

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 196

Before Sylvia could finish talking, Nicole picked up an apple from the table and catapulted it towards her face.

If Sylvia were any slower to duck her head, the apple would have left a pretty big bruise on her face.

Sylvia was visibly shaken as she started to wail, “Zayne! Look at the monstrosity of a daughter you have created! She tried to assault me, her stepmother! You need to teach her a lesson, Zayne!”

“If you still want in on this offer, you better shut your trap! Or else, I will leave right away, and the Lane family will never ever rise from the ashes!”

Nicole crossed her arms and shot daggers at Sylvia.

Zayne gave Sylvia a reassuring look. “Don’t worry, my love. Nicole isn’t that cold-blooded. She would at least have something to offer us.”

Then, he turned to face Sylvia. “Nicole, you want Lane Corporation, don’t you? Fine, I can give it to you, but what else are you offering to us in return?”

What? So now I need to offer them something?

Lane Corporation was founded by Nicole’s mother and grandfather with most of the funding coming from Nicole’s grandfather. After Nicole’s mother’s passing, Zayne took complete control of the Lane Corporation. Since then, he and Sylvia were basically living off the riches amassed by Nicole’s mother and grandfather.

Nicole found it both amusing and infuriating that her father was asking her for more after spending all that fortune that belonged to her grandfather.

“What do you want then?”

“Nicole, you can have the ownership of the Lane Corporation, but you have to compensate me for transferring the company to you. I estimate the company’s net worth to be at around 80 million, but since you’re my daughter, I’ll let you have the company at a discounted price of 50 million.”

What the hell? 50 million for a bankrupt company?

Even when the company was at its peak, its net worth was this much and not higher. I won’t pay 50 million for the awful condition it’s in now!

Nicole wondered if Zane were just kidding with her or thinking that she was so naïve to believe that the company would be worth this much.

“Dad, let me ask you once more. Think about it carefully. What do you want?”

“50 million and nothing less, or the deal’s off!” Sylvia barked at Nicole.

Nicole narrowed her eyes at Sylvia. “50 million? Over my dead body. Anyway, I’m not talking to you, you old hag! Piss off! “

“How dare you! Zayn, did you hear what your daughter just said!”

“Nicole, how much do you want to give us then?”

At the moment, all Zane cared about was how much he could get from his daughter.

“Dad, actually, I am willing to offer you a considerable sum of money, but in return, you have to divorce Sylvia!”

“W-what? What did you just say? That’s absurd!”

Sylvia gaped at Nicole in total shock.

“Also, do you still remember how she treated me and Mom back in the days? If you can somehow treat her the way she treated us, I can consider giving you more.”

“Nicole, you heartless wrench!” Sylvia clenched her teeth in burning anger.

Meanwhile, Zane was deep in thought. From Nicole’s tone, he figured that she had a lot of money to play around with, which meant that she was on good terms with Evan.

He supposed that the sole reason she could be so demanding must be because of Evan’s support.

“Dad, how about this? For starters, you beat up this old hag as a way to commemorate Mom.”

“Zane, we have been together for so many years. You won’t pay heed to her words, right? She’s just trying to ruin our marriage! Do you really think she’ll give you the money if you beat me up?”

Nonetheless, Sylvia was very aware of Zane’s personality.

As much as Zayn cared for his wife, money was still his top priority.

If it weren’t for money, he wouldn’t even have married Nicole’s mother in the first place.

Nicole’s mother was a virtuous and capable woman. Still, Zane didn’t hesitate to abandon her once he had gotten what he needed from her. Thus, it was very

likely that Sylvia would suffer from the same fate too, even more so since she had nothing to offer to Zane.

Under the current circumstances, Sylvia was afraid that Zane would agree to Nicole's request.

Out of the blue, Sylphiette appeared in the living room, and she immediately came for Nicole with her fists clenched.

She raised one arm to punch Nicole, but Nicole grabbed her arm before she could do so. Nicole sniggered and spoke calmly, "Hmm, let me see which point on your body should I puncture to disable your arms. Hold up! "

As she spoke, she removed a silver needle from her clothing.

Sylphiette's eyes widened in horror when she saw the sharp needle approaching her. She struggled to break off from Nicole's hold.

"Dad, she really won't help us! Just chase her away!"

"You're right. I won't help you and your mom, but Zane is my Dad after all. Of course, I will treat him differently from the rest of you."

Nicole's words echoed in Zane's mind. At that instant, he knew Nicole was the only bet he had to revive his company.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 197

Zane scrunched his hand into a fist and propelled it towards Sylvia's face.

Sylvia clutched her face as she yowled in pain. She stared at Zane in fear. "Zane, I am your wife! Did you just slap me because that skank asked you to?"

"Who is that skank you are talking about? She's my daughter!"

Nicole found Zane's word utterly mocking.

If it weren't for his own good, Zane would not be on Nicole's side as of this moment.

Pfft! Who said only women are cunning and deceitful creatures? Look at my Dad! He's lashing out like a wild dog just to get what he wants! What an animal!

Nicole wanted to avenge her mother, who lived her life in darkness at the hands of Sylvia.

"One slap is not enough. My mom might have missed it. Again!"

"Stop being so ridiculous! Your mom is dead, you psycho! She's busy rotting in her grave!"

"No! My mom is looking at us from heaven. I'm pretty sure she wouldn't miss it if Zane gives you a few more slaps. So go on, Dad!"

Nicole crossed her arms and thought to herself: One day, I will be the one slapping you, Sylvia!

Zane gave Sylvia a few painful swipes on her face which left her bawling in agony on the ground.

Sylphiette was certain that she would not be able to stop her stepsister, but she still had hope that Zane would stop hitting her mother if she begged him. Thus, she knelt down at Zane's legs and pleaded tearfully, "Please, Dad! Stop!"

Now that Zane was done with his task, he was going to ask for his reward. "Nicole, you saw with your own eyes what I have done to Sylvia. Now, about the money... "

"Chill, Dad. I'll prepare the exact sum of money you want when I get back home. But before I can transfer the money to you, I want to see your divorce certificate with Sylvia and the legal papers stating that Lane Corporation is now under me."

Nicole left right after she made her statement.

After a few steps, she stopped. Even though she couldn't care more about the people inside the house, she still wanted to know how wicked their tongues could be when they cursed behind her back.

As expected, she could hear Zane consoling her wife, convincing her that he would remarry her once he received the money from Nicole.

On the other hand, Sylvia was crying like a baby without its milk as she cursed at Nicole.

However, Nicole knew clearly in her heart why her father had conformed to her wishes. He must have assumed that her relationship with Evan was still going strong, and hence Nicole would have money for him.

Nevertheless, Nicole was glad that Sylvia was punished for what she did to her mother. Nicole knew her mother would also be overjoyed if she knew her daughter had avenged her.

All in all, Nicole had to pat herself on the back for successfully intimidating the Lane family even though it was through her connection to Evan.

Hmm, should I treat Evan to a meal? Okay! I shall prepare more for dinner later!

With that thought in mind, Nicole went to the supermarket to buy the ingredients that she needed with the money Evan had given her earlier for the noodles.

For dinner, Nicole made a few dishes that were the children's favorites. She then let Juan and Kyle take some of it to Evan.

"Mommy, you want me to deliver this to Daddy?" Juan thought he had mistaken his mother.

Kyle also stared at Nicole unexpectedly.

"We have so much food on the table! It's not like we can finish all of it, right?"

Nicole simply came up with an excuse.

Juan scrutinized the food Nicole had prepared. He knew with dead certainty that his mother had specially prepared more food for dinner that night.

Wow, Mommy treats Daddy so differently today!

The two kids exchanged glances and giggled.

"Mommy, why don't you get the food to Daddy yourself? It's too hot for us to handle."

Having heard her children's words, Nicole pushed a trolley to one side of the table and carefully placed some of the dishes on top of it. "There you go! Now you guys can handle it!"

"Mommy, why don't you want to send food to Daddy yourself?"

"I still have something to do. If you guys don't want to help Mommy, then Daddy doesn't get to eat today."

"Fine! We'll go then."

Juan knew he couldn't win his mother in an argument and ushered Kyle to the trolley. Then, the two of them pushed the trolley to the main house with their sweaty little hands.

"Daddy, we have something for you! Come and eat it!"

Evan glanced at his kids then the trolley in muddiness.

Why are you guys bringing me food for nothing?

Evan walked out of his room and looked at the neatly plated dishes. He wondered how much all of these would cost if Nicole could charge him five hundred just for one bowl of noodles.

The enoki mushrooms should be around a few thousand if we count the stalks.

Balsamic peanut salad?

Oh, God. If she charges me by the number of peanuts on this plate, it will cost at least a few thousand!

Evan smirked as he postulated that this was Nicole's way of telling him that she needed more money. The kids were just a decoy to trick him into letting his guard

down. Once he finished the food, Nicole would mysteriously show up to ask him for payment. I am not falling for this again!

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 198

“Bring it back to Mommy. Daddy is not having dinner.”

“But why, Daddy? Mommy specially made this for you! You don’t want to let her down, do you? “

Specially made this for me?

Pfft, if not for money, she will never bother to do so!

Evan grew even more suspicious as Juan tried to persuade his father.

“Daddy isn’t hungry. Alright, go and have your dinner, the two of you.”

Evan went back to his room after speaking.

The two children sighed at their father for not appreciating the food prepared for him by their mother herself.

Mommy’s going to be devastated.

“Kyle, what should we do then?”

“Let me think. Um, how about we tell Mommy that... “ Kyle revealed to Juan an excuse he made up to cover up for his father.

Juan nodded agreeably. He also thought that it was a good plan that could mend things between their parents.

In the dining room, Nicole was surprised to see her children ushering the trolley back to the dining table with all of the food untouched.

“What’s the matter this time? Why are the dishes still on the trolley?”

“Mommy, Daddy said he doesn’t want to eat it because he thinks these dishes were sneaked out from the kitchen by us for him. He wants you to bring him the food yourself.”

“Oh, he also wants to tell you something.”

Kyle and Juan really racked their brains to come out with such an eloquent answer just to create an opportunity for Nicole to approach Evan.

Nicole thought to herself: Is Evan really such an incredulous person? He’s suspecting his own kids!

Yet, Nicole was curious as to what Evan had to say to her.

She pondered for a while longer and finally decided to send food to Evan herself. She ordered her kids, “Y’all have dinner first while I bring these dishes to Daddy.”

Kyle and Juan heard the sound of their plan working and were secretly leaping in joy. They exchanged a victorious glance with one another and joined their siblings at the dining table.

Nicole pushed the trolley back to Evan’s room.

Evan was surprised to see Nicole appearing in his footsteps.

“Mr. Seet, you haven’t eaten dinner, right? I made this myself. Try it!”

As Nicole spoke, she placed the dishes onto the table and looked at him earnestly.

Evan knitted his brows slightly.

Do you really need money so desperately that you don't mind sending the food to me yourself? So that I will eat it and you can charge me for it?

"I am not hungry," Evan replied as he sat motionless at his desk.

"It's already time for dinner. How can you not be hungry? Hurry up and eat it! It will get cold soon. "

Nicole sure is unlike herself today! The last time she asked me for money, she wasn't this happy.

Tsk, she must be so joyful because she can already see the figure in her bank account already, right?

While waiting for Evan to start eating, Nicole suddenly remembered that Juan said Evan had something to tell her.

Thus, she asked him politely, "Mr. Seet, do you have anything to tell me?"

Evan coughed dryly and responded, "Since the dishes are colder now, will you charge me less?"

Nicole was stumped. She couldn't wrap her head around Evan's quirky question all of a sudden.

By the time she understood what Evan meant, he had pressed on with another question.

“These dishes are going to cost me a few ten thousand, right? I reckon you will charge ten for each peanut and ten for each stalk of the enoki mushroom too. What about the rest?”

Nicole scrunched her brows. She simply wanted to treat Evan to a good meal, but he just assumed that she was trying to extort money from him.

“Mr. Seet, I won’t charge you anything for these dishes.”

These dishes are free of charge?

Evan narrowed his pensive eyes slightly when he queried, “What do you want then?”

He did not believe that Nicole was sweet enough to prepare dinner for him without asking for anything in return.

Nicole was again speechless. Welp, I guess that two bowls of noodles had really left a scar on him, huh?

Nevertheless, Nicole still tried her best to suppress her dissatisfaction for being wronged. Instead of biting back, she reassured Evan, “Mr. Seet, I want nothing from you. Just eat as much as you want.”

Really? You want nothing at all?

Evan pondered for a while and stared at her intently.

He sniggered. “Tsk, how greedy.”

Nicole was perplexed. Didn’t I just say I want nothing from you? How is that greedy?

“What do you mean?”

“If you don’t want anything material, you want me, right? “

The way to a man’s heart was through his stomach.

Evan figured that Nicole had to be trying to entice him with food.

What a scheming woman! She’s full of lies! I need to be careful around her!

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 199

Evan Seet pissed Nicole Lane off with his words.

At the moment, Nicole really hated herself for eagerly preparing food for him.

If she knew her gesture would be misunderstood, she definitely wouldn't bother to make him anything at all.

“Mr. Seet, I am interested in every man living on this planet except you! Therefore, you don't need to accuse me of something as shameless as that!”

Having voiced out her mind, Nicole scowled at him for the last time before bringing back all the dishes on the trolley.

Evan looked at Nicole leaving his room and couldn't help but find it amusing.

You're interested in every man living on this planet except for me?

Am I really so despicable?

“You must be blind!”

Evan was slightly infuriated by Nicole's comments. This woman really needs to watch where she steps with that attitude of hers!

Nicole placed the untouched dishes on the dining table and beckoned her kids to eat more.

“Mommy, why did Daddy not eat any of the dishes?” Juan asked in puzzlement.

The other kids also gazed at Nicole questioningly.

Deep down, Nicole was still cursing Evan.

Yet, she still squeezed out a smile and explained to the kids, “He doesn’t like the dishes. He’s ordered the chef to make him something better.”

Something better?

Maya’s eyes twinkled at her mother’s words.

What will something better be?

It can’t be crabs and abalones and whatnot, right?

The excitement in Maya’s eyes was still apparent when she uttered, “Mommy, I’m done eating. I want to watch the TV.”

Everyone was surprised.

Maya’s done eating? She’s eaten so little!

Nina gave Maya a look of encouragement. “Maya, I’m so proud of you! You’re going in the right direction! Eating less for dinner is really good for losing weight.”

Maya nodded and replied politely. “Have a nice dinner, everyone! I’ll take my leave now.” Maya turned around and skipped out of the dining room.

Now that she had left the dining room, Maya glanced behind herself uneasily to make sure that no one was looking at her before sprinting off to the main house.

Her head was full of crabs and abalones and all the other expensive seafood she imagined Evan must be having at the moment.

She bolted to Evan's room and stopped in front of the door to catch her breath. Carefully, she peeped around the room.

There's no one inside?

Maya was flummoxed. She tiptoed into the room to confirm that there was indeed not a single soul in Evan's room.

As she turned around to leave, she bumped into a pair of long legs.

She lifted her head and Evan's surly face came into her sight.

"Uncle Evan."

Maya stared at him. Suddenly, she thought of that time Evan made her a wreath out of flowers. She believed that the two of them were on pretty good terms and instantly she was no longer anxious.

"Who let you come here? What are you here for?"

Evan suspected that Nicole had sent Maya here to wreak havoc in his room since she had not gotten what she wanted out of Evan.

"I came here on my own accord," Maya replied in all honesty.

She giggled coyly and gazed at Evan bashfully.

Evan was unsure of what to make of Maya's expression. He looked at her inquisitively.

Then, Maya added, “Uncle Evan, Mommy said you are having something delicious. What is it? Have you finished it?”

Evan’s brows furrowed. So you’re here for my dinner instead!

I don’t have anything to eat though.

Speaking of which, Evan had to blame Nicole for leaving him with nothing to eat.

Earlier, the house chef saw Nicole walking into Evan’s room with food and thought that Evan did not need dinner anymore. Thus, the chef didn’t cook anything for Evan, and as a result, Evan’s stomach was now rumbling in protest.

Evan sighed and bent down to face Maya.

“What would you like to eat?”

“Oh! I want crabs, abalones, prawns...” Maya had quite an exquisite taste when it came to food.

As Maya provided Evan with a list of her cravings, her eyes were gleaming with anticipation. Evan was also trying his best not to drool as he listened to Maya as everything she wanted was good food.

Evan paused to think for a second, before telling Maya, “If you really crave for them, Uncle Evan can bring you to a restaurant now!”

Maya was over the moon when she heard Evan’s favorable reply.

Mommy hasn’t brought me out for good food for such a long time!

Uncle Evan is my Daddy! There’s nothing wrong with him taking me out for a good meal, I suppose!

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 200

Despite her young age, a foodie like Maya could come up with a million reasons to convince herself when it came to food.

Having given herself an excuse, Maya nodded fervently to Evan's offer.

Evan Seet changed into a fresh set of clothes and brought Maya onto his Maybach with him. The two of them set off for Clare's Place.

"Mommy, Mommy! We have a problem!"

Nicole was in the middle of cleaning the dishes when Nina wailed in distress.

Nicole rushed out of the kitchen and asked, "What's wrong?"

Nina stared at her mother anxiously, "Nina is missing!"

"What?"

Nicole could feel her heartbeat speed up. She joined the kids to search for Maya throughout the house.

When she made sure that Maya was nowhere to be seen in the rear house, she hurried over to the main house.

"Where's Evan?"

“Ms. Lane, Mr. Seet just went out.”

“He’s out? Then, have you seen Maya?”

The bodyguard paused to think for a while and shook his head.

Nicole was on tenterhooks. She led Kyle and Juan to look all over the main house for Maya, but still, there was no trace of hers at all.

What to do now?

It’s already so late! Where can Maya go?

She can’t possibly be abducted, right?

Nicole thought of all of the worst possibilities and her stomach was tied up in knots.

Kyle and Juan instantly calmed their mother down.

“Mommy, perhaps Maya’s gone out to play! She’ll be back soon!”

“Yeah, Mommy! Don’t worry! We’ll definitely find Maya somewhere!”

“Maya is not like the two of you. She has a terrible sense of direction! That is why I never let her wander off alone! What if she gets lost and bumps into bad people? What if...”

Nicole didn’t dare to think further. She hurried outdoors to look for Maya instead.

The other three of her kids tailed behind her at once.

Nicole stumbled into the darkness with her children, and together they shouted for Maya.

Now that the sky was already pitch black, they couldn't see their paths clearly, which made their job much more difficult.

Meanwhile, Kyle and Juan were brainstorming for ideas to locate their lost sister.

The two of them suddenly looked at each other knowingly.

"How about, we just ask Daddy for help?"

"I guess that's the only way."

Kyle took out his phone and dialed for Evan.

Meanwhile, at Clare's Place, Evan felt his phone vibrate in his pocket. He took it out from his pocket and read the caller ID on the screen. He then swiped right to answer the call.

"Daddy."

"What is it?"

"We need your help." Kyle was equally reticent as Evan.

"Help with what?"

"Maya's disappeared. Can you get your people to help us look for her?" Kyle pleaded.

Evan awkwardly lifted his head to look at Maya sucking out juices from a crab with much relish. He fidgeted in his seat.

Perhaps I should have informed Nicole before I took Maya out.

With that thought in mind, Evan hung up the call and took a few pictures of Maya before sending it to Nicole.

Back at the house, Nicole was still searching high and low for Maya with her heart pounding at breakneck speed. She had no time to check her phone when a WhatsApp notification came in with a beep.

Out of curiosity, Juan asked Kyle, "Did Daddy say he'll help us?"

"He didn't say anything before he hung up the phone."

Juan sighed. It must be because Daddy doesn't know Maya is her daughter. If he knows, he will definitely care more.

The four of them looked into every corner of the Rose Garden but still didn't manage to find Maya.

Nicole fell squatting on the ground with her mind in pieces. She recalled how difficult it was to keep Maya alive back then.

When Maya was born, she was put into the incubator right away. She was much lighter than the other babies because of malnourishment. Nicole remembered how desperately she had prayed fervently for Maya's life. She was even willing to exchange for Maya's life with her own.

Fortunately, Maya was saved from the brink of death. However, another problem arose. Maya was stunted in growth because of her frail body. Then, Nicole was again busy, this time trying to make her daughter eat more in hopes that she would become strong and healthy. Luckily for Nicole, Maya herself also loved eating. Maya soon grew up into a cheerful and adorable girl in pink health, in which Nicole was very thankful for.

Since the beginning of time, Nicole didn't have any expectations for her little Maya. She just wanted her baby girl to live a happy and fulfilling life. But now, it was uncertain whether Maya was dead or alive.

"Maya, it's all Mommy's fault for not keeping an eye on you!"

"Mommy, it's not your fault. Don't blame it on yourself."

"Since it's already happened, the only thing we can do is to ask Daddy for help. Why don't you tell Daddy that Maya is also his biological daughter?"

Before Juan could finish, a strong beam of light lit up their surroundings. Right away, Juan noticed a car heading in their direction.