

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 901

Chapter 901 Deliberately Nurtured This Way

"It's not funny at all!" Toby refuted Sonia with a stormy expression. Sonia's smile froze on her face. "You... you're upset?" She saw how grim he looked, and it was obvious that he was angry.

Toby reached out and cupped Sonia's face with both of his hands. "I am angry. In fact, I'm furious. Do you have any idea why?" Sonia blinked in bewilderment. She did not respond since she obviously had no idea why.

Toby sighed. "I'm angry because you made a fool out of Connor right to his face. Did you think about what would've happened if you had infuriated him, and he decided to do something to you right there and then? What would happen to you if he did that?"

"I... I know it was careless of me." Sonia finally figured out why Toby was angry. He was worried that she might have gotten hurt.

She took his hands off her face. "Actually, as soon as I did that, I realized how reckless I had been and regretted it. I was also worried that he might do something to me, but luckily, he had his apprehensions and did not do anything to me."

"You should be thankful that he had his apprehensions. If he had nothing to be wary of, then you probably wouldn't be here right now, but with Tim Lancaster." Toby still had a deep frown on his face.

Sonia grabbed his arm and tried to appease him. "Okay, okay, don't be angry anymore. I've realized my mistake, and I won't do it again."

Toby felt helpless after taking a look at Sonia, who was blinking at him with a pitiful expression. He massaged his temples and said, "So long as you don't do it again."

"I definitely won't," Sonia quickly promised.

Toby flicked her on the forehead. "Did Connor say anything after he changed his tune?"

"He told me to not make a decision so hastily, and that he was giving me two more days to reconsider. He said I might change my mind," Sonia replied.

Toby's eyes narrowed. "Change your mind?"

"Yeah, that's what he said. He looked like he was absolutely certain that I would change my mind after thinking about it for two more days."

Toby's lips formed a thin line. "This means he's got a hold against you, or else he would not have said such a thing."

"I think so too." Sonia toyed with Toby's hands as she asked in puzzlement, "But I don't know what he would have that he could use to threaten me."

As soon as she returned to the apartment, she had begun to ponder about this, but she still could not think of anything. This was why she was certain that Connor had nothing on her.

Toby glanced at her. "Since you can't think of anything, then let's not dwell on it. In two days' time, we'll find out what he's up to."

"Yeah." Sonia nodded. "I thought so too."

"When the time comes, I'll go with you to meet with him," Toby decided.

Naturally, Sonia did not object. She would be quite nervous if she met Connor alone, but if Toby came with her, then she would feel a lot more reassured. In any case, Connor did not say that she could not bring someone with her.

"Did he say anything else?" Toby asked again.

Sonia shook her head. "No. He only said these things to me, but..."

She looked up at him in contemplation.

Toby realized that she had something to say that concerned him.

“Just say it,” Toby urged her while stroking her luscious hair.

Sonia took a deep breath. “Okay, I’ll say it. Before he brought up the possibility of me forgiving Anya, he mentioned that he didn’t come here just for Anya. He came to visit an old friend as well. Even though he didn’t say who it was, I’m quite certain that he was talking about your mother.”

All at once, Toby’s expression darkened, and the air around him became a little stifling.

Sonia could feel it too, so she hurriedly grabbed his hand. “Toby, you...”

She tried to say something, but Toby interrupted her. “I’m fine.”

His voice was hoarse and full of disdain as he said, “He’s here to visit my mother? Hah. He betrayed her, but he’s still shameless enough to come and see her. It’s been over thirty years. He never came to see her when she was alive, and even after she died, he didn’t come to visit her grave either. What’s the point of coming now? How much more insincere can he be?”

Sonia nodded in agreement.

She thought the same as well. Connor came running after over thirty years of absolute silence, so no one would feel moved by his deep devotion. In fact, it would only make them feel disdainful. If Connor really cared about Toby’s mother, then he would have come to Seafield to visit her, or at least visited her grave when she died. If he did any of that, then Sonia would still be able to admit that he had some decency in him.

But now, it was only her sense of dignity that stopped her from spitting on him.

“By the way, Toby, did you know?” All of a sudden, a thought occurred to Sonia and she gave Toby’s thigh a light smack.

Toby felt a tinge of numbness in his thigh, and he cocked his eyebrows. “What is it?”

Sonia quickly summarized, “When I pictured Connor Salzburg, I always thought he would be this hulking man with a menacing look in his eyes, but surprisingly, he actually looks like a scholarly gentleman with a pleasant demeanor. He wore a white suit and carried a walking cane around with him, and he looked like a distinguished professor. He was the complete opposite of what I had expected.”

"I know. I've seen his picture before." Toby had no reaction when he heard Sonia's description. He was well-aware of Connor's appearance.

It only made sense, since Connor was who Toby suspected to have killed his father, and even if he had not, Connor was still his mother's ex-lover. It stood to reason that Toby would have some understanding of Connor.

However, what Sonia was referring to was not Connor's physical appearance, but his aura and personality.

She bit her lip and asked tentatively, "Toby, do you remember what you used to be like? I'm talking about the old you, before you were hypnotized."

Toby narrowed his eyes. "Why are you asking me about this?"

Sonia averted her eyes. "Don't ask me about it first. Just hurry up and answer me."

She flapped his arm to hurry him.

She was acting cute toward him, and Toby had a weakness for that, so he dutifully responded to her question. "Gentle?"

"What else?" Sonia continued urging him.

Toby chuckled. "Jolly. I would always have a smile on my face."

This was how she had described him in the past, so he copied her words. In reality, he could not recall what he had been like before. Thanks to the hypnosis, his memory of his past self was rather fuzzy. He became the person that he was now because of the hypnosis, and there was no way for him to return to his old personality.

Sonia sighed. "You're right. The old you was indeed like that, but I'm curious to know—did someone shape that old personality of yours?"

"My mother," Toby replied at once. "My father and grandmother only paid attention to my education and my moral character, but they never had a hand in shaping my personality. They believed that each person had their own personality, and as long as I was an upright citizen, then I would be fine no matter what my personality was like. My mother, on the other hand, had a different mindset, and she influenced a large part of my old personality. She

wanted to have a son with a gentle personality. Since she was my mother, and since she was not trying to influence me in a negative way, I did not go against her wishes.”

Toby was not very concerned about his personality, as he only cared about having a mind of his own. He did not think that his way of thinking clashed with his personality. He was a clear-headed person, so even if there was a mismatch between his thoughts and personality, it still would not affect his decision-making.

Therefore, as he grew up, he continued to mold himself in accordance to his mother’s wishes, and even during the ten-year period after his mother’s death, he still remained the same. It was only after the hypnosis that he developed a new personality that was cold and distant, and when that happened, the old Toby Fuller with a gentle personality was gone.

Boss Your Wife’s Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 902

Chapter 902 Who You Were Meant to Be

For some reason, although he was saddled with regrets and felt somewhat sorry for his mother, he was relieved by his change of character.

His mother was proud of the Toby Fuller of the past and had everyone singing praises for him. However, this only gave the old Toby a lot of pressure. No one knew he disliked his past self as he felt his mother was not looking at him, but rather, looking at someone else through him.

“Just as I expected.” Sonia sighed sorrowfully after listening to the man’s words.

Sensing a vague premonition, Toby lifted Sonia’s chin, forcing her to meet his eyes. “Just as you expected? Did something happen for you to bring up my past character so abruptly?”

This man is still as perceptive as ever. Sonia’s red lips twitched a little before she bit her lip and uttered a response. “Toby, the truth is... I was reminded of how you were the moment I met Connor Salzburg today.”

“Huh?” Toby frowned.

Sonia took a deep breath before explaining herself, "Looking at Connor was just like looking at how you were in the past, that gentle and graceful boy in white. Do you know that Connor and you give off the same kind of energy? You two are so much alike, not in terms of your looks, but in the way you two expressed yourselves as well as your personalities. Naturally, I'm comparing Connor to your past self since how you are right now is completely different from him. How you were in the past is almost identical to Connor. It's not even a stretch to say that the two of you were one and the same person. Do you understand me when I put it this way?"

She fixed her gaze at him after her explanation.

His character was exactly the same as Connor's. To put it more bluntly, someone had intentionally developed his character to be just like Connor's. And that person was his own mother.

The reason why he thought of his mother was because of Sonia's question on the person who had developed his past character. With the fact that she told him that his past character was exactly the same as Connor's, everything fell into place in his head.

Toby was not a foolish person, which was why it was not impossible for him to read between the lines of what Sonia was saying. It was because he understood Sonia that he blanked out with his body tensing up once more at this moment.

Clenching his fists tightly, Toby fixed his gaze on Sonia before asking in a somewhat trembling and hoarse tone, "What are you saying? Connor Salzburg is just like how I was in the past?"

Toby had only ever seen pictures of Connor and had never met the man in person. Although he had heard talks about how Connor's character was and how Connor treated others, thoughts of himself being similar to Connor had never crossed his mind, nor did anyone mention this to him. Thus, it was no surprise why Toby never knew how similar he was to Connor.

Looking at Toby, who was clearly starting to get agitated, Sonia nodded reluctantly even though she knew that it would be hard on the man right now. "Yes."

After all, he grew up according to what his mother wanted. In order for him to fulfill her wishes, he gave up on his ideal personality and grew into the character his mother wanted.

Everything he did, he did for his mother.

However, the end result of Toby's actions was for him to be told by another that the reason why his mother had raised him in this way was not because of her fondness for a gentle and warm child, but because she wanted to realize her longing for another man through him.

Anyone in his position would feel turmoil in their heart. Even more so for a man as prideful as Toby. Toby lowered his head slightly and stayed silent, as he did not wish for others to witness his expression in this instance.

Nevertheless, Sonia noticed from the cold air Toby was exuding that he was angry and extremely furious, but she did not know who was the target of his anger.

Was it Connor, Sonia herself, or... his own mother?

After some time had passed, Toby abruptly lifted his head and revealed a pair of bloodshot eyes. Though his voice became hoarse by the minute while filled with indications that he was holding himself back, he said, "I need some time to calm down."

Sonia knew that he was feeling awful at this moment as various emotions would no doubt spring inside him. Should he choose not to calm himself down here, troubles would no doubt appear further down the road. With such thoughts, Sonia nodded to Toby. "Alright, then I'll return to my room for now."

"No need." Toby grabbed Sonia's hand to stop her from getting up. "I'll head over to the study."

Saying that, he released his grip on her hand before standing up himself and leaving for the study. Even in such a moment when his heart was in turmoil, the man had not asked her to take a step back, but rather chose to take a step back himself.

This man is really...

As Sonia watched Toby's usually tall and straight back become somewhat hunched at this moment, she felt a vague sense of unpleasantness and felt her heart aching inside with her eyes filled with pain for the man.

The birth of one person was the end of another. For the prideful man—that was looked up to by others and even caused others to feel inferior to him—to be hunching like this would be a shock to anyone.

Furthermore, the person that had brought the man into this state was none other than his mother, whom he had great respect for. Although the reason for his birth was his mother's desire for freedom, Toby still loved her and respected her. Yet, he had never considered that his mother—who had always treated him well and loved him dearly so—had mixed her motherly love for him with such impure desires.

His own mother wanted a gentle and warm child merely because the person she loved was a gentle and warm person. Just because she could not meet with her beloved, she molded her own son to be exactly like her beloved. It was all so that she could use her son to relieve her longing for her lover.

Was it really appropriate for a mother to treat her own son as a stand-in for her lover? Toby knew precisely that he was a substitute for Connor, which was why his back was hunched now.

Every person in this world was unique and should not be taken as a substitute for anyone else. However, regardless of how firm and upright his posture usually was, it was expected for someone as prideful as Toby Fuller—who had unknowingly become someone's substitute—to be hunching his back after being dealt such a blow, especially since it was not an enemy but his beloved and revered mother who dealt such a fatal blow to him.

Oftentimes, the most painful wounds a person could have was not dealt by their enemies, but by the people closest to them. Sonia's eyes reddened at such thoughts.

As she clenched her fists, she stood up instantly and shouted at Toby, "Toby Fuller!"

With his hand on the door handle, Toby was already by the entrance of the room and was about to open the door to leave at this point. After Sonia called out to him, he stopped in his tracks but showed no other reaction aside from staying silent.

Wearing a serious expression, she stared at the back of the man before saying, "Toby Fuller, there's something I've never told you all this time. Truthfully, I have always regretted the fact that you've not reverted into that gentle Toby Fuller."

Toby was stunned at her words with his eyes turning into a deep shade of crimson red by the seconds. What does she mean by that? She wants me to continue being a stand-in for Connor Salzburg?

Just when he was about to turn around and question her, Sonia continued, "However, I no longer have such regrets. Instead, I'm glad that you did not revert into that Toby Fuller. I know now that the past you weren't the real you. Although the way you are now was formed by way of hypnosis, you were the one that chose this; no one else influenced you in this. Perhaps the current you is the real you, and perhaps this is your ideal character. That's why I'm happy right now, and I'm happy for you. Congratulations, Toby Fuller. You have finally returned to being who you were meant to be!"

Before Sonia knew the reason for his personality, she felt that it was such a pity for Toby to have not returned to how he was in the past. After all, she loved how gentle he was. Who wouldn't be fond of that gentle and graceful boy dressed in that white shirt of his?

Nevertheless, now that she knew the origins of his gentle personality, she no longer felt that it was a pity.

Moreover, she felt slightly grateful for Tina to have found Miles to hypnotize Toby, where it had indirectly aided Toby into becoming his true self once more.

Boss Your Wife's Asking for A Divorce Again

Chapter 903

Chapter 903 Sonia's Reassurance

After Sonia's explanation, Toby widened his eyes before turning around abruptly. Though his eyes were still red from anger, his pupils were trembling. He was agitated and elated over what Sonia had said.

Toby thought that Sonia was lamenting on why he wouldn't continue being Connor's substitute, and on why he wouldn't turn back into that gentle Toby Fuller. He felt a surge of anger rising and wanted to question her if she really liked his past self to the extent of asking him to be just a stand-in.

If his mother had raised him purely without basing it on her own preference, and Sonia chose to like the past him, at most, he would be slightly upset, but would not be angry about it. The reason being, that would still be the real him.

However, his past self was molded in the shape of Connor. How could Toby accept this should Sonia prefer his past self over the present him? It would be as if she had never loved him and had only ever loved the illusion of his character.

Fortunately, her words after that completely quelled his anger.

It turned out that Sonia loved not the illusion of his character, but his true self—who he really was on the inside. Why else would Sonia say that she was glad that Toby did not return to how he was before?

That was because Sonia knew Toby was not just a substitute for Connor. He was Toby Fuller; he was his own person. He should have had his own personality that was untainted by another person.

And so, Sonia congratulated him on turning back into who he was meant to be.

After Sonia congratulated him, Toby couldn't hold back his elation and agitation any longer. He took swift steps toward Sonia and tightly embraced her in his arms. With how tight his embrace was, it was as if he wanted to merge with her into becoming one person.

"Sonia... Sonia... Sonia!" Toby leaned his head on her shoulder and continued crying out her name. Each cry of his was filled with heavy emotions. It was just as heavy as the tone of his voice.

Looking at the man, Sonia knew the reason for the man's agitation.

It was because of what she said.

She clearly knew the influence her words would have on him.

When the man found out that he was just a substitute that was fostered by his mother, he would subconsciously question his own existence, questioning whether he should've been born into this world.

To be born into this world, yet denied from being his own person. To not be able to be his true self but just somebody else's stand-in. Thus, a sense of disgust was born inside of the man. As a result, he rejected his own existence.

However, Sonia's words were an acknowledgment of his existence. She was telling him that there was a meaning for him to be here in this world and that he wasn't just a stand-in for somebody else.

He was his own person. He was Toby Fuller.

Naturally, Toby got agitated by her words and rushed to embrace her in joy.

"That's enough now." Sonia smiled while patting Toby's back before she softly said, "You should let go of me first. I can't breathe properly with how tightly you're hugging me."

Toby lessened his strength in his embrace, but did not release her from his embrace as he continued to hold her in his arms. At this moment, he couldn't do so. It was only by holding her in his arms could he believe that what he just heard was true.

Sonia felt amused and helpless as she could feel Toby being reluctant to break their embrace. The gap between a usually independent, distant man and a man who was clinging onto her like a child now was indeed amusing to her.

Fine. I should just let it be if he wants to continue hugging me.

Since Sonia was no longer asking for the man to let go of her and had decided to allow the man to continue hugging her, she continued patting his back and comforted him. "Don't worry. No matter what happens, you'll have me by your side. Not only me, but Grandma, Jean, and even Tyler are by your side as well. We all know that you are your own person, and not just another person's substitute."

Although she did not want to mention Jean, she had to bear her aversion for Jean and mention Jean's name in order to comfort the man.

At this point, Toby was still quiet and had buried his head right at Sonia's neck. He only muffled a sound as an indication that he was listening and would take her words into mind. And so, Sonia did not say anything more, and the two of them stayed silent as they continued to be in each other's arms.

It was only when Sonia's phone rang did Toby reluctantly release her.

She took out her phone and smiled when she saw the caller ID. "It's Mrs. Lane. She's probably calling to ask what you like to eat so that she can prepare them for tonight's dinner."

After Toby took a glance at the caller ID, his emotions became much better. "Answer her. I'll leave for the study first."

Toby still needed to take time to calm himself down. Though Sonia had said much and somewhat comforted him, he still needed to think about certain things himself. After all, it was his own mother. He—as her son—needed to process what his own mother had done to him.

Sonia understood where Toby was coming from, which was why she had not objected when Toby wanted to leave for the study, and instead nodded in agreement. However, she believed that he would take no time at all in the study after the encouragement she gave. That was why she was relieved even though Toby was going to process things by himself at this time.

"Go ahead. I'll call you when it's time for lunch," Sonia said while looking at Toby.

With a slight nod, Toby turned around and left for the study.

Sonia then called Mrs. Lane back after watching Toby enter the study. Due to Sonia watching Toby intently, the ringing had stopped as she did not answer the call even after some time had passed. Now, she had to call her back instead.

After Toby entered the study and closed the door, he stood with his back against the door and closed his eyes slightly as he pinched the bridge of his nose. He wore an expression that was full of fatigue—both physically and mentally.

He'd always thought that although he was born for the purpose of his mother's freedom, his mother still loved him, and that her love for him was pure and untainted by any other feelings. Yet, he only found out now just how wrong he was.

His mother did love him, but it was not just a simple mother's love. At the very least, he would never be able to reach Connor's position in his mother's heart.

For the sake of Connor, his mother nurtured him into the likes of Connor. In her heart, as long as she could relieve her longing for her lover, whether or not her son had a character of his own did not matter. Even so, in order to make his mother happy and not disappoint her, he still tried his best in becoming someone gentle even when he disliked it.

It was all because his mother liked it.

He knew that his mother was unhappy about getting married to his father, which was why Toby chose to become someone he didn't like in order to make his mother happy. Yet, everything was just a lie in the end. It was all a lie!

Toby hung his head with both his hands clenched into fists. Due to how hard he was clenching his hands, his arms trembled slightly with his veins bulged. The air around him turned frightfully cold.

Toby had not doubted Sonia's words and even believed her instantly. In the past, he would always have the suspicion of his mother looking at someone else through him, but he never had any proof for his suspicion and thought that he was mistaken.

Yet, he realized that he wasn't wrong with his suspicion the moment Sonia said that his past self was just like Connor. His mother was looking at someone else through him as Toby was specifically nurtured to be the substitute for Connor.

Just a stand-in!

This was a mockery to Toby.

To think he, Toby Fuller, the head of the Fullers, would one day be someone else's stand-in.

And that someone else might even be his father's murderer!

He couldn't forgive his mother's actions. Although he would still give her his respect, he would no longer give her his love. After all, no one would be able to accept just being a stand-in for someone else, much less him, Toby Fuller.

Nevertheless, he did not care anymore. Neither the fact that his mother treated him as a substitute and never fully treated him as her son nor loved her son with all of her heart mattered anymore. Now, even without his mother, there were other people who truly loved him.

Little Leaf, and Grandma, they both love me a lot.

After Little Leaf knew that how he was before was specifically nurtured according to someone else, she immediately let go of her fond memories of his past self and accepted the current him.

This sentiment of hers was enough for him to remember her for the rest of his life.