

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 556

She noticed a glint of melancholy flashing across Stephen's gaze.

From his expression laced with sorrow, Nicole was certain that the duke was someone with a complicated past.

"Alright. You can go back now."

"Sir Musgrave, I have one last question for you," Nicole blurted out after a brief hesitation.

She knew she was being too talkative, but this was a rare opportunity to get a clue to aid in her investigation.

"Go ahead."

"Do you know anyone who is skilled in acupuncture in the Musgrave family?"

Stephen fell silent. She was unconscious when I treated her that day. Did she realize someone saved her using acupuncture? Does she want to thank that person?

But I don't want anyone to find out I'm skilled in acupuncture. After all, I haven't used it in years.

He shook his head and replied, "No."

Deep down, he thought, You should thank Rosalie instead.

I helped you because you resemble her.

Nicole was disappointed at his answer. Looks like it's going to be hard finding that scum.

With Stephen's help, she returned to her room and resumed her act.

That night, Nicole received a phone call from Juan. Her heart clenched when she saw the caller's ID.

Her maids were in the room. If she answered the call, her act would be revealed. Hence, she ignored the call.

"Why isn't Mommy picking up?" Juan asked, utterly puzzled.

Sheila patted on his shoulders to comfort him. "Perhaps your mommy is too busy to answer."

Nina sighed. "Didn't the bodyguard call Uncle Davin saying that Mommy became an idiot? Perhaps she can't even pick up her phone."

"That means she's seriously ill."

"We need to meet her now."

"Ms. Sheila, what shall we do?"

"Don't worry. Since we're in Levant's territory, let's call him."

Sheila whipped out her phone. It took a few phone calls before she got Levant's number.

Without hesitation, she gave him a call.

When Levant found out Nicole's kids were here to look for their mother, his had mixed feelings.

Will the cheeky kids create trouble in the estate? But I can't say no. I have to let them meet their mother.

I have a hunch those kids would barge in without notice if I refuse to let them in.

They might even alert my father. That won't be good.

Hence, Levant decided to pick the kids, John, and Sheila up and brought them back to the estate.

“Where is Mommy?” Maya felt her head spinning when she realized how huge the estate was.

“Don’t worry. You’ll see your mommy soon.”

Levant led them into the main building. After making two turns, they still hadn’t reached their destination yet.

John and Sheila exchanged glances. It was as if they were asking the same question, Do you remember the way in?

Indeed, the estate was vast.

John gave Sheila a nod. He was good with directions.

However, Sheila was already confused. She reminded the kids to stay put as they might get lost in the estate.

Maya nodded profusely.

She wasn’t good with directions and would often get lost, so the estate seemed like a maze to her.

Both Juan and Kyle were unfazed. They boasted they could remember everything with just one try.

If they retraced their route, they would be able to draw a map. Or so they said.

“You guys are really smart!” John praised.

“Of course. Look who our parents are.”

“That’s right. We are the children of super smart parents, Evan and Nicole. Of course, we’re smart, too.”

Sheila burst into laughter, wondering who came up with the “super smart” tag.

When Levant heard Evan's name, his expression darkened.

Looks like no one is suspicious of that plane crash that killed him a few months ago.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 557

Levant felt a huge weight was lifted off his shoulder.

Things would be great if Evan never existed at all and if I were the father of these kids.

With that thought in mind, Levant blurted out, "You guys will have a new Daddy soon."

A new Daddy?

The kids rolled their eyes and pursed their lips in repulsion as soon as they heard him.

Nina turned around and snapped, "We don't need a new Daddy!"

"Exactly! Evan Seet is the one and only Daddy we have!"

John was pleased with the kids' reaction. I suppose Mr. Seet will be able to rest in peace now seeing how much the kids love him.

Levant stopped arguing with the kids. You kids have no say in this. It will be up to Nicole whether you kids are getting a new Daddy or not!

By the time he married Nicole, he would naturally become their new Daddy. There was nothing they could do but accept him.

When they reached the room Nicole stayed, Levant pointed at the European-style door and said, "Your mommy is inside."

The kids made a dash toward the door like horses from free rein.

Juan and Kyle reached the door first and rapped on it.

Meanwhile, Nicole frowned when she heard someone knocking on the door. She stuck her sleepy head out from the blanket and wondered who was visiting her at that hour.

After some contemplation, she decided not to answer the door and let the person knock as long as he or she wanted. After all, everyone thought she was an idiot and no one expected idiots to know how to answer the door.

With that, she tucked herself back in and continued to slumber with ease.

"Why isn't Mommy answering the door?"

"Has anything bad happened to Mommy?"

Juan and Kyle exchanged worried looks. Then, they raised one of their legs in unison and started kicking the door in an attempt to knock it open.

Nina, who just reached the door, joined in too.

"This door is too sturdy and we aren't strong enough to make it budge. What should we do now?"

Just as Nina said that, Maya finally caught up with them, looking breathless.

"Guys, get out of my way. It's time to use my undefeatable Maya Punch!"

Nina took a step back from Maya without hesitation, knowing how powerful Maya Punch could be. She had fallen victim to it several times before and it managed to cause her quite a severe back pain every time.

Kyle reminded Maya, "Your hands are gotta hurt a lot if you punch the door."

“It’s fine. I don’t mind the pain.”

Maya grinned fearlessly as she started spinning her chubby arms at a rapid rate to gather momentum. Argh! Finally, she let out an exclaim before mustering all her strength into the punch she landed on the heavy door.

Bang! She immediately felt a dull pain in her tiny but fleshy fist.

She was dumbfounded as she did not expect it to be so painful. Tears started welling up in her round, huge eyes at that instant.

In three seconds, she burst into tears and cried out loud miserably.

“Maya, does that hurt?”

While beads of tears were streaming down Maya’s face, Nina immediately approached her and wiped the tears from her face.

In between sobs, Maya complained, “That door is too hard and thick! Punching it hurts much more than punching you!”

Nina sighed, “I’m your sister, but the door isn’t. So, of course the door isn’t going to treat you as nice as how I treat you.”

Maya nodded her head vigorously while crying.

The commotion prompted Nicole to stick her head out from her blanket again, looking puzzled. Why can I hear the sound of my kids crying somewhere?

Am I hearing things?

Is the sound traveling all the way from home to here?

That certainly sounds too real to be just my imagination!

Within a second, she sat bolt upright and held her breath so that she could listen to the sound more carefully. She could tell it was Maya who was crying and the sound seemed to be coming from the door.

Immediately, she got out of bed and sprinted toward the door. Just as she was about to open it, she heard Sheila's voice as she was trying to pacify Maya.

Also, she heard the voices of Levant and John too.

The kids are really here, but why?

Nicole was unsure of what to do at that moment.

How would a dimwit react to the sight of her kids?

After some contemplation to make sure she did not blow her cover, she opened the door. The moment she laid her eyes upon her kids, she felt a throbbing pain in her heart and a lump growing in her throat.

She quickly put on a blank look as she sized the kids up confusedly as though they were strangers to her.

Maya and Nina shouted "Mommy" before running toward her and clinging onto her thighs.

Grinning goofily, Nicole lifted them up like two bags of rice and walked back inside.

How come Mommy is strong enough to carry us both?

What is Mommy going to do to us?

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 558

The two girls glanced at each other in confusion.

Nicole put them down and picked up a roll of bandage with which she started wrapping around the girls.

The girls were stunned at once. Why is Mommy tying us up?

“Mommy, what’re you doing?”

“Mommy, have you really lost your mind?”

Flashing them a foolish grin, Nicole started mumbling to herself, “I’m making a stew for dinner.”

Say what?

Is Mommy going to prepare the stew with their flesh? The two girls widened their eyes in consternation.

Pursing her lips, Maya looked like she was on the brink of tears again. Nina looked similarly horrified.

“Mommy, you can’t eat us.”

Maya nodded her head vigorously and pointed out in an earnest tone, “Mommy, we are your babies, remember? Adults aren’t allowed to eat their kids.”

“Exactly, Mommy. Even if you really want to do this, you should eat Maya because she’s as fleshy and chubby like a pig!”

Uhm...

I can't believe Nina is doing this to me!

Looking exasperated, Maya roared, "Mommy, Nina will be a much better choice.! My flesh tastes bitter, but hers is sweet and yummy! She smells good as she always spray your perfume on herself secretly!"

"Maya!" Nina yelled.

"You're a bad girl! You should be put inside that stew!" Maya seethed.

Nicole was surprised to know that the girls actually were aware of how precious their lives were and they had the awareness of protecting themselves despite their tender age.

However, their argument showed they were still a bunch of innocent kids.

Just then, Juan and Kyle darted over and pleaded, "Mommy, even wild animals like tigers don't eat their own cubs."

"Mommy, please let them go! Maya's hands were injured from banging her fists on the door just now."

Just as the boys snatched the roll of bandage away from her, Nicole cast a fleeting glance on Maya's chubby fists. She was heartbroken when she saw how red and swollen they were.

What a poor thing.

Meanwhile, John had been observing Nicole's behavior with his eyes tinged with anger. He whirled around and glared at Levant. "What the heck happened to Mrs. Seet?"

Levant sighed ruefully, "I have no idea. Even the doctors are not able to find out the root of her problem."

Wrapping her arms in front of her chest, Sheila sized Levant up suspiciously. "Are you trying to say Nicole suddenly became a dimwit overnight without a reason? Could you have been the one to trigger her illness?"

After a moment of silence, Levant countered, "Why would I do anything of that sort when I hope she can stay healthy and happy more than anyone else?"

“That would better be the truth. If I find out who did this to Nicole, I will make sure the person pays a heavy price for it.”

Levant did not respond to her. Instead, he steered the conversation away from that topic by saying, “Let me go and prepare some rooms for you guys.”

“Please arrange an extra bed for me here because I’m staying together with Nicole and the kids.”

Levant fell silent as he pondered over Sheila’s request. Although it might not be the best arrangement, it was good to have another person who could take care of Nicole. Besides, Levant found Sheila more trustworthy and reliable than the maids.

“Let me move you guys to a bigger place with more rooms so that you guys won’t be cramped for space.”

With that, Levant was off to make the arrangement.

After that, John, Sheila, Nicole and the four kids were left alone in the room.

The kids launched into a serious discussion about possible ways to bring their Mommy back home.

They wanted to bring Mommy back to their home country and hire the best doctor to treat her illness; they were sure Mommy would eventually be cured.

Nicole was pleased to see the kids trying so hard to help her.

However, it was not time to go home yet. She had to stay and find out who was the guy who dumped her mother years ago.

She crouched down next to Maya. Staring at her swollen fists, she started blowing on them in an attempt to soothe the pain.

“Does it hurt?”

Maya nodded as she grimaced in pain.

“Let me apply some ointment on it.”

Eh?

How come Mommy is acting normal again now?

The kids all stared at Nicole in consternation.

Juan stuck out two fingers and waved them in front of Nicole. “Mommy, how many fingers do I have here?”

“Three.”

Looking bewildered, he stuck out three fingers and asked her the same question.

“Two!”

At last, Juan shook his head dejectedly and sighed, “I’m sure Mommy’s lost her mind because she can’t even recognize the numbers!”

Meanwhile, an idea hit Nina. She held Nicole’s hands and asked, “Mommy, do you know what’s my name?”

Nicole glanced at her and answered, “You’re Nina.”

Nina’s eyes gleamed with excitement instantly as Mommy knew her name. Why did Mommy want to cook me for dinner just now if she knows I am Nina?

Maya, who was having ointment applied on her hands, posed Nicole the same question. “Mommy, do you remember my name then?”

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 559

Nicole caressed Maya's head and responded, "Your name is Donut!"

Eh?

Mommy can recognize Nina, but not me.

Pouting her lips, Maya sighed bitterly, "Mommy doesn't remember me anymore. I'm going to be an orphan who is loved by no one from now on."

I'm so sad.

After applying ointment on Maya's hands and bandaging them, Nicole reassured her, "Of course Mommy loves you. I love each and every one of you."

"Mommy, you actually know who we are. So, have you really gone mad?" Juan asked with a look of utter surprise.

In the meantime, Kyle had been scrutinizing Nicole with his arms crossed in front of his chest.

Nicole's looking fairly normal at the moment without that goofy grin.

Could she be...

Sheila and John were surprised to note the difference in Nicole's behavior too. Sensing that there was something more to it than met the eyes, John had the gumption to go and guard the door.

“Nicole, you didn’t really lose your mind, did you?” Sheila asked.

Nicole nodded her head.

The kids were both surprised and elated to see her reaction.

Maya looked stunned as she couldn’t believe she was fooled by Mommy just now.

“Mommy, why were you acting like an idiot just now?”

Nicole stared at them solemnly and replied, “I’ve been acting that way because someone tried to turn me into an idiot before this! All of you have to be extra careful throughout your stay here.”

Juan was pissed to hear that. “Who did that? How dare that person sabotaged my Mommy! I have to skin that jerk alive!”

Kyle cursed through gritted teeth, “I have to remove all the tendons from that jerk’s limbs!”

Wearing a dour expression, Nina seethed, “I’m going to apply makeup on that jerk and turns his or her into the most hideous person on earth!”

“I-I can hit that jerk with my Maya Punch!”

Uhm... Maya Punch is unavailable at the moment because my hands are injured... Another brilliant idea struck Maya at the moment. “I’m going to finish all the snacks that jerk stashed up in the cupboard!”

How useless and weak is that tactic? Nina rolled her eyes at Maya.

“Mommy, who tried to sabotage you?”

Nicole was happy to see how eager the four little devils were to avenge her grievance. “Please keep this in mind – stay away from everyone except for Mommy and Aunt Sheila from now on, okay?”

“Okay, Mommy.”

“Mommy, whoever tried to harm you will do something bad to us too. Please just tell us who is that culprit so that we can be mentally prepared.”

Sheila chimed in, “Nicole, please just tell us who that person is so I can be extra careful in the future.”

Looking at the inquisition in their eyes, Nicole revealed the truth. “It’s a woman named Daphne.”

“Daphne?”

“Daphne!”

The kids kept on muttering the name resentfully, making the woman their biggest enemy.

Punishment will be coming your way, you bad woman!

Yoda, who came to visit Nicole, was baffled when he saw John standing at the door.

Why is John here?

In fact, it’s actually good to have him here.

John had been Yoda’s right-hand man for years. So he was glad to see him there as his assistance would come in handy soon.

However, his way was blocked by John before he could even get near to the door of Nicole's room.

John eyed him suspiciously. "Are you Yoda?"

The truth was, John had no idea who Yoda was. He only heard of his name as the kids kept on mentioning it during their journey to the estate.

As John was examining the man carefully, he found the man giving out a very similar aura to Mr. Seet's. However, his face...

"Tsk, tsk. I'm sad to say that your great-looking body isn't going to help you much when you have such a hideous face," John commented after giving him a once-over.

Yoda experienced a mixed feelings hearing his comment. It never occurred to him that John, who had been working as his assistant for years, was actually someone who judged a book by its cover.

Seems like I didn't do a great job in educating and training him back then.

"Has my face really changed beyond recognition or are you blind?"

John was stupefied when he heard his sonorous and arrogant voice.

How come his voice sounds exactly the same as Mr. Seet's?

John examined Yoda's face again as he stammered, "A-Are you..."

Yoda cast an annoyed glance at him before pacing his way into the living room.

John was stuck in a trancelike state, thinking that there was something fishy with Yoda.

Other than his face, everything about him was way too similar to Mr. Seet!

What's going on? Could he be related to Mr. Seet?

But then again, I don't recall Mr. Seet having a twin brother?

Yoda beamed with elation at the sight of the kids.

Juan, who was talkative as ever, spoke first, "Yoda, it must have been your credit that Mommy didn't lose her mind."

Nina sighed, "We were so worried about Mommy throughout our trip here!"

Yoda, who had yet to recover from the surprise to see the kids there, was shocked to hear what Juan just said.

Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo

Chapter 560

Immediately, he spun around to stare at Nicole, looking gob smacked. You didn't lose your mind?

Guilt flickered in Nicole's eyes as she dreaded to meet Yoda's accusatory gaze.

He immediately realized what Juan said was true judging from her dodgy expression.

Oh, great. Yoda was so worried about her condition that he had been spending the past few days searching for doctors who could treat her condition. Just as he was racking his brain trying to come up with a way to bring the doctors to the estate, he was suddenly told that she had been faking it all along.

I can't believe she pretended to be an idiot even when she was alone with me!

"Do you think it's fun to do this?"

"I-I was left with no choice!"

Why didn't she tell me she's been putting on an act? Why did she think it was fine to tell the kids the truth, but not to me?

Is it because she doesn't trust me?

All of a sudden, Yoda felt pissed.

He had always deemed Nicole as his closest person in the world. Yet, did Nicole see him the same way?

Judging from how she handled this matter, the answer to that question was obviously in the negative.

He shot her an icy glare before marching out of the room.

Just then, Maya sprinted after him and wrapped her small arms around one of his calves. "Daddy, I know you are my Daddy!" she whispered to Yoda in an undertone.

Yoda crouched down and fixed his gaze on her bandaged fists. Feeling sorry for the little girl, he scooped her up and walked out of the house at a quick pace.

At the same time, Maya twined her arms around his neck, looking delighted.

She had been missing both Mommy and Daddy terribly for the past few days. It feels so great to be in Daddy's arms again!

When Yoda reached the door, he glanced at John and demanded, "Come with me!"

John was flummoxed.

Damn it, who do you think you are to talk to me in that tone?

Clearing his throat, John snapped, "Mind you, I'm the president's assistant while you're just a bodyguard. Do you think it's appropriate of you to yell at me like that?"

Pulling a long face, Yoda looked daggers at John. "Are you trying to get yourself sent to the North Pole so that you can live with the penguins there?"

John was flabbergasted upon hearing that remark.

That's something Mr. Seet used to say to me all the time. How come he...

Is he possessed by Mr. Seet's soul?

This is such a surprise!

While Yoda was walking away with Maya in his arms, John too strode off to keep up with him after some hesitation.

That remark from him just now triggered a lot of his memories. If he was really possessed by Mr. Seet's soul, John was willing to work for him and be at his service.

It was only after Evan's demise did John realize how nice it was to have someone in his life who was willing to show him the ropes and support him.

Now that he was working for Davin, he felt very helpless and insecure. Just like a small tree in a storm, he faced the danger of being uprooted anytime.

When he was working for Evan, he was being treated by everyone like a boss, but when he was working for Davin, he was being treated like a nobody. The two experiences couldn't be more different.

John yearned for Evan's resurrection so eagerly that he even dreamt about it every now and then.

Watching Yoda leave together with John, a babble of voices broke out among the other three kids.

"Why did Daddy bring Maya away?"

"Exactly. Why didn't he bring me instead? What makes Maya so different?" Nina grumbled.

Meanwhile, Sheila knitted her brows in consternation when she heard the kids addressing Yoda as their Daddy.

She reckoned the kids only called him that way because Yoda had been very loving to them and they had started becoming dependent on him.

Staring at the kids, Sheila let out a forlorn sigh as her heart went out for them.

"Nicole, is the investigation on your family background going well?" Sheila asked.

“I’m afraid it’s not been going very smoothly. Only very few clues are useful.”

“Don’t worry. Just take your time and I’m sure you’ll find something soon.”

Nicole flashed Sheila a faint smile and gave her a nod in appreciation of her consolation.

“Mommy, just leave it to us and we’ll help you get to the bottom of it!”

“You guys will be a massive help if you don’t create any trouble for me.”

Uhm...

Does Mommy think we are a burden who can’t help her at all?

That was a fatal blow to the kids.

Just then, an idea struck Juan. He inched closer to Kyle and whispered to him, “Let’s take a good night sleep tonight so that we will have enough energy to teach that Daphne woman a lesson! After that, we’ll help Mommy look for her Daddy.”

“Great.”

“Count me in!” Nina patted her chest to show her confidence.

“Sure, Nina. I know you’ll be a brilliant addition to the squad!”

“What are the three of you babbling about? Remember not to tell anyone about my condition, alright?” Nicole said.