This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 551 - 555

A cold smirk appeared on Sonia's face. "I'll pass!" "What?" Taylor's face froze as Sonia coldly looked at her and explained, "I will never work together with you. You should leave."

"Why?" A confused Taylor leaned forward. "Tina is your nemesis and she'll definitely try to get her revenge on you. Us working together will definitely make it easier to subdue her."

"You're not wrong. Still, that doesn't mean that I have to work together with you." Sonia burst into laughter. "Do you really think that you're powerful? Well, I won't agree to it even if you are. Don't forget that you had already betrayed me once. Do you really think that I'll trust you again?"

Now that Taylor was taken aback, her expression darkened.

She knew that she had lost Sonia's trust after she had previously betrayed Sonia. However, she really wanted to work together with Sonia this time because looking for Tina alone really was an arduous task.

Sonia is right. I'm not powerful and I'm not stinky rich either, so I can only work with others to find Tina. On the other hand, Tina's target is Sonia, whom she has loathed her entire life.

Despite that, Sonia refused to work with Taylor.

"Miss Reed, I'm really sorry for what previously happened. Still, that's an entirely separate matter, which we can set aside for a future discussion. It's imperative that we find Tina as soon as possible. None of us will be able to live in peace with Tina at large, so—"

"You may stop talking now." Sonia raised her hand and impatiently interrupted, "My answer still remains the same. I won't work together with you, but you don't have to worry because I'll find Tina myself. The person whom I'm waiting for is here and you're taking up her seat, so you should leave now. Don't make me ask the waitress to send you out if you still refuse to leave!"

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"You-" Taylor glared at Sonia with a dark look.

Then, an annoyed Sonia snapped, "Leave!"

"Hmph! You'll regret this!" Despite not being able to accept Sonia's harsh rejection, Taylor suppressed her urge to throw a tantrum and rose in a fit of rage before leaving with her purse.

When she arrived at the cafe's entrance, she almost ran into Grace as well.

Grace had fortunately reacted in the nick of time and moved aside, therefore successfully avoided from being knocked to the ground by Taylor.

When she noticed how Taylor didn't even notice that she almost ran into another person in her hurry to leave, Grace frowned before a disdainful look appeared on her face.

"Mrs. Lane." Sonia waved at Grace. "Over here."

When Grace heard Sonia, her disdain disappeared before she turned around with a smile to head to where Sonia was. "Sonny, I'm sorry for making you wait for me. I was caught up in a traffic congestion on my way here."

"That's alright. I just arrived as well." Sonia rose to help Grace pull her chair out, after which she patted the back of Sonia's hand in a friendly manner before sitting down.

Then, Sonia returned to her seat before pushing a cup of coffee toward Grace. "Mrs. Lane, I've ordered your favorite iced Blue Mountain coffee for you."

"Thank you, Sonny." Grace happily took a sip of her coffee.

Sonia took the coffee stirrer and started to stir her own coffee.

At this moment, Grace asked, "By the way, Sonny, who was the girl that went out earlier? I saw you guys talking to each other when I got out of my car. Do you know her?"

Sonia nodded. "I guess you can say so. She's the missing eldest daughter of Mr. Gray and his wife and they have finally found her."

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"Eldest daughter?" Grace had a look of realization on her face. "As expected from the daughter of Titus and his wife, huh? What an impolite person."

Sonia nodded in agreement.

"Alright. Let's not talk about her anymore and cut to the chase. Sonny, do you know why I have asked you out?" Grace placed her cup down and looked at Sonia.

It was at the same moment when Sonia stopped stirring her coffee as well. "I'm guessing that it's because of Charles?"

It was Grace's turn to nod. "That's right. Charles has been acting weird for the past few days and he was drunk when he returned home two days ago."

"He drank?!" Sonia's volume increased in shock.

At the same time, Grace hummed in acknowledgement. "Yeah, he drank a lot. He was still drunk when he returned home. He even tripped on the stairs while he headed upstairs."

"Is he alright now?" an anxious Sonia asked.

Grace nodded her head. "Don't worry, Charles is fine. Other than bumping his head into the wall, he's rather okay."

"I see..." Sonia felt guilty as she pursed her lips in response to what she had heard.

She never expected Charles to react in such a manner to the discussion that they had the other day and he even resorted to making himself drunk.

"Sonny." Grace glanced at Sonia before she continued, "Did you know that Charles is in love with you?"

As Sonia bit on her lip, she quietly mumbled an acknowledgement. "Yes, I could already guess it from what Charles said two days ago."

"Did he scare you?" Grace chuckled.

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After Sonia lowered her gaze, she responded, "Indeed, I was shocked by his words. I had been treating Charles as a friend all along and we've been friends for such a long time, even though the way he addresses me is somewhat inappropriate. Still, I never imagined Charles to harbor that kind of feelings toward me."

"Yeah. I've seen how you two have interacted with each other as well. If it weren't for Charles' drunk confession on the night of your wedding six years ago, even I, as his mother, wouldn't have noticed that he had feelings for you. That kid is extremely excellent at hiding his own feelings," Grace explained before she took a sip of her coffee.

"Six years ago?" Sonia was stunned. "Charles has been in love with me for six years?!"

"Nope." Grace shook her head. "He was already head over heels for you ever since you guys were teenagers."

Sonia's mouth was agape. Teenagers? That's when we were still in our late teens! Doesn't that mean that Charles has been in love with me for more than ten years?!

At that moment, she couldn't explain the mixture of emotions that coursed through her body.

Despite being shocked, touched and guilty at the same time, she wasn't moved at all because she wasn't able to reciprocate Charles' love for her.

Although she was touched by the fact that he had been in love with her for more than ten years, it didn't mean that she would fall for him because of this reason.

In the meantime, Grace was observing Sonia's reaction.

She had intentionally informed Sonia about how long Charles had been in love with Sonia to gauge whether his efforts would move Sonia.

Nevertheless, it seemed like Grace's expectation was futile.

"Sonny, have you rejected him?" she asked.

Sonia nodded again. "I suppose so. Charles has never confessed to me and I could only sense that he's in love with me from his words, so I didn't reject him in a straightforward manner. All I could do was use other ways to convince him that a romantic relationship between us is impossible and hope that he'll let me go and search for someone suitable for him instead."

"That's why Charles suddenly went to have a drink." Grace felt her head hurting as she sighed.

As a result, Sonia quickly placed her cup of coffee on the table and apologized, "I'm sorry, Mrs. Lane. I didn't mean to hurt Charles like this..."

However, Grace smiled. "You don't have to apologize. I don't blame you for not liking Charles. Moreover, you told him the truth as well. You didn't do anything wrong, nor did you hurt him. Charles is the only one at fault here since he's unable to handle the rejection and endure it psychologically."

It was true that she thought Sonia did the right thing.

It was better to reject someone whom you didn't love instead of leading them on with vague answers for the fear of making the other person sad.

After all, if things had spiraled out of control in the end, it would only hurt Charles even more.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 552

Chapter 552 The Plane Ticket Abroad

Upon hearing Grace's understanding and emphatic voice, Sonia felt the warmth of her words. "Thank you for not blaming me, Mrs. Lane."

"What is there to thank me about? You're not wrong after all." Grace took a sip of her coffee again. "In fact, all of this is because of me and my husband."

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"Huh?" Sonia was taken aback as she didn't understand what Grace meant.

Grace massaged her temples. "Charles' father and I were extremely strict on Charles as a child. We never allowed him to make any decisions for himself, which is why Charles has always lacked the courage to actually do something despite it being related to relationship or work."

As she spoke, she took another sip of her coffee before sighing. "I was actually thinking, if Charles' father and I had loosened up a little on him back then and allowed him to make his own decisions, Charles would have been able to summon the courage to confess to you after learning that he has feelings toward you."

Sonia pursed her lips and remained quiet while Grace looked at her. "Answer me honestly, Sonny. Would you have been with Charles if he had confessed to you back then?"

After being stunned by Grace's question, it took Sonia a while to return to her senses before she responded, "I don't know. All I can say is that if Charles had confessed to me before I met Toby, maybe I would have dated him instead."

After all, Charles and her weren't the best of friends in the past, so it was possible for her to have developed romantic feelings for him.

Upon hearing Sonia's answer, Grace shook her head in regret and pity. "As expected, my little boy has really missed his opportunity, huh?"

Just like what Sonia had said, if Charles had confessed to her back then, there was a possibility that they would have dated each other.

However, courage was something he lacked during that time.

"I understand now." Grace gave a bitter smile. "So, there's really no chance between you and Charles, is that so?"

Sonia nodded before she hummed in acknowledgement. "Sorry, Mrs. Lane. I really don't have that kind of feeling toward Charles."

"It's alright; I get it." Grace started to stir her coffee again. "Actually, the reason why I invited you out today is to ask you whether there's any chance between you and Charles. All I want is to actually get a precise answer from you. If there is a possibility, I will go all out as Charles' mother and beg for you to give him a chance. However, if it's impossible, then I will persuade Charles to forgo his feelings since I know that it'll be a pressure for you."

"Thank you, Mrs. Lane..." Sonia felt her eyes welling up in tears as she was really moved.

Nevertheless, Grace gently patted the back of Sonia's hand. "You don't have to thank me for this. I'm doing this mainly for Charles after all. If you don't like him and I force you two to be together, Charles won't be happy either way, so it's better if I persuade him to let you go."

"You're right." Sonia nodded.

Then, the two of them ended up talking for about an hour in the cafe before Grace received a call from her friend to invite her to go to the spa. It was only at that point when Grace bid Sonia farewell and left the café.

Sonia walked Grace out to the sidewalk and only went back to the cafe to pick up the tab after Grace entered her car.

After settling the bills, Sonia prepared to head back as well when she received a call from Toby moments after she left the cafe.

"Hello, President Fuller," she greeted while walking to her car.

In the meantime, Toby frowned when he heard how Sonia had addressed him. The way she addresses me makes us sound like we're strangers. I need to find an opportunity to change that.

"I heard from the bodyguards that you met up with Grace Huntington?" He stood by the windowsill in his office and asked as he stared at the bustling city in front of him.

When Sonia heard him, she furrowed her eyebrows. "President Fuller, are those two bodyguards of yours still monitoring me?"

When he sensed the displeasure in Sonia's voice, Toby quickly returned to his senses as he realized that she had misunderstood him before he opened his mouth to explain, "I didn't get them to monitor you and they won't report everything unless by not doing so puts your safety at risk."

"My safety?" She opened the door to the driver's seat to enter the car and thereafter closed it. Then, she asked in a displeased manner, "How does me meeting Mrs. Lane risks my safety?"

"Have you forgotten about your fallout with Charles? I was just worried that she might do something to you because of her son." Toby turned to return to his office desk.

Looks like he's really worried for my safety!

Sonia felt like laughing as her frown disappeared and she reassured, "Don't worry. Mrs. Lane isn't that kind of person. She was rational and made it clear that I was the person responsible for the fallout. However, she didn't blame me for it, but rather, she consoled me."

"Is that so?" Toby narrowed his eyes. It was obvious that he was doubtful of the situation.

On the other hand, she had started the car engine and cradled her phone between her head and shoulder to pull the safety belt over her. "Of course. Mrs. Lane even told me not to blame myself for what had happened."

"So, she wasn't there to lecture you?"

"Duh."

A relieved Toby nodded. "That's good to know."

Sonia left her phone on the phone holder and switched on the loudspeaker function before she started to drive. "Did you call me just to ask about that?"

"Yeah," he answered. "I was worried about you."

Sonia glanced at her phone before the corner of her lips slightly curled up. "Who said that I need you to worry about me? Alright, I'll have to hang up now since I'm behind the wheel."

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"Alright. Don't forget to drive safely." Toby hummed in acknowledgement before advising, to which Sonia chuckled and replied, "I know. Goodbye."

After hanging up, she changed the gear and floored the accelerator.

About half an hour later, she arrived at Paradigm Co. and went back to her office as Daphne trailed behind her.

The moment Sonia arrived in her office, she yanked the chair back from behind the desk to take a seat before instructing, "Please help me to purchase a plane ticket to Kosovo. The departure date is in three days' time."

"Alright, President Reed," Daphne replied before she thought of something and clarified, "Do you want me to book a hotel for you as well?"

"It's okay. My friend will arrange the accommodation for me," Sonia answered while opening her laptop.

Daphne adjusted her glasses. "Alright, President Reed. I'll purchase the flight tickets right away."

Then, she started to work on her phone.

Within half a minute, she had sent the flight ticket details to Sonia. "President Reed, I've already purchased the flight ticket for a first class cabin for you. The flight will leave at 2:00PM three days later."

A satisfied Sonia then responded, "Thank you. If there's nothing else, you may—"

Before she could finish her words, someone knocked at her office door, causing her to turn around. "Come in."

When the door was pushed open, Charles appeared before them and he entered the office in an anxious manner as if something serious had happened.

When Daphne saw him, her expression completely changed as she quickly lowered her head and tried to reduce her presence; it was as if she was afraid that he would notice her there.

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However, Charles never noticed Daphne as his sole focus was on Sonia and no one else could come close to her.

He went all the way toward the front of Sonia's table and slammed his hands on her desk while gasping lightly for air.

At the same time, delight appeared on her face as she looked at Charles. "Charles, why are you here?"

For the past two days after their supposed fallout, Charles had never once shown up in front of her despite all of Sonia's unanswered calls and messages.

Because of that, she had been worried that he would do something stupid after suffering from the blow. Now that she even heard from Grace that he became drunk as a result of what had happened, Sonia felt even worse.

Therefore, she was elated when Charles showed up.

"Did my mom come to look for you?" he asked between his ragged breaths.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 553

Chapter 553 Daphne's Decision

Sonia nodded as she didn't want to keep it a secret from him. "Yes."

Charles' face immediately darkened. "What did she tell you?"

"Mrs. Lane didn't really tell me anything besides our current situation," she answered as she glanced at him.

However, he clenched his fists. "Who is she to poke her nose in my issues?"

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Upon noticing how displeased Charles was at Grace's intervention, Sonia frowned. "Charles, Mrs. Lane only did that for us."

"I don't need her help!" Charles looked like he was extremely exasperated as his face reddened.

"Charles-"

"Enough!" He took a deep breath and tried to suppress his temper before he asked calmly, "That's enough, bab—no, is it alright if I address you as Sonny instead?"

When she heard Charles' new nickname for her, Sonia grinned before nodding. "Of course."

When he received Sonia's approval, Charles' expression improved. "I'm sorry. I know I have probably scared you earlier. It's just that I suddenly received a call from my mom just now and she told me that she had a talk with you. She also wanted me to let go of my feelings for you, so I came to look for you because I'm worried that she might have said something mean to you."

She nodded in realization. "I see. However, you're worrying too much. Mrs. Lane was gentle with me and she didn't say anything mean at all."

"Thank goodness." He sighed in relief.

For the past two days, he had been in a bad mood and isolated himself while drinking in his room. He only had himself to blame for being down in the dumps, so when he heard that Grace had looked for Sonia, he was afraid that she would blame Sonia for what had happened to him.

Fortunately, Grace was a rational person.

"Charles." Sonia rose from her seat. "Are you annoyed that Mrs. Lane intervened in our matter?"

Upon hearing that, Charles' expression slightly darkened. "Just a little, but it's alright."

He had to admit that he wasn't the best and had always been a coward when it came to his relationship with Sonia.

However, he was already past 30 years old and he didn't need his mother to intervene just to help him resolve things. It's really embarrassing.

And that was the reason why he had badly reacted to Grace inviting Sonia out.

"Charles, Mrs. Lane is just worried for you." Sonia tried to reassure Charles while he glanced at his watch. "Yeah, I get it. Anyway, it's late, so I'm leaving now."

With that, he started to make his way out of Sonia's office.

After taking a few steps forward, Charles suddenly noticed Daphne's presence and narrowed his eyes. "Come out with me for a moment."

Daphne immediately flinched and lowered her head before she mumbled a reply, "Alright."

Then, they left Sonia's office one after another while Sonia tilted her head in confusion as she watched their retreating figures.

That's weird. Why does Daphne look like she's afraid of Charles? Something is wrong here. Daphne had worked alongside Charles as his secretary for a few years before she was transferred to help me out a few months ago. While she respects Charles, she definitely isn't afraid of him, so why is she being fearful of him now? What happened between them?

Now that they were outside, Charles took Daphne to the elevator and turned around before staring at her from above to ask coldly, "Did you tell her about what happened the other day?"

She didn't even have to think who he was referring to as she quickly shook her head. "No. Definitely not. Even if you didn't ask me to, I still won't tell President Reed about it."

His expression visibly relaxed. "I see. Remember what you have promised me. She definitely can't know about this."

"I'll remember it," she quietly answered.

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As Charles looked at her, a conflicted look flashed in his eyes. "Did you take the medicine?"

At this moment, Daphne felt a sharp pain in her heart as she clenched her fists before answering, "I did."

"That's good to know. If there's nothing else, you may return to your work." Charles sighed in relief before he turned to press on the elevator's button.

He would admit that his current behavior was terrible, but he didn't feel like he should be responsible for anything.

Indeed, Charles had mistaken Daphne for Sonia and pulled her into his private room when he was drunk.

However, Daphne was sober the entire time. She knew what he was going to do to her, but she never struggled or pushed him away. Instead, she went along willingly with everything that he did.

Since she had voluntarily done the deed with him, it wasn't a case of him forcing her to do it.

Of course, if Charles had indeed forced Daphne to do it, he was willing to take the responsibility even if he didn't love her.

However, since he had never forced her and even compensated her after everything that happened, he didn't owe her anything.

Naturally, he also bought Daphne the morning after pills to prevent her from falling pregnant.

Although it would harm her body, it was the only way to prevent the pregnancy.

With a sigh, Charles started to make his way into the elevator while Daphne bit her lips before she called out for him. "President Lane."

He paused in his footsteps. "Do you need anything else?"

Daphne tightly grabbed the hem of her shirt and took a deep breath to summon the courage before saying, "I really like you and I've been in love with you for many years now, so... Can you give me a chance? I—"

"No!" Charles interrupted her without any hesitation, which caused her face to pale.

He has rejected me without even considering it. Looks like he really doesn't want to give me any opportunities at all.

"I won't give you a chance because I don't like you, and that's for your own good as well. If we really are together, don't you think that it would be unfair for you when I still have someone else on my mind?" He glanced at her from the corners of his eyes.

Daphne then opened her mouth slightly before she replied wryly, "I know that, but I'm willing to endure it. I can wait until you forget about her."

"That's impossible. I won't accept it." Charles ended the conversation before he entered the elevator and left, leaving Daphne to watch as the elevator door slowly closed while her heart bled.

From afar, Sonia sighed before she shook her head when she saw what had happened from the entrance of her office.

Despite her being a distance away and she couldn't really hear their conversation, she could already guess what had happened from Daphne's expression. Charles has probably rejected Daphne after she confessed to him.

After Sonia sighed, she walked toward Daphne. "Daphne."

The moment she heard Sonia's voice, Daphne quickly raised her hand in panic before she removed her glasses to wipe her tears away. After ensuring that her glasses were clean from any tear stains, she wore it again and finally turned around. "President Reed."

Right then, Sonia took a packet of tissue paper from her pocket before handing it to Daphne. "It's better if you use this since your hands might be dirty."

As she stared at the tissue paper, Daphne was silent for a while before she reached out to take it. "Thank you, President Reed."

"No problem." Sonia smiled before she eyed the elevator. "Did you just confess to Charles?"

Daphne paused from drying her eyes before she hummed in acknowledgement. "I was rejected."

"That's alright." Sonia patted Daphne's shoulder. "Just because you've been rejected this time doesn't mean that you can't confess again. I'm sure that you'll be able to move Charles' heart one day. Sometimes all we need is a little bit of determination."

Daphne looked up at Sonia with red eyes. "Didn't President Lane fail to woo you even though he's been in love with you for many years, though? Do you really think that I'll be able to court him if I hold on?"

Although Sonia was in a state of disbelief, she lowered her gaze and smiled. "How can you tell if you never give it a try? Besides, there's something wrong with your statement. Although Charles has been in love with me for many years, he has never once revealed that he's in love with me, so I never knew that he loved me. Moreover, the reason why he failed was because he never confessed to me. However, it's different for you. You've already confessed your feelings to him. If you continue to chase him seriously, there's a chance that you might actually succeed."

After she heard what Sonia had said, Daphne started to ponder. "Maybe you're right, President Reed."

"If that's the case, why don't you give it a shot?" Sonia retracted her hand from Daphne's shoulder after telling Daphne everything that she wanted to say before she turned around to return to her office.

Meanwhile, a conflicted Daphne stared at Sonia's retreating figure and clenched her fists.

A while later, she took a deep breath before shouting in Sonia's direction, "Thank you, President Reed! I know what to do now!"

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 553

Chapter 553 Daphne's Decision

Sonia nodded as she didn't want to keep it a secret from him. "Yes."

Charles' face immediately darkened. "What did she tell you?"

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Daphne paused from drying her eyes before she hummed in acknowledgement. "I was rejected."

"That's alright." Sonia patted Daphne's shoulder. "Just because you've been rejected this time doesn't mean that you can't confess again. I'm sure that you'll be able to move Charles' heart one day. Sometimes all we need is a little bit of determination."

Daphne looked up at Sonia with red eyes. "Didn't President Lane fail to woo you even though he's been in love with you for many years, though? Do you really think that I'll be able to court him if I hold on?"

Although Sonia was in a state of disbelief, she lowered her gaze and smiled. "How can you tell if you never give it a try? Besides, there's something wrong with your statement. Although Charles has been in love with me for many years, he has never once revealed that he's in love with me, so I never knew that he loved me. Moreover, the reason why he failed was because he never confessed to me. However, it's different for you. You've already confessed your feelings to him. If you continue to chase him seriously, there's a chance that you might actually succeed."

After she heard what Sonia had said, Daphne started to ponder. "Maybe you're right, President Reed."

"If that's the case, why don't you give it a shot?" Sonia retracted her hand from Daphne's shoulder after telling Daphne everything that she wanted to say before she turned around to return to her office.

Meanwhile, a conflicted Daphne stared at Sonia's retreating figure and clenched her fists.

A while later, she took a deep breath before shouting in Sonia's direction, "Thank you, President Reed! I know what to do now!"

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 555

Chapter 555 Plastic Surgery

She remembered that she never asked for a blanket before taking the pill and going to sleep.

So, this blanket must be something that he got for her.

Just as Sonia had expected, Toby nodded. "It was me. I was afraid that you'd catch a cold, so I asked the air stewardess for blankets."

When she heard that, she felt warmth spreading in her heart. "Thank you."

"You're welcome. Are you able to walk?" Toby asked while he looked at her.

She looked a little weak when she got up from the chair.

So, he was worried that she wouldn't be able to walk.

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Sonia moved her feet. "I think so. I'm still a little tired from the pill, but the longer I keep myself awake, the lesser the effects will be. I'll be fine."

"That's good to know. Let's go." Toby took Sonia's bag.

Sonia thought that he took her purse so that she could carry it on her shoulder with ease.

However, a moment later, she witnessed Toby slinging the bag over his own shoulder instead.

Toby was a man of six-feet-three in height; he was even in smart attire, which radiated a proud president vibe.

The powerful-looking president was carrying a woman's small purse on his shoulder, which didn't make him look cool anymore. Instead, he looked a little comical.

Sonia couldn't help but burst into laughter.

Toby looked at her. "What's wrong?"

"No... Nothing." She hastily waved her hands in denial before she reached for her bag. "President Fuller, let me carry the bag."

"It's fine, I'll hold it for you. Let's go." He declined her offer.

She raised an eyebrow. "This is my purse, so I can't trouble you with it. President Fuller, please just return it to me."

"I want to carry it for you." Toby looked at her. "I heard that men always carry their girlfriend's bag. Even though we're not in that sort of relationship yet, I can still do what boyfriends do."

Sonia blushed. "Since you have said that a boyfriend will carry their girlfriend's bag, are you doing this because you think we'll be together in the future?"

"Of course!" His thin lips curved into a smile. "I have the confidence, and I also have the feeling that we'll be together in the near future."

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With that, he walked toward the door.

She looked at his back and pouted. "Quit saying nonsense, for that's impossible!"

However, she didn't vocalize her thoughts. She didn't know why she chose to mumble those words instead, which made her look like she lacked the slightest bit of confidence.

Outside the airport, Toby was looking at the car which came to pick him up. "Where will you be staying?"

Sonia glanced at her phone as she responded, "My friend has arranged a place for me to stay. You?"

He replied, "Hotel."

She nodded. "I see. We're going separate ways then."

Toby was silent. So, she accepted the accommodation that the bridal couple had arranged.

Had he known about it, he wouldn't have declined the offer. He would have merely accepted it on the basis that he would be staying close to Sonia right now.

The regret in Toby's heart was so deep that his expression darkened in an instant.

At this moment, Sonia saw someone holding a placard with her name written on it. She hastily turned to bid Toby adieu. "President Fuller, I see the person who's here to pick me up. I'll take my leave now."

With that, she walked toward the person holding the sign, her luggage trailing behind her.

Toby watched as Sonia approached the said person before exchanging a few words and entering the car. He pursed his thin lips before he fished out his phone to make a phone call. "It's me. Arrange some place for me to stay."

The person on the other end of the line was stunned. "A place to stay? Didn't you already decline the offer?"

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"Quit nagging and get to work at this instance. I want to stay right across or next to a certain someone."

"Who is it?"

Toby said Sonia's name and immediately hung up as he was about to enter his vehicle before the callee could even say no.

A few minutes later, Toby received a message with an address and a house number.

He smiled in satisfaction when he saw the line of numbers.

Meanwhile, Sonia had arrived at the place arranged for her—it was a small villa courtesy of her friend's fiance.

After Sonia settled in, she prepared to head out and purchase some medicine for a hangover in anticipation of the heavy drinking that would ensue during the wedding banquet when she received a call from her friend.

Her friend had informed her that the villa would be expecting another visitor who would be staying with her and it was a man.

When Sonia heard that, she frowned.

Initially, the said friend had assured that the villa was hers alone and there was no arrangement for others to stay there.

Now that she had changed her mind and even arranged for a man to come to the villa, it made Sonia feel a little uncomfortable.

No matter how uncomfortable she felt, she could only go along with the new arrangements.

After all, this villa wasn't hers, so its owner naturally had the final say as to who was allowed to stay in the villa.

All Sonia could do right now to persevere.

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Fortunately, she was only staying for two nights, so she only had to exercise more caution and protect herself for the entire duration.

With that thought in mind, Sonia relaxed a little as she kept her phone away and headed out.

The sky had darkened considerably by the time she obtained the medicine.

Now that Sonia had her medicine in hand, she prepared to return to the villa where she would change into her evening dress to attend the wedding banquet.

As soon as she walked out of the pharmacy, she ran into someone walking toward her.

"Ow..." Sonia frowned and staggered a few steps backward upon the impact.

The other person had it worse, for they fell to the ground on their backside.

When she saw that, Sonia quickly steadied herself. After rubbing her aching shoulder, she strode over and reached out with a hand toward the person while apologizing, "Sorry. I'm so sorry. I didn't mean it. Are you okay?"

The person was about to fly into rage, but when they heard Sonia's voice, their eyes widened under their hat. As a result of that, they immediately looked up to meet her gaze.

Upon seeing Sonia, the stranger clenched their hand that was under the large sleeve as their body shook ever so slightly. It IS her! Why is she here?

Now that she saw the stranger on the floor looking at her without saying anything, she was a little puzzled. Is there something wrong with my face? Why is this person staring at me?

As she thought that, Sonia bent down and prepared to ask whether there's something wrong with her face. However, she suddenly saw the person's face and a look of surprise flitted across her eyes.

Like a mummy, the person's face was wrapped in bandages.

Of course, it was a human because mummies wouldn't exist in this day and time.

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However, there was only one possibility for someone to have their face wrapped in bandages—they must have undergone plastic surgery.

No wonder the person was dressed like they were on guard—they wore a scarf and a hat in addition to wrapping themselves up to hide their bandaged face.

Sonia didn't have much of an opinion on plastic surgeries since she believed that everyone had their own right to pursue beauty.

As such, her surprise was quickly replaced by her calm expression as she gave an apologetic smile. "Sorry, did you get hurt?"

She was afraid that the earlier impact would affect the stranger's face.

If anything happened, she wouldn't be able to compensate for the injuries sustained.

The person lowered their head, as if they never heard Sonia.

Upon seeing that, Sonia secretly sighed in relief.

The person's face must have been fine by the looks of their behavior.

If not, they wouldn't have remained so calm.

"Um... Are you able to get up?" Sonia reached out with a hand toward the person again, meaning to help them on their feet.

However, when they saw her hand, they gritted their teeth and reached out to slap her hand away.

"Ahhhh!" There was searing pain on the back of Sonia's hand as she quickly retracted her hand. When she looked at the spot on her hand where the stranger had slapped it, she drew in a sharp breath. Gosh, it's reddening.

The amount of force that the person had packed into the slap was obviously deep.

Apart from that, Sonia even felt some hatred coming from the person when they slapped her.

She was puzzled. She didn't even know who this person was, so why would they hate her with such vengeance?

As Sonia was about to ask, the person suddenly rose from the ground and glared at her before turning around to flee the scene.