Well, it wouldn't hurt to go take a look at the place...

When she was a kid, Nicole had frequently sneaked into Rose Garden to steal flowers for her mother. In the end, however...

"Alright, let's go have a look tomorrow," she said.

Juan felt exhilarated. He was confident that his mother would fall in love with the place as soon as she saw it.

When they moved in, Mommy would finally have a place of her own. Whatever belonged to Juan also belonged to her.

Evan found out about Nicole's plans to visit Rose Garden when he overheard Juan and Kyle's conversation. His face clouded over.

What would happen if that woman fell in love with the place and insisted on moving in?

He couldn't let that happen. Evan made up his mind to drop by Rose Garden tomorrow.

After breakfast the next day, Evan arrived at Nicole's house with Juan and Kyle in tow.

As he glanced at the interior of her new rental apartment, Evan frowned with displeasure. For someone like Nicole who lived in a glorified shoebox, moving into Rose Garden was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Upon seeing Juan and Kyle, Nicole looked pleasantly surprised.

"Mommy was planning to pick the both of you up! Why are you here?"

"We didn't come by ourselves! Daddy came along with us. He wants to go to Rose Garden too."

Nicole finally took notice of Evan, who was standing awkwardly outside the door.

"Mr. Seet, what brings you here? Unfortunately, my place is rather small, so I won't be inviting you in. Please wait outside!" As soon as she finished speaking, a smile crept over her face.

Evan shot a critical look at her. Did she really think that he wanted to go in? He would much prefer standing outside, where the air was fresher.

"My time is precious. Hurry up!" he snapped crossly.

Nicole dashed into Nina's room. Afraid that Evan was going to fly into a fit of rage if they made him wait any longer, she started nagging at her daughter to hurry up.

"Mommy, I'm done packing. Let's go."

"Okay!"

The children were jumping with excitement. Happy to inundate Nicole with more stories about Rose Garden, Juan followed Kyle, Maya and Nina onto Nicole's car.

Seeing how eagerly the boys had defected to Nicole's car, ignoring how worn-out and tattered it was, Evan couldn't help but feel a sense of alienation. Perhaps, he mused, it was true that children were much closer to their mothers than their fathers.

The entire way there, Juan regaled everyone with his praises of Rose Garden. Maya and Nina could hardly wait to see the place for themselves.

As Nicole listened, her childhood memories of Rose Garden came flooding back. Suddenly, she felt like crying.

Ten years ago, she had snuck in there like a thief. Today, she could finally walk into the garden through its front gates at last.

She wondered if the place would feel foreign to her when she saw it again. After, the garden may have remained the same all these years, but the people must have changed.

Evan was in his Rolls-Royce. As he shut his eyes to rest, a memory from his youth resurfaced in his mind. Evan was in his Rolls-Royce. As he shut his eyes to rest, a memory from his youth resurfaced in his mind.

"Evan, here's a flower chain I made for you. And here are the snacks my Mommy made. Go on, eat!"

"If you give all your food to me, what are you going to eat?"

"There's more food for me at home. These are for you."

"Evan, if they bully you, I'll help you fight back against them!"

"Evan, I didn't mean to bite you. It's too dark and they hid too fast, so I—I bit the wrong person."

"Don't cry, it doesn't hurt."

"""

As the memories replayed in his mind, Evan felt a lump in his throat. His hands curled into fists. If that girl were still alive, she would have grown into a big, pretty girl by now. She might even have her own kids now!

And perhaps those kids might even be his...

As he got lost in his memories, they arrived at their destination. The Rolls-Royce rolled to a halt outside Rose Garden.

When Evan got off the car, the chauffeur turned to look behind them. "Mr. Seet, Ms. Lane's car isn't here yet."

Gosh, that car of hers is as slow as a snail! I can't even see them in the distance. Impatiently, Evan said, "Let's go in without them first."

"Yes, Mr. Seet."

Ten minutes later, Nicole finally arrived at Rose Garden with the kids.

Juan was still rattling on solemnly about the garden, informing them of how beautiful the flowers, the pavilions, and the artificial rocks were.

"Maya, the flowers in Rose Garden are prettier than the fondant ones on the cakes you love to eat!"

Hearing this, the image of fondant flowers floated into Maya's mind. Those flowers were soft and sticky, and they tasted delicious.

Her eyes lit up, and Maya took off in the direction of Rose Garden. Unfortunately, she was in such a hurry that she missed a step. With a loud crash, she fell sprawling onto the floor.

Ouch, that hurts!

Tears welled up in Maya's eyes as she forced herself to endure the pain. Three seconds later, however, she burst into a loud wail and started crying.

Nicole quickly dashed over. Picking Maya up and dusting the mud off her face, she asked worriedly, "Maya, are you hurt? Do you feel any pain?"

Plaintively, Maya pointed at her flabby arm and her thick calves before gesturing at her chubby cheeks. "Mommy, am I going to be disfigured?"

Nina squatted down and looked carefully at the wound on her face. "No! You don't have to worry with me around. If you do become disfigured, I'll be able to draw an even prettier face on you."

Hearing this, Maya felt reassured. She wiped away her tears and turned abruptly to Nina. In a serious voice, she insisted, "I'm pretty even now."

"You are! Maya's the prettiest girl on earth."

After being consoled by Nicole for a while, Maya finally broke into a smile.

Looking at the flowers in the garden, Nina exclaimed with sparkling eyes, "I say! These are the prettiest flower beds I've ever seen."

Turning to look at Nicole, she said, "Mommy, can I pluck one flower to wear in my hair?"

Nicole thought for a while before answering, "Yes, but just one, alright? Don't go overboard."

"Yes, Mommy."

Nina walked over to the flower beds and looked down at the colorful blooms for a long time. In the end, she stretched out her hand and reached for a lovely pink flower.

Just as she was about to close her fingers around its stem, a loud holler sounded behind her and scared her half to death. "No plucking of flowers is allowed!"

Turning around, she found herself gazing into Evan's eyes. His face was full of cold fury.

Nina had never seen Evan look so angry before. Like a frightened bird, she swung her head around to look at Nicole for help.

Nicole hadn't expected this angry reaction from Evan. She ran over to explain, "Mr. Seet, Nina really likes flowers. Since there are so many of them in this garden, could you just let her have one?"

Huffily, Evan replied, "No."

The garden was full of flowers. Couldn't he just let the girl have one?

A look of annoyance flashed across Nicole's face. Evan was very fond of this place, and it appeared as though he treasured every blade of grass and every stalk of flower in here too.

Too lazy to argue with him, she walked over to Nina and detached the flower from its stem before handing it to her.

"Here you go, Nina."

"Nicole Lane!" Evan roared, gritting his teeth in rage.

However, Nicole turned to look at him, her eyes bold. "Mr. Seet, this garden now belongs to Juan. Since Juan has allowed us to live here with him, you have no business telling us whether we should pluck this flower or not."

""

She hadn't even moved in yet, and she was already going against him.

If they really moved in here, the kids would probably turn this whole place upside down.

Evan looked at Nicole coldly and tried to keep his temper in check. "If you don't want to live here, there are other places..."

Nicole interrupted him gaily, "I'm not going anywhere. I'm moving in here."

""

Another surge of anger coursed through Evan's veins. This woman was just trying to get on his nerves.

Sensing the tense atmosphere and the animosity between their parents, the children fell silent with anxiety.

A moment later, Nicole looked up at Evan and said sincerely, "Mr. Seet, I'm really sorry. However, I have very strong feelings towards this place, and I'd very much like to live here."

Feelings?

It's your first time here, and you've already developed feelings for this place?

What sort of nonsense was this?

"Do you really plan on living here?"

Nicole's eyes trembled slightly. With her hands balled into fists, she nodded firmly at him.

Shooting her a look of contempt, Evan angrily ordered Juan and Kyle to leave with him.

The two boys looked at him with doubtful expressions. If they left with their father now, wouldn't their Mommy be very sad?

Besides, today was Mommy's special visit to Rose Garden.

"Daddy, I don't want to go back yet."

"Daddy, we've just arrived. We haven't played enough yet."

Evan looked at the both of them, his eyes narrowing. Was Nicole insisting on living in Rose Garden because she knew the kids liked this place? In the future, was she going to use this to coax Juan and Kyle to live with her?

If he let her move in here, she would have both Rose Garden and their two sons.

This woman was too ambitious for her own good!

Evan suddenly bared his teeth in an unusual smile. Looking as though he was grimacing, he said, "Juan, great-grandpa gave you this garden, didn't he? Daddy wants to live here too."

As he spoke, he shot a pointed look at Nicole.

Juan blinked his large eyes rapidly before exchanging nods with Kyle and his two sisters.

If both Mommy and Daddy lived here, their family would be reunited once more. How splendid would that be!

"Haha! Daddy, Mommy, Juan likes the idea of the both of you living together."

"Great! Daddy will move in here today." His words were clearly directed at Nicole.

Nicole's heart skipped a beat. From his strange expression, she could tell that he was up to something again.

Evan's plan was to stick around and aggravate her until she could no longer bear it and moved out. When that time came, there was sure to be a huge fight.

Nicole wondered if it would affect her children. What if...

She secretly discussed the idea of moving somewhere else with Maya and Nina.

Hearing this, Nina looked a little upset. "Mommy, he's saying that because he doesn't want you to live here. If you move somewhere else, he'll get what he wants."

Thinking back on Evan's frigid attitude just now, Maya felt very annoyed. "Exactly! Mommy, don't be scared of him. We're on your side. He won't be able to defeat all three of us."

"Besides, Mommy, Juan will be sad if you don't move in here."

"Yes! It's his way of expressing filial piety, after all."

In her heart, Nicole knew that the real reason why her children liked Rose Garden so much was because the living conditions here were indeed much better than that in their cramped flat.

She liked this place too. However, it wasn't because the scenery and amenities here were better—it was because this place held memories from her past.

Oh well. Since matters had already come to a head, they might as well move in.

"Great! Shall we move in here tomorrow?"

Maya exchanged a look with Nina and nodded happily.

Juan turned to Kyle and reminded him that Daddy had promised to bring all of them to the amusement park that day. Mommy, of course, was coming along.

"I wonder if Daddy remembers it."

"He probably does. However, they just had an argument. If we make them take us to the amusement park now, they might start fighting again." Juan laughed. "Last time, I heard from our neighbor, the husband-beater lady that fighting and arguing can be a couple's way of expressing love to each other. Perhaps our parents will be able to fight their way to a better relationship."

"Does—does that lady have a good relationship with her husband?"

Juan tried to recall if they did. Nodding furiously, he said, "It's pretty good! Every time she boxes his ears, he gives her money. After that, she gives him another two kicks in the leg, and it makes her really happy."

Um...

"Well, then, is her husband happy?"

"Of course! Her husband is always smiling. For some reason, however, his smile looks even uglier than his crying face."

Upon hearing this, Kyle expressed his concern on whether their father would look uglier when he smiled like that neighbor.

After thinking for a while, Juan replied, "Mommy is very gentle. She will never hit Daddy. They'll be very happy together."

"That's true. If we think about it, it's Daddy who's bullying her instead. There's a very low chance that Daddy will get beaten up by her. Should we try and ask, then?"

"Yes." Juan nodded furiously.

He quickly found a convenient time to gather their parents together and remind them of the amusement park trip.

Realizing that Nicole would be coming along, Evan shot a strange look at her and said icily, "Choose between me and her."

"But Daddy, you promised!"

"That was in the past. Now..."

Now, he felt distinctly uncomfortable whenever he set his eyes on Nicole. Whenever he looked at her, his gaze was full of unveiled contempt.

Maya and Nina had never seen Evan so cold towards their mother before. Walking over to Nicole, they grabbed her hand to show their support. With her head bowed, Nicole snuck a look at her daughters, who were both glaring at Evan. Summoning up her courage, she looked up and gazed directly at him.

"Juan, Kyle, we must always keep our promises. Mommy will bring you guys there."

Hearing this, Kyle turned to look at Evan and complained, "Daddy, didn't you taught us the same, too?"

Evan glared coldly at Nicole. Did she say that because she wanted to bring the kids to the amusement park with him?

Alright, he thought darkly, I'll let you experience the 'joyful' experience of having me around!

"Let's go now!"

As soon as he spoke, Nicole felt her heart drop. As she raised her head and met his cold eyes, she felt a deep sense of dread.

His entire expression smacked of his desire to get revenge on her. Was he going to make things difficult for her?

The children were so excited at the thought of heading to the amusement park that they didn't notice the awkward silence between their parents at all.

They arrived at the amusement park in their car.

Juan and Kyle had an important mission. They wanted to find as many opportunities as they could to let their parents interact with each other.

On the other hand, Maya and Nina had struck a deal. They would protect their Mommy to the end of the world. If their father tried to make things difficult for her, they would discipline him on her behalf.

"Maya, we can't be afraid of him."

"No worries! If he bullies Mommy, I'll treat him like he is cheese or pork leg and bite him into pieces!"

Nina nodded frantically. She reached into her pocket and extracted a newly-bought makeup kit. An insidious smile spread across her face.

Evan bought the tickets and led the children into the amusement park. Nicole left and came back with her hands full of popcorn bags for the children.

"You're not allowed to eat that," Evan said sternly to the kids.

"Why not?" Nicole asked unhappily.

"It's filthy."

Hearing this, the children turned to look at each other uneasily. Should they eat the popcorn or not?

Nicole shot him a glare and took the bags of popcorn away from the kids. "Let's not eat the popcorn, then. Go and have fun!"

The children nodded and headed off in the direction of the carousel ride gleefully.

Evan glowered at the bags of popcorn in Nicole's arms. "Throw them away," he ordered.

"Why should I do that?"

It was such a waste to do that. After all, she had spent money to buy them.

"We're not letting the kids eat them! Which part of that do you not understand?"

Nicole was nonplussed. It still made no sense to throw the perfectly good bags of popcorn away.

Nicole rolled her eyes at him. Tearing one of the bags open, she started stuffing her face with popcorn.

"Don't worry, I'll finish eating them in a jiffy. I won't give them to the kids."

Evan frowned at her with a peculiar expression on his face.

Nicole ignored him. As soon as she finished one bag of popcorn, she tore open another bag and started eating that too.

Evan couldn't bear it anymore. "Please stand a little further away from me, thanks."

Nicole, who was preoccupied with eating popcorn, stopped for a second and asked, "Why?"

Evan stared at her and refused to answer.

Now, he finally understood who Maya had inherited her gluttony from.

Seeing the disgust in his eyes, Nicole shot a look at Evan and stepped away from him.

However, Evan still wasn't satisfied. "A little further please, thanks."

Nicole scoffed. "Do you think this is your house or something? I'll stand wherever I like."

Evan couldn't be bothered to reply. If he got into a fight with her now, someone was bound to capture their squabble and upload the video onto social media. That would cause great damage to his reputation.

He started walking away from her to put some distance between them.

"Juan, Daddy and Mommy have split up!"

"We need to find a way to make them stick together!"

The two boys started hatching a plan together.

"Nina, is Mommy getting bullied again?"

Nina frowned. "I don't think so. She's eating popcorn very happily."

At that moment, the carousel stopped. Juan and Kyle hopped off the ride and made a beeline for their parents, with the girls trailing behind.

"Daddy, Mommy, we want to play with the water guns."

Juan insisted that his mother be on his team, while Kyle asked his father to team up with him.

It was rare that Kyle was so bright and lively. Looking at him, Evan felt rather happy.

Maya and Nina exchanged a look. "We're teaming up with Mommy."

"That's so unfair! Hey, Fatty, come and join our team."

Between Nina and Maya, Evan had to admit that he was biased towards Maya.

Maya turned to look at him, her chubby face red with anger. How dare he call her a Fatty? What a rude person he was!

She put her hands on her hips and scoffed, "Hmph! Don't call me fat!"

Evan was lost for words as he scrutinized Maya from head to toe. Didn't she say that she wanted to lose weight? Why can't I see any difference?

"You called me fat. I don't want to be in the same team as you!"

Upon finishing her sentence, she walked toward Nicole and held her hand tightly.

Nicole was surprised by Evan's sudden willingness to play with the kids.

Is he trying to seek revenge for his personal grudges through the game?

At that moment, Nina said, "I'll join your team!" She then went to stand beside Evan and Kyle.

Evan looked at Nina who always scolded him and sighed. She must be here as an undercover. She'll definitely betray us at critical moments.

After changing into waterproof clothes, memories came flashing in Evan's mind of how Nicole opposed him as he held the water gun.

Nicole Lane, wait till you become soaked in water.

When Nicole held the water gun, bitterness washed over her. Once upon a time, someone defended her with a water gun and as a result, he was beaten up by the bullies...

Time flew by, but some memories stayed intact.

"Are you ready? Let's start!" Kyle's words snapped her out of her trance.

Juan urged her, "Mommy, if you can't win Daddy, you can just fake a cry. So Daddy won't attack you anymore."

Fake crying?

Surprised by his suggestion, Nicole smiled. This little one actually advised me to cry crocodile tears.

"Okay. Understood."

However, I will never fake a cry.

The game started, and so did Evan's merciless attack on Nicole.

Water poured down on her like a thunderstorm but she fought back fearlessly.

Looking at their Daddy and Mommy's marksmanship, the kids stared in awe while clapping and cheering.

Nina looked at Evan before sneaking away.

Both parties were reminded of their grudges as they attacked to vent their anger. Suddenly, a helper appeared beside Nicole. Evan was at a disadvantage in an instant.

When Nicole realized who was helping her, she halted the game immediately.

"Nicole, this man is attacking you ruthlessly. Let me help you."

She glanced at the man in disgust. I'm so unfortunate to meet my ex today.

"I didn't expect to see you at such a place."

"It must have been fate. I heard you had returned to the country a long time ago but I hadn't got a chance to see you."

Curious, Evan strode over to see who was helping Nicole.

However, before he could ask any questions, the man mocked, "You're a grown man! Are you not ashamed for treating a woman like this?"

"Who are you?"

Nicole rolled her eyes at Zach. "He is a scumbag."

If she had not found out before her wedding that this jerk, Zach, had betrayed her, she would not have slept with Evan and ended up with the quadruplets.

This man was the ultimate jerk.

"Nicole, how can you say that? We once loved each other. We were..."

Nicole found it amusing to hear him talk about the olden days.

So it's that kind of relationship.

Evan observed Zach thoroughly before turning his gaze to Maya.

It was apparent that Maya did not know this man. He was sure that he was not the father of Maya and Nina.

This woman's personal life is chaotic indeed.

His gaze deepened as he warned Nicole, "Take care of your private life. Don't let it affect the children."

Then, he walked away with Kyle and Juan.

"Children? Nicole, who the hell is he?"

"That's none of your business!" Nicole glowered at him.

Holding Maya and Nina's hands, she went after Juan and Kyle.

Evan, who was walking at the front, thought that there was something wrong with himself.

It's fine that I'm going out with a woman like Nicole, but why did I play water gun with her? I should keep a distance from such a promiscuous woman.

Sensing Evan's anger, Kyle and Juan glanced at each other and whispered, "Daddy, let's wait for Mommy."