

## The CEO's Ex-Wife Is A Famous Doctor

### Chapter 13: Deleted Message

"Shanty! Shanty!" Evan had been calling out in front of the locked gates of the Scotts' mansion. His eyes narrowed as he looked around the estate.

The lights from the gates and the lights on the fences were on, but the house was completely dark. "Is there no one inside?"

Despite knowing he may end up facing his former father-in-law's anger, Evan courageously drove to the Scotts' home, wanting to clear any misunderstanding with Shantelle. Something inside him wanted to set the record straight with her, especially about Nicole. 5

"Shanty? Shanty!" He called again. He wasn't even sure if anyone was inside the house who could hear his voice.

Since he was getting no response, Evan decided to ring Doctor Scott. The phone rang once, and then it went straight to voicemail. He called again, and the same thing happened.

A groan escaped his lips with the realization that Doctor William Scott, Shantelle's father, had blocked

his number. He also called Eleanor Scott, but she had also blocked his number.

After some time of studying the estate, a security guard called his attention. "Sir, a neighbor had reported you making noises out here." 3

The guard looked at the house number on the gate, and after seeing it was 21117, he added, "Do you know the house owners?" 3

"Yes, they are -" Evan paused and then made a white lie. "My in-laws." Knowing how it may have looked to the neighbors, Evan took out his wallet and shared his driver's license, calling card, and community pass. He said, "I'm Evan Thompson, CEO of the Thompson Group of Companies. I'm sorry if I alerted the neighbors. I was hoping to speak to my in-laws." 3

"Wouldn't a phone call work?" The guard asked.

"Ah, they were not answering," Evan reasoned. He glanced at his car and was ready to leave. Then, he returned his attention to the guard and asked, "Have you seen Doctor Scott around, though? Did they leave the house?"

The security guard shrugged and answered, "I'm afraid I'm new here, Sir. I started just three days ago. I don't know the owners of this house, but." The guard

returned to his patrol car, and after confirming his notes, he said to Evan, "According to the homeowners' association, the owners of house 21117 will be here in two weeks."

"Maybe they took a vacation, Sir. I have seen no one since I started working here. The roving guards are the ones who switch the lights on every night in this house," the man revealed. "The maids may also be on leave."

"I see." Evan frowned. He supposed that also addressed his question why Shantelle had not contacted him since that night at the villa, when they were intimate. That also explained why he had not also seen Doctor Scott at the hospital.

Shantelle's father always had patients at nearly all hospitals in the city. When Nicole was admitted, he had prepared himself for an encounter with Doctor William Scott, but he never saw him.

Evan smiled weakly in the guard's direction and clarified, "Two weeks, you said."

"Yes, sir," the guard confirmed.

"Then I'll try to call them again later. I best be on my way," Evan said before hopping into his car.

He immediately assumed Shantelle had called the

villa from wherever they had taken a short vacation. As he drove away from the private community, he muttered, "Two weeks. I'll see Shanty in two weeks." 9

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"Mr. Thompson, it's a pleasure doing business with you, and I look forward to seeing you in Russia next month," Mr. Romanov, a client of the E&E Shipping lines, said.

Evan took his hand and responded, "I am equally thrilled to visit you in Russia, Mr. Romanov."

Seeing his assistant, Evan ordered, "James, please walk Mr. Romanov down to the lobby. "

"Yes, sir," James acknowledged.

A sigh of relief escaped Evan's lips. The problems with the shipping lines have been resolved. He slumped against his couch and said, "Finally, a breather."

Evan was about to check his emails when his phone rang again. It was Nicole.

It had been four days since Nicole was discharged from the hospital. Nicole had been calling Evan day and night, but Evan did not answer her calls.

Evan has yet to confront Nicole about how she had

suggested to Shantelle they were living together. Work had to come first. Furthermore, he feared he could control his temper in front of her.

Since that day at the villa, Evan found himself completely irritated by Nicole despite knowing she was already pitiful enough, having been raped and battered. Avoiding Nicole, for now, was his best solution.

Still, it did not change the fact that he blamed himself for how Nicole got violated in the streets, that he sent a caregiver and a security guard to help her feel secure.

After he ignored yet another call from Nicole, Evan received a text from her. At the same time, another message came through from one of his directors.

He opened his phone and saw the initial text from Nicole. It read: [Evan, I'm sorry. I did not mean to assume things. I am so depressed now. I want to ...]

He shook his head and decided to delete her message, but instead of Nicole's message, he deleted his director's text!

"Damn it, Nicole!" Evan cursed as he carelessly rechecked his messages. When he realized his mistake, he went to his cloud backup to retrieve the text.

Evan knew this director was on an important trip to another city, seeking a potential investment. The signal was relatively poor due to weather conditions, and the same person only communicated updates via emails or texts.

Evan quickly found the recently deleted text messages. He thanked the heavens for having backed up his phone with an android cloud. He selected the important message and restored it. As he did, he caught sight of a text from Shantelle. It appeared to be... a picture message. <sup>8</sup>

A frown formed on his face when he thought back recently. He had not deleted any of Shantelle's messages, but why was this message in his cloud backup? <sup>5</sup>

He opened Shantelle's message. He first read about her text, telling him she did not want the alimony. Then he looked at the screenshot closely.

One second passed.

Two seconds passed.

Three seconds passed.

Evan's hand slammed firmly against the surface of his table. His entire body trembled, understanding

the content of the screenshot. It was a picture of him having coffee inside Nicole's apartment. This same picture was sent to Shantelle for one purpose, and that was to anger her.

He read Shantelle's reply on the screenshot: [So it was you all along, Nicole. I would never have thought. Well, you can have him. I accept my defeat.]

With his jaws clenched, Evan said, "Nicole. Nicole!"

There was no one else who might have touched his phone that day. No one else got closed, and no one else would dare to. 7

Evan recounted the last time he went to Nicole's apartment and the day that he read Shantelle's letter. She sent him a message. That was what she had said, but someone deleted it on purpose!

"Nicole!" Evan could not believe it! He earnestly thought Nicole was a simple and gullible librarian. Who would have thought she had it in her?


Rage filled his heart. He was about to leave his office and berate Nicole for what she had done when James walked in, pushing his office doors loudly.

"Sir," James called. "The security at Miss Lively's apartment called. She - Miss Lively, she tried to take her life! She tried to commit suicide! The caregiver

and the guard rushed her to the hospital!" 7

'Suicide?' Evan did not feel any remorse. With his voice raised, he said, "I meant to see her, anyway!"

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