate.

Evan and Stephen had been working on it for half a day. They were surprised by the amount of effort Levant had put in to keep the kids' location a secret.

Neither Stephen's bodyguards nor Evan's subordinates could find even a clue of where the kids might be.

Jeremy, who had been tailing Levant, also failed in his mission and lost the guy. Despite being ashamed of his defeat, Jeremy returned to the estate with his head down.

The situation prompted Stephen and Evan to take an alternate route to solve the problem. They would first trade the dukedom for the kids' safety. After that, they would work together and somehow reclaim the title from Levant.

"It's a little risky, but that is our only option now."

Evan considered the situation for a bit before turning to Stephen and saying, "I've always been curious about something, but I'm not sure if you'd feel comfortable sharing that information."

"What is it?"

"Who are Levant's birth parents? I'm guessing you looked into his past before you took him in."

That question got Stephen's eyes to dim.

“My wife told me about his family, but I can’t uncover anything about them despite having my people to work on it.”

“You don’t know who his birth parents are?” blurted Evan in astonishment. This guy’s a duke, but even he has no idea whose kid he was raising? Nicole must’ve inherited her kindness from him.

Stephen sighed and explained, “My wife couldn’t get pregnant, so she suggested to adopt a kid. I thought she was just joking at the time, but a few days later, she actually brought a child over. She said that the child was pitiful and was being bullied in the orphanage so she wanted to take him home. I owed my wife too much, and I wanted her to be happy, so I agreed to it. I later sent my men to the orphanage to investigate the matter, but the child seemed to have suddenly shown up at the orphanage. There was no clue as to where he came from.”

An unknown past? I didn’t think that even Levant’s identity is a mystery.

“Does your wife know who his parents are?”

Stephen’s face gloomed over. He answered, “She said that she doesn’t know.”

Evan was speechless. She probably won’t share the information even if she knows the truth. I had John investigate the matter some time ago. I wonder if his investigation resulted in anything?

“Alright then. Go check on Nicole. I’ll deal with the matters at hand.”

“Thank you. I promised I will help you reclaim the dukedom,” said Evan firmly.

Stephen nodded.

Evan went back to his room to tell Nicole their plan. He calmed her nerves when he promised that the children would return safely and soundly.

Nicole’s heart was in a mess when she asked, “Do you think Stephen will hate me for this?”

“He won’t,” replied Evan, who was certain of it. He looked into Nicole’s eyes and explained, “The two people who love you the most in this world are Stephen and me. His fatherly love towards you is likely as deep as my love for you.”

Nicole suddenly realized that she should be nicer to Stephen. He had spent his entire life missing Nicole's mother, and when Nicole considered everything from his point of view, she realized that things weren't easy for him, either.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 637

Nicole decided that she must thank Stephen after everything had settled down.

The sun had just risen when Stephen called Levant to inform the latter of the good news. Stephen would hand the title over to Levant in exchange for the children's safe return.

Levant was ecstatic.

The children were Nicole's everything; holding them hostage was equivalent to hanging Nicole's life on the balance. That was way more effective than threatening Stephen's life, and Levant was sure that Stephen would agree to his terms.

I thought he'd take at least two days to think things through. Who would've thought that I'd receive the news that quickly?

After having his breakfast, Levant brought his bodyguards and returned to the estate with a gigantic smile on his face.

Nicole's heart ached when she saw that her children were not with them.

"Where are my children?"

"Don't worry. I will bring you to them as soon as I get what I want."

How devious! He's probably worried about sudden changes occurring.

Stephen handed the relevant paperwork and stamps over to Levant.

"Are you happy now?"

"Yes. After all this time, the estate is finally mine! Ever since I set foot in this place, your wife has been telling me that I will be the duke one day. I have been training myself to be its master ever since. After twenty years, I finally got my hands on it!" Levant exclaimed gleefully.

Stephen turned grim upon seeing Levant's excitement. As Levant's father, Stephen had failed to teach the boy, which resulted in him being that evil.

"Where are my children? Where are they?"

"Leave the estate right away. My men will take you to them as soon as you leave."

Nicole was eager to see her children so she packed up quickly and left the estate in a hurry.

Stephen stood outside the estate and stared at the Musgrave family legacy. His heart was aching.

He never thought that he would live to see the day when his adopted son chased him out of the place.

They say a man's greed was as vast as the sea. Stephen wondered if that was true. Does he really not care about the past twenty years I spent taking care of him and raising him? Are title and power really that important to him?

Evan saw how miserable Stephen's aging face looked and how the latter's eyes glowed with immense reluctance. The former walked over and promised again, "Trust me, I will settle this score with him once I settle the kids and Nicole."

Levant still owed Evan a life, after all, and it was time Evan settled that debt.

Stephen nodded and added, "When the kids are safe, I will take you to the hidden passage, and we will hunt him down together!"

A hidden passage?

Evan was surprised to hear that. It never even occurred to him that the estate had a hidden passage.

"Hurry up. I'm worried that Maya is hungry. Nina might be bullied as well, and Juan and Kyle could be suffering. I want to see my sweethearts as soon as possible," urged Nicole anxiously.

Evan and Stephen turned to one another and smiled simultaneously before hurrying over.

The children were discussing how they would feign being sick in order to escape when, to their surprise, they saw their parents there.

"Daddy! Mommy! You guys are so quick to come to our rescue!"

"Mommy was worried about you guys being bullied, so we hurried over."

"Did that meanie, Levant, force you to marry him?"

"No," replied Nicole while shaking her head.

"Then why did he use the robots to trick us into coming over?" asked Kyle, who was curious as well.

"He didn't do that to marry Mommy. He was after something else."

"What was he after?" interrogated Nina.

Nicole turned and looked apologetically at Stephen before answering, "He wanted the title. Come on, let's get out of here."

The children turned to each other. They had no idea what their mommy meant by title, but they stopped asking questions.

The four youngsters returned to the hotel safe and sound.

Evan immediately ordered John to take Nicole and the kids back to their country. Evan would stay on to help Stephen regain his dukedom.

I will also be settling the score with Levant.

“Daddy, we can stay and help you out.”

“Yeah, we’ll help you!”

Evan put a stern expression on his handsome face before turning to the kids. “No. It’s too dangerous for you kids to stay here. You will go home with Mommy right away!”

Nicole turned from Evan to Stephen.

Stephen had a warm smile on when he looked at her. His eyes oozed of fatherly love and he reminded her, “Have a safe flight. Take good care of the kids.”

Conflicting emotions rose in Nicole’s heart.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 638

Stephen would not end up in that terrible state if it hadn't been for saving the kids.

Nicole felt like she owed Stephen.

She suddenly felt the urge to call him "dad", but she hesitated. She rubbed her fingers nervously as the word "dad" went back down her throat just as it reached the tip of her tongue.

Nicole thought about her mother being dazed while looking at the sky, falling into depression, and living a life in misery because of that man...

She knew that none of it was Stephen's fault, but she still couldn't get herself to call him "dad".

John stepped forward. "Mrs. Seet, it's time. I'll take you and the children to the airport now."

"Can I stay?" asked Nicole as she looked at Evan.

"No!"

"No!"

Evan and Stephen rejected her simultaneously.

Nicole stared at the two men. She understood what they were trying to do—it was too dangerous for her to stay there and they didn't want her to get hurt.

She could relate to their concern: she would also wish for her children to be far away from any dangerous place.

"Both of you, be careful, okay? We'll be leaving now."

Nicole waved goodbye to the two men. The four little ones pouted. They weren't happy about leaving, but Evan had made things clear and they knew there was no point in arguing. Daddy has tons of ways to force us to leave. Hence, the kids waved goodbye as well.

Stephen glanced at his daughter; he was very reluctant to see her leave.

Still, all he could do was pray silently in his heart. Please, God. Please keep Nicole safe and happy for the rest of her life.

Nicole took her luggage. When she turned the corner with her kids, she vaguely caught Stephen's eyes reddening with tears.

She walked out of the hotel and took a deep breath before pausing.

"John, wait."

Nicole turned to her children and couched down to whisper to them.

The kids turned to one another, not understanding why their mommy had asked them to do that.

"He sacrificed everything for the four of you, so you should do that for him. Go on now."

The children were stunned; nevertheless, they walked back the way they came.

Stephen and Evan were strategizing their next move when the door to the room opened.

They shifted their attention to the entrance of the room, and Evan was surprised to see four tiny people standing there.

"Did you forget something?"

The children shook their heads.

"Then why did you come back?"

The quadruplets walked to Stephen and bowed to him simultaneously. "Thank you for rescuing us, Grandpa," said the children.

Stephen was shocked beyond words.

The kids called me Grandpa?

The sudden surprise knocked Stephen off his feet. After taking some time to gather himself, he felt his heart thumping with glee. He looked at his grandchildren and reached out to stroke their tiny heads.

“Good. You’re all such adorable kids.”

Too bad I’ve lost everything. I don’t even know what gift I can offer them now.

“The next time we meet, Grandpa will get you all an amazing gift.”

“Thank you, Grandpa.”

Evan smiled at his obedient and intelligent quadruplets.

Ambushing Stephen with an emotional bomb like that... Nicole must’ve been the mastermind behind this.

Evan suddenly thought that in addition to being smart, his wife was also a master at tossing such emotional bombs. I gotta praise her for this after I get home.

“Alright now. Off you go, kids. You’ll miss your flight if you stay any longer.”

The quadruplets nodded and bid their goodbyes again before walking out of the room single file.

Nina found it strange, so she asked, “Why did Mommy tell us to greet Sir Musgrave as grandpa?”

Kyle deliberated before replying, “Maybe he’s the dad that Mommy has been looking for, and that would make him our grandpa.”

The mischievous Juan was taken aback and blurted, “Huh? In that case, don’t we have yet another powerful figure backing us up?”

Maya thought about the luxurious estate and the army of servants and bodyguards there. It’s so nice to have a grandpa that powerful.

“Haha, monsters and demons should move aside, for I have Grandpa next to me!”

Kyle was speechless.

And so was Juan.

And Nina, too.

All three of them turned to Maya and wondered, When did that plump idiot learn to exploit others?

Still, it was rather nice to have a grandpa that capable.

“But I feel that Grandpa is in trouble.”

“It’s fine. Daddy is here, so the issue will be dealt with soon.”

“Good point. We should listen to Daddy and go home. It’s been days since we last went to school, and I miss our teacher and classmates.”

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 639

Maya sighed. She didn’t miss her teacher at all because the latter had called her parents over after Maya gave her a nickname.

It’s been a while since I went to school. I wonder if she has forgotten all about the nickname? Will she demand to see Mommy and Daddy again?

John sent everyone to the airport in time, but Nicole suddenly complained about having an upset stomach.

“John, I don’t think I can hold it in or take this flight. Take the kids back without me. I’ll take the next flight home.”

“I...” said John in a troubled tone.

“Go on. I will call Mr. Seet and tell him about it.”

The quadruplets looked suspiciously at Nicole. They were certain that their mommy was only faking the stomachache because she didn’t want to leave their daddy alone. Why else would she suddenly have stomach pain when she was all healthy and lively a second ago?

It must be fake.

My gosh, can you at least act a little better? All you are doing is putting your hand on your tummy and delivering the dialogue in such an amateur manner. Your eyes are practically smirking!

You’re insulting our intelligence!

Maya held Nicole’s hand and reminded the latter to go to the doctor’s and drink more warm water.

Maya’s sweet gesture touched Nicole’s heart, making the latter reluctant to let go of her daughter’s chubby little hand.

That fake act, despite the genuine feelings, got Nina impatient. The girl pouted and pointed out, “Alright, come on now. Mommy’s stomachache will magically disappear when she sees Daddy anyway, so stop worrying for no reason. Let’s go.”

Nicole was speechless.

Must Nina be so forthright? Can’t she at least pretend and say a few words of consolation like Maya did?

After the kids got onto the plane with John, Nicole happily got a cab and returned to the hotel.

She strategized and concluded that she could not let Evan see her there. If he did, he would lose his temper and yell at her; he might even take her to the airport again.

It's definitely better to follow him in the dark. I'll only show myself when the time is right.

Having made the decision, Nicole asked the hotel receptionist to give her the room opposite Evan's. This way she could observe his actions through the peephole.

Evan and Stephen finally finished discussing the matter. The two of them were bonding well; they both thought that they could be friends.

"Youngsters nowadays are really getting better at this. I'm too old," commented Stephen with a sigh.

"You're too kind. Your unique ideas and invaluable experience are something that people my age cannot compete against."

"You're very humble, Mr. Seet. I am happy that Nicole found a man like you. I pray that you will continue giving her a happy life."

"Don't worry. I will."

Stephen nodded satisfactorily.

Levant would not have done what he did if he were just as humble and honorable as Evan.

One would wonder how Levant, as the boy Stephen had adopted and raised for twenty years, would react to seeing Stephen again.

"I'll have Jeremy set everything up. We have to strike as soon as possible."

"Okay, let's ambush Levant before his hold on the dukedom becomes tighter."

Jeremy rushed to prepare everything as instructed by Evan.

That night.

Evan and Stephen left the hotel in the middle of the night while everyone was asleep.

Curious, Nicole tailed the two.

At the estate.

Portia was furious when she learned about Stephen being kicked out of the estate.

“How could he? How could he?”

“Calm down, Ma’am. You can’t get too emotional. Your body is still recovering and you have to be careful with your health.”

Portia coughed and swept the medication on the table onto the floor.

“Go get Levant over. I want to talk to him. Did a demon take his conscience away? How could he do something so vile? Get him over right away!”

The maids didn’t dare to defy Portia upon seeing how angry she was. They quickly went to call Levant over.

Levant leisurely put down his document, stood up, and followed the maids to Portia’s room.

“Mom, how are you feeling?”

The second Levant walked in, he put a faint smile on his face.

As far as Levant was concerned, Portia was nothing like Stephen. Stephen wanted to pass his title to Nicole, but Portia had always wanted Levant to be the next duke.

Daphne once posed a threat to Levant’s claim to the title, but even then, Portia never did or said anything about stopping Levant from inheriting the dukedom.

Additionally, Portia was the one who brought Levant to the estate in the first place, so he respected her as his biological mother.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 640

Portia glared at Levant and scolded, "How could you do something so despicable? I am so disappointed in you, Levant."

"Mom, you will only be even more disappointed if I didn't do anything," insisted Levant while staring straight into her eyes.

Portia looked at him from head to toe. She later scoffed, "Are you saying bullsh*t to justify your crimes? You can't wash your sins away via lies."

Levant walked to her and asked, "Mom, do you know who Nicole is to Dad?"

Portia was furious as soon as she heard Nicole's name. "I am talking to you about the dukedom. Why are you changing the subject to that b*tch?" asked Portia, who deliberated before adding, "Are you jealous because that b*tch got close to your dad? Is that why you chased your dad out of the estate?"

"Mom, you were wounded from the assassination attempt and have been recuperating in your room. It is normal for you not to have heard the recent news—that Nicole is Dad's biological daughter."

Portia's face darkened upon hearing Levant's words.

"W-what did you say? That b*tch is your father's daughter?"

How could it be? How could he actually have an illegitimate daughter?

"Mom, you know how your relationship with Dad truly is, so I won't elaborate further. But it is true that Nicole is Dad's daughter and he wanted to pass the title to her. Do you think that is fair to me?"

"W-what did you say?"

Portia's mind was at a loss after hearing those two shocking news. She took some time to digest that information.

It took her a while to regain her composure and asked, "Is everything you say true?"

"Absolutely. You can call Dad and ask him about it if you don't believe me."

Portia had a hard time accepting it.

Passing the title to Nicole? Then what does that make me? How could he leave everything for his b*stard child? That kid... could she be the child that woman was pregnant with over twenty years ago? Wasn't the kid aborted? And didn't the woman marry someone else?

Portia had always thought that the rumor of Stephen's search for his illegitimate child was fake. She never thought that there would come a day when the child would show up in front of her to take everything away.

Stephen Musgrave, I am your wife. How can you disregard me completely and only think of the illegitimate child you have with that woman? How could you do that? How could you!

Levant was relieved to see Portia going livid.

At the very least, Portia did not think that he was at fault.

Levant believed that he was just fighting for what was rightfully his, so Portia should be on his side.

"Don't be sad, Mom. I may be adopted but I will treat you like my mother and love you as a son."

Portia remained silent for a moment. She tilted her head up and stared at Levant with anxiety burning in her eyes. Did I make a mistake taking him in all those years ago?

Levant saw how terrible she looked and assumed that she was worried about Stephen.

"Don't worry, Mom. Dad's son-in-law, Evan Seet, is a pretty capable man. Dad will be just fine living with them. Moreover, Dad will be happy about being able to see Nicole all the time, so all you need to do is take care of yourself and recover as soon as possible, Mom."

Portia had her head down and turned quiet. She looked troubled but she finally instructed, "Please leave for now. I want to be on my own."

"Okay, rest well."

Portia turned pale as she watched Levant leave her room.

She thought about how she adopted Levant all those years ago. Every scene bubbled up in her mind...

What would Stephen do if he realizes that the boy he has been raising for over twenty years is that man's son? No, I must take this secret to my grave. No one can know!

Levant returned to his room and asked his bodyguards, "Have you figured out where they are?"

"Ms. Lane and the kids returned to their country, but Evan Seet and Sir Musgrave have stayed back."

"I knew they wouldn't leave just like that. They must be bidding their time and waiting for an opportunity to strike. Keep a close eye on them and report to me as soon as you learn anything."

"Yes, Sir!"

After the bodyguards left, Levant sat on his chair and let his mind wander, as his long fingers tapped on the desk. He now had the title, but the battle wasn't over yet.