This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 573 - 574

Chapter 573 Toby's Confession

"And?"

"Then..." Sonia trembled a little as her expression implied that she was blaming herself. "Then, I asked him how he was, but he said he was fine, so I thought he was just bothered by the situation that Paradigm Co. was in. Had I insisted on taking him to a doctor, I would've known that he was drugged and he wouldn't have taken his own life as a result. It's all my fault; I could have saved him, but I missed my chance to do so because I was negligent. Am I a terrible daughter, Toby?"

"No, you aren't." Toby held her hand and looked at her in a serious manner. "After all, no one in the world can predict what will happen the next minute, and neither did it occur to anyone that your father was mentally ill because he was drugged. So, all of this isn't your fault and you need to stop blaming yourself for that. Furthermore, I believe your dad wouldn't want you to beat yourself up either. In fact, what you need to do now is to stop dwelling on what you think was your mistake and gather the evidence that can prove your father was drugged."

Sonia's eyes widened in response as he seemingly managed to talk some sense into her. She then pulled herself together and acted like a tough cookie. "You're right. I need to pull myself together and avenge my father!"

"Now, that's the spirit." Toby gently caressed her hair and asked, "Are you hungry? You haven't eaten anything since this morning, so I bet you're probably starving, aren't you?"

Sonia was about to say that she wasn't hungry because she had lost her appetite after learning the shocking revelation. However, before she could speak her mind, her stomach started to growl, prompting her to cover it with her hands with an embarrassed look.

Toby chuckled and stood up before he held her hand and led her to the dining area. "Come on, let's grab something to eat first. You need to keep your strength up so that you have the energy to go on with your day, and that includes avenging your father."

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She puckered her lips in silence and obediently followed the man. After breakfast, he went out to take care of his work, although he had a wedding ceremony to attend. Therefore, he didn't stick around to accompany Sonia.

Meanwhile, Sonia stayed behind in the estate to wait for Nancy's news. When the clock struck 3:00PM, Nancy's call came through where she informed Sonia about Jessica's location. Sonia learned that Jessica had been deported from Kosovo to the Republic of Mesania where she held citizenship rights. Therefore, she was currently on a plane back to the Republic of Mesania.

Upon learning about Jessica's whereabouts, Sonia furrowed her eyebrows because she was already one step behind. After all, she had planned to make her way to Jessica's current location and interrogate her, but was surprised that the Lazuli Family had beat her to it and sent her on a flight to the Republic of Mesania. Ugh! Great! How am I supposed to capture her now?

Sonia rubbed her temples in frustration, wondering how she could get to Jessica. Well, it appears that the only way for me to capture Jessica is to pay a visit to the Republic of Mesania by myself.

At the thought of that, Sonia quickly reached out for her phone and browsed through the calendar to find an empty slot in her schedule for a visit to the Republic of Mesania. Shortly after that, she decided to set it at the end of the month because that was when Paradigm Co. would hold their stock taking. Therefore, she reckoned she would be less busy by then and would have more time to locate Jessica. Thinking that Jessica could lead her to more discoveries about Titus' wicked plan back then, Sonia believed she should start her investigation with her half-sister. Meanwhile, Sonia was absorbed in her train of thoughts as she stared blankly at the window in an absent-minded manner.

The next day, Sonia and Toby took a flight and flew back to their country. On their way home, she appeared to be spaced out most of the time, even nearly running into a few other people who were coming her way. Fortunately for her, he was by her side to prevent that from happening or she would've hurt herself by falling.

"Does that matter still bother you? Toby had a magazine in his hand while he gazed at the unhappy lady beside him in the first class cabin.

Sonia responded by rubbing her cheek. "How can I just let it go? It'll probably take days at the very least." Back then, when she first thought that her father committed suicide, she

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struggled to accept the truth; now that she realized her father's death had been orchestrated, there was no way she could easily calm herself.

"Stop overthinking." He gently lifted his arm over her head to place it on her shoulders.

"What are you doing?" Her body tensed up.

"You should get some sleep. Look at your dark circles and swollen eyes. I guess you had a rough night, didn't you?" Toby told Sonia about her swollen eyes.

She felt her swollen eyes and was tongue-tied at that moment. After all, she had a sleepless night as she couldn't stop picturing her father committing suicide the moment she closed her eyes. In fact, she had been haunted by nightmares for a long time after her father's suicide, which took her a lot of time before she overcame it, only to fall apart once more now.

"Alright, it's time for you to take a nap. Come on, use my shoulder as your pillow," Toby repeated.

Sonia met his caring eyes and turned her attention to his shoulder while puckering her lips. "Thank you." The moment she finished speaking, she closed her eyes and leaned on the man's shoulder. Strangely enough, her exhaustion and insecurities simply dissipated when her head rested on his shoulder. I don't feel sleepy anymore. Is this all because he is by my side?

"Toby." She cast a serious look on the man's flank.

"Yeah?" The man shifted his gaze away from the magazine to her face, only to meet her wide gaze with a chuckle. "You're still awake, aren't you?"

Sonia blinked and asked, "Can I ask you something?"

"What is it?"

She responded, "Can I trust you?"

"Why would it even occur to you to ask such a question? What kind of trust are you referring to?" Toby raised his eyebrows.

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Then, Sonia lowered her head before she continued, "You said you love me, but can I trust you that you will continue to love me? We both used to correspond with each other through letters, but you fell in love with me even before you met me. Yet, why weren't you able to tell that Tina wasn't me? Were you ever in love with me?"

A pang of guilt greeted him after hearing Sonia's words as he gently caressed her head and replied remorsefully, "I'm so sorry, Sonia. I didn't fail to recognize you, but instead, something happened whereby I ended up with no memory of you."

"What do you mean?" A confused Sonia looked up. "Did you have amnesia back then?"

"No, it wasn't amnesia." Toby shook his head.

Back then, he had already noticed Tina's disguise when she posed as Sonia to meet him. At the same time, he also instructed Tom to investigate who Maple was and why Tina had posed as her, but before Tom could even reveal the results, Miles had hypnotized both men and those around him into thinking that Tina was indeed Maple. Because of that, Toby's brain omitted the fact that he was already aware that Tina was an imposter and firmly believed her to be Maple.

"It wasn't amnesia?" Sonia asked in puzzlement, "This is confusing. If you didn't suffer from amnesia, why is it that you had no memory of me?" She couldn't understand what he said because she found it hardly logical.

Toby blinked, seemingly having trouble expressing his thoughts. A few seconds later, he looked at her and clarified, "Would you believe me if I said I had been hypnotized?"

"Hypnotized?" Sonia bolted into a straight posture. "You were hypnotized?"

He nodded and proceeded to share about the evil plan that Tina made with Miles.

After Sonia heard Toby's story, there was silence from her for the longest time whereas Toby looked her in the eye, aware that she had yet to calm herself from the shock that he had been hypnotized. Thus, he kept quiet and patiently waited for her to respond. A few moments later, she snapped out of her trance and gulped. "Wow, this is surprising! I can't believe something like this would actually happen in reality."

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Chapter 574 I Will Be Waiting for You

As far as Sonia was concerned, she had always thought that hypnosis did nothing more than make people speak the truth without being aware. It wasn't until Toby had told her what it did to him that she realized its full extent. Oh my gosh! I guess my understanding of hypnosis is too shallow. I didn't know it can actually affect our memory! This is alarming! She anxiously propped her face with her hands.

Toby looked at her. "Oh, hypnosis is indeed surprising. After all, it is capable of more than what you and I can ever imagine."

"Like what?" she asked.

Soon, he reached for his tablet and searched for more information about hypnosis before showing it to her. Then, she skimmed through the articles, whereupon she seemed to ponder, It looks like hypnosis is not only capable of suppressing someone's memory but also capable of erasing it. This is...

At that moment, Sonia felt like her perception about the world had just changed as she puckered her lips for a while and apologized, "I'm sorry, I need a moment to digest all this." Deep down in her heart, she struggled to deal with the devastation that Toby's hypnotized experience had brought her.

"So, you don't believe that I was hypnotized, do you?" Toby raised his chin.

She puckered her lips once again, seemingly wanting to say something, but she kept her mouth shut without uttering a single word in the end.

Meanwhile, Toby sighed before he replied, "It's okay. Hypnosis can do bizarre things, so I wouldn't be surprised if you won't believe it. However, I can assure you that I'm telling the truth. The reason why I didn't reveal it to you earlier was because I didn't want you to think that I was justifying my failure to recognize you with an excuse."

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"Then, why are you telling me now?" Sonia looked at him.

He chuckled and explained, "Well, what is done has been done, so it no longer matters, but I promise that I'll never fail to recognize you ever again from now on. No matter how you may change, I'm sure I will definitely recognize you at first sight."

She responded with a cold grunt. "Who knows whether you're telling the truth or not?"

"Well, since you can't tell whether it's the truth, you might as well accept me and let me prove it to you with time. What do you say?" Toby seized her hand with seriousness.

At the same time, Sonia was tempted to utter her consent before her rational mind stopped her. Then, she retracted her arm and looked away. "I'm sorry. I can't be with you."

"Why?" Toby frowned. "Sonia, you've actually fallen for me, haven't you?"

"How did you know that?" Sonia was stunned, but she soon realized that she had just blurted out something she shouldn't have and covered her mouth. Oops! I just gave myself away. Now that Toby is sure that I have a crush on him, is he going to insist on rekindling the old flames with me? At the thought of that, she looked up and gazed at Toby as her heart raced a million times faster.

Nevertheless, Toby didn't seem to be surprised, as if he was unhappy to know that she had fallen for him again. In fact, the revelation was merely unsurprising to him because he had seen through Sonia a long time ago. When he contacted Nancy the day before in the afternoon, she had told him about Sonia's feelings. After all, he was curious about Sonia's sudden change of attitude immediately after Sonia finished the hangover soup. Therefore, he decided to call Nancy and ask what had happened, whereupon she shared the conversation she had with Sonia earlier. Because of that, he was courageous and confident enough to go straight to the point, having known that Sonia had realized her feelings for him.

"I've always known that all along." Toby gently fixed Sonia's hair around her ears. "It was just you who didn't realize that you had fallen in love with me once more. In fact, those around you could tell that as well, including Zane and Charles." While those two men never told Sonia how she felt toward Toby, he knew that they didn't do that because they were frightened she would really fall for him and lose their chances as a result. Pathetic! Those guys don't stand a chance at all even though they have been trying to keep Sonia from

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realizing her feelings for me. They will fail no matter how hard they work because they are not the ones whom Sonia is in love with.

"Was it... that obvious?" Sonia was stunned as her mouth was agape, unable to believe that even Zane and Chales had long known her feelings for Toby. At the same time, she had no doubt about Toby's words because she didn't think there was a reason for him to lie to her.

"Yes, indeed." Toby gently rubbed Sonia's head and elaborated, "You can hardly hide your feelings when you truly love someone. Even if you manage to do so, your eyes and expression will give you away."

Sonia looked down before she asked, "So... When did you realize that I... have feelings for you..."

"About half a month ago," Toby answered.

"I see," she commented after her question was answered.

"In that case, let's pick up where we left off and love each other again, can't we?" He seized her shoulders and made her face him.

Nevertheless, she looked away once again and rapidly shook her head. "I'm sorry, I can't accept you." She was making her rejection known once more.

Toby pursed his lips and spoke with a hoarse voice, "Can you give me a reason? If you aren't ready, I can wait."

Sonia shook her head. "That's part of a bigger reason, but the truth is... I'm scared."

"You're scared?" He seemed bewildered. "What are you scared of?"

She set her eyes on the man. "I'm scared that you'll fall in love with someone else one fine day after we have reconciled and leave me in the cold. I don't want to relive those dark days six years ago."

"No, you won't." Toby wrapped his arms around her. "I have never fallen in love with anyone! Ever! You're the one whom I'm always in love with. I was just hypnotized to think that I was

in love with Tina, but that was all fake. I know I might have treated Tina well back then, but that was not how I truly felt. Moreover, I have never even touched her before."

"Did you just say you've never touched Tina before?" a surprised Sonia asked.

"Exactly! Never!" He nodded while assuring Sonia that she was the only woman he had ever shared an intimate moment with. In fact, the intimacy they both shared that night a few months ago was her first time as well as his. Thus, the thought of that somehow made Toby's ears flush in embarrassment.

In the meantime, Sonia, who noticed the seriousness on Toby's face, chose to believe him as her resistance toward him gradually lessened. However, she still hadn't completely agreed to accept his romantic advances. "You may be telling the truth, but I have no plans of resuming our relationship. After all, I'm no longer the young and bold lady whom I used to be. Back then, I was willing to do anything and everything for love, but I can't do that anymore now, not after the trauma I experienced earlier because I'm now more timid and feeble. After all, I'm no longer as brave as I once was in my youth, which is why I don't have the confidence to achieve what I want. Thus, I really can't bring myself to start a new relationship despite my feelings for you," Sonia bitterly noted while biting her lower lip.

Toby fixed his gaze on her as he replied, "I get you. You don't have faith in me and yourself, so you're not sure whether we'll be together until the very end, which is holding you back from being together with me."

She looked down, silently admitting that Toby had just seen through her.

Nevertheless, he only planted a kiss on her forehead and continued, "It's okay; I can wait for you until you find your faith in me and the confidence to accept me." Although he was upset by her repeated rejections, he wasn't going to force her but he would instead respect her choice.

After Sonia heard his words, she heaved a sigh of relief. She was grateful that he didn't force her hand, but instead gave her time to overcome her insecurities.