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Chapter 509 Toby's Gift

Rose stared at Toby confusedly. "What is it?"

Toby didn't respond to her question. "Her dress is stained. I'll bring her to change into a new evening gown," he said instead. Rose then realized the damp stain that was making Sonia's dress stick to her skin. "You're right," Rose said while nodding. "Go on and get changed. You don't want to catch a cold."

"Come on." Toby gave Sonia a nod. Sonia didn't reject his offer and simply tagged along behind him. She did wish to get changed as the damp dress wasn't just cold against her skin; it also felt sticky and reeked of alcohol, which made her feel uncomfortable.

Both of them walked toward the lounge. Zane didn't go after them, but stood in his spot with his wine glass in his hand as he watched the tall man and the petite woman walking next to each other. A rather glum expression formed on Zane's face as he realized how they seemed like a perfect match. I'm sure Sonia has caught feelings for Toby again! But it doesn't look like she's aware of it yet. Well, it looks like I won the bet. But why don't I feel happy at all?

Once they got to the lounge, Toby opened the door to let Sonia in. "You can go in and take a shower. I'll bring the evening gown over."

"Alright. Thanks," Sonia uttered before giving him a polite smile.

"Don't worry about it," he replied before turning and walking off. Sonia watched him disappear from the walkway once he turned a corner before she entered the lounge and shut the door behind her. Then, she took a shower in the washroom to get rid of the alcohol stench on her body.

Toby returned while she was still showering. The moment he let himself into the lounge, he heard the sound of running water coming from the washroom. He could see a blurry shadow of Sonia's curvy figure when he glanced at the washroom's frosted glass door. He

could tell that she was showering from the way she moved, and his gaze darkened as he gulped. "I brought you your evening gown, Sonia," he croaked in a deep voice.

Sonia wasn't aware of the fact that Toby could see her figure, and she continued showering while she responded to him. "Sure. Just leave it outside the washroom."

"Okay. I'll go out now." Toby placed the gift box on the couch before he walked out of the lounge. He no longer looked in the direction of the washroom as one glance was already enough to make his entire body burn with desire. Toby was like any regular man—his body couldn't remain calm when he saw his lover showering behind a frosted glass door.

If Toby didn't walk out, and if he took another look in the direction of the washroom, he wasn't sure what he might end up doing. So, he let himself out of the lounge.

About ten minutes later, Sonia turned the water off and wrapped herself in a towel before she got out of the washroom. The lounge was empty, and Sonia didn't know where Toby had left the dress, so she looked around for her new outfit. Finally, she noticed a delicately-wrapped gift box on the couch. She was certain that the gift box hadn't been there when she entered the room earlier. Is this the new outfit that Toby brought over for me?

She walked over to get a better look at the box. There was no logo on the box, so she couldn't tell the outfit's brand. However, the packaging of the box told her that it had to contain an evening gown within it. Sonia bent down to open the box. Inside, she found a black, spaghetti-strapped evening gown that was made of silk. The smooth fabric reflected the light in the room, and the dress itself shone like a constellation of stars in the night sky.

Sonia took the gorgeous dress out only to realize that it was exactly her size. It's impossible for Toby to have gotten someone to buy a dress within such a short period of time. Does that mean he already bought this a long time ago? But why did he get me an evening gown? I doubt he knew that Jean was going to bump into me. That means that this dress...

"A-choo!" Sonia shuddered and let out a sneeze that disrupted her thought process. After that, she hastily got changed before walking out. The moment she opened the door to head out of the lounge, she was greeted by the heavy smell of cigarette smoke. She frowned and turned to find Toby leaning against the wall while smoking a cigarette. The smoke covered his face, making it hard for Sonia to read his expression.

He looked like he was thinking as he stood extremely still with his gaze fixed on the ground. When Sonia shut the door behind her, he heard it and looked up immediately. "Are you done?" he asked as he turned to Sonia.

"Mhmm," she mumbled. "You're not fully recovered yet. Why are you smoking?" she uttered in a rather critical tone.

"I'm just thinking about some stuff," he said as he walked over to her.

She looked down at the burning cigarette between his fingers before she reached over to snatch it away from him. Then, she walked to the side of the corridor and put the cigarette out while grumbling, "You don't need to smoke while thinking about stuff. Don't you care about your own health?"

Toby let out a soft chuckle when he realized how she was nagging him as a wife would do to her husband. His laughter was pleasant to the ear—it came from deep within his chest.

Sonia felt her ears burning when she heard his attractive laugh. "Why are you laughing?"

"It's nothing. I'm just happy," he uttered while staring at her fondly.

She froze for a moment before responding in a stiff voice, "What's there to be happy about?"

Toby didn't answer her and simply gazed at her in her new outfit. "You look really beautiful in this dress," he commented while casting a surprised glance at her. Toby was the one who had picked this evening gown.

The designer had sent tons of designs over to him, but this particular evening gown had caught his eye immediately. He could picture Sonia wearing it from the first time he saw it, and his imagination was spot on.

Sonia lowered her head upon hearing Toby's praise, her ears the color of a tomato. "Well... Thanks, I guess. I think it's the evening gown that's pretty, not me. By the way, when did you have this gown prepared?"

"A long time ago," he replied truthfully.

"A long time ago? What? Why?" Sonia was surprised.

"Because I want to give you the best," he said.

Her lips trembled when she heard this. He wanted to give me the best, so he prepared this evening gown for me. If that's the case, then why did he let me go? Why did he tell me not to show up in front of him after that? Sonia glanced at Toby's attractive yet thin face. Her eyes turned red as she fought the urge to ask him the questions in her mind. In the end, she managed to stop herself from asking anything.

Instead, she hung her head low and clutched her dress. "You can send me the receipt for this dress after the party. I'll pay you back."

Toby's expression darkened at once. He was clearly annoyed at the fact that Sonia was being so calculative with him. It's almost like she's terrified of being indebted to me. In the end, Toby suppressed the anger he felt as he knew that he had no right to be angry at her. I'm the reason she's keeping her distance from me. I'm the one who pushed her away.

"We can talk about that some other day. Let's go back for now. I'll introduce you to a few guys who might be helpful in Paradigm Co.'s future development," Toby uttered as he held his arm up beside her. She took a glance at it before she hooked her arm around his. "Thank you."

Sonia couldn't find it in her to reject Toby—she knew that she needed him in order to build connections with other well-known business partners. If she had approached those big shots on her own, they wouldn't have taken a second glance at her.

Toby brought Sonia back to the grand hall, and he walked over to greet a few well-known people after checking on Rose. Rose was sitting on the couch at the side of the hall, happily gazing at Sonia and Toby. Right then, Mary brought Rose some food, only to realize that Rose couldn't seem to stop smiling. "Why are you smiling, Old Mrs. Fuller?" Mary asked.

"Because of Sonia and Toby, of course! Did you realize that Sonia has changed her attitude toward Toby?" Rose pointed in Sonia's direction as she spoke.

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Chapter 510 What Else Did He Do for Me?

Mary smiled and nodded when she understood what Rose meant. "You're right. I noticed that Young Mistress's attitude toward Young Master Toby has changed. She was so worried about him getting injured earlier, which reminded me of how she was like when she first entered the Fuller Family. Wasn't that how she treated him back then? Old Mrs. Fuller, are you saying that... Perhaps Young Mistress's feelings for Young Master Toby are..."

"That's right. That's what I meant. I'm not sure if something happened between Sonia and Toby recently, but I'm sure that Sonia has caught feelings for Toby once more," Rose uttered.

"That's great, right?" Mary clapped her hands excitedly. "It seems like they're really going to get back together!"

"Yeah, it is great. In fact, it's the best birthday present I received tonight. But I wonder why Toby won't allow me to point out that Sonia has fallen for him," Rose muttered puzzledly.

Mary smiled. "Well, you can just ask him about that later, right?"

"That's true." Rose nodded. She kept smiling, but after a while, she seemed to realize something and a stern and cold look replaced her smile. "Now that things are looking good for Sonia and Toby, I'm not going to have anyone ruining their relationship. Jean has always disliked Sonia. If we don't put her in her place, she will continue targeting Sonia once Sonia comes back."

"You're right," Mary agreed with a sigh. "I don't understand why Madam White hates Young Mistress so much. She has always thought that Young Mistress wasn't a good match for Young Master Toby. However, if she really thinks about it, she's way below Young Mistress in terms of her family background, looks, talent, and personality, and she still got to marry Mr. Fuller. You've never caused her any trouble even though you didn't fancy her, yet she... Ah..."

Rose scoffed upon hearing this. "I was too kind six years ago. Sonia didn't want me to do anything to Jean, so I held back for the sake of Sonia. Yet, Jean only ended up bullying Sonia even more than before, and Sonia got a divorce after that! I already made a mistake once, so I'm not about to make the same mistake again. Jean will never be able to bully Sonia again! Come on. Let's go give Jean a reminder."

"Okay." Mary took Rose's plate and put it aside before she helped Rose to her feet. They walked out of the hall.

Meanwhile, Toby had already introduced Sonia to most of the well-known figures at the party. After walking around the whole place, Sonia had received a stack of name cards, and two of the big shots even stated that they wanted to pay Paradigm Co. a visit the next day. If they were interested in Paradigm Co.'s production and operation methods, they would agree to partner with the company.

Although Sonia had hoped to get more potential partnerships, she was already glad that there were two companies who made such an offer. "Are you happy?" Toby asked in a sweet voice when he saw Sonia grinning beside him.

"Of course!" She nodded excitedly as she wrapped her arms around his and leaned closer into him. "I'm really glad that Paradigm Co.'s finally getting some new partners. I really hope that I'll be able to bring the company back to its glory days. Perhaps I can turn the business into something bigger than before! Dad would be so glad to see it if he's watching from above," she said happily.

Toby's eyes glinted, but he felt a mixture of emotions when he heard her. "Yeah. Your Dad will be really happy."

"Thank you." Sonia slipped her arms out of his as she began to walk off. "I'm going to the washroom."

"Go on," Toby nodded. Sonia walked over to use the washroom. When Sonia came out of the cubicle to wash her hands by the basin, a familiar figure passed by her. Sonia saw the figure in the mirror, and Sonia turned around at once when she recognized her. "Wanda?"

Wanda had been walking toward one of the cubicles, so she hadn't paid any attention to the person standing by the basin. When she heard someone calling her name, Wanda stopped and turned to lock eyes with Sonia. In an instant, Wanda froze before she covered her face with her hands and turned to face her back against Sonia. "You got the wrong person, Miss. I'm not Wanda," she muttered in a shaky voice.

Sonia chuckled to herself. The wrong person? That can't be the wrong person. I didn't know how Wanda looked when I lost my vision, but I found pictures of Wanda once my eyes were healed. I wanted to see what the caregiver who took care of me looked like. This woman's face looks exactly like the one I saw in the pictures, so how could she be the wrong person? Furthermore, she looks like she has something to hide right now. Doesn't that make things even more obvious?

"Alright, Wanda. Stop faking it. Why don't we be honest with each other? What are you doing here? It's impossible for the Fuller Family to hire external workers to manage the party tonight since most of the guests are really important figures. They can't ensure the quality of work provided by external workers, so all of the staff today are people who have been with the Fuller Family for a long time. Wanda, you're not a caregiver who works for some home services agency, are you? Have you always been working for the Fullers?" Sonia glared at her.

Wanda parted her lips, ready to defend herself. However, when she saw the sharp look in Sonia's eyes, she gave in and decided to admit the truth. "You're so smart, Miss Reed," Wanda uttered while nodding and smiling. "You're right that I'm not from a home services agency. I've always worked as a maid in the Fuller Family. However, I used to work in the backyard of the old manor, so you've never seen me around while you were there."

"I see." Sonia nodded thoughtfully. She straightened her back when she seemed to realize something else. "Hold on. You said that you've always been working in the old manor. Does that mean that Grandma was the one who got you to be my caregiver? No, no; Grandma couldn't have known about my eyes. Otherwise, she would've asked me about it. So, it was Toby..."

Wanda responded with a soft smile. "That's right, Miss Reed. Young Master Toby was the one who sent me over as he didn't want just any staff from the home services agency to look after you. He was worried that the nannies there wouldn't take good care of you, and he was afraid that Titus and his family might pay one of the nannies to bring harm to you. That was why he wanted me to take care of you," she explained.

Sonia couldn't understand what she felt when she heard Wanda's words. It was a mixture of bitterness and sweetness. It's Toby again. How much did he do for me? Did he do other things for me too? Are there things that I still don't know about? "Why didn't he just tell me about it then?" Sonia lowered her gaze as she spoke in a meek voice.

Despite her soft tone, Wanda could still hear her. "Young Master Toby was afraid that you would chase me out if you knew that he had sent me over," Wanda said with a smile. "That was why he hid it from you. Young Master Toby really loves you, Miss Reed."

Sonia bit her lip. "If he loves me, then why did he let... let..." Sonia couldn't finish her words in the end.

Wanda gazed at the other woman confusedly. "Let what, Miss Reed?"

"It's nothing." Sonia waved her hand, gesturing Wanda to forget about it. "Thank you for sharing all of this, Wanda. I'll return to the hall now. I'll make sure to thank Toby."

"It's no worries at all. Go on, Miss Reed. The dance is about to start soon," Wanda reminded.

"Okay." Sonia nodded and picked up her purse from beside the basin before she walked out of the washroom. On her way back to the hall, she took her own sweet time to walk as she was trying to calm herself down. If I didn't bump into Wanda, I might have never known that Toby did such a thing for me. I have to clarify things with him. I want to know if he did other things for me. I don't even know how much I owe him at this point. If this goes on, I'll be indebted to him forever.