This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 497 - 498

Chapter 497 Rose's Interrogation

"Who's getting engaged?" Toby wasn't at Fuller Group today—he had decided to stay home and rest in the penthouse that he was temporarily staying in. He was dressed in a black pajama set and was resting on the couch by the balcony when he received Zane's call. He had been flipping through a finance magazine, but any calm and peace he felt disappeared once he heard Zane's words, and he frowned.

Zane responded to Toby while staring at the huge television in front of him. "You, of course. You're getting engaged to Lily."

"Why aren't I aware of my own engagement?" Toby's sulked, and the air around him seemed to turn a few degrees colder. What's up with this guy? He isn't just starting rumors about my engagement; he's even matching me with that disgusting woman from yesterday. My taste is way better than that!

When Zane heard what Toby said, he paused for a moment before he calmed himself down to speak. "Toby, are you saying that you're not arranging a marriage with the McRae Family? The engagement is just a false rumor, right?"

"I've never said anything about arranging a marriage with the McRaes, so how could I possibly be engaged?" Toby pursed his lips. "Who told you about this engagement?"

"The Internet," Zane replied. "It's all over the news. All of the websites are claiming that you and Lily are getting engaged. I called to ask you right after I saw an article. I can't believe it's all fake! Sh*t. The media site that started this sure has some guts! How dare they report fake news?" Zane continued rambling about media ethics, and a flash of anger surfaced in Toby's gaze as he narrowed his eyes.

People are spreading false rumors about my engagement with the McRae Family on the Internet, huh? How did false statements like these get onto the Internet? A steely look formed on Toby's handsome face as he ended Zane's call and left the couch to walk to his study. He turned his computer on to search for the news articles related to his engagement.

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A number of articles with similar contents popped up once he ran a search. He scrolled through the titles to find more than ten thousand comments on each of the articles that reported about his engagement with the daughter of the McRae Family. The attention and fame that this piece of news was getting were no less than the top celebrity scandals in the country.

Toby twisted his face into a frown, and he exuded a forbidding aura as he continued scrolling the news. He had never been someone who enjoyed publicity, so he was thoroughly annoyed by all of the comments he saw online. However, he knew that he wouldn't be able to get the situation under control when it was still such a hot topic. All he could do now was wait.

He shut his eyes to suppress the frustration he felt, and he only opened his eyes when he felt slightly calmer. When he clicked on one of the posts, he immediately understood the reason for all the false rumors about his engagement with Lily. There was a picture online that seemed to be taken from an odd angle which made him look as if he were hugging Lily. The image of him giving Lily a 'fond' gaze had been snapped by some paparazzi, and the paparazzi immediately assumed that he was in a relationship with Lily. It seemed like that was how all of the rumors started.

Once Toby figured that out, he quickly noted a few media companies' names. There were still sparks of anger in his eyes as he took his phone over to give Tom a call. However, before he could dial Tom's number, he received an incoming call from Rose.

"I saw some articles about you getting engaged to that girl from the McRae Family, Toby. Is that true?" Rose asked in a stern voice. Before Toby could say anything, Jean's worried voice sounded through the call. "It's false news, isn't it, Toby? You can't get married to someone from the McRae Family. Their family is going downhill, and a union of our families would only—"

Before Jean could finish speaking, she was cut off. Moments later, Rose's voice sounded through the call. "Just ignore your mother, Toby. I want you to be honest to me. What's going on here?"

"It's false news," Toby uttered as he massaged his temples. Rose's expression didn't change on the other end of the call—she looked as stern and strict as she usually did. However, her tight grip on her walking cane loosened a little after she heard what Toby said. "So... You aren't getting engaged to Lily, right?" Even her tone sounded gentler than it did before.

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"Yeah, I'm not." Toby nodded.

"That's good," Rose replied with a smile. I knew it! My precious grandson would never fall for a girl like Lily. The McRaes might not be as sly and cheap as the Grays, but they aren't much better than them. If Toby really decided to get engaged with Lily, I would genuinely suspect that he has some sort of mental issue.

Jean had been listening to the call from beside Rose, and she felt herself relaxing once she heard that Toby had no intentions of getting engaged to the girl from the McRae Family. "That's great," Jean uttered as she patted the spot in her chest where her heart had been pounding. "I'm glad that it's a lie. What could the McRaes do for us if they were to become in-laws with us, right?"

Rose gave Jean a disdainful stare. "Benefiting from others is the only thing you have in your mind, huh? I want you to get out of my sight!" Rose smacked her cane against the ground to make loud clanging sounds. Jean had always been afraid of her mother-in-law, so she shrank back when she saw Rose losing her temper. Before Rose could say anything more, Jean scurried away to avoid her.

Once Jean was gone, Rose shifted her focus back to Toby. "Well, if it's a fake, then how do you explain those pictures? Why were you hugging that girl?"

"The pictures aren't fake, but they aren't real either. Those images were taken from a different angle, so they managed to make us look intimate with each other. However, the truth is that Lily tripped and fell, and she clung to my arm as that happened. I didn't touch her at all." Toby shot an icy glare at the pictures as he spoke.

Rose was rather surprised to hear his explanation, but she quickly nodded. "I see. If it's all false rumors, then you should step forward to clarify it soon. Things won't look good if you take your time to do this. People might start thinking that it's the truth. Furthermore, aren't you trying to go after Sonia? Your chances of success will be lowered if Sonia sees the news."

Toby's facial expression stiffened upon Rose's mention of Sonia. That's right. Sonia. I'm sure she has seen the articles about my engagement by now, right? How did she react to it? Is she unhappy about it? Does she feel uncomfortable because of it? I doubt so. She's probably happy to hear that I'm getting engaged—she's finally able to get rid of me, right?

"Toby? Toby?" Rose shouted into the phone when Toby went silent for a while. "Are you there?" she asked.

Toby came back to his senses before he lowered his gaze and spoke in a rather husky voice. "Yeah. I'm here," he replied.

"Take my advice and clear your name as soon as possible, okay?" Rose repeated herself. "Okay," Toby replied with a nod.

"That's all, then. You should drop by the house tonight. I heard Jean saying that you haven't returned to the Fuller's Residence in nearly two weeks. You've been out so much. You should come over for dinner and a reunion tonight," Rose uttered. Toby agreed to visit before he ended the call and lowered his phone from his ear. He was about to call Tom when he realized that there was a new text on his phone.

It was a text from Tyler, and Toby opened it to find a 20-second-long voice note. Toby couldn't contain his curiosity, so he tapped on the voice note to play Tyler's loud and worried voice. "Sh*t! Sh*t, bro! What's wrong with you? How could you get engaged to Lily just like that? Didn't you say that you liked Sonia? Aren't you supposed to chase after Sonia? Did you change your mind already?"

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Chapter 498 What's Up with the Pictures?

Toby's face darkened upon hearing his brother's words. How could I ever lose feelings for Sonia? That's impossible! I've loved her for more than ten years, and my feelings have never changed. In fact, my feelings for her have only grown stronger over the years. I've never imagined myself losing feelings for her. Toby lowered his head to send a text. 'There's no such thing. It was all a misunderstanding.'

Soon enough, Tyler replied with another voice note. "A misunderstanding? What's going on here, Toby?"

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Toby pressed his lips together tightly as he continued typing. 'Stop asking so many questions. This has nothing to do with you. Just focus on your competitions, okay? You need to return to the country once you're done with your basketball tournament. I have some stuff to tell you.'

"What is it, Toby?" Tyler didn't understand what was going on. This time, Toby no longer replied to his text. Instead, he exited his Messenger application and gave Tom a call.

"President Fuller." Tom picked the call up almost immediately.

With his thin lips pursed, Toby spoke in an icy tone. "You know all about the news online, right?"

"I do. I wanted to call you earlier, but you were on another call," Tom explained.

"I want you to get the public relations department to cool things down for now. Also, I want you to use Fuller Group's official social media account to clarify this matter. After that, I need you to hunt down the paparazzi who took the photos," Toby ordered.

"I got it, President Fuller." Tom nodded. Toby then ended the call and put his phone aside.

It only took about 30 minutes for the hype on the Internet to die down. Many of the news articles about the Fuller and McRae Families were taken down and replaced by other articles. Meanwhile, Fuller Group also made an official statement on their official Facebook page.

This is an official statement regarding the various articles published on 'Entertainment First', 'Scream for Entertainment' and other news websites. The articles claim that our president, Mr. Toby Fuller, is getting engaged soon, but the company hereby announces that such articles are completely false. President Toby Fuller currently has no plans of getting engaged to anyone, so all the articles are nothing but rumors and speculations. We hope that you, as responsible netizens, can stop the spread of these rumors. On top of that, the false articles published by 'Entertainment First' and other websites have caused huge damage to President Toby Fuller's reputation, so our company has already taken legal action against the companies that were involved in this matter. We hope that you guys take note of this announcement.' The post was made along with two photos attached to it—one was a lawyer's letter while the other was a court summon.

Many of the netizens were shocked to see these images online. They immediately understood how severe the matter was—Fuller Group was actually going to court with those media sites. Since the court had already issued the relevant summons, the media sites would have no choice but to deal with things in court.

It only took a short while for this entire incident to spread across the Internet. Soon, everyone found out that legal action was taken against the media sites that had started false rumors about Fuller Group. The media sites that had posted reports about Toby's engagement but had yet to receive a lawyer's letter immediately started deleting all their previous articles. Even some of the netizens who had made comments were deleting their likes and comments on the false posts as they were afraid that they would somehow get involved in this matter.

Just like that, most of the news about Toby's engagement was removed from the net—it was almost as if a huge broom had swept the entire Internet clean of these rumors. Instead, the various media sites began to fill Fuller Group's official account with their lengthy messages to express their apology. Most of these posts were written in a heartfelt and emotional tone. The media sites had no choice—they didn't enjoy making apologies, but they would rather do that than start a fight with the undefeated Fuller Group.

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It was lunchtime at Paradigm Co. when Sonia stepped out from a meeting. Daphne closed her folder and tagged along with Sonia as she spoke. "What would you like for lunch, President Reed? I'll order you some food."

Sonia massaged her sore neck. "I want something bland. I don't feel like eating much."

"Sure. You can rest in your office, and I'll send your meal over in a while." Daphne pulled her phone out to search for deliveries as she spoke.

"Okay," Sonia said with a nod. The delivery arrived 30 minutes later, and Daphne brought the meal over to Sonia's office. Sonia picked the cutleries up and began to eat while scrolling through her phone. Right then, a news article popped up on her screen. She glanced at it for a brief moment before her eyes widened. Toby's engagement was a lie? How is that possible?

In an instant, Sonia sat up straight and placed her cutleries down before she used both her hands to tap on the article headline that she saw. Once she went through the article, she read to understand that the previous engagement articles had been nothing but rumors posted by unreliable media websites. All the posts about the Fullers and McRaes arranging a marriage were nothing but lies, and Toby didn't have plans of getting engaged at all.

The article that Sonia was reading also included a screenshot of Fuller Group's official social media account, which showed their official statement made to clarify the rumors about Toby's engagement. Does that mean that Toby has no intentions of ever getting engaged to Lily? When Sonia realized this, a surge of joy filled her heart. Her heart raced as she quickly left the webpage to visit Fuller Group's official Facebook page. She had to make sure that this was true.

Sonia finally trusted her own eyes when she saw the actual statement on Fuller Group's Facebook page. It was even pinned on the top of their page. It's true. Toby and Lily's engagement was just a false rumor. But the pictures... What's up with those pictures? Sonia bit her lip as she sank into her thoughts for a while. Before she knew what she was doing, she opened her conversation with Toby and sent her question over to him.

However, she only realized what she had done after sending the text. What did I just do? Why did I ask Toby about his picture with Lily? He can take pictures with anyone, and he can pose however he wishes to—does that have anything to do with me? Why do I care so much about all of this? At that thought, Sonia felt herself shuddering. Her fingers flew across her screen as she deleted the text she had just sent to Toby.

However, she didn't feel any less anxious after deleting the message. She wasn't sure if Toby had already seen the message when she first sent it over. How am I supposed to explain myself if he has already seen the message? I can only hope that he didn't check his notifications.

Sonia's heart made loud thumping sounds against her chest, and she couldn't seem to slow her pulse down no matter how much she tried. She continued to stare at her phone screen as she wondered if Toby would text her any time soon. If he replied and responded to her question about the photo, then it would mean that he had read all of her texts. If that happened, Sonia would have to come up with an explanation for the reason she had posed such a question.

However, if his response was one that asked her about the deleted text that she had sent, then it would mean that he hadn't read her messages. In that case, she could just say that she had sent a text to the wrong number.

It often felt like time was stretched whenever one was waiting for something to happen. The uncertainty of the matter only left Sonia uneasier than ever. For five long minutes, Sonia's gaze was fixed on her phone, but she still didn't receive any response from Toby. Her pulse started to slow down as she calmed herself down a little. If he's taking so long to reply, it could mean that his phone isn't with him, right? It would be great if that were the case. It would mean that he hasn't seen my message at all. Even if he sees that I've deleted a message when he checks his phone later, I don't have to worry about it. I can just say that I texted the wrong person by accident.

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On the other side of town, Toby was in his condominium, seated with his long legs crossed on the couch. His mobile phone was in his right hand, which was resting on his knee, and he spun his phone around. His gaze was deep and thoughtful. What did Sonia's text mean? he wondered. He had been looking at all the apologies made online and was about to leave the study when his phone lit up with a new notification. He had immediately opened it when he saw that it was a notification from Sonia.

She had asked him about the photos of him and Lily, which made Toby freeze. He couldn't figure out the reason Sonia would care about those pictures or why she would send him a text just to ask about it. However, adrenaline was pumped into his bloodstream as happiness spread across his chest. My bold assumption is that she's unhappy to see me taking intimate photos with other women. Perhaps she's jealous after seeing those photos, he thought.