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There was a high chance that Maya was traumatized by her experience with the needles.

"Alright. Stop it," Davin interjected. "We finally have the chance to let it all out on Susan. That's enough for now."

"Uncle Davin, are we going back to the Seet Residence?"

"Yes. It's really late now so you guys had better head straight to bed when we return. You can't fall asleep in class tomorrow, understand?"

"Okay."

Imperial Garden was quiet once more.

While Evan was taking a bath, Nicole sneaked away to see Susan. When the two women met, Nicole gasped. Susan was in utter shambles.

Davin and the kids really knew what they're doing.

"You brought this upon yourself," Nicole remarked.

Susan was sprawled on the floor when she heard Nicole's voice. She used whatever remaining energy she had to look at Nicole, the face of the person she loathed the most.

If it were not for the wounds on her body, Susan would have jumped at Nicole and attacked her. At that moment, Susan wanted to say something and curse at Nicole, but the only thing that came out of her mouth were unrecognizable murmurs.

She can't talk anymore? Nicole's forehead creased.

After a while of murmuring, Susan's resentful expression slowly turned into an uncanny and sinister smile.

What's she smiling about? Nicole was puzzled.

Susan proceeded to use her own blood to write a message. You'll join me in hell! The hallucinations will be your demise!

When she finished, she looked up at Nicole with maddening satisfaction in her hateful eyes.

Nicole was not fazed. Pathetic. You chose the wrong path and ended up paying your life for it. You have no one but yourself to blame.

Nicole took a deep breath and left the scene. She decided that she never wanted to see Susan ever again.

At dawn, Nicole had a horrifying dream. In it, Susan had a knife with her and was cutting the children, one after another, with a hysterical smile on her face.

The children's cries echoed in her ears. Her heart ached from being unable to anything. "Nina, Maya... Juan... Kyle!"

Nicole instantly sat up. Beads of sweat formed all over her face. Her eyes were bloodshot.

The scenes in her dream kept replaying in her head. At the same time, her heart started to race amid the cries of her children and the bloody mess before her.

Instinctively, Nicole clenched her fists and looked towards Evan, only to jump in shock. Evan was not beside her. In her eyes, Evan had become Susan.

She looked at him closely and repeatedly muttered, "Susan, don't you dare harm my children. Don't you dare..."

As Nicole repeated those words, the scene of Susan cutting the children flashed before her eyes once again. She could no longer tell whether it was all in her head or if it actually happened.

She grew anxious. Susan was hurting her children, after all.

At the moment, the only thing on her mind was to stop Susan from harming her kids. Nicole immediately rushed out to retrieve a knife from the study room. She slowly approached Evan.

"I'll kill you! I'm gonna kill you!" She repeated furiously before plunging the knife into Evan with her trembling hands.

Evan was startled by Nicole's muttering. The moment he opened his eyes, he saw the shine of the blade as well as Nicole's murderous gaze. As the knife came down, he quickly dodged to the side. Nevertheless, Nicole still slashed his arm.

"Nicole, you..."

"I'm gonna kill you! You hurt my children. You must die!"

Evan immediately understood what was going on. "Nicole, it's me! I'm the kids' father, I will never hurt them."

"I'm gonna kill you!"

Nicole was completely cut off and unable to hear anything Evan said. "Madness" had completely taken over as she attempted to plunge the knife into Evan again.

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Evan ducked and dived as Nicole chased him around the house. Everyone was stupefied by the commotion in front of them.

Did they get into an argument?

She's using a knife?

Mr. Seet's arm is bleeding. Did Mrs. Seet do that?

What's going on?

Everyone there immediately tried to stop Nicole, only to be stopped by Evan in turn. "Nobody shall touch her. She has a knife. If you try to intervene, you'll either hurt yourself or hurt her."

The maids could only watch Evan dodging around as they tried to figure out what had happened to Nicole.

You're married! Why would you threaten his life over an argument?

As Nicole once again lunged at Evan, he was able to do a quick sidestep and deliver a swift chop on the back of her neck. Finally, the confrontation ended with Nicole falling unconscious into Evan's arms.

"Mr. Evan, you're injured."

"It's just a scratch."

Evan was unconcerned about his wound and carried Nicole back to the bedroom.

The butler immediately called the family doctor, who arrived soon after to treat Evan's injury.

"Mr. Seet, this is a deep cut."

"It's fine. I'll be staying at home anyway. It won't be too much of a hassle."

The doctor secretly let out a sigh. Mrs. Seet's situation right now is really tricky.

"Mr. Seet, why don't we admit Mrs. Seet into a hospital? It's too dangerous to leave her like this." The doctor was being extremely serious.

"No need. I'll be more mindful about it."

Evan's response left the doctor speechless. The doctor understood Evan was worried that something might happen to Nicole inside the hospital.

When he left, the doctor suddenly remembered that Nicole had baited out some information from him, and was wondering whether he should turn back to tell Evan.

Suddenly, his phone rang. It was Sophia, asking him to head to the Seet Residence.

The doctor pondered for a while and decided to go to Sophia first. I'll tell him next time. Getting him angry right now would be the worst choice ever.

At the Seet Residence.

Sophia had already caught wind of what happened at Imperial Garden—that Evan was injured.

Despite knowing clearly that the root cause of the incident was Nicole's hallucinations, Sophia was still worried about Evan.

"How's Evan? Is it serious?"

"His injury has been treated; it's nothing too serious."

The moment the doctor finished, Sophia let out a heavy sigh. "This is too dangerous. She even used a knife this time. Thank goodness it was just his arm! I-I don't know what I would do if something were to happen to Evan."

She had mixed feelings about the situation and was really agitated.

On one hand, Sophia felt very sorry for what happened to Nicole. On the other hand, however, she had to consider her son's well-being. Any mother in the world would be afraid to have a ticking time bomb like Nicole beside their children.

Do I have to think of something to separate them?

As soon as that idea popped into her head, Sophia felt appalled. How could I ever think that! They've gone through so much hardship and suffering to be with each other. I'm a terrible person!

Sophia became really frustrated with herself because of that.

After the doctor left, she brought this up with Murphy.

"Her situation right now is as good as dead," Murphy let out a sigh. "Evan's being stubborn here. With his status, he could get any woman out there. Why suffer together with her? Nicole won't live long. In the end, Evan will have suffered for nothing."

Sophia's heart ached. "When she goes crazy, she would hurt Evan and the kids. But then she forgets everything when she snaps out of it. Does she suffer at all?"

"Of course. Whenever she starts hallucinating, her body as well as her mind take a heavy toll. She's going at Evan for now, but it won't be long before she starts hurting herself. If things become severe enough, she might even commit suicide."

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"Sophia, to be honest, perhaps her death would be the best way out for Evan and you. As for my son, Levant, he can finally stop thinking about her. It may be selfish of me to say so, but she's suffering too, so we might as well..."

Murphy instantly shut up when he met Sophia's terrifying gaze. "Alright, forget about it," he sighed.

He heaved a sigh and headed upstairs.

Sophia was lost in thought as her heart beat nervously in her chest.

Dear God, why is this happening? This must be Nicole and Evan's predestined fate. He's risking his life to be with her. Is there nothing else I can do as a mother other than to watch him risk his own life?

What should I do? What am I going to do?

Back at the Imperial Garden.

Nicole only regained consciousness in the afternoon, and Evan sitting by the side of her bed was the first thing she saw when she opened her eyes.

She had a splitting headache, and every part of her body hurt as if she had gone through savage torture.

"Nicole, you're awake."

"What happened to me, Evan?" Her voice was weak.

"You're fine. You told me you were tired, so you took some rest."

Nicole sat up. She saw Evan's injured arm and was stunned. "What happened to your arm?" She asked.

Evan knew she was bound to ask about his injury, so he replied with the excuse that he had planned. "I was injured by some scoundrel when I was out. It was probably because the company's project had jeopardized someone's golden eggs, so it seems like I should lay low and stay at home with you for the time being."

""

Nicole furrowed her eyebrows. Despite his fluent speech, she couldn't help but feel uneasy for some reason. She gave it some thought and couldn't help but retain the hunch that something bad was about to happen.

Was he injured because of me? Did it have something to do with my "madness"?

Did I have a relapse?

Every part of her body hurt. When she had woken up earlier, she had not felt like her usual self, so she concluded that she must have had a relapse!

She forced the truth out of an honest maid using her status as the lady of Imperial Garden while Evan hadn't been paying attention.

She found out that she was the one who had stabbed Evan's arm with a blade, and that truth hurt her heart so much that she had to gasp for breath. It was so painful that she had a hard time standing still.

I was the one who had hurt him.

It was really me!

Her face turned as pale as a piece of paper.

Nicole Lane, how could you do that? How could you harm Evan? You're a terrifying monster...

She stood in stunned silence for a while. Then, like a person who had just lost her soul, she headed back to the bedroom.

When she passed by the study room, she caught sight of Evan, who was working on his laptop. The sight made her heartbroken, and she teared up from the guilt.

Evan, I'm sorry that I hurt you...I'm sorry...

She walked towards him and tugged at his sleeve timidly like a child waiting to be reprimanded. She didn't know what to say, so she stood quietly by his side.

Evan settled the project on hand and turned to her. He immediately noticed that something was amiss. "What's wrong? Are you feeling not well?" he asked in concern.

Tears slowly welled up her eyes, but she held them back. "How's your arm? Does it still hurt?" she asked.

He shot a glance at his arm and assured her it was just a minor injury.

"Why? Are you worried about me?"

She wasn't just worried, she was feeling increasingly guilty by the minute.

Evan thought she was worried about his injury, so he took her into his arms and said softly, "Silly girl, it's nothing serious."

She didn't remember how she had stabbed him in his arm. She couldn't recall anything about the incident. However, just by looking at the gauze wrapped around his arm, she knew that she hadn't held back at all when she had stabbed him.

Evan, do you really not blame me?

Do you really have no worries about being with a dangerous woman like me?

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While Nicole was lost in thought, the maid outside the study room suddenly reported, "Mr. Seet, Ma'am is here."

"Let's go."

"Alright."

They went down the stairs and headed to the dining room together.

Meanwhile, Sophia was wandering around the room in deep anxiety.

Upon seeing them, she immediately walked towards Evan. She had been so worried about him.

"Mom, I'm fine. It's just a small wound."

Sophia glanced up at Nicole with complicated emotion.

She understood that Nicole hadn't intended to hurt him. She only behaved in that way because of the Hallucinogen. However, taking into account the current state of her condition, it was dangerous to let her stay by Evan's side.

Her heart was in her mouth as she thought about that.

Nicole realized Sophia sang a different tune after the incident, but she could relate to the latter's attitude change. She was a mother as well, and she would want to keep her children safe from all harm.

Therefore, she didn't blame her.

"Evan, why don't you stay in Seet Residence for now? Your uncle wants to have a chat with you."

Nicole agreed with her suggestion. If Evan stayed at the Seet Residence, he would not be harmed by her at the very least.

However, Evan turned Sophia down without an ounce of hesitation. "Mom, I won't stay in Seet Residence. My home is wherever Nicole is." he asserted.

"You..." Sophia sighed. She knew how stubborn he could be, so she didn't push him.

Thoughtfully, Nicole said, "I think you should stay there for a few days. The kids are there too, and I need some time to myself to focus on the acupuncture."

""

Evan frowned at her words. "You need time to yourself? Am I an annoyance to you?" he asked.

"..." How was that possible? All she wanted to do was to protect him.

"Yes. I'm stuck with you every day, and things start to get boring. Have you not heard the saying that absence makes the heart grow fond?" she replied.

"Listen to your wife, Evan, let's just stay in Seet Residence for a few days," Sophia chimed in.

Evan coldly sneered. "Absence makes the heart grow fond? To me, everything seems fonder right here with you!"

It seemed like Evan had made up his mind. Sophia heaved a sigh, and Nicole said nothing more.

Nevertheless, she had an idea in her mind. The best way to keep him away from her was to quarrel with him. If she deliberately found fault with everything he did, he definitely would not be able to stand her. He would leave her alone for sure that way.

After sending Sophia off, she began the execution of her plan.

Before going to bed, she suddenly wanted to have a glass of milk, so she yelled nastily at him, "Go and get me a glass of milk!"

""

Evan narrowed his eyes. Although Nicole was a feisty lady, he couldn't recall a single time when she had talked to him with such attitude. He was surprised to see her acting so pretentious.

"Sure, wait right here."

Evan stood up and headed downstairs.

Nicole took a deep breath. Why was he smiling while walking out of the room? Shouldn't he be mad when I had talked to him with such a bad attitude?

Right when Nicole was pondering over Evan's strange reaction, he returned with a glass of milk and handed it over to her in a respectful manner.

"Mrs. Seet, here's your milk."

"…"

Nicole shot him a sideward look as she took over the glass and took a sip. Milk had literally never tasted better.

""

She held herself back from taking another sip and spat out the milk suddenly. "Evan Seet, how dare you serve me this terrible milk! What are you thinking? You are doing this on purpose, aren't you?" she yelled.

""

Evan was stunned by her sudden change of attitude. Could it be the side effect of Hallucinogen? Is that the reason why she is emotionally unstable?

He gazed at her patiently. "I'll get you another glass."

Unceremoniously, she handed the glass back to him while giving him a death stare.

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Nicole pulled a face after Evan left. He was too nice to her. She would have to take things a step further if she wanted to provoke him.

She had to harden her resolve and go all out to make him leave. That was the only way to keep him safe.

Evan came back with another glass of milk. Respectfully, he placed the glass of milk in front of her. "Mrs. Seet, please have a taste. I assure you that would taste completely different from the previous glass."

She took over the glass and took a sip, proceeding to spit it all out, right on his body.

"This is freaking disgusting! It's even worse than the previous one. Evan Seet, go get me another glass!"

He frowned at her reaction. He was worried that this might be a symptom of relapse for her "madness".

He went downstairs to get her another one, phoning the doctor while at it to consult about her condition.

"Mr. Seet, I can't give you an exact answer. How about I head over to your place right now and check on Mrs. Seet?"

"Sure!"

Evan hung up the phone and brought the third glass of milk into the bedroom.

Nicole didn't even taste it. She knocked over the glass, and it crashed to the floor. "Is that even milk? It disgusts me!"

""

It was milk!

Without a doubt.

Was she having an attack of Hallucinogen? Was that why she was mistaking the milk as something else?

Evan didn't refute her words. He walked towards her and held her in his arms. "Tell me, what kind of milk do you like? I'll buy you anything you like. I'll get it for you now." he uttered softly.

""

Evan, you're a fool. Can't you tell that I'm doing all this on purpose?

Why are you putting up with me when I'm being unreasonable? You are the president of the Seet Group. You should... You should be exactly like Lucifer and treat me cruelly like how you deal with those people who try to harm you.

Seeing that Nicole remained silent, Evan wanted to comfort her more, but she pushed him away fiercely. "You're so annoying! Leave me alone!"

"Alright. I'll leave now. I'll be right outside, so call me if you need anything." he replied.

""

He didn't get mad at all, even when I pushed him.

Is he the Evan Seet I know?

Is this the same guy who was the president of the Seet Group?

Evan, where's your temper?

He walked out of the room and had even closed the door for her. Nicole's emotions were a jumbled ball of mess.

A man has no temper only when he falls in love with a woman.

Evan, you truly love me and cherish me! But I don't want your love right now. I want you to stay away from me, as far as possible!

She put her head between her hands as she racked her brains for a way to make him leave.

The doctor arrived, and Evan knocked on the door, informing her that the doctor was here to dress his wound and would be giving her a checkup as well.

Something was not right.Nicole thought about the situation.

Why would the doctor give me a checkup in the middle of the night? Did he suspect that I was having a relapse?

Based on how he had tolerated her a moment ago, it was very likely that he had such thoughts.

If he knew that there was nothing wrong with her, perhaps then, he wouldn't tolerate her anymore.

"Alright."

Nicole was cooperative throughout the whole examination, and the doctor proceeded to have a talk with Evan in the study room afterward.

"Everything seems normal. There were no symptoms of Mrs. Seet having a relapse."

Evan was baffled. "Normal? She is emotionally unstable and has been throwing a tantrum. What's going on?" he questioned.

The doctor pondered about it and replied, "Mr. Seet, I think that has nothing to do with the Hallucinogen. If it were a relapse, there definitely would be something wrong with her organs. Mrs. Seet likely has unstable emotions because of her bad mood. It is common for women to start acting contrived when they are in a bad mood."

Contrived?

Evan furrowed his eyebrows.

The doctor felt so sorry for Evan. The "madness" caused by Hallucinogen was enough to cause him a headache, but now he had to deal with her mood swings as well.

Mr. Seet, I guess you'll have to go through a hard time these days.

"I see. You can go back now."

"Yes, Mr. Seet."

After the doctor left, Evan stood in the courtyard to get some fresh air. He was afraid that his presence in the bedroom might provoke her, so he didn't want to be in her line of sight.