

# Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 597

In the below freezing temperature at night, Heather was sleeping in a separate bed as Matthias in a standard room they had booked. Matthias didn't dare to act rashly this time around and maintained a distance from her. She had given him a slight warning during the day, so he knew how far to go.

Because Iceland had an abundance of geothermal energy, the temperature inside the hotel was ideal, and Heather soon fell asleep. On the other hand, Matthias was still unable to fall asleep. Looking at Heather, who was a short distance away, he let out a satisfied smile.

The way she looked while she was asleep looked extremely harmless. She had lost the aggression she normally had, and her sleeping posture was also more carefree.

Occasionally, she would knit her brows together. He didn't know what she was dreaming about, but it didn't seem like a pleasant dream. At the thought of driving in the car with her during the day, and how they even fought over a map, he realized that he liked this feeling that they were not that different from a couple now.

He didn't know how long this would go on for, but he knew that once they returned to the country, they wouldn't be flirting with each other like this anymore. They had work to attend to back home and couldn't do as they pleased like they did in Iceland.

He noticed that, despite having a heavy weight on her mind, she was still all smiles. She was smiling a lot more than when she did in Bradford City, as if being in Bradford City stripped away the most basic part of being human.

Perhaps because Matthias's gaze was too piercing, Heather suddenly opened her eyes in the middle of her sleep, and the two ended up looking at each other. She blinked at him while he smiled awkwardly back at her. Since she had suddenly woken up from her sleep, this scene felt a little horrific.

"Morning." She was befuddled from being in such a deep sleep that she thought it was already morning.

Matthias chuckled. She's too adorable! Earlier, he had been worried about clearing the awkwardness, but her abrupt remark got rid of it in an instant.

"It's 2.00AM," he replied softly. A frown appeared on her forehead as she took a look at the time on her phone.

It's still so early. Closing her eyes again, she decided to go back to sleep. She was in such a daze that she thought it was already 8.00AM or 9.00AM.

He wanted to talk to her a bit more, but she was sound asleep again. I guess she truly tired herself out during the day.

She still looked alert in the Jeep, but as soon as they arrived at the hotel, she became listless. No matter how good her physical condition was, she wouldn't be able to withstand this sort of torment.

As time went on, he wasn't able to stay up any longer either. Yawning, he thought, I should probably go to sleep now. While he was asleep, Heather suddenly opened her eyes and looked in his direction. When she woke up earlier, she had actually lost her desire for sleep.

Now, he was asleep, but she was awake. It wasn't easy trying to fall back to sleep quietly. She remembered that she went to bed at 9.00PM and had slept for five hours before waking up. It was an awkward time, and it was also still nighttime.

When she looked at the time again, it was only 2.30AM. Gripping the phone in her hand, she considered ways to fall back asleep.

She didn't have any entertainment apps on her phone, so it wouldn't be possible for her to play some games even if she wanted to or listen to music.

Since she knew what she needed, she only had business apps and work apps on her phone. At this hour, however, all these apps were useless to her. She didn't want to read the news either.

Being in this foreign country, she wanted to be at her most relaxed state. Putting her phone aside, she knew that Myra wouldn't message her anymore, so the Messenger app had also become meaningless and dull.

She had set a special alert tone for Leon so that in the future, she would see his messages as soon as possible. This honor used to be given to Myra.

I wonder how things are going with Leon back home. I should message him. Opening her Messenger, however, she didn't see any messages from him. It seems like he hasn't found anything yet.

She wasn't in the mood to message him anymore. Even though she wanted to get out of bed, she was worried that it would wake Matthias up, so she continued to stay in bed.

Time was ticking by. She could feel the time slowly pass by, and soon, it was 3.30AM. Finally, she was able to feel slightly sleepy. But when she closed her eyes, the time when Myra scolded her rushed into her mind.

From start to end, she couldn't dismiss it from her mind. She thought about it for a long time, but she still couldn't look past it. Despite telling herself not to think about it anymore, her mind wouldn't listen.

By the time she fell asleep, it was already 4.00AM. This time, both of them slept for a long time. It was already 10.00AM when Matthias woke up, and she was still sound asleep.

He looked at her oddly. She's been sleeping for too long! It's been more than 12 hours. He contemplated whether he should wake her up since it wasn't healthy to sleep for so long.

According to scientific research, people were more susceptible to death from sleeping for too long rather than too little. It was clear that sleeping for too long was harmful to the body.

Getting out of bed, he walked over to Heather and reached out to touch her cheek. The fine and delicate touch made it hard for him to move his hand away. Before he could tell her to wake up, she was awoken by his touch.

Hence, he quickly pulled his hand back, whereupon Heather squinted her eyes like an elegant-looking cat. Seeing the guilty look on his face, she had to hold back her laughter. It looked like he already knew that his action had invaded her personal space.

“Director Locke, I didn’t know you liked doing these subtle acts,” she mocked. He was truly such a handful that it left her at a loss for what to do.

Why didn’t I realize that this was who he was? She didn’t even get to sleep properly. These few days, she had witnessed his clingy side.

“I wanted to wake you up. It’s not good to sleep for too long.” He tried to hide his uneasiness, but she was so forthright that he couldn’t get out of it.

“Well, I must thank you, then,” she said as she got up in bed. Her attitude was extremely bewitching. She had a natural coquettish demeanor that couldn’t be learned.

Because she didn’t need to put on makeup, she also spent a shorter time getting ready. After a simple washing up, they left the room one after the other.

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The air quality in Iceland was good. In comparison to their home country, it didn’t have any smog, so they were able to breathe freely. In Bradford City, smog days were getting more frequent, and the situation was also slowly deteriorating. Bradford City really needed to rectify and reform its environment.

Breathing in the fresh air in Iceland, Heather was in a good mood as she stood side-by-side with Matthias. They left the car behind in the parking lot of the hotel today and decided to walk around neighboring areas.

The northern lights only appeared by chance, so she decided to have zero expectations. Since they were already in Iceland, they should take a good look around.

Currently, she was standing to his right. There were a few times when he wanted to hold her hand, but he gave up in the end. After all, she still minded these things, and he didn’t want to be too presumptuous. Since he had already persisted until now, he didn’t mind waiting a bit longer.

Meanwhile, the weather was still great. They hadn’t seen snow yet since coming to Iceland. Heather liked it when it snowed, so much so that she wouldn’t mind going outside while it was snowing to look at the snowscape.

The sun was shining even brighter today than it was yesterday. After checking the weather report, she was a little disappointed to find that it wasn't going to snow over the next few days.

When the breeze blew past them, the hair on her forehead would get lifted up, and she would lower her head from time to time with her blushed cheeks. It reminded Matthias of the lyrics from a song: 'The gentleness when you lower your head, especially, makes you look like a bashful water lotus unable to overcome the cool wind.'

Heather was beautiful just staying still, and she was shockingly beautiful when she was in action. He liked her appearance. It felt as if God had made her just for him.

"I like this weather, this temperature, and the moist feeling in the air." He tried to find a topic to talk about.

"I'd much prefer to see the snowscape," she said with regret. It was such a shame that it wasn't going to snow this week.

She thought that upon arriving in Iceland, a mountain of ice and snow would await her, but she only felt cold and did not see any snowscapes. It felt like the cold had also disappeared over these few days. The warm weather now was appropriate for the aged.

"Perhaps there's no snow in this city we came to. I looked at the weather report and found out that it is snowing heavily in a nearby city." He had also taken notice. After all, she had already mentioned it, and he was still thinking of a way to win her favor.

"We're not going anywhere else. I want to see the northern lights even more. I can always wait to see snowscapes." She was confident that this city would be covered with a layer of snow sooner or later.

When they arrived at a river basin, she quickened her pace, and he followed closely behind her. There wasn't any ice on the surface of the river. It looked like the fine weather had melted the river.

The both of them walked alongside the river bank. The temperature by the river was slightly lower, and even the wind that blew through felt colder. Taking off his coat, he immediately draped it over her.

She noticed that he was wearing light clothing and wanted to refuse his good intention, but he pressed on her hand. "I'm not cold. You're only wearing a few layers."

Before leaving, Heather didn't put on too many layers of clothing because she didn't like the clothes she bought at the mall yesterday. Even when he urged her to put on more clothes, she didn't want to. The temperature by the river bank now was a few degrees lower, and he didn't want her to catch a cold during this trip.

"You're wearing such light clothing. Don't act tough; I don't want to take care of a sick person," she uttered. She wanted to shake off his hand, but his hand was so strong that she couldn't move under his grasp.

"I'm not that weak." He declined. Being able to withstand cold and heat, he surpassed the average person when it came to physical fitness.

"I'm not that weak either." She didn't like how he saw her as a weak woman. She was nimble. Despite being weaker in strength, her physical condition was a lot better than that of most women.

"If you persist, then we'll go somewhere else." He was very stubborn. Both of them were equally strong-willed.

"Okay." She didn't want to keep arguing with him. Besides, she wasn't the one who was going to be cold.

Thus, she went off with his coat in ease. She looked completely fine on the outside, but Matthias, who did not have a coat on, looked rather underdressed.

"Sometimes when I look at you, I really can't tell that you're a martial artist." She was suddenly changing the subject to something else.

Looking down at her, he said, "I can't tell that you're that nimble either." If he really made a move on her—unless he used one dominating move that would destroy her—she wouldn't necessarily be at a complete disadvantage.

"Do you want to demonstrate?" she suggested all of a sudden while her eyes brightened up like a curious child's.

# Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 598

The crisp sound made from Heather's steps on the permafrost echoed. As she looked into the distance, she couldn't see much on the other side of the river. Since Matthias didn't continue on the conversation, they simply just let it slide.

Rumors had it that he was good at fighting. She was eager to see his prowess in martial arts but she forgot one thing—she was a girl. There was no chance he would ever fight her; even if he did, he wouldn't be using his full strength.

On the other side, Bradford City was in chaos. It was so much more peaceful where he and Heather were. The commotion was mainly caused by the constant attacks from Locke Group toward Hart Group that hadn't ceased, even with Matthias away.

Ever since Locke Group started provoking Hart Group, the two companies could not be in the same city anymore. To make things worse, Tony hadn't gone easy on the Locke Group.

To be frank, Matthias was still more or less affected by the ongoing tension back in Bradford as Nikolai would sometimes send some work-related documents to him. After all, a big company like Locke Group needed a leader, especially now when Hart Group was trying so hard to kick them out of the city. Nonetheless, Matthias didn't regret provoking Tony as the competition between them was inevitable. In fact, Matthias was glad to have a rival!

"People say that those who have witnessed the aurora will be blissful," Heather said with a smile as she recalled the saying. Since young, she hadn't had the luxury to enjoy a blissful life. Because of that, she wanted more. She wanted a life so full that everyone would be jealous of her.

As if she hadn't been tainted by society, her eyes sparkled brightly. Because of that, Matthias tried his best to suppress his urge to pull her into an embrace. "I'll try my best to give you the blissful life you long for," he promised.

Heather took a glance at Matthias as she tried to form a response but to no avail. Many have told her similar things, but would he stay true to his words? Not to mention, feelings weren't forever. They might persist for a year, or two... Perhaps even three or five. And then? Such feelings would slowly fade one day. What mattered most was to cherish the little things in our daily life.

"I always had a thought when I was younger," she blurted suddenly as she recalled the past.

He kept quiet and listened attentively to what she was about to say, fearing that he might miss a word. She continued, "I want to own a castle and be a princess for my whole life."

Upon hearing that, he thought that it was cute that she had such thoughts. Hence, a chuckle escaped his lips. Right that instant, Heather glared at him. "Don't laugh at me."

It seemed like she had misunderstood, so he quickly explained, "I wasn't laughing at you. I just think that you are very cute."

Not only did his explanation not earn him forgiveness from her, the frown on her forehead deepened after she heard what he said. "I don't like being called cute," she said from the bottom of her heart. She didn't like that adjective to the extent that she hated it.

"What I meant was, you were cute when you were young," he hastily explained. It seemed that anything he said now could be wrong.

"I just told you that I don't like the word 'cute'." Heather gave him a cold gaze, she couldn't understand why he kept mentioning the word 'cute'. That was how different the nature of men was from women; even the way they cared as well as their line of thoughts were different.

"Okay," he said helplessly. Needless to say, Heather was a stubborn person; she just had to get her point across even in trivial things such as this.

Taking a step closer to him, she stared brazenly into his eyes and saw a trace of helplessness. It seemed that he had compromised rather forcefully. However, his eyes

changed in a split second. With a gaze, she saw a tender look in his eyes along with a tinge of anxiousness.

“Haven’t you always fought back whenever you don’t agree with me? Why did you surrender this time?” She teased him.

He seemed a little displeased after hearing her mentioning the word ‘surrender’ as it made him sound like he was subservient. Seeing how unhappy he was, she realized she was indeed a little too harsh and rude with him.

“Why won’t you just let me off?” After the fleeting trace of unhappiness, he went back to his normal self again.

“Do you feel bored and aggrieved when you’re with me?” she asked all of a sudden. With her bad temper, it must not be easy for him to stay with her for so long.

“Nevermind, don’t answer that. I don’t want to hear neither the lie nor the truth,” she capriciously added. To be honest, he was dying to roll his eyes at her at that moment.

“You’re so hard to understand.” It was true that he could never predict what stunt she would pull the next second. She wasn’t like the mainstream majority of people; her actions were always unexpected.

Heather didn’t continue the conversation and simply started walking forward without saying a word. Hence, he followed suit. Having gotten used to such antics of hers, he didn’t comment any further.

A hint of warmth lingered in the air. Crouching down by the river, Heather quietly watched the stream of water flow down the river before reaching her hand out. The moment she touched the ice-cold water, her hand trembled a little. Right away, he took her hand and gave it some rubs, hoping that the friction and his own body warmth would get her hand warmed quickly.

“You’re not a kid anymore. Why would you do that?” He chastised her as her actions were inexplicable in his eyes. After coming to Iceland, she had become curious about everything.

Back in Bradford City, she always seemed uninterested in anything and everything which was quite the contrary from how she was overseas. Here, she acted like an oversized kid who was hyperactive, unlike the usual goddess image she kept up with.

"It's nothing serious. Why are you so anxious?" She then pulled her hand out of his, thinking that he was fussing too much over something trivial. As her parents hadn't been so concerned about her, she was touched over the simple gesture of concern from Matthias despite her stubborn way of expressing herself.

At this moment, they seemed to have forgotten about the person who had been tailing them as they simply enjoyed themselves. But the truth is, Matthias had actually gotten his men to tail that person to find out who he was.

Unfortunately, said person was rather good at his job as he still hadn't been able to find the identity of their tail after several days. Though Heather didn't bring it up, she knew what he had secretly arranged.

There were many instances where they purposely avoided bringing matters to the table as it would result in an unfavorable situation. Nonetheless, she had Leon help with the investigation of this mysterious person. No matter where she was, back in Bradford City or overseas, Leon would always lend a helping hand—in this case, to identify the mysterious figure.

"Where do you plan to go tomorrow?" Matthias asked. Though they both stood up, they didn't have a destination in mind.

"To the west." She simply gave a vague answer. "My intuition tells me that we'll see the aurora if we head toward the west," she explained.

After brief contemplation, he nodded before saying, "We'll do that then." Since Iceland wasn't a big country, there wasn't much pressure on planning the itinerary.

With that, they went ahead trailing along the riverside without a specific destination. Once in a while, she would look into the distance. The river might not seem long, but it felt like they had walked a long distance. Throughout the journey, she rested several times. While they were still walking the endless trail, snow suddenly began to shower upon them. Perhaps God had heard her wishes.

Without a sign, snowflakes started landing on their bodies and the crowns of their heads. At once, her eyes lit up like it was Christmas; he too was also surprised. What a weird place.

It felt great to experience the weather in another country. As they continued to walk in the direction where the snow was falling from, snowflakes continued to fall on her face while

the wind was blowing. To be frank, they were a little unprepared for the sudden drop in temperature.

By the time they got back to the hotel, they were covered in patches of snow. Seeing that she had the intention of changing her outfit, he suggested, "Just take a shower!" He thought that a hot shower would be better since she got cold when they were outside.

However, she didn't listen to his words. Putting on a fresh set of clothes, she told Matthias who was outside, "You're the one who should be taking a hot shower."

She recalled how he only wore thin layers when they were outside, so he must be the one who was feeling cold right now. In fact, she was rather thoughtful of him this time. They were like a couple who were very used to each other as they did these day-to-day things. Even they themselves were surprised as to how harmonious they were; they didn't even have to tread carefully and walk on eggshells as they let things happen naturally.

Meanwhile, he simply did as she said as there wasn't any reason in dilly-dallying. After all, he was indeed cold. Back when they were outdoors, he was worried that she'd be cold as she didn't dress in thick layers as she prioritized having on a pretty outfit more, so he had given her his coat while he endured the harsh weather.

After the shower, he put on his pajamas and came out of the bathroom. One thing he had to admit was that she had given her utmost cooperation during this trip. This was because she would definitely refuse to live with someone else based on her personality. In fact, she usually wouldn't even live with her sisters or female relatives, much less with Matthias. For instance, she couldn't accept sharing a bathroom with someone else, yet now she had complied by toning down her obsessive concern with cleanliness.

It was surprisingly odd that she wasn't so bothered by him. Even if Leon was the one in Matthias' place, Heather would feel uncomfortable with that. However, she was actually fine co-living with Matthias. She simply didn't feel that it was weird to do things that she usually wouldn't do with men. In the experience of living with him thus far, she had to admit that it was a good decision to be with him.

As someone who didn't fancy any intimate interaction with other people no matter the gender, she could not understand why she didn't feel the same when it came to Matthias. In fact, she had been trying to figure this out for quite some time now.

Being together with him felt very comfortable as she could be in her own skin as if she was alone. Moreover, he had made it a thing to give her sufficient space to herself. Despite living together, he typically wouldn't bother her much. Having crossed the line on the first night, he now strictly abided by the boundaries he had set to not do anything that would annoy her.

"Matthias, why did you buy a pair of matching couples' pajamas?" As her gaze bounced from his outfit to her own, she voiced out her question as she didn't notice it earlier. Matthias was so sneaky!

"It feels more homey this way." That successfully earned him an eye roll from her. Now that he said it out, no wonder he insisted on staying in an apartment instead of a typical hotel.

"Are you secretly planning something?" A suspicion brewed in her mind. Lately, his actions had been giving her an unexplainable feeling that clouded her vision.