Nicole's heart pounded furiously as she scrutinized the pictures sent by Juan repeatedly.

"These are teeth marks. Are they really?"

She zoomed in and out to look. The more she stared at it, the more they looked like teeth marks to her beyond any doubt.

It was located at the same place that she remembered.

Does it mean Evan is the boy from back then?

But why was he so disheveled then, to the extent he was bullied and beaten up by other kids.

The questions she had only served to baffle her further.

However, she felt no matter the reason, it was fate that brought her and Evan together when they were children.

As she gently touched the picture, she stroked the teeth marks that she left on him. Suddenly, an insuppressible rush of emotions overwhelmed her.

"It's him. Why are you feeling so happy? Nicole, have you really fallen in love with him?" She mumbled to herself, blushing.

Then she replied to herself in silence.

To be honest, Evan has many good qualities. Tons of women fall head over heels for him, so me being one of them isn't unexpected at all.

Furthermore, he is the father of the four children.

Is this really fate at work?

Amidst her blushing smile, anxiety reared its ugly head again.

Now that Evan and Sylphiette are so close, he may not like me. In that case...

Her heart was filled with uneasiness as she didn't know what Evan was thinking. Nevertheless, she was willing to change her attitude towards him so that she can get closer to him and find out what his true feelings were.

In the middle of the night, Kyle and Juan were suddenly jolted up from their sleep.

Juan was still extremely sleepy. Turning his body, he gave a few random kicks before going back to sleep.

However, Kyle had opened his eyes and looked at Evan curiously.

Meanwhile, Evan gave Juan's little backside another kick. Only then did Juan finally sit up with his messy hair.

Rubbing his eyes, he whined in his childish voice, "Why did you kick me?"

"Who did this?"

Evan questioned the two as he held up his phone and looked at the picture of his naked back.

Kyle lay there expressionless and said nothing.

As for Juan, he was fully awake by now. Spreading his hands, he put on an annoyingly oblivious expression.

"Is this the reason both of you wanted to give me a bath?"

Juan lifted his head to meet Evan's eyes. You didn't notice us so we are not going to admit it.

"Juan, Kyle didn't leave the bathroom. Hence, the picture must have been taken by you."

Juan laughed awkwardly as he shook his head in denial.

Nicole only told them to delete the chat history, but they forgot to delete the pictures.

Their carelessness had cost them.

"Tell me the reason you took the photos! Or else, I'll throw both of you out naked."

Wouldn't we be exposed?

Juan recoiled in horror as he pulled his blanket closer. He looked at Evan intently.

"Daddy, you cannot infringe on our privacy."

"Privacy? Then what about the pictures you took of me..."

Juan racked his brains as hard as he could to come up with an excuse.

"I was impressed with how good your body looks. Hence, I couldn't help but take a picture of you."

Evan was speechless.

Evan could easily see that Juan was lying from his shifty eyes.

He then turned his gaze towards Kyle.

"Kyle, is that true? Daddy knows that you're someone that doesn't lie."

His last sentence gripped Kyle's mind, to the extent that he was too embarrassed to lie.

When Evan saw how uneasy Kyle looked, he figured there was more to the matter than what he saw on the surface.

Worried that Kyle would waver and spill the beans, Juan desperately shook his head at Kyle to signal him not to tell.

Kyle's actions served to further reinforce Evan's suspicions.

Since both of them offered to give him a bath the moment they returned from Nicole's, Evan knew that it must have something to do with her.

She can't have me and hence got the children to take a naked picture of me?

That's despicable!

She's more brazen than I ever imagined.

Evan brought up Nicole on chat and sent. You're despicable!

Meanwhile, Nicole was rolling on her bed unable to sleep. Suddenly, when the screen on her phone lit up, she frowned when she read the message.

What gives Evan the right to scold me?

Were the two children found out for secretly taking the pictures?

I only got them to take pictures of his shoulders. How is that despicable?

Defiant, she replied. What gives you the right to scold me?

Evan pursed his lips. Isn't lusting over me despicable?

When Nicole saw the reply, she frowned again and sighed.

She only asked the boys to take a picture of his shoulder. But, she didn't expect them to send her a picture of his naked back.

No wonder Evan thought that I wanted a naked photo of him.

His perception that she was obsessed with him had just been significantly reinforced.

After holding her cheeks in shock, she replied. Mr. Seet, it's just a misunderstanding.

Evan threw his phone to the side.

Why is she still denying it when it's so obvious? She's really stubborn!

"How dare both of you help your Mommy do something like that. I am going to smack your asses really hard. After that, I will hang you naked off the rose arbor."

When the image of him swinging naked off the rose arbor with everyone looking flashed across his mind, Kyle curled in fear underneath the blanket.

"Daddy, I won't do it again."

Evan turned and glared at Juan. "What about you?"

Juan nodded meekly. "Me too."

If we are to be hung naked on the rose arbor, how is this cute face of mine going to face the world again?

"I'm glad both of you realized your mistake. Now, go back to sleep."

Just as Evan spoke, both of them quickly lay down and shut their eyes.

As he looked at them both, Evan's lips curled into a devious smile. He couldn't help but feel that he now had some dirt on Nicole which he could use to threaten her.

The next day.

When Nicole saw Juan and Kyle during breakfast, she felt bad and asked them if they didn't sleep well the night before.

Both of them had dark circles under their eyes, just like a panda.

Kyle looked up at her. "We were frightened by Daddy last night."

Juan added, "Not only that, but I also even had a dream. In my dream, I saw many people touching my naked body. Those ladies were really too much."

Why are there even ladies?

Nicole frowned as she listened in earnest.

"Mommy, next time, I won't help you take a secret picture of Daddy anymore"

"Yea, there's no more next time."

Just as Juan spoke, he exchanged glances with Kyle. After that, they sighed and hung their heads to sulk.

Meanwhile, Nicole forced an awkward smile.

After ending up being wrongly accused by Evan last night, she too didn't want a repeat of what happened.

Reaching out to stroke both of their heads, she promised them that she would never ask them to do something like that again.

After which, they were put at ease and began to eat.

Meanwhile, Nina and Maya didn't understand what they were talking about and buried themselves in their food.

After dropping the children off at school, Nicole returned to pick up some medical books before heading to the clinic.

As she arrived at the main house, someone blocked her way.

"M-Mr. Seet? Is there anything?"

When Nicole recalled that Evan was the boy she met last time, her gaze softened while her tone also improved.

Her change in attitude caught Evan by surprise.

"What do you think?"

"Me?"

How am I supposed to know if there's anything wrong with you? Why are you throwing the question back at me?

Even though she felt like retorting with a sarcastic remark, she maintained her composure instead and replied, "I think you're fine."

"Nicole Lane, do you think I'll just let it slide when you asked the children to take a picture of me without my knowledge?"

Nicole looked at him in surprise.

Did he stop me because of this?

Should I or should I not explain that all I wanted was just a picture of his shoulder?

While Nicole was still struggling with herself, Evan pre-empted her.

"I can pretend that it didn't happen. But, you have to help me do something."

Regaining her senses, she looked at him in surprise, "What is it?"

She was more than willing to help him.

The boy from then helped her a lot too.

Therefore, it was time to repay her debt to him.

"Everyday, you will need to spend two hours in my room to translate the documents from A Nation. I will pay you a salary for it."

Nicole's red lips curled into a smile. When she first learned the language from A Nation, it was useless for her work. But now, she didn't expect that she could be of help to Evan.

"Fine, I agree but I don't need the salary. Other than spending two hours translating for you, I still have time to earn a living at the clinic. I also wanted to thank you for preparing the place for me near Rose Garden. It's been really convenient."

Evan snorted, "As I said before, as long as you don't run your clinic in Rose Garden, you're free to do it anywhere else. There's no need to thank me. As for the salary, please reconsider as the translation work is a long-term project. With

more money, you can buy a new car to replace your dilapidated old car. It will be safer for the children too.

Dilapidated old car.

Nicole pursed her lips as she recalled when she bought that 'dilapidated old car'. She felt the pinch for a very long time.

Since Evan put it that way, there's no need for me to stand on ceremony.

"In that case, how much are you going to pay me?"

"You can propose."

"Not many people can translate A Nation's language. Hence, I'll charge five hundred an hour and therefore it's a thousand a day. Is that fine with you?"

After giving it some thought, Evan nodded. "Yes."

He had expected her to take advantage of him, but what she asked for wasn't much in the end.

"Evan, what are you talking to Nicole about?"

Before they could even see her, they heard Sylphiette's voice. Her submissive and coquettish tone simply made Nicole feel uneasy.

Explaining that she was rushing for time, Nicole quickly left.

"Nicole, I just got here. Why are you leaving so soon?"

Nicole avoided her like the plague and left without responding.

"Evan, does Nicole not like me being here? Am I disturbing both of you?"

Evan lowered his gaze to look at Sylphiette. "Don't overthink it. I'm heading to the office."

Sylphiette was speechless.

Both of them left the moment she arrived. What were they talking about?

They looked to be getting on well and no longer seemed to be at loggerheads with each other, which caused Sylphiette to feel anxious.

This cannot go on. I must find a way to reduce their interaction.

In the event their relationship improves, the one to be sidelined will unfortunately be me.

At night.

Before Evan returned from the office, he gave Nicole a call on purpose to tell her that he had important documents to translate. She was to wait in his study after picking the children up.

Hence, she brought the four children to Rose Garden and headed straight for Evan's study. When she arrived at the door, she was stopped by Sylphiette suddenly.

"Nicole, this is Evan's study. You can't enter at will."

Sylphiette's condescending attitude made the children feel uncomfortable.

That's Daddy's room, why is that witch blocking our way?

"This is Daddy's room so we can enter whenever we want. Who do you think you are?"

"That's right."

Kyle and Juan glared at her.

However, Sylphiette rolled her eyes at the children. "Your dad is not here. What happens when you mess up his study? You can't enter because I say so..."

"Mr. Seet asked us to wait in his study. Does what he says not count?"

Nicole cut Sylphiette off as she confronted her.

At the mention of Evan, Sylphiette was caught by surprise while her arrogant attitude dampened.

Nicole rolled her eyes in disdain before sidestepping Sylphiette to lead the children into the study. She was in no mood to argue any further.

Did Evan really ask them to wait for him inside?

Sylphiette couldn't help but rack her brains as to why Evan would want them to wait for him there.

No matter the reason, this was a chance for Nicole to interact with Evan and she couldn't allow it.

However, she couldn't control what Evan wanted to do.

Even if she were upset with the fact that he wanted Nicole and the kids to wait for him in his study, there was nothing she could say.

Should I say that I forbid it? Or show my displeasure?

But what if Evan minds? She was worried that he might think she was making a fuss over nothing and end up thinking less of her.

Therefore, she felt it was better to work on Nicole instead.

As she turned to look at Nicole and the children, a scheme hatched in her mind.

After leaving for a moment, she returned smiling with a tray of cut fruits.

"Nicole, I prepared some fruits for the children."

After that, she placed the fruits on the table and shot a glance at the children.

Her sudden change in attitude caught Nicole by surprise.

After giving it some thought, Nicole remembered that this hypocrite had learned all her skills from the master herself, Sylvia. Therefore, her ability to fake her emotions was simply amazing.

Is she using her skills to put on an act again?

But Evan isn't here. So what is she pretending for?

The children were not tempted by the plate of fruits except for Maya, who stared at them without blinking as if she was a hungry wolf.

All she could think of was eating them.

Given how hungry she looked, it even made Nina feel embarrassed as she tugged at Maya.

"We will have a tummy ache if we eat anything given by the witch."

Maya turned around and looked at Nina, not sure if she was to be believed.

Sylphiette sneered as she took a piece of orange and ate it in a tantalizing manner.

It didn't matter if the children ate the fruits or not because that wasn't her purpose. Instead, she had a more important objective.

When Maya saw how much Sylphiette was enjoying the orange, she looked like a hungry kitten. When Nicole saw Maya's expression, she was worried that she might cry out of desperation for the fruit.

Therefore, she brought the children back to the rear house.

"Play in the room for a while. Mommy will be back soon to make you dinner."

Kyle and Juan nodded as they didn't want to stay with the witch anyway. It was a lot more fun to practice their hacking skills instead.

As for Nina, she took out her cosmetic case and started to play. However, when Maya saw the snacks in front of her, she couldn't help but sigh. Why are there no fruits? Tomorrow, I'll get Mommy to buy the biggest and sweetest oranges there are.

When Nicole returned to the house and was about to enter the study, she heard Sylphiette complaining to Evan.

"Nicole forbade the children from eating the fruits I prepared and took them away on purpose. Evan, I really want to treat the children well and don't want to feel too distant from them. After all, when we're together next time, I would be the one taking care of Kyle and Juan. Nicole is just making things difficult."

"Evan, it seems Nicole likes you, why don't I leave and you can be together."

Just as she spoke, she wiped the tears of her cheeks pitifully.

At that moment, Nicole understood why the hypocrite had prepared the fruits. It was to give her an excuse to complain.

However, she wanted to hear how Evan would respond.

She was curious to know who he liked and whether he would let Sylphiette leave.

In truth, she knew the answer deep down but still held up hope and wanted to hear him say it.

Finally, Evan started speaking in his deep voice.

"Stop imagining things. You know how much I care about our relationship from then. So, we will be together. Nicole is just the mother of my children. She and I…"

That woman has been obsessed with getting together with me by hook or by crook. How is it possible that I fall for an unscrupulous woman like that?

No... never.

After a slight hesitation, he continued, "...we, don't have feelings for each other. I will never fall for her."

"Evan, I knew it. You are really loyal."

Sylphiette gazed at Evan passionately with her misty eyes. It made her looked exceptionally vulnerable.

Meanwhile, Evan let out a slight grin when he recalled how the silly girl loved to cry then. Now, that she was all grown up, she was still the same crybaby.

Back then, he had told her that he would always protect her. Because of that, he would never betray Sylphiette.

"Alright, once I'm done with work, let's go out for dinner."

"Mmm."

Sylphiette's eyes sparkled as she looked at him happily.

When she left the study with a smug expression, she bumped into Nicole who was at the door.

Looking at Nicole with disdain, Sylphiette smirked as she leaned in to whisper in Nicole's ear.

"Did you hear that? Evan loves me. You don't have to waste your time trying to break us up. No matter what you do, he will not fall for you and you're just setting yourself up for humiliation."

With that, she rolled her eyes at Nicole and walked away gloating.

Shameless b\*\*\*\* trying to break us up...

Every single one of Evan's words felt like a sharp knife piercing into Nicole's heart.

The worst was his final sentence: "I will never fall for her".

She stood there stunned and was overwhelmed by the excruciating pain. Why on earth does it hurt so much that I can't even breathe!

Is it because of Sylphiette's harsh words? Or is it because I know she's right?

Am I just embarrassing myself and coming between Evan and Sylphiette?

Is that the truth?

When Evan walked out, he frowned at the sight of Nicole standing outside the door in a daze.

"Why didn't you come in? I was about to call you."

Regaining her senses, Nicole desperately suppressed her pain and tried her best to pretend nothing happened. After that, she walked into the room with her head hung low.

"Mr. Seet, tell me more about what you need to be translated."

"It's all here, can you finish in two hours?"

Picking up the documents, Nicole gave it a detailed look and nodded. "I can finish in two hours. Can I work on it back at my place? I'll bring it here later."

Bring it back?

After giving it some thought, Evan felt that the noisy kids would be too much of a distraction. Hence, he preferred her to work in his study.

He further told her that she didn't need to worry, as someone would look after them.

"Mr. Seet, the children don't really like to play with Sylphiette. It's better I..."

"I'm not getting Sylphiette to babysit them. I'll ask Davin to do it since he has nothing better to do. So, you don't have to worry."

Davin had always treated the children very well.

Pondering briefly, Nicole nodded in agreement.

As she sat in front of the computer, she was quickly absorbed in work, giving it her full attention.

This was Evan's second time seeing her translating with such dedication.

He recalled the first time he saw her do it was during her interview. Back then, her fingers seemed to dance on the keyboard to the extent he thought she was playing a game. He didn't realize that he had underestimated her.

In front of him now, her slender fingers typed furiously at the keyboard. Evan couldn't help but watch on in astonishment.

The look she had when she was absorbed in work was totally different from her usual snappy attitude. It was as if they were two different persons.

Her usual snappiness just gets on my nerves.

Holding that thought, he couldn't help but smile to himself.

Meanwhile, Nicole gave her translation work her undivided attention. Hence, she didn't notice the change in Evan's expression or that he was staring at her all the time.

After an hour, Nicole got up to stretch herself. After spreading her arms out and loosening her neck a little, she dove back into work.

At that moment, Evan served her a cup of tea. "Why don't you take a break?"

When she saw the tea, Nicole was surprised. It was rare for Evan to be nice to her.

Staring at him in disbelief, she looked as if she had just seen the impossible happen.

As Evan could guess what was on her mind, he explained, "As your boss, I'm just concerned for you as my employee and hope that you can be more productive."

Evan was worried that she might misconstrue his intentions.

I'm just a boss who cares about his employee. There are no feelings between us.

Nicole, I believe you understand.

Didn't you hear it when I told Sylphiette that I didn't like you?