

Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter

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The next morning, Heather woke up on the couch. She tried to open her sleepy eyes but her entire body was aching. I can't believe I fell asleep on the couch! After getting up, she loosened up her neck uncomfortably before quickly taking a bath.

She came out of the bathroom feeling refreshed, and her eyes were bright as she dried her wet hair. Then, a knock was heard on the door, so she quickly opened it and saw the butler standing outside.

"What's the matter?" Usually, the butler would follow Robert around to serve him, so the former would rarely see to others in the Langston Residence.

"We have a guest outside. He is your friend, Miss Heather."

At the moment, Heather was still wearing her pajamas and her hair was wet. She tried to guess who it was and she wondered, Who would visit us this early in the morning?

Looking at the butler's mysterious expression, she slowly muttered, "I'll change my clothes and be right there." After that, she closed the door straight away but at the very last second,

she took a glance at the butler's smiling face.

Even the butler has started acting strange lately. Quickly, she began dressing herself up since she couldn't go downstairs in such a mess. As she dressed herself up as fast as possible, she regretted not asking the butler who the guest was.

After she was done with everything, she slowly came down the stairs and saw a man standing in the living room. The man had a suit on and his back was to her, so she couldn't see his face clearly. It was as if he didn't want to look at her on purpose.

When she came to the living room, she finally saw who the man was—it was none other than

Matthias. Immediately, she went on the alert because she somehow felt that he had other intentions in coming here at this moment in time.

Matthias seemed to be especially friendly toward her and he had a perfunctory smile on his face. In the meantime, Robert was sitting across from him and because of that, Heather reluctantly smiled back at the young man.

"Miss Langston, we meet again," Matthias said politely.

However, she felt that something was wrong because Robert's attitude toward him was a bit

different today and her grandfather was much more enthusiastic than usual. Therefore, she looked at the older man confusedly since she was trying to find clues from his expression.

He even took out his favorite high-end tea to welcome Matthias.

"Director Locke, you seem very free lately." Her voice was full of sarcasm since it was impossible for her to establish a goodwill with him in this instance.

On the other hand, Robert was delighted to see the banter going on between her and Matthias.

Upon seeing that, Heather thought to herself, Why is grandpa so friendly toward him today?

Back then, he would tell me to avoid Matthias for the sake of our interest, so what is the reason behind his friendliness toward him right now?

"I came here to propose a collaboration." Matthias smiled brightly, but Heather had already

heard him say the same thing many times before.

Grandpa will never agree to a collaboration between the Langston Group and the Locke Group. Let's see how he is going to reject Matthias.

However, she didn't get to see the outcome that she expected. Instead, Robert replied, "I asked Director Locke to come here to talk about the collaboration. There are many aspects that the Langston Group and the Locke Group can join forces on."

Heather was so shocked that her jaw almost fell to the floor when she heard that. Is grandpa actually asking him for a collaboration? Wasn't he the one who rejected Matthias' proposal to collaborate many times in the past?

"Old Master Langston, thank you for your trust in me. Not only that, it also shows your trust in the Locke Group. We will certainly live up to it," Matthias quickly reassured politely.

Looking at the friendly scene between Matthias and Robert, Heather felt as though she was still dreaming, albeit a rather realistic one at that.

"Don't just stand there. Come and sit with us," Robert murmured to her.

However, she asked innocently, "What time is it?" It's a little weird not seeing Blake at this time. Also, where is everybody? Why can't I see anyone in the house?

"Miss Langston, it is currently 10.16 AM," Matthias answered seriously while she quickly looked outside the window.

The sun was shining brightly outdoors. I can't believe it's already 10 AM. Time flies so fast! No wonder I couldn't see Blake and the others. But it's a holiday, so why is there no one at home?

At the moment, she wanted to pinch herself to see whether she was still in a dream but she felt that it was too childish, so she decided to see how the situation would progress.

"Grandpa, where is Blake and the others?" She wasn't used to Matthias' proud looks since she couldn't understand his quick ascend in the Langstons. Yesterday, he was driven away by the Langston Family's servants but today, he became the family's VIP guest. It must have felt like a rollercoaster to him.

"They went out for a walk." Robert gave a lazy excuse.

Upon hearing that, Heather stared at him in disbelief. I don't believe him at all! The whole family was probably asked to leave!

However, she didn't intend to let Robert get away easily with such a simple answer.

"Grandpa, why didn't you ask me to go with them?"

In the meantime, Matthias was watching Heather while she kept shooting herself in the foot. As expected, she is completely fearless in the Langston Family to a point where she isn't scared of defying Old Master Langston's orders. She obviously knows that he is finding a way to change the subject, but she won't allow him to do so.

"I wanted you to stay at home and give me company." Robert smiled warmly, but his eyes were filled with dangerous intent and Heather noticed it.

Therefore, she didn't dare to argue with him any longer. Even though she wasn't happy with

Matthias being their guest, it wouldn't be wise for her to keep on embarrassing him in front of an outsider.

"Of course I will. No matter where you are, I will be there," she answered with a smile.

Looking at the agreement between her and Robert, Matthias smiled with satisfaction. Everything is going as planned.

However, Heather found an excuse a while later. "You two can keep on discussing your business. I'm feeling a little hungry so I'm going to the kitchen to see what we have." She then quickly excused herself and left the place because she couldn't stand Matthias' stare any longer. I wonder why he is looking at me that way.

As she left, Matthias stared at her back for a long while and at the same time, Robert was looking at him profoundly as he thought to himself, Maybe Matthias is a worthy man for me

to entrust her to. However, he wasn't certain about it yet because he still had many worries in his mind, especially the compatibility of Matthias and Heather.

Even so, time was running out, and there was no one better for Robert to choose at the moment because Caleb was already lurking in the background, not giving him a moment to breathe.

As for Heather, she still couldn't feel the impending danger. When Robert finally mustered up

the courage to tell her that long forgotten past yesterday, she surprisingly took a step back, so he had no choice but to find Matthias. Maybe the Locke Family's secret powers can help us.

However, the Locke Family was nowhere near the Moriartys when compared. Luckily for them, they weren't in Leisfield, so not everything was under their control.

Even so, Robert was afraid that the Moriarty Family had been planning something right under his nose. Over the past few years, the Moriartys had secretly infiltrated Bradford City and they even had their own enterprise in Atrigall City.

The thing that Robert worried the most had finally happened. In the past, he kept on avoiding the Moriartys, but he never expected them to grow in force under his nose. I can't believe I didn't notice their movements at all, even though Atrigall City is not that far away from here.

If Caleb didn't reveal their movements to Robert, the latter would probably still be kept in the

dark since he had been lacking foresight lately.

Sadly, he still couldn't figure out the Moriartys motive and why they chose this time to infiltrate Bradford City. He had a hunch that they probably weren't satisfied with the results in

Atrigall City, so they decided to have a share of Bradford City.

At the moment, Bradford City was a mess. Just as Robert was about to regain the former power of the Langston Family, the Moriartys unexpectedly joined the fight. At first, Robert wanted to sit and watch while the Locke Group and the Hart Group fought each other so that he could reap the benefits.

However, now that the Moriartys had joined the battle, he had no choice but to consider the

interests of the Langston Family. This is the best time to join forces with the Locke and Hart Group.

The Moriartys loved to backstab and this was rather difficult to defend, so Robert was afraid

that they would use these tricks on them. They must have done a lot of research. If they

decide to strike, it's hard to say whether or not the Langston and Hart Group would receive a massive blow. After all, the Moriartys always like to give a fatal blow. Presently, Heather was feeling peckish so she was in the kitchen, looking for something to eat. However, the kitchen was spotless and there weren't any leftovers to be seen. After looking at the clean and tidy kitchen with dissatisfaction, she left rather disappointedly as the chef prepared lunch.

When she returned to the living room, she saw Matthias and Robert having a delightful conversation. She, on the other hand, was feeling down in the dumps. Grandpa is a shrewd man so he definitely sees something in Matthias, but I just can't seem to see it. If that's the case, I have to think about what separates him from most ordinary people. I'm afraid that the most enviable thing that he has is the Locke Group. Rumor has it that the Locke Group has a secret power but I think it is all just that—rumors. After interacting with him for so long, I don't think that the Locke Group has any secret powers at all; otherwise, he doesn't have to be so frustrated with his business in Bradford City. I can tell that Matthias is gloomy about failing to achieve the thing he desires. As far as I've seen, the Locke Group is no match against the Hart Group in Bradford City, but he dreams of overthrowing the Hart Group and being top of the food chain.

There were some differences between Heather and Robert's perception of the Locke Group,

but Matthias himself couldn't represent the entire company, which meant that it was possible the Locke Group hadn't truly made a move yet.

Meanwhile, Robert noticed the confusion in Heather's eyes. He smiled profoundly at her, so she sat down next to him.

Matthias' gaze landed on her instantly and Robert was quick enough to witness it. I can see that he likes her but their relationship is so confusing. Heather once showed affection toward him but today, she seems to be very hostile. Her words and actions are full of hatred

for Matthias, and even her eyes look vigilant. If I want their relationship to progress, I must resolve the misunderstanding between them. Since the two of them had feelings for each other, it's probably a misunderstanding that brought them to this state.

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Robert always wanted to find a chance for Heather and Matthias to be alone together, but her hostility toward the latter didn't seem to be easing. Even though Robert was already showing dissatisfaction toward her attitude, she showed no signs of stopping.

"Grandpa, I'm really hungry. When are we having lunch?" she asked none too gently.

Robert looked at the time. "Wait for another 40 minutes." Our family usually has our meals very punctually and she should know what time we are having lunch, so why did she ask me this question?

"Looks like it's about time for lunch. Director Locke, should you be heading back now?" By the looks of it, Heather wanted to drive Matthias away from the house, but he didn't seem to

mind it and he still had a warm smile on his face.

Seeing the young man rendered speechless after Heather's awkward response, Robert

quickly provided a platform for him to step down. "Director Locke, why don't you stay and have lunch with us?"

Matthias immediately looked at him with gratitude while nodding his head. "Thank you, Old Master Langston. I heard that the chefs of the Langston Family make very delicious food, and I'm honored to be able to taste it myself today."

As for Heather, she was staring at Robert with displeasure, but he ignored her gaze and continued conversing with Matthias happily. I can't believe Grandpa asked him to have lunch

with us. This is unacceptable! It's so obvious that he wants to please Matthias.

Suddenly, she was not excited for lunch at all. Initially, her stomach was rumbling hungrily but now, she did not have the appetite to eat. However, it wouldn't be wise of her to refute Robert's invitation. I'll just have to do what he says. It's not like I never had lunch with Matthias before.

"Then you should eat more later on," she muttered gloomily. He is obviously going against me. The more I refuse to see him, the more times he tries to show up in front of me.

On the other hand, Matthias still kept the polite smile on his face as he didn't mind Heather's

dark looks. "I will." However, the more polite he was to her, the more she felt that he had something up his sleeve.

Looking at the banter going on between the two of them, Robert reminisced about his youthful past and the girl he liked at that time, who was also as energetic as these two. The two of them are probably able to argue with each other in spite of the people around because there is some affection for each other. They are more like a quarrelsome couple.

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Looking at the delicious meal on the table, Heather found her stomach growling but with Matthias here, she was in no mood to eat at all. However, Matthias pretended to not know about it as he glanced at her from time to time with a smile on his face, as if he was positively ecstatic.

Therefore, she immediately lowered her head because she felt that it was better for her to eat than look at him. She also chose to ignore the conversation going on between him and her grandfather. They are definitely discussing the collaboration between the Langston and Locke Group.

However, Robert wanted to know more about Matthias, so he started chatting with the latter

about his hobbies. This made Heather prick up her ears curiously. There's something wrong with Grandpa today. It seems like he cares a lot about Matthias!

The fragrance of the dishes lingered in the air and at the moment, she felt that the scent of the food was simply heavenly. After all, one would instantly gobble down anything when they were hungry.

Nonetheless, everytime Heather's eyes landed on Matthias, the food on her plate would somehow lose its taste, so she specifically avoided his eyes. Today, Matthias subconsciously looked at her from time to time, but she only saw his gentle eyes as a sugar-coated axe. She felt that his gaze was rather penetrating so whenever he stared at her, she would glare at him viciously. However, he thought that her looks were adorable, and

he even wanted to tousle her wavy hair that she had blow-dried not too long ago. Looking at their interactions, Robert suddenly felt that he shouldn't be here. Looks like I need to create more chances for the two of them to be together alone. And so, he came up with a plan on how to do so. Since the atmosphere at the dining table was still pleasant, he simply found an excuse. "There is an exhibition at the National Art Gallery this evening and the curator gave me two tickets, asking me to attend." At this point, he paused on purpose. Heather immediately narrowed her eyes as she could sense that he was up to something. Grandpa definitely mentioned this on purpose.

As for Matthias, he was looking at Robert with a smile while waiting for him to continue because he didn't think too much about his words.

"Grandpa, are you asking me to attend the exhibition with you?" Heather followed up on his words. It doesn't seem like he is planning to continue speaking, so he is probably waiting for me to speak first.

Sure enough, the moment she opened her mouth, Robert instantly smiled joyously.

"My body isn't in the best condition lately but I don't want to disappoint the curator," he explained slowly. "Heather, the curator is Mr. Henriksen and he often visited us when you were a kid. Do you still remember?" Robert began to involve other people in the conversation

as he did all he could to create opportunities for the two of them to be alone together.

"I do," she answered coldly. I think I can probably guess what he is doing, but why is he so desperate to put me together with Matthias?

"I can't very well disappoint him, can I?" And so, Robert began to put on an act by pretending to be aggrieved.

"Your health is more important and I'm sure that Mr. Henriksen will understand," Heather replied to him indifferently, ignoring his act.

"That won't do. Heather, can you please attend the exhibition on my behalf? I'm sure Mr. Henriksen will be happy to see you." It was only then that he finally revealed his true intentions, and it made her rather resigned. I knew that it couldn't be that simple.

"I'm not interested in the art exhibition at all," she announced firmly. Since I know it's a trap, I won't be stupid enough to jump right into it.

Meanwhile, Matthias was watching everything silently since it wouldn't be wise of him to say anything. However, he didn't expect that Robert was doing all this just to get him and Heather to go on a date.

"You must go! A while ago, Mr. Henriksen kept on asking after you, so I initially planned to bring you along and call upon him," Robert explained to her righteously, as if it would be wrong for her not to go.

However, Heather continued to reject him ruthlessly. "I can visit Mr. Henriksen but I don't want to attend the exhibition!"

Even though Robert didn't expect her to be this stubborn, he was much more stubborn than

her and he was confident in his ability to convince her to visit the art gallery. And so, he

ordered the butler next to him, "Give me the tickets."

Upon hearing that, Heather stared at the plate in front of her with disgust. This time, she had

completely lost her appetite and to make matters worse, her grandfather wasn't done with her. Not long after, the butler came over with the two tickets. The moment she saw the two tickets, her smile instantly turned cold. I knew it!

While receiving the tickets, Robert gave Matthias a warm smile and suddenly, Heather knew

that she was in trouble. Everything is going the way I fear.

"Matthias, do you like art galleries?" This time, Robert called him 'Matthias' instead of 'Director Locke'. Even though Matthias felt uncomfortable about it, Heather was the one who cringed the most.

Matthias glanced at her and he noticed her vicious look. It was almost as if she couldn't wait to tear him apart. Then, he nodded his head awkwardly while smiling brightly.

"Since you like it, why don't you accompany Heather to the art gallery this evening?"

Finally,

Robert revealed his true intentions, causing Heather to almost blow a gasket.

She always tried to avoid Matthias but now, her own grandfather was actually creating chances for them to be alone together.

"Do I really have the honor?" Matthias seemed pleased about it.

"No." Immediately, she cut off his words, showing her dissatisfaction with him.

However, as an elder of the family, Robert ordered her, "Nonsense! Let Matthias accompany

you to the art gallery."

After giving Matthias a glare, Heather turned to stare Robert with dissatisfaction. In the end,

she chose to not say a word. At this point, everything I say is wrong, so what's the point of even talking?

At first, she wanted to delay things but surprisingly, Robert was quick enough to ask them to

leave. The exhibition starts at 3 PM but it's now only 1.30 PM. Isn't it a bit too early?

She also wanted to drive herself to the art gallery, but even that was taken away from her by

Robert as he ordered her to sit right next to Matthias on the passenger seat.

While sitting in the passenger seat, she put on a cold expression, as if Matthias owed her millions. He, on the other hand, tried to ease the atmosphere between them.

"Why didn't you come yesterday?" However, the moment he opened his mouth, the atmosphere became even more tense.

Meanwhile, Heather was looking out the window as she ignored everything he said. I've already explained to him yesterday, so I don't need to explain it all over again for him today.

"Are you going to keep avoiding me?" he asked again but this time, he was enraged by her attitude. Somehow, she can always infuriate me easily. I sometimes wonder why I even like her! Is it because I like to be infuriated and abused by her?

“You can treat today as a date. If you have anything to say, just say it,” she reluctantly replied

to him. I was wrong to miss our date yesterday. Since there’s no turning back now, I’ll just repay him with this date today.

“But will you even listen?” He looked into her eyes, wanting to know what she was actually thinking about as his desire was tearing him apart.

“You can say anything you want. Just ignore me,” she answered impatiently.

“What I want to say is related to you, so I don’t want you to just be a listener. I want your response.” At this point, Matthias could no longer conceal the emotion and pain in his eyes.

“I can’t give any response.” Heather had a faint feeling that she knew what he wanted to say,

but she didn’t dare to hear it from him. Therefore, she could only be a reluctant listener without giving him any answers.

“Heather, please stop pretending to be foolish. Don’t you know why I’m doing this?” he murmured, an obvious pain in his voice. Why do I always fail to get the person I love?

Everything that he ever wanted in life was out of his reach, so he really hoped that Heather would understand his feelings. However, she cruelly refused to give him any response.

“How would I know, Matthias? Is it because you hate me? Or is it because you want to exact

your revenge? Do you see me as your enemy or what?” Heather kept on telling herself that he was just doing everything he could to torture her. Therefore, she couldn’t bring herself to

believe in his sudden sign of weakness.