This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Novel Chapter 503 - 504

Chapter 503 Are They Together?

Guilt crept into Charles' heart when he realized that Sonia had visited so many places and made so many calls just to get to him. He lowered his head and pouted for a while before he spoke. "I'm sorry, darling. I..."

"Well, tell me—what's going on?" Sonia raised her hand to stop him as she didn't want to hear an apology. Charles' gaze flickered for a moment before he sat back down on the swing and hooked his arms around the metal chains. "It's nothing much," he uttered in a dejected tone. "I just think that I'm a really useless person. I'm a grown man now, but I don't think I'm acting like one. I just wanted to take a stroll because I was troubled by these thoughts."

"Is that all?" Sonia narrowed her gaze. It was evident that she didn't trust his words. Her suspicions made complete sense—Charles had only told her part of the truth, after all. Sonia wanted to understand his abrupt change of emotions, yet he didn't manage to provide her with a direct answer. He merely brushed her question off by saying that he was a useless man.

But... He's not telling me why he feels like a useless man, Sonia thought. This is giving me a headache, but I know that he's not doing it on purpose. He probably has his reasons for talking in circles.

Indeed, Charles avoided her gaze as he let out a casual yawn. "Of course that's all..." His voice grew softer toward the end of his sentence, and he eventually lowered his head and pressed his lips together.

Sonia let out a sigh before she sat down on the swing beside him. She had checked to ensure that the swings were clean, so she wasn't worried about dirtying her clothes. Once

she sat down, she held the metal chains and kicked her feet against the floor to send her swing backward. With her head leaning against the metal chain, she said softly, "This place hasn't changed at all. It's just the way it used to be."

Charles smiled. "Of course. I've spent the last six years taking care of this spot just to ensure that it stays exactly the same. I'm sure some of the facilities here would have been ruined if I hadn't been taking care of it."

"Why did you take such good care of this spot?" Sonia looked at the man beside her.

"Because... This is our secret hideout, and it's a special and meaningful place to us. That's why I felt the need to protect it," Charles let go of the metal chains as he explained himself.

A guilty smile formed on Sonia's lips after she heard what Charles said. "You're right. Well, I don't think I have the right to say that it's special to me. I nearly forgot about this place until today."

Charles looked up at the sky. "I know. You stopped coming here after you got married to Toby, and I've never heard you talk about this place after that. Eventually, I assumed that you had forgotten about this park entirely. It's completely fine—this was our secret hideout when we were kids, but we aren't kids anymore now, are we? We don't need a secret hideout anymore. Anyway, you managed to recall this spot in the end, right?" After finishing his words, he shifted his gaze to look at Sonia.

She giggled. "How often have you been coming here in the past six years? Do you come here a lot?"

"I think so." Charles nodded. "I come here when I'm tired or if I miss someone."

"If you miss someone? Who's that someone?" Sonia asked in an inquisitive tone.

He simply looked at her without saying anything. "Why are you looking at me like that?" she asked puzzledly.

"It's nothing." Charles scoffed at himself before he turned away from her. Charles, Charles... You know how slow Sonia can be when it comes to romantic relationships. If you don't give her a direct explanation, she will never know that you're in love with her—she would never

even consider that possibility! If you think that she'll understand your feelings when you look deep into her eyes, then you must be dreaming! he thought to himself.

Charles was well aware of the situation he was in, and he knew that he was supposed to express his feelings to Sonia in a straightforward manner. However, the words never seem to be able to leave the tip of his tongue. All the fear and anxiety within him stopped him from taking action, and it turned him into a loser. He was destined to lose to Toby.

Both of them lingered around the park for nearly 30 minutes. They had a few brief conversations in between periods of silence, but an awkward atmosphere hung in the air the whole time. Their interactions differed from their usual manner of interacting, and Sonia felt both exasperated and helpless when she realized that she couldn't do anything to change it.

Eventually, the skies turned dark. "It's getting late. Let's go home, Charles," Sonia uttered as she stood up.

Charles took a glance at the skies. "Okay. Let's go." Both of them stepped out of the park to the spot where Sonia had parked her car. When she arrived at her car, she realized that Charles' car was nowhere to be seen. "Where's your ride?" she asked.

"I got my assistant to send me over, and I told him to leave after that, so I don't have a ride," he uttered while shrugging.

The corner of Sonia's lips twitched as she shot him a glare. "Well, get in, then. I'll drive home, and then you can take my car back to your place."

"Let me drive you back." Charles reached out for her keys. Sonia didn't protest and tossed her keys over to him, and he unlocked the car. Beep! Both of them got in, and Charles began to drive toward Bayside Residence. There was some traffic on the way back, so it took nearly two hours for them to arrive at Sonia's place. It was 9.00PM by the time they got there.

Charles stopped the car by the side of the road, and Sonia walked toward her condominium after she got out and waved goodbye. As Charles stared at her figure, he tightened his grip on the steering wheel. He seemed as if he was trying to get his emotions under control. After a few seconds, he loosened his grip and took a deep breath before he flung the car door open and ran toward the woman.

He sprinted over to Sonia, so it only took him a few steps to reach her. Sonia could sense someone coming close to her, and she was just about to turn around when she felt someone grabbing her arm. Right after that, she felt her wrist being tugged hard. Her body was forced to turn in the direction of the tug, and she tripped on her own feet before falling into a soft and warm embrace.

It's Charles! Sonia couldn't comprehend the meaning of Charles' actions, but she stayed still and allowed him to wrap his arms tightly around her. He had hugged her a little too tightly, so Sonia's arms began to ache after a while. She finally returned to her senses before pushing him away gently. "Can you let go of me now, Charles?"

It seemed as if Charles hadn't heard her voice at all—he continued to hug her without loosening his grip. Right then, Sonia noticed that his body was shaking. She stopped trying to wriggle out of his arms, and she lifted a hand to pat his back instead. "What is it, Charles?" Charles remained silent as he buried his head into her shoulder.

Meanwhile, Toby lowered the window of his Mercedes-Benz to fix his cold glare on the man and woman who were tangled up in a tight hug. A dark shadow loomed over his face as he tightened his grip on the delicate gift box that he had prepared. The gift box was made of cardboard, but its original shape was no longer visible under Toby's powerful grip—the distorted box was a reflection of the uneasiness and rage in Toby's heart.

Tom was seated in the driver's seat, and he could see Toby's sour expression in the rearview mirror. A bitter smile spread across Tom's face when he sensed the threatening aura that surrounded Toby's figure. Gosh. I hadn't expected President Fuller and me to witness such an awful scene. President Fuller spent his whole afternoon trying to make a decision, and he finally decided that he would come here to meet Miss Reed and fix things with her. We've waited for nearly four hours just for her to come home. I can't believe she showed up with Charles! It's fine if Charles just happened to be with her, but I can't believe they're hugging each other. This looks like more than just a friendly hug. Both of them are hugging each other so tightly, and they've been hugging for a while now. She's patting his back, and he's burying his head into her shoulder. This looks like the sort of hug that couples would give each other! Did the both of them get together? Tom immediately spun around to look at his boss once that question popped into his head.

Toby lowered his gaze to conceal the blistering storm of rage in his eyes. He rolled the window up and threw the gift box on the empty seat beside him before he shut his eyes. "Drive."

"Where should I go, President Fuller?" Tom asked.

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Chapter 504 It's Melody Again

"Home," Toby said icily. Tom raised an eyebrow upon hearing his boss. "Home? Aren't you going to pass Miss Reed the evening gown?"

"Does she look like she needs an evening gown right now?" Half of Toby's face was covered by a shadow as he glanced out the window. Tom didn't have anything to say in response. He's right. Miss Reed is busy being intimate with Charles right now—it'd be odd for President Fuller and me to go to her. In the end, Tom started driving without saying anything else.

Toby remained silent throughout the ride. There was a gloomy aura surrounding his figure, and it seemed to spread out across the entire vehicle. Tom couldn't handle the heavy atmosphere in the car, and he loosened his necktie as he cleared his throat. "Were you really affected by Miss Reed and Mr. Lane's actions earlier, President Fuller?" he asked.

Toby narrowed his eyes. Of course I'm affected by their actions. Would anyone enjoy seeing their lover in another person's arms? When Tom realized that Toby hadn't responded to his question, he fixed his glasses before he continued talking. "Well, then... What are you planning to do if Miss Reed and Mr. Lane get together?"

A look of confusion flashed across Toby's face as he thought about Tom's question. What would I do if they got together? I've never considered this question. If this had happened before today, I would have come to terms with the truth. I would have accepted their relationship even if I knew that I would suffer for the rest of my life. All of this would've been possible if I didn't have the desire to continue living. If I'm gone, I'd want Sonia to live a happy life—she's going to be around a much longer time, after all.

But now that I've found the will to live, I can no longer have Sonia dating another man. Yet, if she does end up with another man, I can't stop them or ruin their relationship. She'd hate me if I did that to her. Tom's right—I really don't know what to do now. I can't allow her to be with someone else, yet I can't ruin her relationship with another guy. I'm stuck in limbo—I can't let go of her, but I can't do anything to change her mind. This is so agonizing!

Tom let out a huge sigh when Toby didn't respond to him. After working with Toby for 12 years as his assistant, Tom was the one person—apart from Rose—who knew Toby the best. After taking a glance at Toby's expression, Tom quickly figured out what Toby was thinking about. It looks like I should start investigating Miss Reed and Charles' relationship. If they're really together, then I'm afraid President Fuller might lose his will to live once more. It'd be great news if they weren't actually dating.

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Meanwhile, on the ground floor of Bayside Residence, Charles continued hugging Sonia for a long while. A few passersby stole glances at them, and some passersby naturally assumed that they were a couple. "How sweet!" someone exclaimed. "They seem like a really loving couple," another one commented. Sonia's ears were burning with embarrassment when she heard such words.

She was worried that the misunderstanding would get out of hand, so she eventually pushed Charles away. The sudden force took him aback, and he stumbled backward before steadying himself. A mixture of emotions filled his gaze as he looked at the woman in front of him.

"What's the matter, Charles?" Sonia tilted her head sideways.

Charles parted his lips as if he were about to speak, but no words came out of his mouth in the end. He merely shook his head before giving her a bitter smile. "It's nothing. It's late now. You should go home and get some rest."

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"Are you really fine?" Sonia clearly didn't believe him. Charles had been acting weird the entire day, and Sonia was worried about him.

He gave her a reassuring nod. "I'm fine. Hurry up and go home." He waved goodbye.

Sonia let out a helpless sigh—she knew that Charles wasn't going to tell her the truth. "Okay. I'll go home now. You should head home too. Tell me when you're back, okay?"

"Okay." Charles nodded. Then, Sonia clutched her bag and turned around to walk toward the entrance of her condominium. Charles stood in his spot and watched as her figure gradually disappeared in the dark. He remained standing even after she was long gone, and he eventually reached into his pocket to pull out a box of cigarettes. After lighting a cigarette, he took a long drag before spitting the thick, white smoke out into the dark sky. The clumps of smoke covered his face, making it hard for anyone to read his expression.

Initially, Charles planned to confess to her tonight. He wanted to come clean with her before she realized that she was in love with Toby again. Perhaps she would agree to date me since we've been friends for so many years, he had thought. That was what made him run out of the car to hug her.

However, he was defeated by his own fears in the end. He simply didn't dare to confess to her. I'm afraid. What if she rejects me and tells me that she doesn't like me? Does that mean that we won't even be friends anymore? The moment I confess to her, our relationship will never be the same again. We'll never have the pure friendship that we have now—she'll feel guilty for rejecting me, and she might even avoid me in the future. If that goes on, then our friendship will gradually fade off... I don't want us to end up like that, so I'd rather keep quiet than tell her the truth.

Charles flicked his cigarette onto the ground as he let out a scoff. I think I'm the most useless man in this world. I'm afraid of everything, and I overthink every single scenario. That's why I'm such a failure! That night, all three of them—Toby, Charles, and Sonia—couldn't seem to sleep well. Each of them had their own worries.

The next morning, Sonia arrived at Paradigm Co. feeling more exhausted than ever. She felt like her soul had been sucked out of her body, and she couldn't stop yawning as she sat in her office. When Daphne entered to collect some documents, she quickly realized the eyebags under Sonia's eyes. "Did you not get enough rest last night, President Reed?" Daphne asked in a concerned tone.

Sonia lifted her coffee cup as she gave Daphne a faint smile. "I guess," Sonia muttered.

"Do you want to get some rest in the lounge area? There isn't much to do in the office today," Daphne uttered.

Sonia shook her head. "It's fine. I have some errands to run—I need to buy an evening gown at the mall."

"An evening gown?" Daphne raised her eyebrow. "Are you attending a party, President Reed?"

"Yeah. It's Grandma's 80th birthday," Sonia replied with a nod. Upon hearing Sonia's words, Daphne recalled that Rose's birthday was coming up.

"You can cancel all of my schedules for today afternoon—none of them are important, anyway. If you have any documents that you need me to sign, you can leave them in the office. You can deal with the rest of the paperwork." Sonia lowered her coffee cup as she handed out her orders.

"Okay, President Reed. I'll excuse myself now," Daphne said as she gave Sonia a polite nod.

"Sure," Sonia replied. Daphne leaned over to carry all the documents that she had to handle before she turned and left the room.

After Sonia had lunch, she stepped out of Paradigm Co. and headed to the mall nearby. She wanted to purchase an evening gown that would go well with the accessories that Rose had gifted her. While Sonia was browsing through evening gowns in front of a rack, she heard the clicking sound of high heels approaching her. She assumed that it was another customer, so she didn't turn to look at all.

However, the sound got closer and closer to her, and a large figure eventually stopped right beside her. The figure reached an arm out to touch some of the evening gowns that hung on the rack in front of Sonia.

"It's been a while, Sonia." The figure initiated a conversation with Sonia, and she even knew Sonia's name. This caught Sonia by surprise. What a familiar voice! I feel like I've heard this voice somewhere, but I can't recall where. Sonia immediately let go of the evening gown that she had been holding before she turned to look at the person beside her.

Shock flashed in Sonia's gaze when her eyes landed on the familiar face of a person that she had some history with. However, Sonia quickly concealed the emotions on her face as she responded with a polite greeting. "Hello, Miss Stryder."

Melody lowered the evening gown she had been holding and turned to face Sonia. "You must be surprised to see me here, huh?"