

Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1846 [Eleven Jewell]

Nicole pressed on, "Soon, the internet will catch wind of our relationship during the roadshow. If you disagree, how do you plan on setting the record straight?"

You didn't exactly push me away during that incident."

Estelle's expression darkened. "Are you trying to threaten us? Leighton didn't resist your advances because he wanted to help you."

Nicole nodded. "And I appreciate that. I believe there's no better solution than I've suggested for our current predicament."

She then turned her gaze toward Leighton and said, "If your aim is merely to sustain your current level of popularity, I can release a statement saying that today's incident was a publicity stunt and that I was the one who put you up to it.

You can continue being the idol adored by fans." A moment of tension lingered. Estelle sensed the potential trouble. Nicole seemed to have a knack for subtly manipulating situations.

Leighton valued his fans but genuinely disliked the burden of being labeled a top star. The concept of a top idol has evolved over the years.

At first, it portrayed a male idol with refined features and mediocre acting skills, yet received acclaim regardless of the performance quality. In such a setting, individual improvement was nearly unattainable.

Leighton had experienced a brief period of arrogance when he first gained fame, but a scolding from his father had quickly brought him back to reality.

He vividly remembered his father's harsh words, "You call that acting? Hah. Do you really think you're a big shot now just because a few people praised you?"

Leighton's pride was wounded, and he argued with his father.

To gauge the public's perception of his acting without the influence of fans, he purchased a movie ticket and joined the audience.

Without his fans, he was perceived as an ordinary actor or even inferior to the standard. Upon leaving the theater, he overheard someone in the front row saying, "The guy looks handsome, but his acting is terrible. Everytime I see him, I zone out."

The feedback was harsh and unpleasant to hear.

He then checked online forums and saw that many low ratings were directed at him.

Driven by strong self-esteem and pride, Leighton left his home after the conflict.

He aimed to achieve recognition from everyone. Becoming a top idol was not his ultimate goal.

Nicole seemed to have perceived this aspect and used it as leverage.

Estelle intervened, "We need to take things slow. Leighton is an idol, and his primary focus is satisfying his fans. He would be deceiving his fans if he got into a contractual romance with you."

Nicole remained silent, gazing at Leighton.

Meanwhile, Stella and Felicity were enjoying the show.

After a moment of silence, Leighton looked up and said," Who's the pursuer in the relationship?"



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Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1847 [Eleven Jewell]

Estelle's face turned an unsettling shade of white, "Have you lost your mind?"

Aren't you worried the fans will tear you apart if you say you're in a relationship?"

Leighton maintained a composed demeanor and responded, "Whether I agree or not, this matter will blow up. Even if she clarifies the matter, people will still think it's a joint PR stunt."

Estelle grew increasingly anxious and protested, "If we don't respond, the hype will die down. Besides, we're the victims of this incident. Why would you jeopardize your future for her?"

Estelle had a positive impression of Nicole, particularly in a professional context.

However, there was a limit to her admiration. She could not let Nicole manipulate Leighton like this.

Nicole did not rely on popularity for her livelihood. She had built a solid track record over the years and would receive job offers no matter what. Whether or not her romantic life was revealed, it had almost no bearing on her professional trajectory.

On the other hand, Leighton's success in the industry heavily relied on his popularity. Any provocation that angered his fans could lead to his downfall.

Publicly disclosing a romantic relationship posed issues for top idols. Once made public, an idol's popularity often plummeted, and their career would face obstacles.

Moreover, Leighton and Nicole were not a real couple. Estelle did not understand why he would agree to this.

"I'll forever be stuck in the same place if I only care about being adored and praised by fans. What they like is my appearance. Someone better will replace me in five to ten years. How am I supposed to establish myself in the industry then?" Leighton said in disdain.

He added, "Estelle, you should understand this better than I do. I can't aspire for a transformation while clinging onto the adoration of fans."

Estelle was exasperated.

Nicole observed Leighton, genuinely appraising him for the first time. She sensed a serious undertone beneath his usual playful demeanor.

In his early twenties, he was youthful. He had a gaze that exuded the sharpness and arrogance of youth, untouched by worldly influences.

Estelle's logic was reasonable. She emphasized the importance of a gradual transition and avoiding betraying the fans. Nicole understood that she could not compensate for the losses Leighton would experience no matter what she promised him.

Realizing she should not have gotten involved with him, Nicole was about to suggest consulting the PR team for a solution. But before she could speak up, Leighton said, "It's settled. I'll bear all the consequences."

Estelle was furious, "Alright. Great. You're the boss. You can handle it on your own. I'm definitely on board!" With that, she grimaced and remained silent.

Leighton turned to Nicole and said, "Since we're going public with this relationship, I think we should get our stories straight."

Nicole pursed her lips, "Have you thought this through?"

"Let's get to the point."

His response rendered Nicole speechless.

Lindy could not be happier. If they announced their relationship, not only could they explain the incident, but rumors about Nicole's sexual orientation circulating on the internet would also be dispelled. She was overjoyed.

Stella and Felicity were also thrilled to be in the middle of all the drama.

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Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1848 [Eleven Jewell]

Estelle was the only one unhappy about Leighton's decision.

The incident at the promotional event quickly unfolded online, sparking a fierce battle between the fans of both actors. Urgent meetings occurred as the two companies contacted their managers to strategize.

Nicole's company found the situation entertaining, relishing in the chaos, while Leighton's side was thrown into turmoil. Estelle faced a barrage of scolding from the management, their harsh words audible to everyone in the car.

Wearing a forced smile, Estelle played the role of a dutiful subordinate. Even if she did not support Leighton's decision, she had no choice but to face the company, given that he had agreed.

However, the management was focused on their interests and berated Estelle mercilessly.

They demanded a quick resolution to the unexpected relationship revelation, as several brand partners had already called to confirm the news. The public opinion would determine whether they would renew their contract with Leighton.

"He's transitioning to acting? What kind of nonsense is this?! This is not how things work, Estelle! Does he think he's a big shot now? Does he think that fans adore him for his acting? He would be nothing without our support. We brought him to fame, and we can do it again with someone else! Tell him to issue a clarification immediately, or he can fuck off!"

Estelle's face turned unpleasant. She suppressed her emotions and spoke calmly, "Mr. Powell, the cameras recorded everything. We can't clarify it. The fans aren't idiots. A vague statement won't convince them. Besides, you and Mr.

Wright mentioned Leighton's transition in our previous meeting. You even praised his talent."

"Why in the world would you trust whatever I say?! He's nothing without his fans!"

Estelle clenched her fists, her face turning pale. Leighton suddenly reached over and took her phone.

"I don't care what method you use. Just handle this properly. Otherwise, both of you can get lost!" The man continued to rant.

Leighton wore a cold expression. He ended the call with just one sentence, "You're a fucking idiot, Ezra Powell!"

His words shocked everyone.

Leighton had always been rumored to have a bad temper, but no one had heard him use foul language or insult someone. He had been known for his reluctance and indifferent demeanor, dismissing foolish interview questions with a stoic expression.

The open use of strong language, especially toward his superior, was unprecedented. Even his manager, who had worked with him for many years, was taken aback.

Estelle felt somewhat numb. She understood Leighton had stood up for her, but Ezra was their superior.

"Let me call him back and tell him you're drunk."

Estelle was practical and adaptable. She reached for the phone, more concerned about her artist's future than the insults she had just endured.

Leighton, however, avoided her grasp and switched off the phone.

Expressionless, he said, "Like he said, if he can bring me to fame, he can do it again. So let him do whatever he wants."

Estelle massaged her temples, "Leighton, this is not the time to throw a tantrum.

You know how Ezra can be. He wouldn't abandon you just because of dating rumors."

Given Leighton's popularity, it would be unwise for a management company to cut ties with him unless he committed a severe offense. Even with a reduced fan base, the generated revenue would suffice to support a substantial portion of the company.

"I'm not throwing a tantrum," Leighton remained indifferent." The company never intended for me to transition. Estelle, you know that better than anyone."

Estelle's complexion paled as she acknowledged the truth

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Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1849 [Eleven Jewell]

No superstars will stay young, but there will always be young superstars.

At this age, Leighton was at the prime of his career, where he could make the most money.

His fans would spend a fortune to see him sing and dance. Even if his acting skills were terrible, his devoted fans would still do everything possible to boost his show's viewership.

Acting skills did not matter as long as he could be a valuable asset to the company.

Though they spoke about transformation, none of them was willing to let go of this opportunity to make money with minimal effort. When they got older and did not look as attractive as before, they would be replaced by new superstars. By then, the money they had earned during their prime would be enough to last for generations.

Even those who entered the entertainment industry with a pure heart would slowly lose themselves under the influence of money, becoming tools to fulfill the profit- driven motives of the industry.

Although Ezra's words were harsh, he was not wrong. If Leighton were gone, there would still be Peighton, Neighton, and Keighton; he could be easily replaced.

At that moment, Leighton would finally wake up from the fantasy created by his fans.

Temporary fame was never what he wanted. Instead, he wanted to be like Nicole, someone who would be remembered forever in the film industry.

Estelle continued to persuade, "Leighton, you're still young and have a bright future ahead of you. Transformation is not something that happens overnight-"

Leighton cut her off, "Estelle, you always said that I would be more than what I am now. Did you lie to me?"

"Of course not," Estelle frowned. "I've been in this industry for so long and have managed countless artists. I've never made a wrong judgment."

Leighton smiled, "Then why are you so worried? I'm not afraid at all."

Estelle was taken aback. After a long pause, she sighed and said, "You're one crazy young man, aren't you? Fine, I'll accompany you in this madness. In the worst case-"

She paused momentarily before continuing, 'Til just find your cousin and tell him you made me lose my job. I'll make him compensate me."

Leighton's eyelid twitched as he said with his jaw clenched, "That day will never come!"

Nicole looked at Leighton from head to toe and chuckled, "Silly Dog, you're very loyal."

Leighton swept his gaze across her, "Call me that again, and I'll kick you out of the car right now!"

Nicole kept quiet. Then, the rebellious spirit surged in her, and she said, "What a Silly Dog."

Leighton reached out, pulled the door handle, and grabbed Nicole's wrist.

Everyone was shocked, including Nicole. She held onto Leighton's neck tightly and said, while gritting her teeth, "What do you think you're doing?!"

Leighton lowered his gaze, "I dare you to call me that again."

Nicole bit her lip and finally gave in, "Leighton..."

Leighton paused and let go of her.

Nicole rubbed her wrist and glared at Leighton, "Silly Dog, you're pretty strong!"

Leighton's eyelid twitched, and Lindy immediately spoke to defuse the tension, "Stop messing around, you two. Let's think of how to make the announcement on Facebook. We need to explain how this 'relationship' started to make sure nothing goes wrong. The reports will start probing you once the 'relationship' goes public. If either of you slipped up and exposed yourselves, both of you will not be able to escape the consequences."

The two fell silent. They then looked at each other to express their dissatisfaction.

If they were to announce their "relationship", they would need to clarify how it started, when it started, and who took the initiative to confess.

Nicole said, "Is there a need to ask? Of course, he should be the one who fell for me and threatened me that he would end his life if I didn't date him. I was unable to bear the thought of him dying so young, so I agreed."

Leighton's face turned red, "You should take a look in the mirror before making such claims! I would rather date a dog than you!"

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Mr. Kane Got Blacklisted Chapter 1850 [Eleven Jewell]

Nicole clicked her tongue, "This is why I call him Silly Dog. Who in their right mind would say they'd date a dog? Only a dog would be attracted to another dog."

Leighton was about to throw his gentlemanly manners aside and raise his hand against her.

However, Nicole said slowly, "If you dare touch me, I'll accuse you of domestic violence once the contract is over.

I wonder if there'll still be any girl who would want to be with you once your reputation is tarnished."

Leighton glared at her, itching to pounce and bite her.

Lindy knew Nicole was simply saying that to provoke Leighton, so she intervened, "Enough. It's not the time for making jokes now."

Nicole pouted and finally stopped talking.

"Let's all calm down and come up with a perfect story. We can't afford to have any loopholes for people to pick on."

Felicity raised her hand, "Can I come up with one for you guys?"

Everyone shifted their attention to her. Stella spoke up to support her best friend, "Felicity is a scriptwriter. She was the one who wrote the popular dramas for Royal Deluxe Entertainment previously. However, she did not get any credit for her work because she wasn't qualified enough."

After all, writing a script is what a scriptwriter does best.

Lindy had considered hiring a professional to help, but since it involved two popular actors, it would be best for fewer people to know about it. She was worried that an outsider would betray them for personal gain.

However, Lindy still doubted Felicity's capabilities, "Are you sure you can do this?"

Felicity said, "Let me start, and you guys listen. We can change it if something doesn't make sense."

Everyone else agreed.

So, Felicity shared the story she had in mind.

In short, she mentioned that Leighton met Nicole on set, and it was love at first sight. Nicole was already a very famous actress in the industry, but Leighton was still a relatively new actor. So, he could only admire her secretly.

Leighton rose to stardom as time passed, and they could finally work together.

Then, the two got closer to each other, and Leighton confessed his feelings.

Nicole hesitated at first due to their age difference. Later, she fell ill with the flu and experienced a high fever. Her family and friends did not dare to take care

of her for fear of contagion, but Leighton tirelessly stayed by her side to cook and care for her. His actions touched Nicole, leading her to accept his confession after recovering. After that, they officially became a couple on New Year's Eve.

"Hahahahahaha!"

Nicole burst out laughing as she said, "Just because he cooked and cared for me, I agreed to date him? That makes me look too easy to pursue, don't you think?"

Leighton's expression looked unpleasant, too, "If I really did stay with her when she was sick, it was because I wanted to make sure that she wouldn't recover!"

Felicity said, "The more cliché the story is, the more people will believe in it.

Moreover, I came up with this story based on what happened to you two recently. When this 'relationship' goes public, your fans will surely cross-check the timeline. It'll match perfectly!"

Felicity was not wrong.

When Nicole had the flu, no one took care of her except for her manager. The reporters were the ones who found out about it themselves.

Leighton happened to be in Rivera during that time, and the reporters saw him appearing in the hospital where Nicole was staying. However, that was the only time the reporters saw him.

And about their previous collaborations, everything that Felicity said made sense.

Lindy looked at Estelle. However, Estelle had already gone all out and could not care less about how they planned to fabricate the story.

So, Lindy said, "Let's go with this then." Then, she turned to Felicity, "Ms.

Thompson, could you please write this down later so they can memorize it? Also, include some details of their 'dates' together, so they won't be caught off guard by the reporters' questions."

Felicity nodded, "Sure."

Felicity was the best at writing love stories, especially when writing for couples she liked. Besides their daily interactions, she would not mind including details about their intimate moments.

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