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Nicole knew very well just what kind of person Sylphiette really was. Memories of how she and Sylvia had treated her in the past flashed through her mind. It was all carved into her mind.

"Sylphiette, if you do anything to my children, I swear I will never spare you."

"And what are you going to do about it? Believe it or not but you can't do anything to me since Evan is protecting me."

She smiled gleefully after her sentence and walked back to the main house.

Nicole felt her heart pounding anxiously. What if Evan believes Sylphiette's nonsense? Kyle and Juan are definitely going to suffer!

What do I do now?

Right then, Juan and Kyle had already arrived at the main house with Evan. Their father was looking at them with a disappointed expression.

"Do you admit your mistake now?"

Both of the children kept their heads low and said nothing.

They're not admitting?

These brats have quite a strong backbone.

"Get back to your rooms and reflect on what you did today. You're not allowed to eat dinner tonight. When you've finally admitted your mistakes, go apologize to Aunt Sylphiette. You'll only get to eat when she forgives you."

Fine! We'll just not eat then. We'll never apologize to that witch.

Kyle turned and walked back to his room stubbornly and Juan went after him.

At the sight of Evan punishing the children, Sylphiette clenched her hands tightly.

She wasn't satisfied with Evan's punishment. But they were his biological sons, so she could still understand it.

It seems like I have to take it out on them myself. Both of these brats are going to get it once I'm done with my shower. And that damned Nina!

"Evan, they're still young. Don't go too hard on them."

She got up and said, "I'll go shower first."

I don't even know how long I have to soak myself to get rid of this smell.

Evan watched as she left and suddenly thought of Kyle. That kid would actually starve himself for a long time out of spite.

If he just keeps staying hungry like that…

On second thought, starving them might be a good thing. Maybe they'll learn that they shouldn't misbehave.

"Mommy, what were you doing with Uncle Evan in the room earlier?" Maya asked as she stared at Nicole.

"Mommy was discussing with him on which house would be better to be used as the acupuncture clinic."

"Mommy, you're still planning to open a clinic?"

Nicole nodded. She had originally thought that once Zane and Sylvia were divorced, she could successfully get Lane Corporation and that she could think of some way after that to reestablish Lane Corporation.

However, she didn't expect Sylphiette to have the ability to move in openly and legally. It seemed like she wouldn't be able to get Lane Corporation temporarily.

That was why she had to start an acupuncture treatment room. At least with it, she could have a stable income.

If she only relied on the money she earned by answering medical questions online, Nicole wouldn't be able to give her children a good life.

That's why I have to work hard.

"Mommy, then where are you going to open a clinic? Aren't you going to open one at Rose Garden anymore?"

"It's going to be somewhere around here. It's just nearby. When Mommy earns enough money, I'll think of a way to build a garden like this. Then we'll all move there and live happily together as a family."

Maya nodded happily.

But the important thing right now isn't the clinic, it's Kyle and Juan. I don't even know how they're doing now.

Nicole wanted to take a look at the main house but was afraid that it would anger Evan, causing him to take it out on the children. After a moment's thought, she decided to ask for help from someone.

She took out her phone and dialed a number.

"What did you say?"

"Your nephews' lives are depending on you now. Do you have the time to come over?"

"Yes. I don't have time for anything else but I definitely have time to save my nephews. Don't worry. With Kyle and Juan's IQs, they won't be at a great loss."

Nicole sighed.

It wasn't only Evan's punishment for the children that she had to worry about. She was even more worried about the black-hearted Sylphiette, who was always playing innocent.

"I'll have to trouble you then."

"Don't be so polite. I like Juan very much. If Julia hadn't forced me to go abroad for this business discussion, I would've visited him much earlier. As for Kyle, well, he's just like Evan. He's cold on the outside and warm on the inside. Anyway, they're both great kids."

"Thank you."

After they hung up, Davin didn't waste any time as he got onto his sports car and drove to Rose Garden.

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He saw Sylphiette, who was just done with her shower, walking out of her bedroom the moment he arrived.

Both of their eyes met.

Davin?

I can't believe I'm able to meet the good-for-nothing Davin here.

Sylphiette?

Davin frowned with disgust when he saw her face covered in heavy makeup.

She had been hounding on Mr. Kassner when she got the chance previously. He had even humiliated her on a few occasions. So what is she doing here?

It seems like Rose Garden is quite lively.

"Mr. Seet, why are you here?" Sylphiette took the initiative and greeted.

Davin gave her the side-eye and questioned, "I'm here because I want to. You've got a problem with that?"

"Oh, no problem at all. I was just curious."

"I should be the one feeling curious. What is someone like you doing here?"

His tone was mocking when he said 'someone like you'.

Sylphiette's lips tilted upwards into a skin-deep smile and she gave him an 'it's none of your business' look. After glaring at him, she turned and went into Evan's room.

Ha!

Davin wasn't used to it as Sylphiette wasn't trying to please him.

It seems like she'd hooked up with someone better than me.

But who is better than me in Rose Garden?

Evan?

My God! This woman even dared to climb the ladder to the skies! Does she even know she is playing with fire?

Davin clicked his tongue at the thought and started to follow her.

"Evan, I heard you haven't had dinner yet. What do you want to eat? I'll tell the chef to prepare it for you."

Evan shot her a look and replied, "There's no need."

My sons aren't admitting their mistakes or eating. How can I eat as the father?

Irritation, unease, and a hint of worry were written all over his face.

At the sight of him, Sylphiette froze for a moment before walking towards him.

"Evan, I don't blame the kids for what happened. Don't force them to apologize anymore. I'll bring dinner to them. We shouldn't starve them."

Evan looked up. "You can ignore what they did, but they still have to be punished whenever they did something wrong."

A wicked gleam appeared in Sylphiette's eyes. Yes, punishment is great. They should be punished for what they did to me!

It shouldn't be just the brats that get punished. Their mother shouldn't be let off the hook too.

That's what she gets for giving birth to children like them!

Sylphiette's lips tilted upwards into a smile and stared at Evan in a coquettish manner.

"Evan, they're still young, and now's the time they need to be educated properly. Just put more effort into teaching them in the future and they'll change."

"True. I need to pay more attention to their education. It'll be better if someone like Nicole stays away from them."

Evan had said exactly what Sylphiette wanted to hear. I think it'll be best if you just chase her out.

Without their mother protecting them, it'll much easier for me to handle the brats. Then, I can just treat them however I want when the time comes.

"I think Nicole isn't the right person to teach the children too. How about…"

Bang!

The door was pushed open before Sylphiette could finish her sentence.

Davin had been standing outside for quite some time. The longer he stood there, the more he couldn't stand Sylphiette's words.

This woman is stirring things up around here. She's trying to prevent Kyle and Juan from meeting Nicole in the future.

She is even doing things like separating a mother from her children. How cruel of her!

"When did you come back?"

Evan was taken aback by Davin who had suddenly barged into the room.

"I came back after the business discussion abroad ended. I got off the plane at ten o'clock last night. Evan, this place has become quite lively after I was gone for some time."

Davin scrutinized Sylphiette as he said the last sentence.

The woman felt extremely uncomfortable under his unfriendly gaze.

She turned to Evan and said in consideration, "You two seem to have something to say to each other. I'll take my leave first."

Evan nodded.

Sylphiette began to walk out. Her heart thumped when she passed by Davin and she turned to steal a glance at him.

It won't be good for me since Davin is back now.

I have to watch him.

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The best is if he leaves tonight!

Sylphiette walked out of the room and closed the door behind her.

Davin turned to look at Evan and asked the question that was puzzling him.

"Evan, why is she here?"

Even blinked and took a sip of his tea on the table before replying in a simple sentence.

"I allowed it."

Davin frowned. "Why did you allow such a woman to live…"

"Tell me about the project." Evan cut his brother off as he did not want to talk about Sylphiette.

Knowing his brother's temper, Davin decided not to pressure any further and began to discuss the project in H Nation.

After leaving Evan's room, Sylphiette went to get something to eat in the kitchen and took the chance to visit Kyle and Juan out of her "goodwill."

She didn't buy that the two little boys weren't going to have their meals and wanted to see if they were really that persistent.

Sylphiette got two drumsticks and headed to the kids' room. Just as she was about to knock on the door, she decided to lean in and listen to what was going on inside first.

As soon as she put her ear next to the door, she could hear the little boys talking inside.

Hah! How dare these two brats talk while they're being punished? I wonder how would they react when they see me.

Sylphiette knocked and pushed the door open without giving the kids any time to react.

As soon as Kyle saw who it was at the door, his face was filled with anger. "You witch! Get out!"

As for Juan, his eyes were fixated on the two huge drumsticks that she'd brought with her. The little boy began to wonder if Sylphiette was the one who brought the drumsticks here on her own will or it was his father's order.

"Your daddy said that you two can't eat unless you apologize. I brought these here because I'm such a good person," Sylphiette smiled as she picked one drumstick up and swing it gently.

Kyle turned around and ignored the woman. He wasn't going to eat anything she brought them.

On the other hand, Juan touched his grumbling belly and walked towards Sylphiette.

Just as he was about to grab the drumstick, Sylphiette threw the drumstick to the floor as if she were feeding a dog.

"Come on, pick it up!" Sylphiette laughed.

Juan raised his head and stared at the woman, knowing that she did it on purpose. The little boy ran forward to try and snatch the other drumstick from Sylphiette, but she was one step faster.

"Oh? Are you really that hungry? Come on then, catch!" Sylphiette raised the drumstick up high and let it fall to the floor.

Her actions finally angered Juan as the little boy picked the drumstick up and threw at the woman.

Lucky for Sylphiette, she caught it just seconds before it hit her face.

This rascal!

She threw the drumstick away and pulled Juan over to spank him.

Seeing that Sylphiette was going to hit Juan, Kyle lifted the stool on the floor and hit the woman on her back.

"Do you two brats really think I am afraid of you?" Sylphiette roared.

"The witch is hitting us!" Juan shouted and bit down on the woman's arm.

Kyle reacted and chomped down on her other arm as well.

"Argh!" Sylphiette yelled.

All the screaming attracted the attention of the servants. When they got to the room, all they saw was one of the boy pulling on Sylphiette's hair while the other was trying to shove a drumstick into her mouth.

One of the servants quickly went and got Evan. When Evan and his brother arrived, Sylphiette's hair was already in a complete mess while her face was smudged with the sauce on the drumstick.

The two little boys were glaring at her. Their clothes were in a complete mess as well.

Davin dropped his jaw at the sight. "Did a bomb just explode or what?"

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"Evan! They were bullying me!" Sylphiette wailed.

"What's going on?" Evan turned to look at the two little boys.

"The witch didn't want to give us the drumsticks and threw them on the floor!" Juan replied.

"What? You didn't grab it! That's why it dropped!" Sylphiette scolded. "Then, you tried to shove it into my mouth! I shouldn't have taken pity on you two!"

Davin formed a smile as he immediately understood what had happened.

So you were trying to bully the kids with drumsticks? Do you really think my nephews are harmless kittens? Serves you right!

"Evan, I think Juan isn't lying. The kids are hungry. Do you really think they would drop the food on the floor instead of eating it? Look, both drumsticks are on the floor."

As soon as Davin finished his speculation, Evan turned to glare at Sylphiette. The woman's heart skipped a beat as she knew that Davin would eventually get in her way.

"Evan, you have to believe me. The kids were too hungry to grab the food, that's why they dropped the drumsticks. If I really dropped it, why would I even bother to bring them food?"

After a moment of silence, Evan finally spoke. "For your safety, you should stay away from the kids."

Sylphiette couldn't believe what she'd just heard. Is Evan suspecting me now? Did he believe what Davin just said?

Even though his words sounded like he was caring for her, his attitude told a different story. It was evident that Sylphiette had no place in Evan's heart.

The woman got up and left without arguing.

Evan turned to his two little kids and asked, "Do you know what you've done wrong now?"

"We didn't do anything wrong! It's all that witch's fault!"

"That's right! We are not going to apologize to her!"

Seeing the two little boys standing on their grounds, Evan sighed. "Then, there will be no food for the two of you."

Evan left after that, leaving Kyle with his nose still held high while Juan looked down at the drumsticks. "Mr. Drumstick, looks like I can't eat you now…"

Davin smiled at the two little boys and reached his arms out to straighten their messy hairs they got from the fight.

Kyle instantly shot a warning stare at his uncle.

"Why are you still behaving like this to your poor Uncle Davin?" Davin sighed.

The little boy looked at his uncle coldly and ignored him. Davin turned to Juan and noticed the other boy was staring at him with expectation.

"Uncle Davin, can you get us some drumsticks?"

"Are you hungry?"

Juan nodded enthusiastically.

"Then, learn to be smarter. Don't fight with your old man. Time will come for you to chase the witch out," Davin smiled as he pinched Juan's cheek.

"Uncle Davin, are you here to help us?" Juan stared at his uncle with his eyes shining.

"I'll help you only if you listen to what I say."

"But, that witch is evil! It's like she's an actress!"

"That's why we shouldn't fight her head on. We need to deploy a few strategies."

"Strategies?"

Juan stared at his uncle in admiration, believing that Davin could help them chase the "witch" away.

Kyle was still glaring at the other way and kept his mouth shut. Knowing his other nephew's personality, Davin decided not to argue with the little boy and headed to the kitchen to grab four drumsticks instead.

"Here, two for each of you. Don't get caught by your father, okay?"

"Okay!" Juan beamed and munched down on his first drumstick.

Kyle only took a peek at the food and turned back to where he was facing.

"Don't worry, Uncle Davin. I'll make sure he eats them," Juan said.

"Alright. I'm going to head out to take care of something first. Be good."

After leaving the children's room, Davin went straight to the rear house.

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As soon as Maya saw Davin, she quickly jumped up in excitement. "Uncle Davin! Are you here to play with us?"

"Of course," Davin smiled at the cute chubby Maya. "I'm sorry I didn't bring any food with me this time. I'll bring you a truck-load next time, how about that?"

Maya's eyes shone as she nodded happily. Just like the boys, one of the girl was happy to see Davin while the other remained cold towards him.

Nicole guessed the reason Nina was reacting that way towards Davin was that the little girl wasn't fond of Evan. The mother couldn't help but wonder where did her daughter get her stubborn personality from.

Nicole thought about it but quickly changed the subject and asked about Kyle and Juan.

"Don't worry. They're probably enjoying the drumsticks I brought them. You should've seen how they took Sylphiette down together! It was such a treat to watch!"

"What happened?" Nicole asked worriedly.

After explaining the situation to Nicole, Davin stared at her puzzlingly. "I don't get what Evan is trying to do with Sylphiette…"

The question worried Nicole as well as she was worried about the same thing too.

Evan showed no interest in Sylphiette before that. Other than the time where he punished her for kidnapping Juan, they never even crossed path with each other.

"You should ask Evan himself. Maybe he likes that kind of woman," Nicole sighed.

Davin did not reply her as he did pop that question but Evan was reluctant to talk about it. If he were to question him further, Evan would've gotten angry.

"I just don't get why Evan would fall for a woman that I wouldn't even want to date! It's just absurd!"

Davin could sense something off with the matter and decided to look into it. Seeing that Nicole wasn't fond of the subject, he quickly talked about other stuffs.

When it was late in the night, Evan could not fall asleep and thought of checking up on the boys.

When he got to the room and saw the drumsticks on the table, he frowned.

Two of the drumsticks were chewed down to the bone, while the other two remained untouched.

The father could not believe how stubborn Kyle was and realized that he needed another way to punish the kid instead of taking away his food.

After making sure the boys were covered in blankets, Evan was about to go back to his room when he saw a person acting suspiciously outside the living room.

What is she doing over there?

Evan sneaked into a corner, hid under the shadow, and stared at the woman outside the door.

Nicole slowly pushed the door open and walked into the living room before gently closing it. She tip-toed her way to Kyle's and Juan's room.

Evan followed quietly behind her and peeked from the door.

Nicole gently laid her hand on Juan's forehead and smiled sweetly at the little boy who was in a deep sleep. She then moved over to Kyle and caressed his forehead.

"Look at you… You should learn from Juan and be more forgiving. Don't torture yourself just because you're angry with your father," Nicole whispered as she touched the boy's face.

Nicole was about to leave when Kyle gently called out, "Mommy…"

"Are you still awake?" Nicole gasped. She could see the saddened expression on the little boy's face through the night lamp. "Is something bothering you?"

"Mommy, why did daddy punish us when it's not our fault?"

Nicole thought about it and patted the boy's head. "Because daddy always wants you to grow up to be a good man. He's strict because he's worried that you might become bad. It shows how much he loves you and your brother."

"But, he's taking the witch's side instead of ours… Are you sure daddy loves us?"