

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr

Chapter 521

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Chapter 521 Mrs Gray's Curse

Sonia was sitting on the bench, unmoving. She gripped her bottle tightly and stared at the ground, immersed in her thoughts.

Suddenly, she heard the sound of hurried footsteps coming over followed by a woman's wail. "Tina! My precious baby girl!"

Mrs. Gray? Sonia quickly looked up and turned around. The Grays were coming over, but she wasn't surprised. Tina might have cut off all ties with them, but they had been family for a long time, so naturally, they'd come here after finding out that she killed herself.

"Tina! My girl!" Julia was in the lead, but she was stumbling and beside herself.

Titus was holding her. "Slow down. You'll fall."

"How can I? Titus, she jumped off a building! She died!" Julia held his sleeve, roaring. Her eyes were red with sadness and fury.

Titus sighed. "I know. I'm upset about this as well, but you can't get too worked up over this. If you fall sick, I'll have to worry about you as well."

Julia stopped talking, but she still sobbed sadly. Rina was walking slowly behind them, but she didn't look sad. Instead, she looked impatient. Tina's suicide had caught her by surprise as well, but that was it. They weren't real siblings, so even though Tina had died, she didn't feel the least bit sad about it. In fact, she felt happy, for it was a good thing for her. At least Dad and Mom won't keep talking about her now.

A smile curled her lips, but when she looked around, she noticed Sonia from the corner of her eye, and her smile froze. "Miss Reed!"

The Gray couple was stunned to hear that Sonia was there as well, so they looked at where Rina was pointing. The sight of Sonia agitated Julia. She broke free of Titus' grasp and went toward Sonia, her face contorted with rage.

When Sonia saw the look on her face, she knew Julia must be up to something, so she got on guard immediately. Before Julia managed to slap her, she reacted by grabbing her wrist and gripping it tightly.

Julia's face contorted with pain. "Let me go!"

Sonia wouldn't do that, of course. Instead, she tightened her grip, but even though Julia's face was turning red due to the pain, Sonia didn't feel an ounce of satisfaction at all. In fact, she felt sad for some reason. She didn't know why she felt that way toward Julia, but she wouldn't waste her time thinking about it.

She shoved Julia away and stood up. "Were you trying to slap me, Mrs. Gray?" She looked at her coldly. My parents never raised a hand against me. They loved and cared for me like their own. How dare this woman try to slap me? Weirdly enough, she felt hurt that Julia tried to slap her.

Julia almost fell to the ground, but Titus managed to catch her in time and prevented that from happening. Julia held Titus' arms and glared at Sonia with bloodshot eyes. If looks could kill, Sonia would be dead by now. "It's your fault! You killed Tina! Give Tina back to me!" she roared at Sonia, her voice filled with hatred. If it weren't for Titus holding her, she would have dashed forward and tore Sonia into pieces.

Sonia was hurt and sad at the same time. She clenched her fists and laughed mirthlessly. "Watch what you say, Mrs. Gray. What do you mean, I killed her?"

"It's your fault!" She pointed at Sonia with trembling fingers. "If it wasn't for you, she wouldn't have been jailed! If it wasn't for you, she wouldn't have jumped off a building! My Tina! My poor, poor Tina!" Julia leaned against her husband and cried her heart out.

Titus patted her back to ease her up, and he wanted to say something as well.

But Sonia was faster. "What a joke. Just because I sent her to jail, you want to blame me for her suicide? She ended up this way because of her own actions. I couldn't have sent her to jail if it weren't for what she did, nor would she have killed herself. You have no right to blame me. If you want to blame anyone, blame yourself. You raised her this way."

However, the Grays would never accept what she said, for their values were skewed.

Julia still thought Sonia was the one who killed Tina, so she pointed at her angrily. "You killed Tina and took her away from me, Sonia. I hope that one day, you'll lose the most important person to you and suffer like how I am suffering!" she cursed.

Sonia was shocked. Her eyes trembled, and her face paled. Weird. I shouldn't care about the curse. Those are fake. But for some reason, she took it to heart. When she saw how hatefully Julia was glaring at her, her heart ached, and she teared up.

She took a deep breath and clenched her fists to hold her feelings down, then forced a sneer. "You might have to wait for a long time then, Mrs. Gray. Curses take a long time to work, especially if you want someone dead." Her parents were dead, and there was nobody else important to her in this world. In the end, Julia's curse would only be empty talk.

"Don't be so confident, girl. You might end up regretting it." Titus looked at Sonia darkly.

Sonia looked at him haughtily. "I might, but you won't be there to see it."

Titus looked shocked. "What do you mean? Do you—"

"Do I what?" Sonia crossed her arms.

Titus' jowls trembled, then he stared at the ground to hide the darkness in his eyes. "Nothing. Let's go."

He couldn't ask if Sonia knew about his failing kidney. If she knew nothing about it, he'd be giving her precious information he couldn't afford to lose. Maybe she was talking about something else. He took Julia and was about to leave, since he might let something slip if he stayed for too long. Also, they needed to see Tina's body and find out why she killed herself. I can't waste my time here. I'll leave this to another time.

Titus looked at her coldly and was about to leave, but just when he turned around, a stab of pain shot up from his waist. He grunted in pain and let Julia go, then he started falling.

For some reason, when Titus fell, Sonia reflexively extended her hand and held him. Sonia was shocked about it, and the Grays were too, especially Titus. He looked at Sonia's hand, and his face trembled. "You..."

Titus' voice made her snap out of it. She realized what she had just done, so she quickly let him go and took a step back. "Sorry, but I don't have time to play along with your act, Mr. Gray," she said coldly.

"Are you insulting me?" Titus huffed and puffed. He was not a man of virtue, but he would never stoop so low as to fake his illness.

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Sonia said nothing and turned away to look at something else. She knew Titus wasn't acting, since that was an excuse she made up herself. She had to convince herself that she didn't help him because she was worried, but because she didn't want him to scam her by faking his injury and demanding compensation. At this point, she wouldn't put anything past the Grays.

Since Sonia wasn't saying anything, and he was in agony, Titus didn't argue with her. He told Julia to take him to a doctor right away to get some painkillers.

Julia wanted to teach Sonia a lesson and vent her fury, but she had more pressing matters at hand. Hence, she only shot Sonia a glare before taking Titus away. Titus was the family's pillar, so if he were to fall, a weak woman like her would lose all the family's fortune to the company's sly shareholders.

And so, they left, but since Julia went away in a hurry, she didn't notice Rina staying behind.

Rina was standing face to face with Sonia. "I never thought Tina would kill herself, Miss Reed."

"It is surprising." Sonia nodded. She looked at Rina's face, trying to see through Rina. "You seem happy."

Rina covered her lips and smiled, exactly like how all the rich ladies in the upper society did. Apparently, she must have gotten around during the time she was here, so she had picked up the art of elegance. Now, Rina had lost all the bumpkin attitude she had back when she first came to Seafield and turned into a confident, well-mannered, and elegant young lady. Anyone would believe it if she said she had never lived in the countryside before.

"Of course," she crossed her arms and admitted to it. "You saw what my mother was like. Tina might have cut all ties with us, but that doesn't mean they have forgotten about her. As long as she still lives, Dad and Mom will still always love her. They might have even taken her back after she was released. Now that she's dead, I don't have to worry about that anymore, so of course I'm happy."

Sonia squinted at her and smiled mysteriously. "Is that so? Then I'm sorry to disappoint you." Tina is still alive, you know.

Rina's heart skipped a beat. "What do you mean?" Sonia's smile was unsettling to her.

Sonia pushed her hair back. "It's nothing. You'll know in due time."

"What are you..." Rina wanted to ask her what she was hiding, but when she saw the people coming from behind Sonia, she frowned and swallowed her words.

After Toby was done talking on the phone, he and Tom came back.

Tom was the one who noticed Rina first, and his face turned grim. He then said to Toby who was still looking at his phone, "Sir. It's Taylor."

The mention of that name made Toby put his phone down and looked in Sonia's direction. Sonia and Rina were standing together and talking about something, but Rina did not look so good. He felt his chest tighten. "Sonia!" he called out to Sonia and quickened his pace.

Rina noticed him speeding up, and she knew he was worried Sonia might be hurt, so she retreated a few steps. "Since you're keeping it a secret, I'll look into it myself. Mr. Fuller is here, so I'll be leaving now. Enjoy your day." She turned around and fled the scene.

Toby came to Sonia after Rina was gone. He held her shoulder and looked at her from head to toe, his eyes filled with worry. "Are you alright? Did she do anything to you?"

Sonia shook her head. "Nothing. We just talked a little."

"About what?" Toby heaved a sigh of relief when he realized she was fine, and he pulled his hands back.

Sonia pursed her lips. "We talked about Tina. You said Tina is still alive, so I was thinking about the culprit who helped her escape and plant a decoy. After all, the cops were keeping an eye on her 24/7, and she had no electronic devices. If nobody helped her, she couldn't have escaped. My first suspects were the Grays."

"That's a logical train of thought, Miss Reed." Tom rubbed his chin. "Especially the Gray couple. They care about Tina, so it's possible they planned the whole thing to bust her out."

Sonia nodded. "Yes, that's why I suspected them. I talked to Taylor earlier, but she wants Tina dead, so she would never help her. And now the Gray couple is out of the suspect list as well."

"Hmm." Toby arched his eyebrow, but he guessed the reason immediately. "You saw them?" She met Taylor and talked to her, so she knows Taylor isn't the culprit. By that logic, she must have met the Gray couple and talked to them too. That's why she knows they didn't do it.

Sonia wasn't surprised Toby guessed it. It wasn't hard to figure out, so she said, "Yes. They came when you went to take your call. Mrs. Gray was beside herself. Titus was relatively calmer, but his eyes were filled with pain; genuine pain. They thought Tina jumped off the building, so they couldn't have orchestrated this escape."

"I see." Toby nodded. "But it's pointless to play the guessing game here. We still need to see the police's investigation results. They've kept an eye on her 24/7, so they should know who visited her this month, and the culprit must be one of the visitors."

"You have a point." Sonia smiled.

"We should go in now. Tim should be done with the autopsy," Toby said as he looked at his watch.

Sonia didn't object. She turned around to look at where the corpse had been. The patch of blood on the ground was still gleaming, and it made her shiver.

It was then that a hand covered her eyes. "Don't look." Then, the person turned her head back. "Aren't you scared?"

"I'm fine." Sonia took Toby's hand off her eyes. "The body's gone, and the blood is all that's left. It's still unsettling, but I'm not scared now."

"Still, you shouldn't look. You'll get nightmares." Toby put his hands down.

Sonia said nothing and went with him to see Tim, but then her phone rang. She took it out and saw that the caller was Charles. "It's Charles." Instead of taking the call right away, she looked at Toby and told him who was calling for some reason.

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Toby was annoyed when he saw Charles' name on the screen, but Sonia's reaction made him happy. She's telling me who it is so I won't misunderstand her, huh? But she might not even know about this. "Take the call." Toby slowed down. "He's probably calling because he saw the news."

"I think so too." Sonia nodded and took the call. She even turned the speaker on.

Charles, as usual, said loudly, "Did you see the news, babe? Tina killed herself! Is that true?"

"It's true!" Sonia answered. "The police called me and said she jumped off a building. I'm at the crime scene right now."

Charles gasped in shock. "It's true? And I thought it's just some fake news the media made up to get some clicks. She actually killed herself?"

"Yeah." Nobody saw that coming." Sonia massaged the area between her brows.

Charles asked again, "So what's the situation, babe?"

Toby frowned after hearing him call Sonia babe. Looks like I have to tell Charles to stop calling her that.

Sonia didn't notice his displeasure, and she answered, "The police are still looking into the reason for her suicide. We don't know anything else."

"Is that so? I'll come over then," Charles said.

Toby pursed his lips, and Sonia saw it, so she shook her head at the phone. "It's alright, Charles. Toby is with me, so you don't have to come."

Toby stopped pursing his lips and started to smile.

Sonia saw that as well, and for some reason, she was amused, and her eyes were filled with delight.

Charles, on the other hand, was unhappy, and his voice became higher. "What? He's with you? But it's so late already! How did you end up with him?"

"Grandma asked him to take me home. I couldn't drive because I drank a little, so I agreed to it. But after that, I got the call, so I went to the scene with him." She looked at the elevator and continued, "I'm going into the elevator now, Charles. Talk tomorrow." Then, she hung up and went into the elevator.

After she came in, Toby stopped holding the doors back. "Why didn't you tell him that it was just a stand in?"

"There's no need." She shook her head. "Only the three of us know about the truth apart from Tim. Not even the police know about this, so I don't want too many people finding out. And once Tim is done with the autopsy, the police will know about the truth too, and they'll keep it a secret. They won't allow us to tell anyone either, so there's no point telling Charles about it."

"You really thought this through," he praised.

Sonia smiled. "Thank you."

"Don't mention it," Toby said. Then, he remembered something, and he gazed at her. "And I was really happy just now."

"Huh?" Sonia paused for a moment. "Why?"

Toby smiled but said nothing. Sonia tilted her head to the side curiously, but since he didn't want to tell her why, she wouldn't force him.

They came to the autopsy room a short while later. Tim was still inside, so Teddy was standing alone when Toby and Sonia came. He was pacing back and forth, looking flustered.

"Mr. Olsen," Sonia called him.

Teddy stopped pacing around. "Oh, it's you guys."

"What happened, Mr. Olsen?" Sonia asked.

Teddy hesitated, but he remembered that Sonia was the plaintiff, so he decided to tell them what was bugging him. "So before Dr. Lancaster went in, he told me something shocking. It's infuriating, actually."

"Tina is not the one who killed herself," Toby said.

"That's right." Teddy nodded, then he looked at them in shock. "How did you two know?"

"Tim noticed something off about the corpse when he inspected it," Toby explained calmly.

"I see." Teddy cast his doubts aside after getting the answer, and he sighed seriously. "Dr. Lancaster is comparing the DNA samples. If the corpse isn't Tina's, then this is going to be serious. It'll be hard capturing Tina again now that she has escaped. She is also holding a grudge against Miss Reed, so she might get revenge on her. And it's also a hit to our rep."

It was truly a huge blow to the police's reputation. They didn't even realize that Tina had slipped away and found a stand in even though she was under constant supervision. If the public knew about it, they would say the police were incompetent, and nobody would trust them to do their job again. Their superiors would make their lives a living hell as well.

"If the corpse inside there isn't Tina's, we have to find her quickly and arrest her again," Teddy said darkly, clenching his fists.

Sonia nodded. "Yes." If we don't capture her soon, it'll be even harder later. And I'm sure she'll get back at me. Now that we don't know where she is, it'll be hard to defend against her attacks.

Toby could see that she was worried, so he reached out his hand and smoothed out her frown. "Don't worry. I'll protect you," he promised gently, but also firmly. "She'll never get the chance to attack you."

Sonia looked at him and blushed, then turned away quickly without saying anything. She clutched her heart which was pounding furiously, and she felt confused. Weird. It's just a simple promise, so why is my heart fluttering? And why did I get nervous when I looked at him?

Toby noticed her ears getting red, and he smiled. He looked at Teddy and shifted the topic, or else Sonia would stay in her shell. "You guys have records and surveillance footage of Tina's visitors, right?" He squinted.

Teddy nodded. "Of course. When I knew the corpse might be someone else, I knew someone must have helped Tina, so I already told my men to compile the footage ASAP. It'll be here soon."

"Good," Toby replied, feeling satisfied.

Sonia looked at Teddy, surprised. So that's what a veteran is like. He adapts well.

Tim opened the room's door and came out with the results. Once he walked out, Toby, Teddy, and Sonia went up to him.

"How is it?" Toby asked first.

Teddy and Sonia were staring at Tim as well.

Tim handed the file over and adjusted his glasses. "Just like I told you. The corpse is not Tina's," he said darkly.

They knew that was the case and were prepared for it, but it was still unacceptable to hear the confirmation. That was especially the case for Teddy. The moment he got the confirmation, he gained a perpetual frown, since Tina had escaped under the noses of his men. As the captain, he would be held against this oversight. If they couldn't find Tina after a certain timeframe, he would have to resign as an officer.

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Chapter 524 Melody and Cynthia

"Do you know the identity of the corpse then?" Toby asked coldly. That was the most important question for the time being.

Tim adjusted his glasses. "Not sure. I've taken the corpse's fingerprint sample and went through the database, but I found no match. You'll have to look into this yourself."

"It's not going to be easy." Sonia bit her lip. When she took a look at the corpse's face earlier, it was nothing but a mangled mess. Now that Tim couldn't even confirm the corpse's identity through the fingerprint, it would definitely be an uphill battle for them to investigate the matter.

Just then, one officer rushed over with a stack of files in his hand. "Sir, we've compiled the visiting record for Tina Gray!"

Everyone looked at the files the officer was holding at once.

"Give them to me." Toby went over and took the files from the officer.

Sonia followed him closely and stood beside him. She huddled closer so she could take a look as well.

The file was only two pages long. The first page detailed Julia's visits, and occasionally Titus'. There was nothing there, so Toby flipped over to the second page. Most of the records were similar to the first page's, but when they got to the final few records, Toby and Sonia frowned.

"Melody? Cynthia?" Sonia was surprised. "Why did they come to visit her? And in the last couple of days too?"

Toby narrowed his eyes. "Mr. Olsen, these are your prime suspects. It's possible they helped Tina to escape."

"I see, Mr. Fuller. I'll get someone to take them here." Teddy took the files from him.

Toby grunted and looked at the officer who brought the files over. "Do you have the surveillance footage of these two visiting Tina?"

"Yes." The officer nodded.

Tim said, "Let's watch it in my office. There's a PC and projector there."

Everyone agreed, and they went to Tim's office. The officer inserted the USB drive into the PC and projected it onto the big screen.

Toby sat down on the couch and patted the spot beside him. "Sit right here. It's a great spot."

Sonia rolled her eyes. We're not watching a movie right now. You don't have to pick a good spot. In the end, she still went and sat beside him.

Toby smiled, happy that she did what he asked her to, and everyone around him could feel that he was in a great mood.

The video started playing. The first one was Melody and Cynthia's first visit. Sonia noticed that they went into Tina's ward and came out after half an hour, then they left. Nothing else happened during that period of time.

Toby frowned. "Why do you only have surveillance footage outside of the room? Don't you have a CCTV camera inside?"

Teddy sighed. "Let me explain. She might be a criminal, but she's still entitled to privacy. We can only record everything outside her room, but not the inside. That's why we know nothing about what happened inside."

Toby pursed his lips and said nothing more.

The second video started playing moments later. It was Melody and Cynthia's last time visiting Tina. This time, Sonia noticed something wrong. Melody went into the room, but she didn't look too happy. Cynthia was looking weird as well. She

was wearing a cap and a mask, and she wouldn't even look up for a second. More importantly, she looked fearful.

At that point, Sonia sat up straighter and started looking serious. Toby did the same as well. He stared at the video and thought about something.

Melody and Cynthia didn't stay in the room for too long this time. Less than ten minutes later, they left, and they never came to visit Tina again.

"It's obvious now." Tim looked at the video and sneered. "During the first visit, Tina must have threatened Melody and asked for her help. That's why Melody looked so glum in the second video."

"So Cynthia's the one who became Tina's stand-in?" Tom asked.

"No," Toby answered.

"She's not?" Tom was surprised.

Sonia nodded. "I don't think so either. Cynthia is an aristocrat after all, so Tina would never ask her to do that. Which means that person in the second video was not the real Cynthia. They just used her identity as a cover. Notice the cap and mask?"

"Yes. Tina, or probably Melody, must have promised that person something; something big enough to buy her life. So the person who came back out with Melody must have been Tina, while the stand-in stayed behind," Toby tapped his knees and explained coldly.

Teddy punched the wall angrily, looking solemn. "What do they think lives are? Toys?"

Tim said, "Now you can tell your men to take Melody and Cynthia over. And hunt Tina down no matter what."

Toby nodded. "She should still be in Seafield, so you must locate her ASAP."

"You're right. I'll tell my boss now." Teddy took his phone out.

Toby grunted. "It's late, so we'll be leaving now."

The next part was the police's job, so they didn't have to stay around.

"Okay. I'll call you once I have any news." Teddy nodded.

Toby stood up and extended his hand to Sonia. "Let's go home now."

Sonia looked at his hand, but she didn't hold it. Instead, she stood up. "Correction. You are taking me home. Just have to make that clear." Go home? Do you have

any idea how misleading that is? If the others didn't know better, they would think we were going home together.

Since Sonia wouldn't hold his hand, Toby smiled drily and put his hand down.

After saying goodbye to Tim, they walked to the elevator, and it didn't take long for them to come back down to the lobby.

The Grays were there as well. Titus was sitting on a bench, his head hanging low. There was an air of despair and sadness around him, while Julia was sitting beside him with her head buried in her hands as she sobbed quietly. Even Rina was gripping her phone tightly, and her eyes were red, as if she was holding her sorrow in.

Sonia arched her eyebrow. "Did Titus' condition get worse?"

"How are you sure about that? They might be sad because 'Tina's dead.'" Toby looked at her.

Sonia pointed her chin at Rina. "Because she won't look so sad if it's because of Tina. The only reason for that would be Titus' condition."

"You have a point." Toby nodded.

The Grays looked up when they heard the sound of footsteps coming closer, and they were surprised to see Sonia with Toby and Tom. They thought Sonia was the only person who came, but they never thought Toby was around as well. However, it was obvious in hindsight. After all, Sonia was all Toby cared about, so he would follow her wherever she went.

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Chapter 525 Warm the Feet

But seeing them together was unacceptable for Julia. She shot up and yelled at Toby, her eyes red, "Tina is dead, Toby!"

Toby never thought Julia would talk to him, so he stopped, and Sonia and Tom followed suit. Toby looked at Julia coldly. "And?"

"Aren't you even sad?" Julia clutched her chest angrily.

Toby sneered at her. "No," he said coolly. "I want her dead."

"What?" Julia couldn't believe what she was hearing, and she lost her bearing.

Fortunately, Titus stood up and held her in time. "That was uncalled for, Toby. You and Tina used to date. How could you say that after she just died? You're an animal!"

"I'm the animal?" Toby's face hardened, and the air around him started feeling heavy. "Sonia and I used to be pen pals. We would have started dating and eventually gotten happily married if we had met, but Tina ruined it. She impersonated Sonia and met up with me. And she even did—" He stopped himself and thought about it for a second before continuing, "If she hadn't done what she did to me, do you really think I would have dated her? I wouldn't have even looked at her."

What's he talking about? Sonia squinted at Toby suspiciously. He said Tina did something to him, and that's why he ended up with her. Question is, what did Tina do?

Sonia looked at Tom. Tom knew what she wanted to know, and he turned away in a hurry so he wouldn't make eye contact.

But that only made her more suspicious. Something's wrong. What are they hiding from me?

"You... You..." The Grays couldn't even say anything to Toby, apparently because they were furious.

Toby looked away and decided to ignore them. "Let's go," he told Sonia. "We shouldn't waste our time with them."

"Okay." Sonia nodded. She didn't ask him what he was hiding. She knew he wouldn't tell her even if she asked, since he was deliberately keeping it a secret. In that case, there was no need to ask.

They came to the car and Tom took out the keys to unlock the doors. He was about to open the backseat door for Toby and Sonia, but the moment he extended his hand, Toby was already pulling the door open. "Get in."

Sonia got in without hesitation, since she was already freezing. Her upper body was cold, but it was still acceptable, but her feet were already protesting. She had to wear an evening gown to attend Rose's birthday banquet, so she had to pair it with beautiful heels. There was no winter edition for heels, so her feet were already freezing from the moment she wore the heels up until now. They were already getting numb as well.

"Drive," after Sonia got in, Toby turned around and ordered Tom.

Tom shrugged and went into the driver's seat.

Toby was the last to get in. After he did, he knocked on the driver's seat. "Turn the heater on." He knew Sonia was freezing a long time ago. Her face was red from the cold, and she was curling up. He had also seen her stomping her feet to warm them up.

"Yes, sir," Tom answered and turned the heater on.

The temperature went up quickly, and the car became warmer in no time. The chill faded, and Sonia slowly eased up.

At the same time, Toby unbuttoned his suit and blurted, "Take them off."

Tom almost choked on himself, while Sonia was petrified. She looked at Toby in shock as she thought, What did he say? Take them off? Take what off? My clothes or... She then recalled him unbuttoning his suit. So he means my clothes? Is he trying to do it in the car?

Sonia's face turned red with embarrassment and anger, and she clenched her fists. "Stop the car!" she shouted. So this guy is just a hypocrite. And here I am, feeling guilty and thankful that he chose to stay with me even at this hour. But now... Now he wants to do it in the car? The mere thought of that enraged her, and she smacked the driver's seat. "I said stop the car! Did you hear me?"

Tom noticed the anger in her voice, so he stopped the car quickly. Fortunately, it was late at night, so there was barely any traffic. It was relatively safe to stop the car.

Toby looked at Sonia, who was fuming. "What's wrong?" he asked curiously.

Sonia laughed mirthlessly. What's wrong? Oh, the nerve of you to ask that! Sonia shot him a cold, scornful look before she put her hand on the door's handle.

Tom coughed and quickly explained, "Sir, she took it the wrong way."

"Hm?" Toby frowned. Apparently, he didn't know why she misunderstood him.

Tom sighed silently. "It's about what you said. You must be referring to something else when you said 'take them off,' but she thought you wanted her to strip, so..."

It was then Toby realized what went wrong. He had always preferred simple and direct communication, but he never thought that form of communication might cause a lot of misunderstanding. He knew he was in the wrong, so he massaged his temples and held Sonia's hand so she wouldn't get out of the car. "I'm sorry for being too forward. I didn't mean it in any other way. I just wanted you to take your shoes off."

"My shoes?" Sonia was surprised.

"Yes," Toby answered.

"Why?" Sonia stared at him dumbly.

Toby didn't explain. Instead, he bent over to hold her ankle and raised her leg.

Thanks to that, Sonia came face to face with him while leaning against the door. "What are you doing?" She panicked and kicked around, trying to pull her leg away.

However, Toby held her ankle tightly, then he bent over again to hold her other ankle and put both of her legs on his lap.

"What are you—"

"Don't move!" Toby pushed her feet down slightly and told her to not move.

Sonia stopped moving around. She was worried she might kick somewhere she shouldn't if she moved too much, and the results would be disastrous.

After Sonia had calmed down, Toby loosened his grip and held her heels. He then took them off and put her legs into his suit.

Sonia was dumbfounded. It wasn't until her frozen feet were slowly getting warmer did she snap out of it. She opened her mouth, but it took her a while before she said, "Toby, what are you—"

Toby looked at her and cut her off gently, "Now your feet won't be cold anymore."

A wave of emotions burst forth within Sonia's heart. She felt sad, melancholic, and warm. She stared at him, her eyes red. "Why are you doing this? You don't have to do this."

Toby chuckled. "I don't need a reason to warm my lover up."

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[/ This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr](#)
Chapter 526 Three Years

Sonia's heart started pounding and her face was feeling hot, so she stared down and kept quiet.

Toby's smile broadened, and he tightened his hold on her feet.

Sonia could feel her feet touching his abs, so she squirmed and tried to pull back a little.

"Don't move." Toby held her feet down and stopped her from pulling back.

Sonia froze up. "Um, you should let me go. I feel a bit weird."

"You'll have to get used to it then." He looked at her.

Sonia blinked and instinctively asked, "Why?"

Toby answered, "Because I'm going to do a lot of similar things to you, so you'll have to get used to this."

Sonia blushed. "You're talking like I'll accept everything you do to me."

"I'll try my best." He smiled. "I bet we will be a loving couple then."

She bit her lip. "You're dreaming again. I will never get together with you," she said nasally.

Toby's eyes dimmed for a while, but they brightened up again quickly and he smiled. "Nobody knows what the future holds, but..."

"But what?" Sonia looked at him.

He answered, "Remember the bet we had?"

Sonia looked away and said, "Yes." Back then, he said he'd take her back, but she refused, so he proposed a bet. He wanted to see if he could make her fall for him again, and at that time, she said, "No. Not for my life."

"Why are you bringing that up now?" Sonia was perplexed.

Toby remembered something, and he stared down to hide the sadness in his eyes. "I want to change the terms. But just slightly."

"You want to change the terms?" Sonia was surprised.

Toby nodded. "Yes. The bet I proposed had no time limit, so this time I'm going to add one. How does three years sound?" He raised three fingers.

Sonia frowned. "Why three? Is there something special about that?" All time limits had some special meaning behind them, especially when a promise was involved. A bet was a kind of promise, so she wouldn't believe that Toby came up with it randomly. He could have gone with five years instead of three otherwise.

Toby didn't expect her to be so sharp. He didn't think she'd know there was a reason for that time limit, and he couldn't help but smile. "Nothing special. I just think it's the perfect time frame. Not too short, but not too long either."

"Is that so?" Sonia squinted. She didn't believe a word of what he said, and her hunch told her the truth was something else entirely. He's lying.

Toby nodded. "It's true. So how about it, Sonia? Three years. I'll do everything I can to make you fall for me again, so please don't reject my efforts. You won't if you really think you'll never fall for me, since well, whatever I do will be futile, right?"

Sonia pursed her lips. For some reason, she felt like Toby was issuing a challenge for her.

After a while of silence, Toby's eyes glinted, and he asked, "What shall it be, Sonia?"

Sonia thought about it for a few moments, and she finally nodded. "Fine. I accept the bet." I don't care if he was challenging me, but he got one thing right—I will never fall in love with him, so whatever he does is futile. I don't have to reject his advances, since I will never waver anyway.

"Alright. Now that you've agreed to it, so this bet is—"

Sonia raised her hand and stopped him. "Hold it for a second."

Toby looked at her. "What is it?"

"You didn't say what will happen if I still don't love you after three years have passed," Sonia said.

Toby said, "If that really happens, then this bet is off. I'll let you go then, and it'll be real. I'll not go against my word after a few days like what I did this time. I won't turn back. But if you really fall for me, let's get married."

Sonia clenched her fists. She didn't know how to respond to that, but when she noticed the longing and encouragement in his eyes, she got her answer, and she nodded. "Fine. If I really do fall for you in the end, I'll get back together with you, and we'll get married."

Toby's smile broadened. "Looks like I can start making plans for the wedding then." She's already fallen for me, but she doesn't know it yet. All I have to do now is guide her to realize her true feelings and accept them.

Sonia had no idea what Toby was thinking, but she rolled her eyes when he said he would start planning for the wedding. "Someone sounds confident."

"Of course. Because you're the source," Toby looked at her and gave her a hint.

Sonia frowned. "What are you talking about?"

Toby smiled and shifted the topic. "Get some sleep. You're probably tired. I'll wake you up once we get back to Bayside."

"It's fine. I'm not sleepy." Sonia shook her head.

She ate her words a few moments later. When they stopped in front of a red light, she leaned against the door, and a wave of sleepiness washed over her. Her eyelids became heavier and kept trying to shut themselves. Finally, they started to weigh too much for her to bear, and she fell asleep.

Her head was bobbing as the car cruised along the road. Toby looked at her, smiling lovingly. "Honestly, why do you have to be so stubborn? Can't you be honest?" Toby caressed her face as he mumbled to himself.

Sonia felt ticklish, and she grunted in protest.

Toby stopped disturbing her and pulled his hand back. "Sleep."

Sonia was indeed exhausted. She had worked during the day, gone to a banquet and drank a lot at night, and then she was tensed up by the news that Tina killed herself. It had been a long day, and it was taxing for her.

Even Toby was starting to get tired. He massaged his temples and told Tom, "Faster."

"Yes, sir," Tom answered and sped up.

They came to Bayside Residence a short while later. Tom parked the car under the complex and unbuckled himself. He got out of the car and came to the backseat to open the door.

Toby was bending over to slip Sonia's shoes over her feet.

Tom stood outside. "Do we need to wake her up, sir?"

"No." Toby shook his head and looked at Sonia who was sleeping soundly. I can't wake her up. She's just too beautiful. "You take her." He turned around to Tom after helping Sonia wear her shoes.

Tom pointed at himself in surprise. "Me?"

"Who else?" Toby raised his injured arm. If his arm was perfectly fine, he would never let any other man hold the woman he loved, not even Tom.

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Chapter 527 Melody's Dirt

Tom scratched his nose and smiled sheepishly. "Just worried you might get jealous, sir."

Toby pursed his lips. "Cut the crap. Are you doing this or not?"

"Of course I am," Tom quickly answered. After Toby got out of the car, Tom quickly bent over to carry Sonia in his arms.

Toby looked at Sonia, who was held by Tom, and he started getting jealous. However, he could do nothing about it, since he was in no condition to hold her. He looked at his injured arm and sighed silently. "Get me an appointment with an orthopedist tomorrow." He wanted to know when his arm would completely heal.

As Toby's right-hand man, Tom knew why Toby wanted that appointment. The corner of his lips twitched. "Yes, sir," he answered.

Toby kept quiet. He then closed the car door and went ahead to the complex.

Tom followed behind, holding Sonia in his arms. It was a short journey, but a difficult one for Tom, for he had to make sure he didn't touch Sonia in other places, or Toby would give him the death stare.

They came to Sonia's unit a few minutes later. Toby knew the password, so he opened the door easily.

Tom quickly took Sonia to the bedroom. After he put her on the bed, he heaved a sigh of relief and felt the weight on his shoulder disappear.

Toby sat down beside Sonia and took her shoes off, then he told Tom coldly, "You can leave now."

Tom rolled his eyes in silence, but he replied politely, "Yes, sir. I'll be going now." You really know how to burn bridges, huh? And he sounds so annoyed. He's angry that I held Miss Reed. Tom felt a little unfair. He's so unfair. He told me to do it, but now he's angry at me. So capricious.

Toby gently put Sonia's legs on the bed. "Fetch me tomorrow morning," Toby said to Tom.

Tom was surprised. "You're staying, sir?"

Toby tucked Sonia in and grunted. "Do you have a problem with that?"

"No. I'll be here at seven." Tom looked at the time.

Toby nodded. "And bring breakfast with you."

"Of course, sir." Tom adjusted his glasses and left.

After he was gone, Toby went to the bathroom and came back out with a warm towel to wipe Sonia up. After he was done, he went to brush his teeth and wash his face. And then he went to sleep while hugging Sonia.

Toby woke up at seven in the morning the next day, then kissed Sonia's cheeks and got out of bed. He tiptoed out of Sonia's room, and if it weren't for the caved-in pillow and the lingering warmth, it would be like he never appeared in the room before.

When Toby opened the front door, Tom was standing outside with breakfast in hand. He greeted Toby with a smile, "Good morning, sir."

Toby said nothing and just took the breakfast over before closing the door.

Tom stared at the closed door and scratched his nose, then he sighed. Man, being an employee sucks. I get up early in the morning to get breakfast, but he just slams the door shut in my face. Damn. I wanna be the boss in my next life, and Mr. Fuller can be my assistant.

Toby put the breakfast on the living room's table. Then, he tore a piece of paper to write a message on it before putting it under the milk. He looked at Sonia's room one last time before putting his pen down and walking to the door.

Tom was surprised Toby came back out so soon. "Aren't you going to eat something, sir?"

"I can do it in the office. Let's go." Toby put on his shoes and went out.

Tom said nothing and followed Toby into the elevator.

After they went into the elevator, Toby massaged his temples. "Anything from the cops?" he asked darkly.

"Yes. I've asked them when I was on the way here." Tom got serious once business was involved. "After we left the hospital last night, Teddy sent his men to arrest Melody and Cynthia. They interrogated them and concluded that Melody's the accomplice."

"What about Cynthia?" Toby frowned.

Tom shook his head. "She doesn't know anything about it. Tina and Melody made her leave during the first meeting. According to Melody's testimonial, Tina blackmailed her after Cynthia left. She wanted Melody to help her escape, so Cynthia wasn't the one who came with Melody the second time, but the victim. Cynthia didn't know that Melody asked someone to impersonate her for the visit."

Toby nodded in acknowledgement, then he squinted dangerously. "You said Tina blackmailed Melody. Does she have any dirt on Melody?"

"Yes. A murder." Tom sighed. "Rumors have it that there are a lot of questions regarding the death of Peter's first girlfriend. It's possible someone murdered her, and now we know that's the truth. The murderer is Melody. Tina found out about it somehow and used it to blackmail her, so Melody took the risk and helped Tina escape house arrest. Melody never thought we'd find out about the truth so quickly, and that was the flaw in her plan."

"Her plan failed, but Tina's didn't." Toby sneered.

Melody thought nobody could find out about the corpse's real identity, since the face was mangled, and there were no fingerprint samples in the database either. Everyone would think that Tina had really died, and to top it off, the cause would be suicide as well. That way, Melody would never be punished, and her secret would never be exposed.

However, it was a shame Tim was the variable in her plan. He knew the corpse wasn't Tina's after just looking at it. Even so, the plan was a success for Tina. After all, no matter what the outcome was, she had succeeded in escaping.

"Did you find out the corpse's identity?" Toby walked out of the elevator.

Tom followed him. "Melody told us about it. It was a terminal patient. Melody paid her a million, so the victim decided to help her out. She didn't have long to live anyway, but she wanted to leave some money behind for her family, so..."

Tom didn't finish that sentence, but Toby knew what he was getting at. He grunted and said nothing.

After Toby got into the car and closed the door, he said, "Take me to the police station. I want to see Melody and ask her where Tina has gone."

"Yes, sir." Tom nodded and revved the car up.

Sonia woke up not long after Toby left. Her phone was ringing, and she groggily rummaged through the bedside table for it. However, since Toby was the one who slept last instead of her, he put her phone some distance away from her. Because of that, not only did Sonia didn't find her phone, she managed to roll off the bed.

However, the fall didn't hurt, thanks to the thick carpet underneath. Even so, the fall jolted her awake. Huh? She realized she was sitting on the floor, and a blanket was covering her. It was a perplexing situation for her, but her phone wouldn't stop ringing, so she put her questions aside and quickly went to pick the call up.

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Chapter 528 Toby's Cufflink

The call was from Teddy. He called to tell her about Melody's confession. Even though Sonia had already guessed that Melody was the accomplice last night, hearing the confirmation still stoked the flames of fury within her. Melody is a dunce! She's going to ruin everything for all of us! Her own family's going to be dragged into this if the public finds out she's Tina's accomplice!

"Miss Reed? Miss Reed?" Teddy was worried that Sonia wasn't talking, so he asked, "Are you still there, Miss Reed?"

"I am." She snapped out of it and took a deep breath to hold her rage down. "Mr. Olsen, did Melody tell you where Tina went?"

"No." Teddy shook his head. "She said they went their own ways after the switcheroo was done. Not even she knows where Tina is right now."

"Are you sure she didn't lie?" Sonia frowned.

Teddy answered, "We've used a lie detector on her, and she didn't lie. She doesn't know where Tina is."

Sonia bit her lip. If Melody doesn't know where Tina is, that means that woman must be hiding somewhere right now. Question is, where is she hiding?

As if knowing what Sonia was thinking, Teddy said again, "Don't worry, Miss Reed. My boss has approved and issued an arrest warrant for Tina. I believe we'll recapture her soon."

"I trust that you will do your job, Mr. Olsen." Sonia forced a smile. Then she asked him a few things about Melody before hanging up. Sonia tossed her phone aside and sat on the bed, starting to think about how she got back the night before.

She remembered falling asleep in Toby's car, but she couldn't recall how she came back to her home, much less ending up on her own bed. Obviously, she didn't come back on her own, since she had no habit of sleepwalking. Toby must have taken me back, but his arm is still hurt, so how on earth did he manage?

She was still trying to figure it out, but the sound of the doorbell ringing broke her train of thoughts. She frowned and went out of her bedroom. "Who is it?"

"It's me, babe," Charles said, his voice slightly muffled by the door in his way.

Sonia smiled and opened the door. "What brings you here?"

"Tina's suicide. What else?" Charles came in and changed into a pair of slippers.

Sonia closed the door. "Tina's case? I thought I told you last night—"

After he changed into the slippers, Charles stood up and looked at her solemnly. "What I'm about to tell you is going to be a shock, babe. You have to promise me you will stay calm after hearing it."

Sonia nodded. "I promise. What is it?"

"Right. Here's the news." Charles looked visibly upset as he told her the news, "Tina's not dead. She's not the one who jumped off the building last night."

Sonia was surprised he knew that. "How did you know about that?" Did the police make this public already? Impossible. They wouldn't do that. Their rep would take a hit if they did, and the public would start to worry. They would never tell anyone about it.

"I heard the guys talking about it," Charles answered.

"The guys?" Sonia frowned.

Charles grunted. "Yeah. The whole circle knows about Tina's suicide, then this morning, someone told us the one who died was Tina's stand-in instead of her. It got me worried, so I snooped around and found out that the rumor's real. Melody helped her escape."

The police might have kept the news under wraps, but it was easy for those in the upper society to find out. However, they must never tell anyone about it either. "You seem calm, babe. Isn't this shocking to you?" Charles asked curiously. He realized Sonia didn't look shocked at all. Instead, she was frowning pensively.

Sonia told him the truth. "Because I got the news last night."

"You got the news last night?" Charles raised his voice.

Sonia nodded. "Yes."

"Why didn't you tell me last night then?" Charles felt sad to be left out.

Sonia massaged her temples. "I wanted to, but I was under a confidentiality clause. Besides, I would have told you in due time, but then you went and found out about the truth yourself."

"Fine. I forgive you, but babe, we don't know where Tina is hiding right now. I'm sure she'll get back at you, so be careful until she's arrested, alright?" Charles said, sounding worried.

Sonia chuckled. "I know, don't worry about it. Have a seat and give me a moment. I'll wash up and get changed."

"Okay." Charles waved her away.

Sonia went back to her room to get changed, but she paused for a moment when she saw the accessories hanging on the table. Then, she realized she had forgotten to give them back to Toby. I'll just take them with me and ask someone to send it back to him later.

After she changed, she bent over to take the accessories, but she saw something from the corner of her eye, and it petrified her. That is... Sonia quickly put the accessories down and picked up the glinting curio lying on the sheets.

"A cufflink!" Sonia held it up and took a look. She could tell that it belonged on a man's suit, and it was made out of an expensive blue diamond. The only person she knew who could afford a blue diamond cufflink was none other than Toby. So this is his cufflink. But why is it lying on the bed? And in the middle of it too.

If he dropped this by accident, it would have fallen onto the ground, not the bed. But now it's in the middle of it. Her eyes widened in shock, and she gripped the cufflink tightly as a ludicrous idea hit her. Did he actually stay for the night?

The mere possibility of that happening spurred her to check the bed. When she saw the caved-in pillow, her face turned red. That pervert!

Sonia was sure Toby didn't leave the night before. He had stayed here and even slept beside her. He's getting ahead of himself. I only said I wouldn't reject his advances. I know I said I'd give him a chance, but that doesn't mean he can sleep with me anytime he wants.

Sonia might look angry, but she didn't feel the least bit furious. In fact, she thought it was amusing. Give him an inch, and he'll take a mile. Toby embodies that adage, huh?

"Did you get breakfast, babe?" Charles asked her, his voice echoing a little.

Sonia put the accessory down and went to the door. "No, I didn't." She opened the door.

"You didn't? Then where did this come from?" Charles opened the bag.

Sonia put the accessory into a box and went to take a look at the mysterious breakfast. Once she saw it, she realized what was going on. Sonia was about to answer, but Charles said, "Hey, there's a slip of paper here too."

A slip of paper? Sonia was stunned, but only for a moment. She quickly put the box down and went over to snatch the paper away from Charles. "You can't read this." She knew who bought the breakfast for her. It's Toby, alright. He must have left this for me. She didn't know what he had written. If it's some mushy stuff, it'd be awkward if Charles reads it.

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Chapter 529 Toby's Slip

"Babe, what are you doing?" Charles didn't expect Sonia to react so aggressively over a slip of paper. She snatched it away and hid it behind her, as if the slip was some sordid secret she didn't want anyone to find out.

Sonia knew she was overreacting and could cause some misunderstanding, so she stared down apologetically. "Sorry, Charles. You can't read this."

"Why can't I?" Charles put his hands down and looked at her.

Sonia started explaining, "Because—"

Charles interrupted, "Because it was left by Toby, right?"

Sonia was surprised, and her head shot up. "How did you—"

"You want to know how I found out, right?" Charles smiled self-deprecatingly.

Sonia gulped, but she said nothing. Yes.

He clenched his fists. "It's a guess, and it's not hard. Tina's 'suicide' happened around midnight last night. Toby was with you then, so he must have sent you home. I don't even need to guess who bought you the breakfast and wrote a message to you. Toby came over this morning again, didn't he?"

Sonia's eyes glinted. Well, that's mostly correct. The only incorrect thing is the time Toby came over. He did not come over this morning. In fact, he never left. "Charles. Actually..."

Sonia wanted to say something, but Charles waved her off and forced a smile. "Let's not talk about this. You should eat, and I'll take you to Paradigm Co. after that. I have something to do there today."

"You want me to eat the breakfast he bought?" Sonia looked at him, surprised.

Charles nodded. "Why not?"

"Well..." Sonia said, "You don't like Toby, and you never wanted me to take anything from him, so it doesn't feel right hearing you telling me to eat something he bought."

"You just woke up, and you haven't eaten anything yet. Plus, you have a free set of breakfast here, so take advantage of it. Besides..." He stared down to hide the sadness within his eyes. He muttered, "You wouldn't throw it away even if I told you to. You can't do it." The last part was barely a whisper.

Sonia heard him mumbling, but she couldn't hear it clearly, so she tilted her head sideways curiously. "What are you mumbling about, Charles?"

"Nothing. Dig in. I'm going to use the bathroom." He then made his way there.

Sonia looked at him. She thought he was acting weirdly, but she didn't think too much about it. She took out the slip from behind her back and read the message on it. 'I'm going now. The breakfast is on the table. If it's still hot when you see it, just eat it. But if it's not, then reheat it.'

The handwriting belonged to Toby alright. His font had always been strong and unique. Anyone would be able to recognize his handwriting at a glance. As Sonia read the message, she pouted. "I'm not stupid. Of course I know I can't eat cold food. I don't need you to tell me that."

She was grumbling, but a smile had crept onto her face. Sonia folded the slip and put it in her pocket. She went to check on the breakfast and was surprised to find out that it was still warm. It's still warm? So it hasn't been long since he left.

Sonia sat down and opened the bag of food. It was almost a feast because there was mushroom soup, croissant, BLT sandwich, and a box of milk. Sonia smacked her forehead in amusement. "Did he buy everything in the shop?" She shook her head and stirred the soup before taking a sip. At the same time, she texted Toby on Messenger, 'Thanks for the breakfast.'

Sonia locked her phone and was about to put it aside after texting him that. She thought he must be busy working at the moment, but much to her surprise, her phone beeped the moment she put it down. Well, that was fast. She was stunned for a moment, but she quickly took the phone and opened the Messenger app without even thinking.

Toby texted, 'You're awake.'

Sonia rolled her eyes. 'I can't text you otherwise.'

Toby was in a meeting and sitting in the main seat as usual. When he saw her reply, he chuckled. I can imagine the look on her face when she said that. The more he thought about it, the bigger his smile became.

When the top brass heard his chuckle, they looked at him. They were horrified to see their boss smiling, as if it was something that should never happen. He's smiling! Mr. Fuller is smiling at his phone!

"Hey, does anyone have any idea what happened to Mr. Fuller?"

“Isn’t it obvious? He’s in love.”

“Whoa? Really? With whom?”

The top brass shook their heads as none of them knew the answer to that.

Toby had no idea his subordinates were gossiping about him, and he texted back quickly, ‘Do you like it?’

Sonia looked at the soup before her. ‘It’s decent.’

She didn’t refuse his breakfast because she had agreed that he could woo her, and giving a potential partner breakfast was a part of that. So, she had no reason to say no.

Toby looked at his phone gently. ‘Good. Finish your breakfast. I have a meeting to finish, so talk to you later.’

Sonia texted an OK emoji. ‘Sure. But are you free this afternoon?’

Afternoon? Toby sat up straighter. ‘Do you need anything this afternoon?’ Is she going to ask me out on a date? Toby became visibly excited.

Sonia put her spoon down. ‘Nothing much. I want to give the accessories back to you.’ She was going to send one of her employees to do it, but then she thought it would be irresponsible of her. It was an expensive item, so if her employee broke or lost it, she wouldn’t have enough money to compensate him. I’ll do it myself. It’s safer that way.

Sonia’s reply made Toby frown. He wanted to say there was no need for that, since he never planned on taking it back. But then he realized she wasn’t the kind of person to keep it. If he forced her to do that, it would get on her nerves and ruin their already precarious relationship.

I should let her give it back to me. Actually, I can give it to her again once we get back together. Once he made up his mind, he replied, ‘Sure. Come over this afternoon. I’ll be waiting in the office.’

Sonia sent him an OK emoji again.

Toby didn’t reply to that. It was about time to stop texting and focus on his meeting.

Sonia put her phone down and went back to her breakfast.

When Charles came back out of the bathroom and noticed the smile on her face, the light in his eyes dimmed. “You seem really happy, babe.” Is it because of breakfast? I guess so. After all, the guy she loves bought it for her.

Sonia didn't know what he was thinking, so she touched her face. "Do I, really?"

"You do." Charles went over to her.

Sonia put her hand down. "It's probably the weather. It's nice today."

"Is that so?" Charles could see that she was lying, but he didn't expose her. It would only make things awkward if he said anything about it.

They left together after Sonia finished breakfast. Daphne called her to talk about work while Sonia was on the way there. While Sonia talked, she looked out the window. Eventually, she realized something was off, so she stared in the rear-view mirror for a while before turning around.

Charles noticed what she was doing, but he was perplexed. "What is it, babe?"

Sonia turned back around and hung up, then squinted into the rear-view mirror. "Charles, I might be imagining things, but I think this car behind us is tailing us."

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Chapter 530 Daphne's Crush

"The car behind us?" Charles was alerted upon hearing Sonia's words, looking at the rear mirror on his left. As soon as his eyes fell upon the mirror, he saw a black car of a Japanese brand tailing them. Despite its ordinary-looking appearance, it was tailgating them so closely that it was hard not to think it was following them.

"You're right." Charles knitted his eyebrows.

Sonia sternly said, "This car seems to have been following us ever since we left Bayside Residence."

"Really?" Charles was seen with a preoccupied look on his face.

Sonia nodded. "Yes, I noticed it when I looked in the rear mirror. After all, how can I forget a peculiar-looking license plate like that so easily?"

"A peculiar-looking license plate?" Charles raised his eyebrows and looked in the rear mirror once more. When he saw the two digits that read '13', he couldn't help but snigger. "Damn! That's peculiar indeed!"

"Exactly! That's why that car stays in my mind the moment I see it, but I didn't pay much attention to it because I thought it was just some random car behind us until I realized this car was still tailing us now. Therefore, judging from how

closely it is following us, I'm worried that someone could be onto us," Sonia pursed her lips and said in a serious voice.

"Call the cops!" Charles held the steering tightly. "Call the cops and tell them about our situation. Then, sit tight and grab the handle above your head because I'm about to drive like Mario Andretti and lose that stalker."

Unaware of the mysterious driver's intention, both Charles and Sonia decided to take extra precautions and assumed they were in the worst-case scenario. After all, they were afraid that the driver could do something unexpectedly crazy like ramming their car, so the best way to avoid that was to lose their stalker first.

Needless to say, Sonia felt the same way as Charles did, so she nodded and said, "Alright, drive safe." She then grabbed the handle above her head and reached for her phone with her other hand to contact the police. Nonetheless, just when she just found Teddy's number, she suddenly saw the car behind them gaining on them in the rear mirror. Seconds later, it appeared just right in front of them as Sonia tried to stop Charles from overtaking it. "Wait, Charles!"

"What's wrong?" Charles gazed at the lady.

Sonia squinted, fixing her eyes on the car that was slowly disappearing from her sight. "That car just overtook us."

"What?" Charles raised his voice. "The car overtook us?"

"Yup."

"Wasn't it following us?"

Sonia responded with silence. A few moments later, their "stalker" seemingly drove down a different path as it disappeared from sight. Then, she rubbed her forehead in relief and said, "That car might just be going the same way as we did. I guess we overreacted."

"Phew! We were just scaring ourselves all this time." Charles heaved a sigh of relief after hearing the lady's words.

Nonetheless, Sonia only knitted her eyebrows in silence because she somehow had a bad feeling about what they just went through, but she couldn't explain why she felt that way. In the meantime, Charles noticed her silence and asked, "What's wrong? What's on your mind?"

Sonia rubbed her temples and replied, "I was just thinking about the car that was following us. It may be gone now, but I somehow have a bad feeling about it."

"Why do you say so?" Charles glanced at Sonia from the corner of his eye.

Sonia bit her lip and answered, "It just seemed strange to me how that car suddenly overtook us. The driver could have done that way earlier but decided to

continue tailing us until we realized we were being followed. Thus, it seemed to me that the driver must have discovered that we were aware of their existence before deciding to overtake us to deflect our suspicion.”

“Well, you have a point, but I think it’s probably nothing more than a coincidence.” Charles turned his steering wheel and added, “After all, the driver behind us couldn’t see what we were doing, so it wouldn’t make sense to say that he or she knew we were alerted.”

While Sonia agreed with him, he suggested, “Well, if that still doesn’t ease your mind, you could get someone to investigate the car.”

Sonia nodded. “You’re right. I’ll get someone to look into it once we arrive at Paradigm Co.” Deep down, she couldn’t rest assured until she found out who that driver was.

Soon, both of them arrived at Paradigm Co. Since Charles had some work to do at the Planning Department, he parted ways with Sonia in the lobby and made his way to the elevator that would take him to the relevant department. On the other hand, Sonia walked toward the elevator and proceeded to her office, where Daphne was standing in front of the door. When her secretary saw her, she politely greeted her. “Good morning, President Reed.”

“Good morning.” Sonia smiled and reached for her access card to open the door as Daphne followed behind her and read her schedule of the day to her.

When Sonia heard that she had to do a trivial inspection around her company at one in the afternoon, she put down her purse and said, “Cancel the inspection. I will be away at one in the afternoon later.”

“Alright.” Daphne didn’t ask her where she would be going and went ahead to strike through that part of her schedule. After that, she looked at Sonia and asked, “Is there any amendment that should be made to your schedule, President Reed?”

“No. That’s all for now.” Sonia shook her head. “But I do have something I’d like you to help me with.”

“I’m listening, President Reed.”

Sonia then sat down and grabbed a pen and a piece of paper before writing something on it. Then, she handed it over to Daphne, who took a look at it and saw a car license plate number. Confused with that, she asked, “What’s this supposed to mean, President Reed?”

“Nothing. I just want you to find out more about this car owner because I want to know everything about whoever this is,” Sonia replied, flipping her laptop open.

“Sure, President Reed.” Daphne closed her file after placing Sonia’s schedule list between the papers.

"Alright, go do your thing. By the way, Charles is now in the Planning Department, so please kindly drop by to see what you can do for him." Sonia waved her hand.

"President Lane is here at Paradigm Co.?" Daphne's eyes lit up behind her glasses when she heard Charles was in their company.

At the same time, Sonia noticed her reaction and blinked in surprise, "Daphne, don't tell me you... Well, fine. Just do your thing."

"Sure." Daphne didn't notice the strange look on Sonia's face as she nodded and walked away.

Sonia fixed her eyes on Daphne, clearly noticing how active her secretary had become in her footsteps. After all, she knew Daphne wasn't an outgoing person, and her old-fashioned appearance only served to make her seem like a boring person. Therefore, everyone else in the company secretly called her the bore.

Nevertheless, Daphne was young but hardly ever lively, yet she seemed to act more like her age after the mention of Charles' presence. Thus, Sonia couldn't help but wonder whether her secretary had a crush on him.

At the thought of that, Sonia chuckled in amusement. Well, if that turns out to be true, I suppose I could act as a matchmaker who brings both of them together. While she reckoned Daphne was a mature and reliable woman, Charles seemed like a child who was about to reach his teenage years, although he was already in his thirties.

Thus, Sonia believed Daphne and Charles would make a perfect couple, and they would live a happy life together. However, she had no idea what Charles would think about it, so she reckoned she must sound him out first before making her next move.