

My Baby's Daddy Chapter 381

Chapter 381 I'm Not Like Her

As such, Alex could only return to the office with Anastasia as he wondered why the lady wouldn't want to continue waiting until the rain stopped at the café. At the same time, Anastasia set her eyes on the rain outside the window, knowing that the road ahead of them was barely visible no matter how fast the windscreen wipers were working. Therefore, she believed it would take Elliot about half an hour before he arrived at her father's company. At the thought of that, she sent him a text message and told him to be careful. "Keep a cool head, Elliot. It's pouring heavily now, and it's too dangerous to drive."

However, Anastasia's message was met with silence as the man didn't respond. Therefore, she couldn't help but feel concerned about his safety while reprimanding him deep down for making her worried. "You're sick, Elliot, so why won't you stay put and rest instead?"

A few moments later, both of them arrived at Tillman Construction, whereupon Anastasia told Alex to return to the office and waited in the lobby. In the meantime, Alex could guess who she was waiting for as he wondered whether Elliot was really coming to meet her despite the heavy rain. After all, he would gloat over Elliot's misery if something ever happened to him on the way.

Meanwhile, Anastasia looked outside the window anxiously as she didn't see any car in sight. Nevertheless, she saw a black sedan coming her way in the rain fifteen minutes later. As the view slowly became clearer, Anastasia was able to identify Elliot's Rolls-Royce Phantom and heaved a sigh of relief until she realized there was a truck parked in the lobby not long after it was unloaded. Because of that, Elliot couldn't drive into the building and had no way of entering the lobby without getting wet.

Therefore, Anastasia anxiously looked around for the driver to get him to move the truck away, only to see the headlights of the man's car going out in the rain. Then, Elliot ran toward the building without even taking an umbrella with him, putting Anastasia on edge as she desperately scurried through the door and was greeted by the man's drenched appearance. At the same time, Elliot was happy to see her as she had been anxiously waiting for him despite his messy look.

"Why did you come here? Don't you know it's pouring outside?" Anastasia lectured the man.

However, Elliot reacted with a smile, looking at her with a tender expression on his face as water trickled down his hair. "Even if it puts my life at risk, I'll do anything just to see you."

Anastasia then took some tissue paper from her purse and wiped the man's wet hair, as well as the water droplets on his shoulder. Suddenly, she felt the man's arm wrapped around her waist shortly before she found herself in his tight embrace.

You..." Anastasia angrily looked up at Elliot.

"After all the mean things you said to me, you still can't deny that you care about me." Elliot fixed his eyes on her.

"I don't." She looked away guiltily.

"You do." He planted a kiss on the lady's forehead, not caring if there were people around them.

On the other hand, Alex was watching behind a pillar with his eyes fixed on the man and the woman during their lovey-dovey interaction in the lobby, clenching his fists without any idea that he was also being watched by someone from behind him.

It turned out that Erica had accidentally run into Alex and caught his jealous look when he was peeking at Elliot and Anastasia. Thus, she quickly approached Alex and seized his arm, stunning him as she dragged him to the stairs just next to them.

Upon closing the door behind her, Erica chuckled glacially and said, "You seem jealous, Mr. Hunter, but do you think my sister would even bother to look at someone like you? She is a snob who only has eyes for a rich and handsome man like Elliot."

"What are you talking about, Miss Erica? I don't quite follow." Alex refused to admit his feelings.

However, Erica had witnessed his earlier reaction. She replied, "You saw just how sweet my older sister and Elliot were back there, didn't you? However, you and I both know that you can never take Anastasia away from Elliot."

Hearing the lady's words, Alex was jealous yet helpless. After all, he had no choice but to admit Anastasia's feelings for Elliot, judging from the sympathy she was showing him for meeting her in the rain despite refusing to pick up his call in the café earlier.

What else can I call that if not love?

Erica suddenly approached the man closer, seizing his arm while giving him a coy look. "Anastasia and I are both sisters from the Tillmans, so why don't you consider dating me, Mr. Hunter? After all, I think I can be a good girlfriend just as much as my sister could be."

"Let's keep this civil, Miss Erica." Alex shivered in that instant.

Nevertheless, Erica didn't take her hand off Alex. Instead, she wrapped her arms around his neck in a seductive manner while resting her face on his shoulder. "My sister may not know how to appreciate you, Mr. Hunter, but I'm not like her. To me, you're simply the kind of man I admire and look up to."

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Chapter 382 Nothing More Than Colleagues

Alex kept his eyes fixed upon Erica, seemingly thinking about what to do with his next move. After all, he knew as well that he didn't stand a chance to get closer to Anastasia at all with Elliot by her side, but now that Erica was approaching him, he began to see it as an opportunity. "Miss Erica, I'm just an ordinary man without anything worth admiring, so I wonder what makes you like me so much." Alex let out a sigh.

"I'm not like my sister who only wants to marry a rich man. I, on the other hand, prefer to trust my own feelings when choosing my Mr. Right." Erica then looked at Alex seductively. "Mr. Hunter, you're exactly the type that I like."

Upon hearing the lady's words, Alex felt as if there was an electric shock that ran through his body. Although Erica was not considered a beauty like her sister was, Alex, whose nature as a man got the better of his rational mind, could not resist her advances.

In the meantime, Anastasia, who was still in the lobby, pushed Elliot aside after wiping the water off him and said, "Leave once the rain lets up."

"Alright!" Elliot nodded obediently.

"Come on, let's go to my lounge! It's cold out here." Anastasia took the man with her upstairs.

As soon as both of them arrived at a warmer place, Elliot took off his coat and revealed the dark shirt that accentuated his muscular physique beneath it. However, Anastasia looked away like she was trying to resist something. In fact, she was trying to resist the man's charming and masculine aura deep down so that she wouldn't fall further for him.

At that moment, Alex knocked on the door and entered the place despite knowing Elliot was around; he was going to deliberately ruin his private moment with Anastasia. After all, Erica was just a substitute to him since Anastasia was still the woman he loved. Nonetheless, Alex's presence had put a frown on Elliot's face as the latter immediately wrapped his arm around Anastasia while she made him some tea.

Before Anastasia could even finish making him tea, she lost her balance and sat on the man's lap with the tea bag still in her hand. Just as she was about to lecture him, she

noticed the coldness that filled his eyes before she quickly understood that it was Alex's presence that put him on edge.

Okay, I guess that's the nature of men. They can't tolerate anyone else who sets foot on their turf, which is why this guy is trying to assert his dominance.

"You're here, Mr. Presgrave." Alex timidly greeted Elliot.

"I'll stay here and keep Anastasia company. You may attend to your work now, Mr. Hunter," Elliot coldly said to Alex.

"Alright!" Alex smiled, his face darkening the moment he turned around. It seems that Elliot really doesn't give a damn about my presence.

Soon, Anastasia rose from her seat and reminded the man to behave. "Keep your mischief in check while you're here. I wouldn't want to be caught in a lovey-dovey situation with you."

"What's wrong with that? Are you worried that Mr. Hunter is going to get jealous?" Elliot grunted in an annoyed manner.

"Alex is just an employee in my father's company. That makes us nothing more than colleagues," Anastasia explained herself.

While Elliot believed in the lady, his pride and jealousy wouldn't allow him to stand by and watch any man get close to Anastasia. Soon, he faked a cough and looked at the woman, trying to feel her concern just as the lady turned around and met his eyes.

"Don't worry. I took my medication today." Elliot assured Anastasia that he only had a cold, which persisted because of insufficient rest.

Soon, Anastasia poured him a glass of hot tea and said, "You're your grandma's only heir, so you should take good care of yourself, not to mention the fact that she is already in her twilight years." Meanwhile, Elliot didn't feel happy when he saw her glacial look even though she still cared about his family.

"Please don't blame my grandma, Anastasia. I'm the one to blame instead." Elliot tried to shoulder all the responsibility.

Am I supposed to blame a six-year-old kid for that incident back then? Nah! As a mother with a son, Anastasia could empathize with Elliot's younger self and relate to the fear that was tormenting him.

"Can you still remember what happened back then?"

Elliot shook his head. "Actually, my grandma sought help from many psychiatrists and hypnotists for me at that time." He closed his eyes as soon as he finished his sentence, seemingly trying to find the memory that was lost in his mind.

Anastasia's eyes widened slightly before she seized the man's arm. "That's enough."

"I'm sorry. If I could remember something, maybe I'll know what happened back then." Elliot looked up apologetically.

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Chapter 383 Be Friends or Strangers

Soon, Anastasia recalled her father's words, remembering her mother had been urged to save an innocent life due to the urgent situation. After all, she knew her mother wouldn't have stood by and watched while a six-year-old kid was about to get killed. Convinced that everyone had an instinct of protecting the weak, she believed her mother was motivated by the same reason before she risked herself to save an innocent life.

"I don't blame you and your grandma." Nonetheless, Anastasia couldn't convince herself to let go of the past as Riley's words made her realize she could never fall in love with Elliot. After all, she couldn't get over the fact that he had indirectly caused her mother's death, which held her back from falling in love with him because she thought it would be unfair to her late mother if she did that. "We could be friends," Anastasia said.

Meanwhile, Elliot was annoyed by Anastasia's reply, finding it ironic to hear because he was just trying to comfort her a few moments ago.

Friends? No way! I'll never accept our relationship as friends!

"Well, I suppose friends can become lovers and marry each other later on. Don't you think so?" Elliot emphasized his point.

Anastasia looked away and replied, "No. We'll either be friends or strangers."

Despite her cold reply, Elliot was able to empathize with Anastasia, knowing that Riley had said many unpleasant things to her that made her reject him. "Alright, I respect your wish. We'll be friends then." Elliot took a step back, but not before he demonstrated his authority over her by giving her an order. "However, if you're ever going to marry someone, it's going to be me and only me!"

Anastasia was rendered speechless by the man's words, thinking his domineering and possessive character hadn't changed one bit.

"The same goes for me. I'll marry no one else but you," Elliot soon added.

Anastasia's face blushed as her embarrassment overwhelmed her even though she didn't meet Elliot's eyes. "My decision to get married is none of your concern. The same goes for yours," Anastasia answered.

Elliot smiled and said, "Fine, we'll just stay single for each other for the rest of our lives!"

Fine, he wins. While Anastasia helplessly patted her forehead, Francis entered the building from the rain. When he heard Elliot was in the lounge, he quickly came over to greet him. "I didn't know you'd be here, Mr. Presgrave. Please make yourself at home." Francis approached Elliot to shake his hand.

"You're too kind, Mr. Tillman," Elliot politely replied.

"Anastasia, please receive our guest, Mr. Presgrave." Francis turned his attention to his daughter. Deep down, he sincerely hoped that her daughter would end up being together with Elliot upon leveraging the situation as a businessman. After all, Tillman Constructions would be backed by Elliot's powerful influence if they got together. Besides that, he believed his grandchildren and daughter would be loved and treated well by the people of the Presgrave Family, considering their guilt for his wife.

"Sure, Father. Please leave me to it," Anastasia answered. Just when Elliot was wondering how Anastasia would receive him after Francis left, he saw the lady looking at the rain that was letting up outside the window before she shifted her gaze to him. "Alright, the rain has let up. It's time for you to go."

Wait, what? Is this how she is going to receive her guest? By showing me the door? Elliot was rendered speechless. "I'm not leaving yet. I'm going to have lunch with you and accompany you to pick up Jared. Then, I'm going to have my dinner at your place later at night." In fact, Elliot had figured out his plan for the day. His phone rang just then, whereupon he picked it up and said, "I'm not going back to the office today. Please cancel all my meetings." Before Rey could remind Elliot about his work, the latter ended the call.

At the same time, Anastasia looked at the man with a stunned expression while wondering what he was up to. What's this guy thinking? He still has a ton of things to handle back in his office! "I don't need you to keep me company here, Elliot. Go ahead and attend to your business!" Anastasia didn't want Elliot to waste his time accompanying her, only to work overtime at night.

"It's okay. I'm willing to waste my time keeping you company." Elliot raised his eyebrows slightly, telling the lady with the tenacious look on his face that he wasn't about to give up. In the face of his stubbornness, Anastasia felt helpless without knowing what else she could do about it.

“Bourgeois is shifting to a new location, but we’ll be keeping your office space nonetheless. You’re welcome to work with us anytime.” Elliot offered Anastasia to return to Bourgeois so that no other man would get close to her.

“I’m going to stay in my father’s company to learn about business management for the time being.” Anastasia revealed her plans to remain in Francis’ company.

“Alright, I respect your decision,” Elliot said in a chivalrous manner.

“By the way, who is Aliona? The client that I was supposed to meet belonged to her, but I was kidnapped after that.” Anastasia mentioned Aliona to Elliot. Although she didn’t blame her, she was still mad about what had happened earlier.

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Chapter 384 People Who Are Handsome Look Alike

Elliot was stunned. “Shouldn’t you have dealt with your own client by yourself?”

“Nope! I was told by Felicia that the client was initially Aliona’s to deal with when I confronted and asked her about that earlier, but since my design caught the client’s eye, I was asked to take over the negotiation. Shortly after that, I was kidnapped by Riley’s henchmen at the rendezvous, which was a café where I was supposed to meet the client.” Anastasia’s eyes were filled with puzzlement. “How did they know I was going to show up at that café and park in that specific spot?”

Elliot frowned and replied, “Aliona is the illegitimate daughter of my late father’s good friend, Lucas Dora, He raised her abroad. While Lucas is a respected senior to me, I heard from my grandma that they were close to each other in their youth.”

“She is Lucas’ illegitimate daughter?” Anastasia knitted her eyebrows, although she had no contempt for Aliona.

“Lucas told me to take good care of Aliona, but I promise I’m going to investigate the matter with your client.” Elliot didn’t want to take any chances and put Anastasia in danger.

“Alright.” Anastasia nodded, feeling hungry just as she looked at the clock and realized it was lunchtime. “There is a restaurant nearby. We can have lunch together, but you need to go back and do your work when we’re done, okay?” Anastasia asked as if she couldn’t wait for him to be gone.

In the face of the lady’s reluctant look, Elliot smiled bitterly and said, “Alright, I’ll leave when we’re done with our lunch.”

As the two of them left, Alex was watching them through the window in the office on the third floor. As he stared at Elliot's car while the man drove away, Alex clenched his fists because Anastasia no longer seemed to be the same person he had always known.

I guess Erica's right; Anastasia only has eyes for rich men. It's no wonder she doesn't even bother looking at me.

Upon arrival at the restaurant, Anastasia made several detailed remarks when placing orders for Elliot's meal, which indirectly revealed her subconscious concern for the man. At the same time, Elliot seemed especially happy with Anastasia's reaction, his eyes filled with tenderness and love.

As soon as the waiter left the lounge, Anastasia turned her attention to the man and happened to meet his gaze, noticing his smiling face that was looking at her. In that instant, Anastasia paused in a trance for a few seconds just as she felt like she had been enchanted by his charming and magical eyes.

"Stop looking at me like that." Anastasia blocked her face.

"What's wrong? Can't I look at my future wife?" Elliot chuckled.

"You need to put a stop to your sweet-talking. I don't like to hear any of that." Anastasia appeared annoyed, but despite her feelings, there was nothing she could do to stop the man's sweet talk.

"I'd like to take Jared to a place that's fun this weekend. Would you mind lending me your son for a day?" Elliot asked.

"Where are you taking him?" Anastasia understood Elliot was inviting her as well, for she knew the man was counting on her son to make her go along.

"There is a club with several new children's programs, and I heard from a friend that they are worth a try. I'd like to take Jared there to let him experience some fun."

Anastasia hesitated shortly before she eventually agreed, thinking that it was time for her son to do something outside after staying home for so long. "Alright, go ahead then. Take Jared with you."

"What about you?"

"I'm going to spend my holiday staying at home." Anastasia was aware not to fall for the man's trap.

Nonetheless, Elliot wasn't desperate to win her heart over at all, but he knew that gaining her son's favor would help him achieve his goal even faster. "Have you realized

that Jared and I look alike? We seem like a father and son, don't we?" Elliot intentionally asked.

As much as Anastasia was unwilling to admit it, she couldn't deny the fact that her son liked Elliot very much. "Well, that's because people who are handsome look alike," Anastasia replied, complimenting her son and Elliot at the same time.

As expected, Elliot smiled brightly upon hearing the lady's words. They left after finishing lunch, whereupon Elliot took her back to Tillman Constructions. Before she got out of the car, he reminded her to keep her distance from Alex. "Stay away from Alex."

However, Anastasia only looked askance at Elliot in an annoyed manner, feeling helpless with his possessiveness and jealousy.

Does he think that every other man goes around charming ladies like him? I only want to take over my father's company as soon as possible so that he can retire and enjoy the rest of his life.

"Drive safely," Anastasia said, reminding Elliot to be careful on the road before she opened the door and stepped out of the car.

In the meantime, Elliot knew Anastasia still had him in her heart even though she didn't reply to his last remark.

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Chapter 385 Do You Really Like Me?

It seemed that he should really keep his jealousy in line and give her some space and freedom.

After Elliot left, Anastasia returned to Francis' office to find Erica tugging their father's sleeve, buttering up to him.

"Dad, I swear I can do what Anastasia can. Please let me work here!"

"No. Cut it out and go home now."

"You're so biased, Dad. Hmph! You don't love me at all. All you care about is Anastasia," Erica whined as she turned around in anger, only to find Anastasia approaching. At that, intense resentment flashed across her eyes.

Meanwhile, Francis coaxed Erica when he saw Anastasia. "Okay, okay, we'll talk about this some other time."

“Anastasia, has Young Master Presgrave left? A few clients will be coming in the afternoon. You should get to know them.”

Anger flashed across Erica’s eyes upon hearing her father’s words. Sure enough, Dad sees Anastasia as his only successor!

“Dad, introduce them to me too.”

“Why don’t you ask Alex to show you around first.” Galled, Francis tried to send his younger daughter away.

To be honest, why would Erica want anything to do with the company? She had long wanted to leave, for she had zero interest in things that challenged her brain.

“In that case, I’ll go and look for Mr. Hunter!” Erica now put her focus on seducing Alex.

As soon as Erica left, Francis turned to Anastasia. “Have you made up with Young Master Presgrave?”

Anastasia blushed right at that. She swore nothing could escape her father’s eyes.

“Actually, we can’t blame the Presgraves for this. What your mother did was out of instinct, and it has nothing to do with anyone. If she’s watching, she’d want you to be with Young Master Presgrave.”

“Why is that so?” Anastasia looked over to her father, confused.

“That’s because the Presgraves’ debt to your mother will have Young Master Presgrave treating you and Jared well for your whole lives. At the very least, he won’t let you down or have an issue with Jared.”

Thanks to her father’s words, the sadness and hesitation within Anastasia had alleviated. Riley had merely said those words to separate Elliot and her.

In that case, why should she trust a murderer?! The one who deserved to rot in hell was him!

“I get it, Dad.” Anastasia nodded.

“That’s good.” Just then, Francis’ phone rang. He picked up the call and said, “Alright, we’ll be there in five.”

“Anastasia, come and have lunch with me.”

With that, Anastasia followed her father to meet some of his important clients while Erica hung out in Alex’s office, having no intention of leaving.

“Mr. Hunter, can you teach me accounting?”

“Erica, you can’t touch these papers.” The way Alex addressed her had changed.

Erica put the papers down right at that and sat down next to him, resting her hand naturally on his leg. “Are you available tonight, Mr. Hunter? Why don’t we have dinner together?”

“Watch what you’re doing. We’re at the office.” Despite saying so, Alex didn’t move his leg away.

Erica had been missing the comfort of a man lately, and she was beginning to find Alex pleasing to the eye. “Does it scare you to live alone, Mr. Hunter? Would you like me to keep you company?”

At that, she whispered into his ear, “We can do anything you like!”

Alex’s body stiffened upon hearing that, and he looked over at Erica. Though she wasn’t as beautiful as Anastasia, she wasn’t unattractive either. Naturally, how could he resist the temptation when she was offering herself on a silver platter? He was no gentleman anyway.

Anastasia was like a flower on the edge of a cliff, difficult to pick. Plus, now that Elliot was by her side, it was even more impossible for him to get close to her anymore. Hence, he decided to settle for second best.

Marrying Erica was also an effective way to obtain Tillman Constructions’ equity, after all!

“Erica, do you really like me?” Alex looked at Erica with a blazing gaze as he held her hands.

Erica went soft in an instant and fell into his arms. “Of course! You’re so capable. Plus, my dad thinks highly of you, and even my mom likes you too!”