

## Spoiled by Mr. Russell Chapter 176-180

### Chapter 176

Jenny was quite surprised at how relaxed Lily was as she looked at Lily's figure. Lily did not dwell on her past relationship that failed. Instead, she chose to be cool about it and moved on. Lily was now in a new relationship and living her life in style. She would have never expected to stay in the same hotel as Melanie and Nathaniel if she did not run into each other at the restaurant. Then again, that was the best hotel in town, so most who attended the sampling event stayed there. The prices also differed, depending on the floor the rooms were on.

Lily waited a while before entering the elevator to Alexander's room. She did not notice last time, but his floor was unusually silent. It was as if no one stayed on the same floor. Also, a thick carpet covered the hallway, making her footsteps discrete. Alexander's room door was wide open when Lily arrived. "Did you book the whole floor?" She asked as she stood at the entrance. Lily observed both ends of the hallway and guessed it was the case.

"Yeah. It's much quieter this way." Alexander nodded. Judging from his tone, this was typical of him, and Lily was not surprised since this was his way of handling things. "What took you so long?" Alexander extended his arms and pulled Lily into a hug. As a punishment, he lowered his head and lightly bit her ear.

Lily moved away as she was ticklish. "I tried to come as soon as possible, but others were around. I couldn't come too close, or people might see us." "Others? I only saw one annoying pest," Alexander snarled as he thought of Nathaniel. Although Alexander did not like him, he did not care for Nathaniel either. However, Alexander wanted to pick Nathaniel up and throw him out of the restaurant when he saw Nathaniel approaching Lily.

"I was referring to Jenny," Lily playfully slapped Alexander's hand away. She could tell he was jealous, so she smiled and imitated Alexander's way of talking, "After you left, Jenny came, and well... she chased the annoying pest away!" "Well done! I think she deserves a reward!" Alexander nodded in satisfaction.

Lily was amused. She could imagine the expression on Jenny's face if she knew she would get rewarded just by chasing away some guy. "You're drifting off again." Alexander turned Lily's body around to face him. He was unhappy she was thinking about something else, so he lowered his head and kissed her hard as punishment.

Lily responded passionately and circled her arms around him. She always felt happy whenever she was with him. After what seemed like an eternity, Alexander finally released Lily's lips and rubbed his nose against hers.

"Aren't you curious about what Nathaniel said to me?" Lily thought Alexander would ask about her conversation with Nathaniel since he was looking at them the whole time.

"Nope, I'm not curious at all. He would've just said some useless sh\*t anyway," Alexander remarked with disgust. Lily was surprised by his precision that she wanted to give him two

thumbs up. "The fact he could temporarily solve the issue you caused made him arrogant. He wanted to come over to rub it in your face," Alexander added as he released Lily's hands and turned to prepare some hot tea for Lily. The steam enveloped his face as he poured the hot water into the teapot. His silhouette behind the steam was so majestic that it made Lily's heart skip.

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"How did you know that?" Lily smiled and took a seat opposite Alexander. Her hands supported her cheeks as she looked up at him. "Is there anything you don't know?"

Alexander slowly poured hot water from the kettle into the teacups while he said, "There are a lot of things I don't know. For instance, when are you willing to make our relationship public?"

His serious look made Lily chuckle. "Dear Mr. Russell, you're known to be a low-key person. Would you want to announce our relationship to everyone?"

"I only lie low for certain things." He put a tea bag into Lily's cup and slid it across the table toward her. "If it's about our relationship, I want as many people to know about us as possible!" Alexander wanted to tell the entire world that Lily was the woman he loved and that she belonged to him. No one could ever take her away from him. The most they could do was just be envious.

Lily lowered her gaze and reached for the cup handle. Happiness was filling her heart. "Oh, right. Those two have been in close contact with someone called Frank Moreau recently. That man is not someone you want to get yourself involved with." Alexander just remembered this and reminded Lily. The tea was still hot, so Lily paused her movement when her fingers touched the cup as she asked, "What's up with him?"

Something seemed off about Frank. He was everywhere recently. Initially, Lily thought it was usual to meet him at perfumery-related events as Nathaniel's company had engaged his help.

However, three things alerted Lily about Frank: First, it looked like something was happening between him and Melanie; Second, he attended the sampling session as a special guest; Third, Alexander reminded Lily to stay away from him. Lily began to wonder what Frank's true identity was.

“He’s a dark horse in the perfumery industry abroad. He’s talented and won several awards, but there are also many speculations about him. Some suspected he stole others’ work, while a few media outlets reported problems with his products.”

Alexander placed the kettle down and took a seat too. He held the teacup in his hand as he pondered. “He had disappeared from the public’s eyes over the last six months. I didn’t think he would be here, and...”

“Well, let’s just say he has terrible morals.” Alexander took a sip of tea and nodded in satisfaction. Then he looked at Lily’s untouched cup of tea. “Try it! That’s the specialty tea over here. It’s an uncommon type of tea and is only harvested in small amounts, but it tastes amazing.” Seeing how he promoted the tea enthusiastically, Lily also took a sip. Indeed, it was smooth and fragrant with a fresh aftertaste.

“It’s nice.” She nodded, her mind still on Frank’s matter. “What do you mean by terrible morals? As in with girls?”

“Yeah.” After a moment of silence, Alexander nodded. “Someone sued him for rape before

this, but the case got dismissed because the other party did not have enough evidence. Later, they tried to clear his name by saying that the allegation was false and that someone was trying to defame him. No matter what, you should stay away from him.” “I won’t have the chance to interact much with him anyway,” Lily said.

Even if Frank did not have all that dirt on him, Lily would not involve herself with anyone from MN Inc.

It was enough for Alexander that Lily listened to his words. He raised his head slightly and drank some more tea. Then something hit him. “About yesterday... Are you okay?”

“Cough! Cough, cough!” Lily spat her tea out and choked instantly upon hearing that “What does he mean by that? Why is he talking about that all of a sudden? I wasn’t prepared for that at all!

Alexander found her surprised look and red cheeks adorable. “Are you having trouble answering my question?”

The more he said, the hotter Lily’s cheeks became. She covered her mouth with one hand to cough and also to avoid his gaze, but what happened the night before filled her mind. “It seems you’re not satisfied with my performance.” Alexander sighed and took another sip of tea.

“I–It’s...” Lily wanted to tell him it was okay, but Alexander interjected, “That’s why we must try again.” His words rendered Lily completely speechless.

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'How cunning! How dare he trick me this way?' "Let's try again, shall we?" Alexander stared at Lily, smirking as he raised a brow.

Lily was done with him. He talked about all that just to dive back into the unfinished conversation they had on their phones.

"There's no need for that. Mr. Russell, I'm satisfied with your skills and performance." Lily gracefully turned down Alexander. She would not let him have his way. Her compliments did not make him happy as he glanced faintly over at her. "That's not what you said before." "Really? My mind must've been in a mess out there. I don't even remember what I said." Lily shrugged, feigning ignorance. "You mean you want me to refresh your memory? Is that right?" Alexander placed his cup down and walked over to her. She wanted to flee as he drew nearer to her, but he caught her wrist and made her sit back down on the stool.

"Alex..." she called his name softly, placing her hands on his chest. Just a moment ago, she had been feisty, but now, she was like a tame cat.

"Don't be afraid!" Alexander suddenly became serious and said gently, "Although we moved a step forward in our relationship, there's something I want to tell you. I won't force you to do anything you don't want to. Do you understand?"

Lily was fooling around with him before, so she was not expecting him to tell her that suddenly. While looking at his face and into his sincere eyes, her heart melted into a puddle.

She lifted her arm, caressed his cheek softly, and said gently, "Alex, I was willing to do it with you."

Alexander held her hand and left a kiss on the back of it. "I know."

He was sure about Lily's thoughts, which was why he continued. He would have stopped if she was not willing to take their relationship a step forward with him. Hence, he believed he was a lucky man. The woman who was most precious to him loved him back.

Lily wrapped her arms around his waist to hug him and snuggled into his embrace. She believed she was one lucky woman as well. Initially, she wanted nothing else but to strike a deal with him.

However, the arrangement they made turned out to be even better than she could have hoped for.

Melanie was in terrible condition. Her face was turning paler by the minute, while her lips were so dry that they cracked.

Nathaniel was worried sick about her. "Mel, let me take you to the hospital," Leaning sideways on the bedframe, she shook her head. "It's fine. I'm just exhausted. All I need to do is get some rest."

She closed her eyes, but Frank's face filled her mind, and it scared her sh\*tless once again. She had not expected Frank being daring enough to follow her into the restroom earlier since they were in a public area. Thankfully, after they kissed for a while and he said a few things, he departed. Even if that was all he did, she was still shocked.

It would be awful for her reputation if anyone saw them, even someone other than Nathaniel. It was time she did something!

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Nathaniel prohibited Melanie from working once they returned from Middle Valley, and she could no longer enter the lab. He claimed that the laboratory's chemicals were dangerous for the unborn child. Recently, he had been extremely attentive to her, attending to her every need. Frank parted ways with the two for the time being. Fortunately, he gave Melanie the formulas of two perfumes before he left. He said it was his latest research outcome and a reward for Melanie,

Although Melanie had her initial misgivings about the formulas, she was pleasantly delighted by the outcomes when the lab made samples. She finally felt at ease and that everything she had done had been worthwhile.

However, what Frank had given her was far from enough. She wanted more. It was just that the thought of him still made her tremble in fear. It was great for them to spend some time apart for now. Her body could recover while she used this time to think things through.

"What's on your mind?" Nathaniel asked as he walked over with a glass of warm milk. He truly cared for her in all aspects of her life now. She took the glass from him and smiled. "It's nothing. I was hoping our new products would be available in time for the annual perfumery competition at the year's end. Even second place would benefit the company if we were to win an award."

"My thoughts exactly." Nathaniel pinched the tip of Melanie's nose and said, "I've already begun the preparations. Registration for the annual perfumery competition will close next month, so we must launch our new products as soon as possible. It'll be even better if they're a big hit in the market. I've tried them, and I think they're pretty good. There should not be a problem."

"That's great. I hope this will help us offset the company's losses. You'll be less stressed this way, too," she said and breathed a sigh of relief.

It touched him to see that Melanie still cared about him and the company, even when she was pregnant and feeling under the weather. "Mel, you're too nice to me."

"Id\*ot. We've been together for such a long time. You treat me the best, too, don't you? It's only right that I do the same. Plus, part of the company belongs to me too!" Melanie's gentle look always aroused tenderness from others.

Nathaniel nodded quickly. "You're right! The company is mine, and that means it's yours too. In the future, it'll belong to our children. Mel, I'm so glad that I chose you back then. If I had chosen Lily, she..."

The thought of Lily's heartless behavior made him highly uneasy. They dated for a couple of years, yet he never knew her darker side. He did not expect Lily to tamper with the formula, and she turned egotistical when he tried to make up with her.

'Did she think that the company would shut down without her? Soon, I'll make her regret everything she did!

At the sound of Lily's name, Melanie frowned. "Don't talk about her! It disgusts me!"

"That's right. It's disgusting to talk about her. Drink the milk, and I have another good news for you." "What is it?" Melanie drank it in one go, making her feel much better. Nathaniel adjusted her pillow, helping her to lie down as he tucked her into bed. "I've talked to you about our marriage before," he paused for a moment, then said, "I've told my mom about it, and she wants to meet you." "Your mom?" Melanie blinked. "You mean Ms. Neville?"

"Yeah," he said while nodding, "After meeting her, we can start preparing for our wedding. You wouldn't want to be in your wedding dress with an enormous belly, would you?"

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"...Yeah." Melanie answered hesitantly. she did not look like she was happy about Nathaniel's plan. Although she had no intention of ending things, she also had no desire to tie the knot with him.

After giving birth, she would be a full-time housewife, caring for the child and domestic responsibilities. However, Nathaniel's existing abilities and MN Inc.'s current success level were far from what she desired. If she had a baby now, she would not have time to advance her fame and status in the industry. How would she get richer?

"Aren't you happy about it?" Nathaniel thought Melanie would jump for joy at the news, giving him a few kisses at the least. However, she was so calm that it seemed like she was not excited about it.

"It's not like that. Have you told your mom that I'm pregnant?" she probed.

"No, I wanted to give her a surprise. What's wrong?"

His answer made Melanie feel relieved. "It's nothing. I think we shouldn't tell her about it so soon. After all, I just got pregnant, and you know what they say about how pregnancy can be unstable in the first few months. I'm just afraid that if something happened, we might lose our child."

"Stop right there!" He interrupted her instantly as displeasure was written all over his face. "Our child will be healthy and safe! Don't think of nonsense! The most important thing is to take care of yourself and our baby. You don't need to do anything else for now."

"Although my mom hadn't mentioned this before, I know she wants grandchildren. You know she had only given birth to a girl after remarrying, right? I'm her only son, so she would be elated if she knew you're pregnant." "You shouldn't stress yourself out. I'm just talking about the possibility of it..." Melanie continued.

"Say nothing about that! That wouldn't happen!" Nathaniel stopped her from thinking that way.

He looked into her eyes while holding her shoulders and said, "Mel, stop thinking of stupid things! Don't listen to nonsense from other people, either! You'll be healthy, and our child will come into this world safely. I won't allow anything to happen to you or the baby. Do you understand?"

His words rendered Melanie speechless. Slowly, she nodded, her expression turning more gloomy than before.

To be honest, Melanie had considered aborting the child, but she had not made a solid decision. She was trying to probe Nathaniel's thoughts, but she did not expect such a big reaction from him. Melanie could not imagine what he would do if she aborted the child.

However, this child was indeed a warrior. It was miraculous that the baby was still fine after the past few days.

Melanie was initially hesitant about the abortion. She had even more doubts about it after speaking with Nathaniel. She decided not to think about the abortion, so... she would just leave

it be now!

After tucking Melanie into bed, Nathaniel tiptoed out of the room and made a call.

"Mom."

On the other end, a melodious voice sounded, "Nate." "I'll bring Mel to meet you tomorrow at our usual spot. I'll be there first, and you can take your time."

“I told you I don’t want to meet her.” After a moment of silence, Eloise said, “You deserve better.”

Nathaniel held his phone tighter and turned to look back at the room. The door was still closed.

He then said in a soft voice, “Mom, you promised me. Just meet her once. I’m sure you’ll like her.”