

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 961-970

Chapter 961 You're Not Jealous?

Dragging Sonia by her hand, Toby walked toward the seating area with Sonia in tow. "I knew my Little Leaf was smart. After I knew you had ordered a blue custom-made dress, I picked out a piece of blue-colored jewelry from my mother's keepsake that would match your dress. But, I never gave it to you and decided to pick another piece out due to the incident."

"When did this happen?" Sonia asked while walking beside him.

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Toby's expression grew stern. "It was the day when Anya ruined your dress. Don't you remember I went back to the Fuller Residence on that day?"

As Sonia instantly understood the full picture, she looked at him in a daze. "So, the reason you went back there was to get the jewelry?"

"That's right." Toby raised his chin slightly.

"The box you brought back that night was the jewelry?" asked Sonia again.

Toby replied, "Yes, it was supposed to be a surprise for you. However, I decided not to give it to you after that incident."

"It's better that way." Sonia's eyes flashed a hint of coldness. "If you had given me the jewelry then, I might have been much more upset. You trusted me to bring your dress back to you and had even prepared jewelry for me, yet I couldn't even do a simple thing of watching over the dress. I've really let you down in the end."

Toby stopped abruptly before he turned to Sonia and lifted her chin.

Looking at the man's frown and displeased expression, Sonia blinked dumbfoundedly before she asked, "What's wrong?"

"Don't talk about yourself that way," Toby said. "You did not let me down, since you successfully brought the dress out of the store. It is not your fault that the dress was ruined. After all, how could you stop someone's malice? So, you do not have any need to feel ashamed." Saying that, he caressed her lips with his thumb.

Glaring at the man, Sonia slapped away his hand which was taking advantage of her.

Toby chuckled. "Looks like you've cheered up."

Sonia was slightly stunned. "So you took advantage of me just so I would stop feeling ashamed?"

“Of course.” Toby nodded. “Since you’re a sensitive person, words of assurance won’t be enough to help you get over your feeling of shame. That’s why angering you is the best way to stop you from dwelling on such things.”

“You’re really... Pfft!” Sonia had wanted to tell the man off, yet couldn’t stop herself from smiling. How could she? After all, Toby was sincerely trying to cheer her up, yet she was going to tell him off. That would just be ungrateful of her.

“Looks like you finally smiled.” Toby gently pinched her soft cheeks. “You look much better smiling than when you are depressed. My Little Leaf is the most beautiful when she smiles.”

“Tell me something I don’t know.” Sonia blushed before she broke free of his grip and strode forward.

As Toby stood still looking at Sonia quickly walking away in embarrassment, he chuckled in adornment before following her.

Back in the seating area, Sophia and her assistant had been patiently waiting for their return. Upon noticing the couple coming back, they hurriedly put down the coffee and snacks they had in their hands before they stood up. “President Fuller, Miss Reed, welcome back,” Sophia said with a smile.

Sonia returned a smile of her own.

“Miss Reed, President Fuller, what do you two think of the dress? Is there anything that needs to be altered?” asked Sophia.

Shaking her head, Sonia answered, “I think it’s very good and there’s nothing that needs altering. What do you think?” She turned her attention to the man beside her to seek his opinion, as she knew that Toby was a jealous man. Although the dress wasn’t that revealing, the area around the legs and shoulders was slightly revealing. Hence, she had thought that it was possible for him to dislike the current design and want to alter parts of it.

Despite the fact that he had no problem with her dress currently and had even complimented her by saying she was beautiful, Sonia thought that it was because the few people here were all female with Toby being the only exception. Naturally, he wouldn’t need to be jealous and worried over other men looking at her. However, that would not be the case during the night of the party, as there would be other men there that would inevitably have their eyes on her. Hence, she couldn’t be sure that he wouldn’t be jealous at that time.

Nevertheless, Toby’s answer was completely out of Sonia’s expectations, as he said that he had no problems with the dress, so there was no need to alter the dress, which made Sonia look at him in amazement.

“What’s wrong?” Toby asked while he gently brushed the bridge of her nose upon noticing the look she gave him.

Sonia slapped his hand away. “And here I thought you would be asking Ms. Sophia to make some alterations to the dress, especially around the skirt, since it is a split design.”

"I know, but the dress looks better with this design. Why would you think I would want to alter it?" asked Toby.

Sonia chose not to hide her thoughts and answered truthfully, "Because I thought you would be jealous."

Toby, who had now understood Sonia's reason for her question, chuckled. "I am indeed unhappy that other men would look at how beautiful you are in that dress. However, I cannot deprive you of your right to wear such beautiful clothes just because I dislike having others look at you. So, you don't have to worry about it and just wear this dress. And as for those that would lay their eyes on you, I would give them a stern warning, naturally." His tone during his last sentence grew much, much colder.

Sonia was taken aback but gave a snicker when she came back to her senses. "It must be hard for you to endure your displeasure for my sake."

"It's not hard." Toby stroked her hair. "This is of my own volition. Although I dislike you wearing something too revealing that would stimulate other men, I'd much prefer for you to shine brightly."

With a twitch of her red lips, Sonia was about to speak up before she was interrupted by Sophia's clap of her hand. "Oh, this is truly a love that moves hearts," Sophia said excitedly.

In an instant, Sonia's face grew red and she became embarrassed to continue her conversation with Toby. She then cleared her throat before hurriedly changing the topic. "Alright, Ms. Sophia, do help me undress and pack the dress up."

"Alright." Sophia nodded with a smile.

Sonia then turned toward Toby. "I'm heading to the dressing room to change. Wait for me here. Oh right, it'd be better if you kept the necklace." She handed the necklace over to him.

Toby did not refuse her, so he took the necklace and said, "Alright, I'll put it on for you when it's time."

"Yeah." Sonia flashed a smile before walking toward the dressing room with Sophia.

However, just as they arrived at the dressing room, Sophia's assistant came over to her with a grave expression and said something to Sophia. Since Sonia did not understand what was going on, she stood there waiting for them without a sound, not wanting to interrupt their conversation.

About two minutes later, her assistant nodded and left after Sophia had waved her hand at her. Taking a deep breath after her conversation with her assistant, Sophia softened her heavy expression and smiled at Sonia. "Miss Reed, I'm sorry, but I have some urgent matters to attend to right now. Do you mind waiting for me for a few minutes? Just a few minutes. I'll be right back."

Sonia nodded understandingly. "Of course, I don't mind waiting. You go ahead and deal with your matters first."

"You're such a darling. You really are a kind girl." Touched, Sophia hugged Sonia.

Shocked by how Sophia hugged her so enthusiastically, Sonia could only pat her on her back.

As Sophia remembered that she still had to settle her matters, she quickly let go of Sonia and jogged toward the direction where her assistant had gone.

Looking at Sophia leaving, Sonia smiled helplessly before she sat down on the bench near the dressing room while waiting for Sophia's return. Since the back of the dress was designed with straps, she could only wait for Sophia, as it was easy to ruin the dress should she undress herself.

Meanwhile, Toby had waited for some time back in the seating area, yet Sonia had not finished changing out of her dress. As he couldn't wait any longer, he stood up and went toward the dressing room.

Chapter 962 Sham of a Person

On his way to the dressing room, the phone in his pocket rang. Without stopping in his tracks, Toby took his phone out and answered the call after taking a glance at the caller ID. "What is it?"

Upon hearing Toby's question, the caller, Tom, immediately answered, "The person we've set to keep an eye on Connor Salzburg has just sent word that he has gone out this afternoon."

"Where to?" Toby's expression turned gloomy.

At the other end of the line, Tom adjusted his glasses before he replied, "Campbell Residence."

"Campbell Residence?" Toby narrowed his eyes. "Why would he go there? Does Connor have connections with the Campbell Family?"

The Campbell Family was a long-standing family that had settled in Seafield hundreds of years ago. They were different from all the other merchant families, as they were a family of scholars. Furthermore, with each and every one of the Campbells keeping a low profile and practicing restraint, their reputation in Seafield was exceptional. They wouldn't get too acquainted with the other families as well. In short, the Campbell Family gave off an aura of independence unlike the other families in Seafield.

However, everything had its exceptions, as the Fuller Family was on decent terms with the Campbell Family. The main reason for this was that the late Old Master of the Campbell Family had worked under Toby's grandfather, Norman, as a security officer.

During the warring era, Old Master Campbell once took a bullet for Norman. Although the bullet would not have been fatal, as it wasn't aimed at either the head or heart of Norman, Old Master Campbell's action in using his own body to block a bullet for others was courageous like no other. It was for this reason that the Fuller Family had always looked out for the Campbell Family. Furthermore, Toby knew the Campbells well, including their interpersonal relationships. Besides the Fuller Family, it was unlikely for the Campbell Family to have a connection with the Salzburg Family.

However, the fact that Connor had gone to the Campbell Family made Toby reconsider his understanding of the Campbells. He had even considered that they had hidden their connection to

Connor and that they were connected right from the start. Should that be the case, Toby would have to consider whether to continue supporting and looking out for the Campbell Family.

Although Old Master Campbell had taken a bullet for Norman, this debt had been repaid by the Fuller Family. In the past, Norman had bailed the Campbells when they were forced to the farms, as they were marked as a scholar family. It was at that time that the Fullers had fully repaid their debt to the Campbells. As for the reason why the Fuller Family continued to look out for them, it was merely out of the friendship between Norman and Old Master Campbell. After all, the Fullers were fully capable of supporting the Campbells and were never skimpy with them.

Decades passed, and supporting the Campbell Family had become a habit that the Fullers did not bother to change. However, if the Campbells went behind Toby's back and got involved with Connor Salzburg, then they would see just how merciless Toby could be. Toby could be merciful in giving his support to them, but he could absolutely not tolerate the people under his protection to be secretly in contact with someone that the Fuller Family had problems with. This was the very action of biting the hands that fed them!

Tom, on the other end of the line, knew not of what was on his president's mind, but he could hear the change in Toby's tone when he had reported to him that Connor had gone to the Campbell Family. After all, Tom was privy to the relationship between the Fuller Family and the Campbell Family.

"Don't worry, President Fuller. They do not have a connection with each other," Tom hurriedly replied while he shook his head, as he did not wish for Toby to misunderstand the situation. "I am aware of what you're worried about. After I'd gotten word that Connor went to the Campbell Residence, I immediately investigated whether the Campbell Family had ever been in contact with Connor all these years. In the end, the result of the investigation was that the Campbells did not have any contact with any other families besides the Fullers. It is unlikely that Connor has been in contact with them prior to this."

When he heard his assistant's explanation, Toby's darkened expression softened slightly. "Good." It seems that the Campbell Family has kept their loyalty and did not wrong us, Toby thought. "Did you find out why Connor went to the Campbell Residence?" he asked with his lips pursed.

Tom nodded. "Naturally. Since I've determined that they have no prior connection, I would naturally turn my investigation to the reason Connor went to the Campbell Residence."

With a light grunt, Toby's tightly pursed thin lips slightly loosened, as Tom had given a satisfying answer to his question. "Speak." Toby indicated for Tom to report on the result of his investigation.

After acknowledging his president's question, Tom said in a serious tone, "So far, Connor himself has not left the hotel, but our people have reported that his assistant has gone out several times. We found out that the assistant has been going to several famous private investigation agencies. We've contacted the owners of these agencies to find out the reason for Connor's assistant's visit. From the owners, we learned that Connor has been searching for the late Madam's grave for the past few days."

"What?" Toby's expression slightly changed. "Looking for my mother's grave?"

“Yes.” Tom nodded.

This prompted Toby to laugh in exasperation. “He wants to pay his respect to my mother?”

“I believe so.” Tom then lowered his head. “Otherwise, why would he go to such lengths to search for Madam’s grave? Hence, I believe that Connor met with the Campbell Family for this matter, and left the residence after 2 hours there. When he left, I immediately contacted the current head of the Campbell Family to ask about the purpose of Connor’s visit. The family head told me that Connor had asked him about the location of Madam’s grave, as the whole of Seafield knew just how close the Campbell Family was with the Fuller Family, and even more so when compared to the Coleman Family. It would not be a stretch to say that the Campbell Family knew the Fuller Family the best. Since Connor could not get any information regarding Madam’s grave from the investigation agencies, he would naturally turn to the Campbell Family about it. Nevertheless, he was destined to have made the trip for nothing.”

After all, besides Toby and Grace, the only other person who knew the location of the grave was Tom. No one else knew about it. Hence, it was impossible for Connor to find the information about the location of the grave no matter who he sought—even if the ones he sought were the Campbells who knew the Fullers best.

Toby’s smile became much more shrewd and frightening. He cared not about the later portion of Tom’s report, as he focused on the earlier portion of the report. “He still has the gall to seek my mother’s grave? Not only that, but he has the audacity to pay respect to my mother?! Does he think that he would be expressing his love for my mother by doing something this insolent? Ridiculous!”

If Connor had really loved Valerie, then he would have come straight out to stop the marriage proposal from the Johann Family by announcing his relationship with her back then. Instead, he did nothing but only watched how Valerie struggled to resist all the way up to her marriage to Homer from the sideline like a coward.

It would have been fine if that was the end of the matter. Yet, Connor had the gall to incur Valerie and to subject her to some ridiculous agreement that Connor himself had not abided by, as he had numerous affairs. Not only did he have an illegitimate daughter, but he had also even agreed to marry someone else the moment Valerie was about to run away from the Fuller Family. That was the last straw that broke the camel’s back, as he drove Valerie into taking her own life out of despair.

It had been 20 years ever since Valerie’s death, yet Connor had never asked about Valerie, nor did he come to Seafield to pay his respects. In these 20 years, he had acted as though Valerie had not existed in this world as he continued to have a free and easy life in Westsashire.

After 20 years had passed, only now did Connor finally come to Seafield to pretend to search for Valerie’s grave to pay his respects. Toby hadn’t once assumed that Connor did all these out of his love for Valerie since he knew that Connor’s love for his mother was just superficial. If Connor had truly loved her, he wouldn’t have done all those despicable things to her. Right now, all Connor was doing was satisfying his own ego.

He was just another hypocrite, another sham of a person!

Chapter 963 Help You Get Changed

Tom nodded to express his anger at Connor as well, as he shared Toby's opinion that Connor's behavior was ridiculous. To Tom, Connor was not the source of hope for the late Madam, as he drove her to take her own life.

Even after her death, Connor gave no care and had not come to Seafield to pay his respect all these years. No one would think he was being affectionate now that 20 years had passed, but rather, they would only think that Connor was just putting on a show to satisfy his own ego.

Perhaps Connor did feel some guilt when he heard the news of Valerie's suicide 20 years ago. After all, Connor did immediately cancel his then-upcoming wedding. Nevertheless, the guilt he had was definitely superficial.

Otherwise, why did Connor not come back to Seafield to pay his respects for 20 years? Now that he wished to pay his respects, Tom assumed that Connor was probably only doing it for the sake of clearing that tiny guilty conscience of his so that he could continue his easy and free life. Such a man is truly a disgrace, Tom thought scornfully.

"Besides the investigation agencies and the Campbell Family, did Connor meet anyone else to ask about my mother's grave?" Toby asked in a chilling voice with his eyes narrowed.

Tom immediately collected his thoughts before nodding. "He did. After failing to seek information from the investigation agencies, he had invited the Coleman Family to meet but was rejected by them. It was only then Connor went to the Campbell Family."

"The Coleman Family obviously wouldn't accept his invitation." Toby sneered. "Although there was no evidence to the things he did back in Westsashire, everyone there knows about the truth to it. Since the Coleman Family has always been an honest and upright family, it would be unlikely for them to want to involve themselves with a man like him. But I digress, was there anyone else?"

"No. No more." Tom shook his head, but had hesitation in his tone, as he suddenly remembered something.

Impatient, Toby said, "Talk."

"Right," Tom immediately replied. With his hesitation gone, he continued, "I was just thinking if Connor had gone to the Johann Family. Considering the fact that the Johanns are in Westsashire and that the Fuller Family has not paid any attention to them for so long, we would be none the wiser should Connor have met with them."

Toby snorted. "What would be the point? The current Johann Family is no longer related to my mother. They weren't even invited to my mother's funeral back then. It would have been pointless for Connor to meet with them. It would be just another wasted trip for him."

"That's true." Tom nodded.

“Anything else?” Toby rubbed his temple.

Tom cleared his throat before he replied, “Nothing else. That is all we have on Connor so far. However, the man we sent to keep an eye on him has also reported that he has lost track of his assistant once on the day before yesterday. Although he didn’t know where the assistant had gone, he knew that it wasn’t the investigation agencies.”

“Investigate him.” Toby frowned.

“Understood,” Tom replied.

With his thin lips pursed, Toby continued to ask, “Have you arranged for the bodyguards that would replace the security guards in Paradigm Co.?”

Tom smiled. “Don’t worry, President Fuller. I have already made the arrangement the moment you’ve ordered me to. I’m guessing that the security guards have been replaced at this time around.”

Feeling satisfied, Toby replied, “Good. I’ll need you to arrange some bodyguards for the old manor and the Fuller Residence as well to strengthen the security there. I’m worried that Connor might resort to holding my men hostage to threaten me into telling him after he failed to find my mother’s grave.”

“Understood, President Fuller.” Tom nodded with a serious expression. “Should I arrange some for Miss Reed as well?”

“No need.” Toby waved his hand. “I’ve already made arrangements for her.”

“Understood.” Tom did not pursue the matter, as Sonia was his president’s woman after all. Since his president had told him that it had been arranged, there was no point in worrying, as he was just a mere subordinate.

After that, Toby ended the call and increased his pace slightly.

Not long after, he arrived near the dressing room and saw from afar a woman sitting on the bench with her head down on her phone; she hadn’t changed out of that magnificent red dress yet. Suspicious of the woman’s reason for doing so, Toby walked over and said softly, “Why are you sitting here?”

Upon hearing his voice, Sonia put down her phone and turned her attention toward the direction of the voice with a surprised expression. “Why did you come over?”

“I was worried since I’ve waited for some time, yet you still haven’t come back. So, I came over to find you.” Toby came to a stop in front of her.

With a smile, Sonia stood up. “What can go wrong when we’re inside a store?”

“Many things can go wrong in the blink of an eye. Trouble comes regardless of the location. Even the safest place in the world would not guarantee one’s safety.” Toby looked at her with a serious expression.

Looking at the man being serious and preachy, Sonia was amused. "Yes, yes. I get it. But, now that you see I'm fine, shouldn't you be relieved right now?"

Toby then raised his chin haughtily. "Looks like it, but why are you sitting down here? Weren't you going to change out of your dress? Where's Sophia?"

"I was supposed to get changed," Sonia answered with a shrug. "But when I came here, something urgent came up for Sophia. So, I asked her to settle her matters first before coming back to help me out of my dress. That's why I'm here waiting for her."

Upon her explanation, Toby frowned. "Even if you are being considerate, are you not hungry right now?"

"I am." Sonia touched her stomach before giving Toby a pitiful expression.

Looking at Sonia's expression, Toby couldn't bring himself to get angry at her. Hence, he pretended to be angry. "Why did you let Sophia go when you're already hungry? Although you were being considerate to her, why didn't you give any thought about yourself? Why didn't you give me any thought? What if you faint from hunger?"

The man in front of her had his brow wrinkled while he wore a worried expression. He looked very much like a mother to Sonia, which made her cover her mouth and snicker. "Alright, alright. You can stop grumbling now. I was wrong, okay? To be honest, I wasn't even thinking that far. I was only thinking that it wouldn't be nice to inconvenience Sophia. Plus, Sophia did say it would only take her a few minutes. I can still afford to wait for a few minutes."

"And how many minutes ago was that?" Toby raised his eyes and gave her a cold gaze.

Sonia stuck her tongue out briefly before she replied, "Maybe she couldn't solve the urgent matter in a few minutes. Don't mind her, it's okay."

Toby sighed. "I've already told you before, you'll only suffer if you're too kind. See what I told you? Fine, I'll help you get changed. The earlier you finish changing, the earlier we can go get something to eat." Right now, Toby regretted bringing her to try the dress out, as he thought that he should have brought her to have a meal first before coming to try the dress.

"Help me get changed?" Sonia stared at Toby wide-eyed.

Toby frowned. "Why not? Is that not acceptable?"

Covering her chest with her arms, Sonia replied, "What are you saying? You do know that we're not the same gender, right?"

Hearing Sonia's reason, Toby laughed. "Not only have I already seen you naked, but we've also done the most intimate deed any couple could do. Helping you get changed is just a small matter at this point."

At this point, Sonia was speechless, as she knew what he said was true. Indeed, there was no reason for her to act this way, as he had already seen her naked before. Ugh, fine. I am feeling weak from hunger

now. I'll be able to eat earlier the sooner he helps me get changed. With such thoughts, Sonia exhaled lightly before looking at the man with a slight blush on her face. "Let's go."

"Where to?" Toby asked deliberately while looking at her flushed cheeks with hints of playfulness in his eyes.

Chapter 964 A Different Way

Sonia could tell at a glance that Toby had done it intentionally. Stomping her feet out of anger, she grumbled, "I would rather wait for Ms. Sophia to come back if this is how you are going to behave."

Then, she sat down again.

Seeing this, Toby instantly knew that he had gone overboard with his teasing.

She was already embarrassed to begin with. It was no wonder that she would end up getting angry after he purposely made fun of her.

"I'm sorry. It is my fault," he hurriedly apologized while holding onto her. "I shouldn't have done that. Please don't be mad, alright?"

With his chin low, he kept peeking at her while he blurted out words of persuasion.

Now that he had apologized, it only seemed natural for her to let him off the hook. After all, she wasn't actually angry at him. She was only sulking out of embarrassment.

Sonia proceeded to let out a huff as she headed to the entrance of the dressing room in her silver pair of crystal high heels.

Toby couldn't help but lightly chuckle as he watched the back of her torso. It was only then that he followed after her.

It was a considerably small-sized fitting room which was only about three square meters. Having to fit two people in it, on top of the clothes racks and other things, made the small space extremely congested.

After Toby closed the door behind him, Sonia turned her back to him and said, "This dress is fastened by the straps on the back. Ms. Sophia had to tie the straps for me using a special knot instead of a regular bow. I can't undo it by myself, so you've got to do it for me. You can go out after that."

After all, the straps were at the back. The bow could easily unravel, and the dress would fall if someone were to tug on the strap of a regular bow.

That was the reason why all the clothes with straps at the back were tied using a special knot.

Otherwise, a wardrobe malfunction could easily happen.

However, the biggest disadvantage of this special knot was that it was hard to undo by the person wearing the clothes. One would usually need help with it from others.

Once he heard that Sonia wanted him gone after helping her with undoing the knot, Toby instantly felt like he was a mere errand boy that she could get rid of as soon as she was done with him.

Even with that thought going through his head, he didn't forget the reason why he was able to step into this place. After he scooped her hair in front, which revealed the perfect back of her neck and body, he began to carefully observe the knot on her back.

It took him a little more than ten seconds to figure it out.

All he had to do to undo the complicated knot was tug on four straps at the same time with his fingers.

However, instead of the simple method, he wanted to spice things up.

A glint appeared in Toby's eyes as he suddenly had an idea. With that, he placed his palms on the back of her torso, and shoved at her.

Sonia had been patiently standing there waiting for his help to get out of her dress, but what she got in return was a push that sent her staggering forward with a yelp.

Luckily, the momentum of her fall wasn't big because he didn't push her with much force. As she stumbled, she immediately stretched out her hands and supported herself against the soft wall in front of her, thereafter managing to stabilize herself.

She might not, and would not, be hurt, but the shock from unexpectedly being pushed enraged her.

Sonia let her hand fall to her sides and turned to glare at him. "Have you gone crazy, Toby?!"

He didn't answer her as he took one step toward her. He then reached out his hand and propped it on the wall near her ear, giving her another shock that made her freeze momentarily.

Not knowing what he was up to, she frowned and was about to push him away from her when he finally spoke again. "Don't move. I will undo the knot for you."

"You will undo the knot for me?" Sonia scoffed angrily. "Not only have you not done anything useful even though you have been in here for a while now, you even did something confusing as hell. What do you want, Toby?"

She was telling him that she was starting to not understand what was going on in his head. After that, she massaged her forehead when she felt a headache coming.

"Forget it." She sighed without waiting for his reply. "Don't undo it. You can head out now. I will think of a way myself."

She then began to turn around to watch him leave.

Sonia was sure she wouldn't be out of her dress anytime soon if Toby stayed in the dressing room with her.

Gosh, I must have been nuts to believe that he would obediently help me with my dress here.

Even though he didn't take advantage of her after he followed her in, he had behaved in a way that was even more confusing than if he did.

Anyhow, she concluded, he better be out of here fast.

However, just as she had turned around halfway, Toby suddenly moved her back to the position she was in and bit the tip of her ear. "Don't move," he growled.

And Sonia subconsciously did exactly as he told.

The man then released his bite before burying his face in the back of her neck.

There was a mirror in the dressing room. With a slight tilt of her head, Sonia could see everything he was doing behind her.

Toby was currently following along her neck to the line on her back, and he only came to a stop when he was at the small of her back.

Following that, he slightly parted his thin lips and held one of the straps on her back in between his teeth. He then started moving backward.

She immediately knew what this dirty dog of a man was doing upon seeing this. Instead of undoing the knot the normal way, he would rather do it using his teeth.

It was impossible for Sonia to not be surprised when she realized what he was up to.

At the same time, her face had flushed red.

This method of untying knots felt so risqué that it was enough to make anyone blush.

Sonia was frozen in place as she couldn't will herself to move away. All she could do was let her face get redder by the second while she held her breath, her eyes noticing Toby's every movement as he undid the knot.

At that moment, only the sounds of two unsynchronized breaths and fabric being pulled against fabric could be heard reverberating across the narrow dressing room. The room was instantly engulfed in intimacy like no other, and the couple's hearts beat as though there were wild horses galloping in their chest.

Sonia could even clearly feel the increase of temperature in the air that also brought her body heat up, making it difficult for her to calm down.

She didn't know how much time had passed by the time Toby had loosened the four straps on her back, but as soon as the two pieces of fabric that held the dress together parted, he could see her snow-white skin underneath the previously covered area.

She finally let out a sigh of relief when he was done.

Now that the knot had been undone, she wouldn't need his help anymore to take off the dress that she could take off on her own.

Since Toby was done with his little prank, she initially thought that he would read her tone and let go of her.

Sonia didn't expect him to not even have the thought of stopping and going easy on her.

The man proceeded to spit out the strap in his mouth before he resumed his earlier position.

Seeing this, she immediately yelled panickedly, "What else are you trying to do, Toby?! The knot is undone. Hurry up and let me go."

As though he hadn't heard a word she said, he went on and pressed his thin lips on her back.

Sonia couldn't help but shiver when his cold lips met the hot skin on the back of her torso.

He didn't stop here then. She soon felt the light kiss turn into a suckle, and it was a feeling too familiar to her that he would always do it to her whenever they were getting it on. His sucking on her skin would always leave a mark on her unblemished skin.

Toby's intentions were instantly made clear, now that he was suddenly doing this—he wanted to leave his mark on her back.

Coincidentally, Sonia's back was one of the more sensitive parts of her body. There was no way she could stand it when the man kept kissing and biting her. Her energy gradually seeped out of her body, leaving her a boneless, gasping puddle. By now, her face had turned completely red, and her eyes were hazy when she unconsciously let out mewls and moans in between hitched breaths.

Chapter 965 Taking Back the Reward

Sophia and her assistant instinctively stopped dead in their tracks when they heard the first sound.

They both had hurried back after they were done with their work. Just as they had reached the outside of the fitting room, they suddenly heard those noises from inside that threw their minds in the gutter.

A confused expression immediately appeared on Sophia's face. The assistant's eyes, however, were sparkling as she covered her hands over her mouth.

Oh God. Oh God! Is this real?! Am I hearing a live session of people getting nasty?! The assistant screamed on the inside. Ah! How exciting!

The assistant had gotten so excited her face had gone red. She would even have screamed and jumped to vent her current feelings if it wasn't because she didn't want her presence to be noticed.

Sophia finally snapped back to reality after sucking in a deep breath, and she whipped around to her assistant and whispered, "Let's go!"

Hearing that, the assistant removed her hands from her face and whined in an equally hushed voice, "Can't we stay a little longer, Lady Boss?"

Let's stay and listen a while more! It is such a rare chance. There might not be a next time! She kept this part to herself.

Sophia understood her assistant too well to not know what was going through her head as her wide eyes kept darting in the direction of the fitting room.

Feeling slightly speechless, Sophia lightly knocked her knuckles on the assistant's head and gave a grave warning. "You can stay if you aren't afraid of being caught and getting President Fuller's attention. Don't tell him you are my assistant if he comes for your head after that. I can't save you."

After saying that, she left her assistant alone as she made her way to the seating area.

The assistant couldn't possibly insist on lurking around here since her employer had said those words. Throwing an unwilling glance at the door of the fitting room, she let out a disappointed sigh before she scurried after Sophia.

Meanwhile, Sonia, who was still in the fitting room, had no idea the sounds that left her lips had been overheard by Sophia and her assistant. Not only that, they had also misunderstood what was going on in the room.

She would definitely die of embarrassment if she were to know that someone had heard her.

Even though she and Toby weren't really doing anything, they were probably not far from actually delving into the main event.

That was because, at this moment, Sonia barely had clothes on her upper body. The dress she still had on moments ago had automatically slipped down after the man untied the straps on her back.

There was supposed to be a strap on her shoulder that would have prevented the dress from falling. However, due to its 'interference'—it getting in the way of Toby putting his heart and soul into kissing her—when he was kissing her all over her back, he had moved the strap off her shoulder and down her arm.

With the lack of support from the remaining strap, the dress had completely slipped from Sonia's body. Fortunately, the waist of the dress was form-fitting, which had prevented it from slipping anywhere past the waist.

Or else, she would be naked as the day she was born instead of still having her lower half covered.

Even so, she had already flushed red from embarrassment as she mentally cursed at him.

She initially thought that he only wanted to undo the knot the naughtier way. It wasn't like he was going to do anything to her directly if she let him have his fun. After all, this was someone else's dressing room. It was ill-mannered to do something like this in someone else's territory.

Sonia failed to consider how the dirty dog didn't care about all that. He was probably thinking about how it would be a waste for him to not take advantage of her when he had already partially removed her clothes anyway.

With that, he hugged her from behind and nibbled along her skin.

She had personally seen from the mirror how her back was full of red spots and bite marks. It was as though she had been chewed on by a dog.

This only proved that she wasn't wrong in calling him a dirty dog.

Thankfully, Toby wasn't a senseless brute who didn't know that it was improper to do it at someone else's place. He only let her go contentedly after he left love bites all over her back.

Sonia finally felt a little more relieved when she felt the 'dog's snout' detach from her back. A wave of embarrassment and anger immediately hit her when she lowered her head to look at her naked upper body, and she quickly snatched the blouse she wore here that was hung on the clothes stand beside. Covering the front of her body, she turned around and looked at the man with her red eyes. "Toby Fuller!" she roared.

He was wiping the corner of his mouth with his thumb, and she could see the satisfaction in his eyes.

Seeing how contented he looked, she grew even more embarrassed than she already was.

Toby Fuller, you dirty dog! You might have had your fun, but have you thought about how long it would take for these to fade?!

"Oh—you piss me off!" Sonia's eyes had a dangerous glint from the extreme emotions she was feeling. "I shouldn't have believed you when you said you would help me change out of my clothes! I even thought you really were going to help me. You only said that to take advantage of me, didn't you?!"

She was already on the verge of tears from being angry at him.

Toby was well aware that his behavior had ticked her off. Putting his hands down, he gently held her in an embrace and cooed, "Don't cry. It was my fault. I really did come in to help you with your clothes. It is just that I couldn't hold myself back after seeing how the dress was removed. Furthermore, you look absolutely stunning in that dress. That was why..."

He didn't need to finish his words for her to understand what he meant.

As the saying went, men would always be men. There was no man in the world that could keep their hands to themselves when the woman they loved appeared beautiful in their eyes.

Something must be wrong somewhere if the man could hold back.

This was Toby's reasoning for her to not blame him. It wasn't his fault!

"You..." She glared at him. "Are you putting the blame on me?"

She had thought that he was sincerely apologizing.

It had baffled her when it turned out to not be the case.

According to his words, she was the one who was at fault for wearing such a beautiful dress!

Looking at her sulking little face, Toby came to the realization that not only did his explanation not make things better, he was only infuriating her more and more. He couldn't help touching the tip of her nose and coughing lightly, "Alright. It is not because of you. It's all me. Don't be angry. How about you kiss me in return?"

His gaze on her was serious as he spoke.

It almost looked like he was hoping for her to say yes to his offer.

The corner of Sonia's lips started twitching as she felt a headache coming her way.

Kiss him in return? she repeated to herself. Aren't I still the one being taken advantage of while he gets to enjoy it? How is this someone who is admitting to his faults? This shameless dirty dog who spews all sorts of excuses even though he was the one at fault. He is not sincerely remorseful at all. Ugh!

She hugged the blouse covering her chest tighter and huffed, "No need for that. I know that you will be the one in control of the situation again anyway. Won't I be exactly how I was earlier when the time comes? I will be nothing but a slab of meat you cut and chew on as you please."

Hearing that, Toby wordlessly pursed his lips.

In fact, he knew that no matter if he was the one who kissed her, or she was the one who kissed him, there was only one possible outcome. And said outcome would be the one that she was talking about.

His gaze was somewhat guilty now as he gingerly suggested, "Y-You can do anything you want then. I will be okay with it all. I won't go back on my words."

"Really?" Sonia's eyes narrowed, to which Toby nodded and agreed, "Really."

She instantly broke out in laughter at that.

Her smile, however, felt especially unsettling as he looked at her.

It brought him such discomfort that he was starting to regret what he said.

Is it too late to take back my words now? Toby thought with a frown on his face.

Sonia, however, couldn't be bothered with the turmoil in his head at the moment. The corners of her red lips lifted ever-so-slightly as she said, "Alright, then. Since you are the one who said that I can do anything I want, and as punishment for upsetting me with what you did earlier, we will consider what happened as your prize. That will be all you are rewarded with tonight."

Toby had made Sonia promise, with everyone on the internet as their witness, to 'reward' him tonight during their loving exchange on the web this morning.

All the adults knew what kind of reward it would be.

Now that he had gotten her angry with his earlier behavior, she wanted to take back the reward as punishment for him.

She wanted this to be a lasting lesson for him that he shouldn't do something like that anytime he pleased.

On the other hand, Toby froze as soon as he heard her words. Even his eyes started to widen. Right when he heard that there was no reward for him tonight, it felt as though a terrifying flash of lightning had hit him, leaving no remnant of him behind.

Chapter 966 Toby's Final Struggle

What did she just say?

No more reward?!

My long-awaited reward disappeared just like that?

Gone?!

As though trying to reconfirm if he had heard or if she had said wrongly, Toby only looked at Sonia in disbelief.

Seeing his gaze, she solemnly nodded and assured him that there was no mistake in the words that he had heard.

She was serious about not giving him his reward!

Toby's mind was utterly blank at that point. It felt as though his world had crumbled, and he was left to dumbly stand there without knowing how to react.

This was actually the first time Sonia had seen such an expression on his face. She couldn't help but notice how mismatched that silly, dumbfounded look was with his image.

However, it wasn't as if she didn't know why he was reacting this way. It had probably been a blow to his ego when she told him that she was taking back his reward.

After all, men in their thirties had the sex drive of a lion.

From the way Toby desired after her during the few times they were together, she could say for sure that he was definitely a lion in bed.

It was expected that he would look forward to spending a wonderful night if she had made him the promise earlier during the day.

There was no way Toby's ego would be intact after Sonia had single-handedly destroyed the one thing he anticipated.

It was like a child who had been promised by their parents a bucket of fried chicken if they were to get first place in a school examination.

And yet, all the child got when they one day happily returned home with the test paper in their hand was their parents' failure to fulfill their promise.

It was easy to imagine how the child would feel—completely and utterly cold. It was probably a coldness that seeped through their skin and into their bones as though cold water had been poured on them, soaking them from head to toe.

And the cold disappointment Toby was feeling now was exactly like how the child would feel.

Still, Sonia mused that it wasn't her fault. It was that dirty dog's fault for getting excited over her in the kitchen, in her office, or in the car, where he would steal a bit or two. After all, those were in their own territory.

But he was gradually overstepping the boundary now. He didn't seem to be bothered by the fact that they were at someone else's place, and he wasn't at all scared of being made fun of if caught red-handed.

Toby might be fearless, but Sonia was not.

Canceling the reward she had promised him might be beneficial in the long-run, lest he get more and more out of control.

Toby didn't pause to think that her intention for revoking his reward was to teach him a lesson.

The only thought going through his head now was that his reward was no more. Gone was the pie that had fallen right from the sky and onto his lap.

How can this happen? he fumed. I refuse to accept this!

His conscience seemed to have manifested into a mini version of him, and mini Toby had his arms crossed in front of his chest as he rapidly shook his head, indicating that Toby shouldn't allow his reward to be canceled without putting up a fight.

Thinking of this, he reached out and held Sonia by the wrist. "Don't be like that, Little Leaf. Why do you have to cancel it out of nowhere?"

"Toby." A half smile appeared on her face as she looked at him. "Are you pretending not to know, or do you really not know why I am canceling it?"

His eyes started drifting sideways guiltily at that. He then pretended like he didn't understand a word she was saying and with a slight shake of his head, he answered, "I really don't know."

Sonia immediately rolled her eyes and grumbled, "Enough. Did you think I wouldn't notice you looking elsewhere because you can look me in the eye? Stop putting on that act."

Unable to come up with more excuses for himself, Toby pressed his lips together before shifting his gaze back to her. He somewhat grumpily looked at her.

Sonia's heart couldn't help but melt at the sight of him behaving like a big puppy that was looking back at her with innocent eyes while it sat on the floor.

No human being in their right mind would say no to a furry.

"Stop looking at me like that. It doesn't help with anything. I never change my mind once I have decided on something. Canceled means canceled, and that is final." She took a breath and tried to shake away the big puppy Toby image she had in her head. She might just get soft-hearted if this were to continue.

Also, she was sure that he would grab hold of her weakness, which was his puppy eyes, if she were to let him off the hook this time. She would definitely go soft again if something similar happened in the future, and he used his gaze to get out of the trouble he had gotten himself in.

In order to prevent that from happening, Sonia had to persist and not be seduced by him.

She would only get more lenient with him and herself if she couldn't even brace herself against his fake innocence the first time.

Which is why, Sonia Reed, you have to hold on, she convinced herself. You cannot go soft on him. You can never restart the moment this dirty dog puts a leash on you.

Thinking about that, she continued to suck in and let out a few more breaths, and even closed her eyes for a while before she opened them again. However, there was a calm in Toby's eyes, which were void of worldly desires. There wasn't any emotion other than peace in those pupils.

With this, nothing can affect me anymore. Ame—bah! What the heck!

Anyhow, after some self-adjustment of her emotion just now, she could look at his pitiful appearance calmly without worrying about getting soft-hearted.

Toby naturally noticed the change in her mood as well. Seeing her suppress herself to the point of calm, he pressed his lips together even tighter.

Darn it! Did I fail? he grumbled to himself.

Yes, indeed. He did it on purpose. He deliberately showed the innocent and sad look in hopes of moving her and changing her mind.

This was something that Tom taught him before.

Men usually couldn't resist it when women acted coy. Similarly, women had a hard time putting on a tough face against pitiful men.

Tom had told Toby that the latter could pull a trick like this if he ever upset Sonia. Tom guaranteed that she would immediately forgive Toby, and would even coax him in return.

And so, Toby had blindly believed his assistant by doing exactly as he taught him.

But what is this? Toby silently mourned for himself. It is not working.

Sonia looked like she was going to go easy on him at first, but she had hardened her heart and resumed being as cold-blooded as in the beginning.

I shouldn't have trusted Tom. That damn bachelor! Like hell someone like him who has never been in a relationship would know about how relationships work!

But then again, Toby couldn't help but think that he was a fool as well for believing in Tom's words that the method would work. He forgot about how everyone had different preferences. It might work, but only with certain groups of people.

The one thing he found out from this was that Sonia was definitely not in any of those 'groups'.

Just wait and see! I am going to kick his dumb behind when I go back. How dare he teach me when he hasn't got any experience himself?

Toby was making a mental note to teach Tom a lesson, but he still kept that innocent look on his face. He then softly parted his thin lips and gave another shot at his happiness. "Is it really impossible for you to change your mind?"

Sonia pulled her hand back and mused, "Of course. We need to have our own principles. I can't change just because. Also, I am doing this for your own good. I don't want you to do something like this in the future regardless of the occasion. It would be so embarrassing if we got into trouble because of your recklessness. Alright, now hurry up and leave. I will change out of the dress myself. I don't need you anymore."

She stretched out one arm to spin him around and out of the dressing room as she spoke.

Instead of putting up a fight, Toby let her do as she pleased. However, he kept turning backward to look at her, seemingly still trying to make her change her mind. It was only until he had completely stepped out of the room and had watched the door close with a loud bang that he sighed. At this point, the man had finally accepted his fate. He knew that Sonia wasn't going to change her mind.

He couldn't help but regret his actions right at this moment.

He would have held back if he had known that his behavior in the dressing room would lead to the cancellation of his reward.

He had taken a lick at the sauce and missed the opportunity to have the steak.

What a loss this is!

Toby massaged his temples, a hint of helpless amusement in his eyes.

Chapter 967 Adorable Assistant

It's fine, though. It wasn't as if he couldn't fight for what he wanted now that he didn't have his reward.

He could always think of a way to work around things when night fell.

A determined glint flashed across Toby's eyes as he came to that resolution. He then sat in front of the cushioned stool while he waited for the woman in the dressing room to come out.

A few minutes had passed before the door opened with a click from the inside.

Sonia then stepped out wearing the clothes she had come here in, and she was holding the red dress in her hand.

She was happy to see him waiting for her outside, but she still arrogantly let out a harrumph as she walked past him in her heels while pretending to not have seen him.

Seeing this, Toby raised his eyebrows and stood up to pull her by her hand. "What is this? You are not going to tell me that we are leaving?" he asked in a low voice.

As though she had just noticed him, she immediately put on a surprised face and gasped, "You are still here? I thought you went to the seating area!"

Her act frustrated him to the point of laughing out loud.

How was it that he never knew she had such a frustrating side?

However, Toby had to admit that he thought it was cute.

He lightly pinched her hand and sighed. "Alright, alright. Let's stop messing around. We'll settle our bill with Sophia and head out for a meal."

Sonia hummed with her lips pressed together while she nodded.

He would always bring the lightheartedness back to normal when there was playful bickering between them anyway. She wouldn't go against him without reading the mood first.

After they had 'made up', the duo walked hand-in-hand to the seating area, where Sophia and her assistant had been waiting for them all this time. As soon as the women saw the couple, they quickly stood up to greet them.

Toby only nodded in response, but Sonia replied with a smile and asked Sophia, "Are you done with what you were out to do, Ms. Sophia?"

Hearing that made Sophia smile. "Thanks for asking, darling. It is done." She nodded.

"That is great, then." As Sonia replied, she could feel a blazing gaze on her. She hesitantly looked over, only to see that it was Sophia's assistant who had her hands together as she looked at Sonia with a smile on her face.

Sonia couldn't exactly describe what kind of smile the woman had on. It was way more flattering than the motherly smile the assistant had on before, even to the point where it looked slightly perverted.

The assistant looked extremely unnatural with her 'perverted' smile so wide that it almost reached her ears as she stared at Sonia and Toby.

Sonia didn't know why the assistant was looking at them that way, but she was weirded out by it. It gave her an unspeakable feeling that she had been seen through.

Thinking of this, Sonia forced a smile as she questioned the assistant, "Uh... Is there something on my lover's or my face? Why are you looking at us like that?"

As soon as Toby heard Sonia's words, he squinted and looked at the assistant as well.

He had actually noticed the gaze earlier, but he hadn't paid much attention to it.

There were too many people who would both openly and secretly stare at him everyday anyway. There was no way he could look at every single one of the onlookers.

More importantly, the assistant was a woman. He would always make it a point to not look at other women.

However, according to Sonia, the assistant not only looked at him, she was also staring at Sonia. He couldn't help but raise his guard after hearing something like this.

The assistant hadn't thought that Sonia would directly call her out for her staring, which was why when Sonia did, the assistant's reverie was immediately broken as her face paled, and she panickedly looked to Sophia for help.

She was a mere assistant who liked looking at the gossip column on the Internet, and occasionally paired couples together.

It was no wonder she would get so excited and agitated as she finally had a rare chance of seeing the couple she had previously paired up together. Not only that, she even overheard them going at it live in the dressing room.

That was why she couldn't help herself from gawking at them when the protagonists had reappeared in front of her.

She didn't think she would get caught, though.

Now that she had been busted, she couldn't come up with a good enough explanation as to why she was looking at them that way. She had a feeling they would get angry if they were to hear that she was only looking at them because she had heard them having fun in the dressing room.

It wouldn't even surprise her if they were to wipe her off from the surface of the earth.

As fear started to get to her, the assistant looked at Sophia, seeming to plead for help more and more desperately.

Help me! Lady Boss, please help me!

Sophia, who understood her assistant's distressed call for help, sighed at the headache her little assistant was causing her. She then returned the assistant a reassuring look.

Her troublemaker of an assistant might be on the dumber side, but she had worked for Sophia for many years. Sophia was satisfied with how her assistant was serious and meticulous about her work.

She couldn't possibly watch on as her assistant fell into doom.

Heaving a breath, Sophia turned to Sonia and Toby with a smile. "Please don't misunderstand, President Fuller and Miss Reed. My assistant is a little soft in the head sometimes."

She then pointed to her own head. "On top of that, she is a fan of both of you. She usually likes watching you on the Internet. It is what people of your country call..."

"Shipping', Ms. Sophia," the assistant reminded her.

Sophia continuously nodded at that. "Ah yes, yes. That's it. She likes to 'ship' both of you together. She only stared because she was too happy to see you. Please don't mind her too much. She doesn't harbor any ill intentions."

“Yes. Please don’t get angry, President Fuller and Ms. Reed. I promise I won’t do it again.” The assistant quickly nodded in support of Sophia’s words, and her expression couldn’t get more serious than this.

In fact, Sonia hadn’t felt any malicious intent coming from the assistant earlier, so she naturally didn’t doubt Sophia’s words. “We aren’t angry,” she assured with a smile on her face. “I was only curious as to why your assistant kept looking at us, Ms. Sophia. Everything is fine now that you have explained it. Isn’t that right, Toby?”

Sonia gently nudged Toby with her elbow as she asked him, also reminding him to stop staring at the meek assistant.

It was fine as long as she didn’t look at them because she had plans to hurt them or anything. It wasn’t as though looking alone did anything to them.

Toby understood Sonia’s words, and only tilted his chin in silent acknowledgement.

Honestly, it wasn’t as though he would do anything to the assistant even if Sonia hadn’t reminded him.

He wasn’t a demon who would hold grudges just because someone looked.

Because if he did, almost the entire population on earth would be his enemy.

Still, he kept musing on Sophia’s explanation earlier.

Happy? The assistant’s eyes didn’t only look ‘happy’.

They had been here for about two to three hours. Why would the assistant only be ‘happy’ now instead of when they had just arrived?

He concluded that Sophia was lying in order to help her assistant hide the truth.

Still, it didn’t matter. He already had a rough guess of why the assistant looked at them that way.

Not knowing that Toby had already seen through their lie, Sophia and her assistant were relieved that the couple let it go just like that.

The assistant even almost burst out in tears due to extreme joy as she blurted out words of gratitude.

She knew that her ‘ship’ wouldn’t disappoint her.

Not only was her ‘ship’ beautiful on the outside, they were also incredibly wonderful on the inside.

Oh—how happy I am!

The assistant was so worked up she lifted her hand to wipe the moisture from her eyes.

Sonia was surprised at first, but she soon started laughing hysterically.

However, Sophia thought that her assistant was embarrassing her, and she lightly hit her. "What are you doing, child? Is there a need for you to burst out in happy tears because President Fuller and Ms. Reed are going to let you off the hook?"

After saying that, Sophia flashed Sonia an embarrassed smile and added, "My apologies for this ridiculousness, Ms. Fuller. My assistant is still behaving like a kid, you see."

Sonia shook her head with a smile as she listened to Toby's translation of Sophia's words. "Don't worry about it," Sonia murmured. "She is adorable. Alright now, Ms. Sophia. It's getting late, and my lover and I would like to head out to dinner now. I'll have to trouble you with wrapping both the dress and heels up, please."

Chapter 968 To Enjoy Norfolkian Cuisine

"Of course. Please wait a moment; it will be ready soon." Sophia took the dress from Sonia and packed it with her assistant.

Toby and Sonia were sitting on the sofa to wait for the apparel.

After waiting for a few seconds, he looked at Sonia, who was beside him, and asked, "What would you like to eat later?"

"I have no idea; what about you?" She shook her head and asked the same question.

He smiled lightly. "I'm okay with anything. I will eat whatever you like."

"Is that so?" Sonia touched her chin and was thinking about what they should eat soon. Her eyes lit up after she thought for two minutes. Then, she said excitedly, "How about Norfolkian cuisine?"

"Norfolkian cuisine?" Toby raised his eyebrows.

Sonia nodded twice.

Looking at her, he said, "Norfolkian cuisine is notoriously sour. Are you sure you can handle it?"

Many sour crops such as lemons grew well in Norfolk, so it affected the meals of the Norfolkians. The food they consumed was mostly acidic.

In fact, many travelers were not used to eating there.

That was why the Norfolkian cuisine was known as the most unpalatable cuisine in the country. It also illustrated that no one but the Norfolkians enjoyed Norfolkian cuisine.

"I can handle it." Sonia knew Toby's reason for caution, so she smiled and nodded. "Don't worry. I love Norfolkian cuisine. However, there are few Norfolk restaurants in Seafield, so I rarely have it too."

“You love Norfolkian cuisine, you say?” Toby squinted. “Since when have you loved Norfolkian cuisine? You never wrote about it in your letters before.”

“I’ve always loved it,” Sonia replied with a smile. “However, my dad doesn’t enjoy it, so our chef in the Reeds Family rarely cooked it. This isn’t important, so I didn’t write it in the letters either. Besides, I haven’t eaten Norfolkian cuisine for years, so you wouldn’t know.”

He nodded slightly, indicating that he understood. “Okay, let’s have it since you love it.”

Sonia, however, hesitated at this moment. “Are you sure?”

Toby chuckled upon hearing that. “What’s the matter? Didn’t you want to have it? Why are you hesitating now?”

He reached out and lightly squeezed her nose.

“I’m not hesitating.” She peevishly slapped his hand away. “I’m worried about you, just like you did me earlier. I’m worried that you can’t handle the cuisine. If you can’t, you have to watch me eat while you go hungry.”

She couldn’t do such a wicked thing.

After Toby knew her reason for hesitation, his heart melted into a puddle. “Don’t worry. I can handle any meal as long as it’s not too spicy or sweet. Besides, although Norfolkian cuisine is notoriously sour, there must be a few non-sour dishes. I won’t have those that are sour, so you don’t have to worry about me.” He grabbed her hand and kissed the back of her hand.

Sonia thought it was reasonable and she stopped hesitating. She hugged Toby’s arm as she said, “Alright, then. Let’s have Norfolkian food! I know delicious Norfolkian cuisine that is not sour. How about putting me in charge of ordering later?”

“Sure, I’ll leave my dinner to you.” Toby nodded slightly.

After hearing that, Sonia smiled and leaned her head on his shoulder. “Don’t worry, I’ll make sure you won’t starve.”

“I trust you.” He looked at her with a dotting gaze.

His thoughts, however, were getting turbulent. I would never have thought that Sonia loves Norfolkian cuisine. Julia is from Norfolk. In other words, before Julia married Asher, she was born and raised in Norfolk. Unfortunately, the Ramsay Family fell and moved out of Norfolk to head aboard. However, Julia will still return to Norfolk every once in a while. According to what I know about her, she seems to love Norfolkian cuisine. As someone born in Seafield, Sonia loves Norfolkian cuisine. She inherited that trait from Julia. Although Sonia doesn’t look like Titus and Julia, she does seem like the deceased Old Madam Gray, Mia Murray. However, Sonia’s favorites are similar to Titus and Julia’s. They might doubt Sonia’s identity again if they discover her tastes.

“What are you thinking about?” Sonia stood before Toby. She then bent over and waved at him.

He grabbed her hand and his gaze froze for a moment. Suddenly, he came back to his senses and murmured, "Nothing."

Only then did Toby realize that, at some point, Sonia had let go of his arm and stood up. She was now holding a delicately packaged gift box, with Sophia standing beside her.

"Nothing?" Sonia squinted slightly. "I don't believe you. You didn't respond when I called you several times earlier. You didn't even notice that Sophia had packaged the dress for me. Are you daydreaming?"

"It's true; it's nothing much." Toby stood up, thereafter taking the dress from her and smiling lightly. "I was just thinking about the company's affairs."

"Is it important?" Sonia quickly asked in concern. "If it's important, you—"

"It's not important." Toby cut off her words. "I won't be this calm if it isn't important."

"That's true." Sonia nodded. Although he was distracted earlier, his expression was indeed calm. It didn't look like something significant had happened. So, what he said should be accurate.

"Okay, we already have the order, so let's go." Toby took Sonia's hand.

She hummed, then smiled at Sophia and bid farewell.

Sophia showed them the way out of the store and set a time to deliver Toby's suit. She didn't return to the store until they got into the car and left.

In the car, Sonia turned her head to look at the gift box in the back seat and suddenly bit her lip.

Seeing this, Toby asked, "What's wrong?"

"I suddenly remembered that I had changed the piece. Do I still have a reason to chat with Madam Lloyd? She loved that brand, after all," Sonia retracted her gaze and said uncertainty.

Toby smiled lightly. "Jeez! And here I was thinking that it was something serious. You don't have to worry about this. I have checked about Madam Lloyd's taste before. She prefers clothes designed by Sophia over that brand. However, Madam Lloyd could never commission a dress from Sophia because she was too famous and had many orders ahead. So, Madam Lloyd can only give up and wear that brand's dress instead. If she had to choose only one dress, she would definitely take Sophia's."

Sonia's eyes lit up. "So, this dress will have an easier time attracting Madam Lloyd's attention than the dress that Anya had ruined?"

"Of course." Toby coolly turned the steering wheel with one hand. "Sophia has a habit of embroidering a camellia on her clothes, which is the emblem of her family. To attract Madam Lloyd at a glance, I specifically instructed Sophia to make the camellia bigger while not destroying the beauty of the dress. This proves that she did it."

Sonia slightly opened her mouth in surprise. "That's why the flower on the shoulder is a bit too big. It turned out that you designed it on purpose to get Madam Lloyd's attention."

Chapter 969 Terrified Rina

"Of course." Toby chuckled. "I know you're trying to attract Madam Lloyd's attention; that's why you commissioned the earlier dress. However, that dress was destroyed by Anya. Since I took over this task, I won't forget the purpose of your dress. I won't only find the best dress for you and forget about Madam Lloyd. That's why I commissioned the dress from Sophia."

Sonia looked at Toby with eyes full of emotion. "Thank you so much. You kept thinking about me." As Toby had stopped before a red traffic light, he freed his hand to stroke her hair. "If I don't plan carefully, I will be holding you back. Your hubby is not dumb at all."

"Hey!" Sonia blushed. "Hubby? Since when are you my husband? Stop assuming things."

Toby raised his eyebrows. "Am I really? You said you will remarry me and we can have a child. I'm just saying that earlier. I'm not wrong."

Sonia couldn't refute it.

Indeed. Assuming things are going well, we will get married again.

He isn't wrong; he's just early.

Fine, I'll just let him be.

"Alright, the light's green now. Go." Sonia peevishly glanced at the man and changed the topic.

Toby chuckled and stepped on the pedal.

On the way, Sonia suddenly frowned and looked worried.

Although Toby was driving carefully, he would still pay attention to her from time to time using the corner of his sight.

Seeing her worried expression, he asked with concern, "Any more troubles?"

"I have a feeling that I forgot something," Sonia said with uncertainty while biting her lip.

Toby turned around and glanced. "Forgot something?"

"Yeah." Sonia nodded. "I think I've overlooked something, especially since I left Sophia's shop. However, I can't remember what I had forgotten."

“Then don’t think of it anymore. If you feel that way after you leave Sophia’s store, it means you have forgotten something in that store. However, the only thing we did in the store was to get the dress. We have nothing to do with the store after we receive the dress so even if you do forget something, it is not important. Don’t worry about it,” Toby comforted while looking at the road ahead.

Sonia thought it made sense, so she didn’t say any more.

Soon, they arrived at the most famous restaurant specializing Norfolkian cuisine in Seafield.

After Toby parked his car, he took Sonia’s hand and the duo then went in.

The restaurant was vast as it had two floors. The first floor was an open hall and the second floor housed private rooms.

It was apparent Toby wouldn’t choose an open hall. After entering, he quickly asked for a room as he didn’t want to enjoy a meal with others.

He just wanted to enjoy the meal with Sonia without being disturbed.

Sonia thought the same. The hall was crowded and chaotic, and the private room was quiet compared to the hall.

Hence, she was happy with Toby’s arrangement.

“This way, please.” The waiter then urged them to follow her.

Without saying anything, Toby took Sonia’s hand and followed the waiter.

When the three reached the second floor, the waiter opened the door to the best private room for Toby and Sonia.

As the couple followed the waiter into the room, the door of a room on the opposite side suddenly opened. Then, Rina came out with an uncomfortable expression, just in time to see Sonia and Toby’s silhouettes.

Rina opened her eyes wide immediately and was stunned.

Is that President Fuller and Miss Reed?

Although I can’t see their faces, I can immediately recognize their familiar backs.

It must be them who entered the opposite room!

Rina tightly clenched her hands and her face was paler than before.

She never expected to see Toby and Sonia. Initially, Rina was making her way to the washroom to discreetly vomit out the disgusting Norfolkian cuisine.

Are they here for the Norfolkian cuisine?

Of course. This is a restaurant selling Norfolkian cuisine, after all. There are no other things to do in a restaurant.

However, I don't understand why they come here for the unpalatable cuisine.

Rina didn't care about Toby.

However, she paid attention to Sonia.

Julia was a Norfolkian. Even after her marriage, she still enjoyed Norfolkian cuisine, so she would go to Norfolk or this restaurant once in a while for a Norfolk meal.

The reason why Rina appeared here was to accompany her parents to eat Norfolkian cuisine. This was her first time consuming it, but she hated it. To act like Julia's daughter, Rina lied that she loved Norfolkian cuisine and inherited Julia's taste. As expected, it made Julia happy.

However, Rina secretly hated this kind of food. In order to avoid exposing her lies, however, she swallowed every bite despite the nausea that threatened to overcome. If she couldn't take it anymore, she would go to the washroom to vomit it out. This was her second time going to the washroom.

Unexpectedly, Rina saw Toby and Sonia as soon as she came out.

I don't know about Toby, but it is evident that Sonia inherited Julia's taste.

Moreover, Julia and Titus are in this restaurant too. Our room is just opposite Sonia's room, so there is a big chance that they will meet each other.

If my parents meet Sonia and know she loves Norfolkian cuisine, will they doubt her identity again?

There's a lot of evidence that Sonia is the actual Rina Gray.

Last time, when Julia and Titus returned from buying a blueberry cake, Julia said Sonia had a scar on her wrist.

God knows that when I heard this, I was terrified, fearing that Sonia would tell them the scar was from the red mole removal surgery.

Fortunately, Sonia didn't say anything as she dislikes them. Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to keep my fake identity as Rina Gray.

I must not allow them to meet Sonia, especially not in the place where Julia and Sonia share the same taste. Otherwise, Julia and Titus will make a connection.

The only problem is, how can I stop them from meeting each other?

This is a restaurant, after all. How can I predict when Sonia and Toby will come out of the room?

As Rina gritted her teeth and panicked, Julia's puzzled voice came from behind. "Rina, why are you standing there? Aren't you going to the washroom?"

Hearing Julia's words, Rina forced a smile and turned back. "It's nothing. I'll go now."

After that, Rina closed the door and walked to the washroom.

Sonia might not come out soon because she has just entered the room.

Titus and Julia also went to the washroom earlier, so they won't leave the room again.

So, it should be safe to vomit in the washroom.

In the Gray Family's room, Julia looked at the closed door, feeling worried. "Hubby, do you think that Rina has been strange lately? It seems that she is nervous and worried about something. However, she didn't tell me about it."

Titus took a sip of pickle soup and nodded. "I agree, but you know how unpredictable the youths can be. I don't think we should worry about it."

"I understand. However, Sharon said Rina is often plagued by a nightmare. She will mutter that she is the real Rina, not a fake. What do you think is going on?" Julia put down her spoon and looked at Titus.

Chapter 970 Such Coincidence

"That happened?" Titus was stunned in surprise and stopped moving his spoon.

Julia hummed with a sad expression. "That happened for a while, but I haven't told you about this. You are not in good health and I am afraid it'll make you stressed, so I hid the truth. I thought the situation would gradually improve; however, she didn't, and she is losing weight." However, as a mother, I am not distressed when I see my daughter in pain.

I don't have even the slightest distress at the sight of my depressed daughter.

I know this is wrong as a mother.

But I am not sad at all.

Still, I have a duty as a mother.

Although I don't have affection for this girl, she is still my daughter whom I had been looking for twenty years.

Even though I don't like Rina, I will still take responsibility as a mother.

It is strange. I don't have much affection toward Rina even though she is the daughter I didn't feel able to attend to and love for twenty years. I should spoil her, and my brain is telling me I should do that too.

However, I can't do it in practice. I can't love Rina. Still, when I looked at the photos of my daughter when she was a child, the maternal love in my heart was overflowing.

I can't understand this situation.

Could it be that I love Rina's child self instead of her grown-up self?

But this isn't possible!

This isn't logical.

No matter what Rina's age is, she is still the same person.

Does my love for Rina disappear as she grows up?

This isn't scientific at all. As for a reason, I don't know and can't understand.

Hence, Julia had kept these strange feelings deep in her mind and never revealed them. She was afraid that Rina would be sad upon coming to know that her mother did not love her.

For a while, Julia was distracted.

Titus didn't know what she was thinking about, so he spooned some food for her. "It might be because of the incident in the ward."

Upon hearing that, Julia was stunned. "You mean the stuff we discussed in the ward during Sonia's press conference?"

"Yup." Titus nodded. "At that time, we suspected Sonia was Rina. Then, you said that you don't feel love for Rina. After Rina heard those words, she ran away sadly. We coaxed her for a long time to make her feel better. I think that despite her looking better, she is secretly concerned about this, so she had nightmares."

Julia frowned upon hearing that. "However, it's been so long since the incident. I thought she had long forgotten about it."

Titus tapped her hand. "I can understand. Rina has been separated from us for twenty years. When she finally returned home, she heard her parents suspected someone else was the daughter and you didn't have feelings for her. It must be traumatic for Rina, and she would surely wonder if she's a burden."

Hearing that, Julia knew she was at fault. After a sigh, she said, "Hubby, do you think I need to consult a psychiatrist? I don't know why I don't have feelings for Rina. I was yearning for our daughter and prayed for her well-being, but I am so cold to her when she finally has returned." Julia looked at her hand and was confused. "Hubby, do I have an illness?"

Titus looked at her in response.

To be honest, I don't quite understand my wife.

However, I know she definitely isn't ill.

I will explain Julia's attitude toward Rina as Julia hasn't gotten used to Rina yet.

Hence, Titus comforted Julia as such.

Julia forced a smile but did not speak. Still, no one knew what she was thinking.

In the opposite room, Sonia was unaware her arrival with Toby had caused a series of reactions from the Gray Family.

She took the menu from the waiter and carefully browsed it for dinner.

After looking around, she ordered six items from the menu—three for herself and the other three for Toby. The food for Toby was actually inclined to Seafield's style.

After all, Seafield and Norfolk were neighbors, so some dishes would be influenced by each other.

"That's all." Sonia looked at Toby. After Toby nodded, she returned the menu to the waiter with a smile.

"Okay, please wait for a moment." The waiter took the menu and left the room.

Shortly after the waiter left, Sonia put down her bag and stood up.

Toby was pouring Sonia a cup of juice. When he saw her leaving, he put down the jug and asked, "Where are you going?"

"Washroom." Sonia pushed the chair back to the original position.

Toby hummed. "Do it quickly."

"Sure." Sonia smiled before turning around and leaving the room.

The washroom was not far. One could reach the washroom by walking straight and turning a corner.

There were only a few people on the second floor, so there were not many in the washroom either.

When Sonia went in, it was utterly quiet. The next second, she heard a heart-piercing vomit sound from one of the cubicles.

That sound made Sonia tremble all over. It sounded like the person was about to vomit out bile. Not only did it make her have goosebumps, but it also made her disgusted and want to vomit.

However, Sonia could still hold back and hurried into a cubicle. She pretended she had never heard that sound and focused on herself, so she could get back to the room earlier.

While Sonia was using the toilet, the vomit sound stopped, followed by flushing.

Soon, the flushing stopped and Sonia heard the door open, accompanied by high heels clicking on the ground.

The rhythm of the clicking sound was chaotic. It was apparent the person had weak legs.

It must be because the woman vomited out all her energy. Sonia thought that as she flushed and tidied her clothes.

Then, she opened the door to leave the cubicle.

After she went out, she was stunned when she saw the person at the sink.

It's her!

Sonia never thought this coincidence would occur. The vomiting sound earlier was from Rina.

Currently, Rina was standing at the sink to rinse her mouth. When she felt the gaze behind her, she raised her head and looked in the mirror.

She was stunned as she looked in the mirror. Then, she sharply turned her head and looked at Sonia, who was standing at the door with blatant surprise on her face. "Miss Reed."

When Rina found Sonia, Sonia didn't continue standing there and walked to the sink and stopped beside Rina. Then, Sonia turned on the faucet and washed her hand while replying, "Miss Gray."

Rina forced a smile on her face. "Such coincidence, Miss Reed. I didn't expect to meet you here. Are you here for a meal?"

Sonia rolled her eyes.

Is she crazy to enjoy a meal in the washroom?

Taylor can eat here all she wants. I won't do it.