

**Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter
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Skeptical about Heather's words, Leon stared at her suspiciously while giving her a mischievous grin, feeling happy to see her in the hotel. "Did you sleep well?" Heather changed the topic because she thought it was a hassle to attempt to clear his doubts. Leon looked out of the window with his eyes squinted, and the dark circles under his eyes became more apparent. Truth was, Heather had already noticed this but she deliberately quizzed him despite knowing his restlessness. Seeing him so fatigued, she continued to mock him, "Seems like you didn't get enough sleep yesterday. Serves you right for being so stubborn about changing rooms." Much to her surprise, Leon remained silent. After a while, he blurted discontentedly, "You came to persuade me to delay the opening." He didn't wish to delay the launch of their company and he thought that Heather was being impulsive. "You're in over your head. I've already made that decision, so there's no need to persuade you." Being the lone wolf she was, she would not be swayed by Leon. "You're being ruthless, Heather," Leon countered. "You have no say in this. As for the investigation, however, you may prove yourself useful." Since Leon was sharper in investigations, Heather intended to drag him into it. Puzzled, Leon peered at her as he wondered why she was so persistent on getting to the bottom of the incident.

"You're aware of the dangers of digging into this?" Assuming it was his own family that was

wreaking havoc, he felt compelled to remind her of the risks. Knowing the lengths they would go, he wished she wouldn't interfere.

"I need closure—it's important to me." Since she couldn't directly look into whether the Lockes and the Moriartys were working together in secret, she could only start from the explosion.

Heaving a sigh, Leon fell back onto his bed, utterly infuriated by her.

"You're really arrogant, Heather. What do you want from me? A direct confrontation?" He asked tiredly, as if he was terrified of the person he hinted about.

"I'm not doing it your way. After all, I only wish to know whether the Moriartys are behind this," Heather expressed her true thoughts, not wanting to burden him.

"Why won't you just believe me? It's really not the Moriartys. After all this time, do you still not know that Caleb merely wants to have you by his side and not hurt you?" Leon

questioned in rage. He had made this assumption after having analyzed the statistics for a long time. Although he didn't want it revealed to her, he felt the need to at that moment.

"So what? Sure, he won't hurt me but there's no guarantee he won't attack my family. Even if he won't lay a finger on me, he'll surely give my family a hard time."

Although Heather was surprised by Leon's information, it was as she said—Caleb would never give up harassing the Langstons.

Feeling lethargic, Leon merely wanted to lie on the bed and do nothing as he did not have the energy to continue debating with Heather, but she just wouldn't cut him some slack.

"What I'm saying is that since Caleb has no hand in the detonation, why would you even bother looking into it?" Leon was going insane out of frustration from Heather's unusualness.

“I wish to face him. It’s like he’s vanished into thin air after disappearing for so long.

Regardless of his intentions, I wish to look for him and make sure of his plans.” With that,

Heather made her goal of meeting Caleb apparent.

Seeing how her aims grew more dangerous than the last, Leon sprung out of bed and

exclaimed, “No way! Caleb’s a real snake! You shouldn’t start messing with him.”

“I can’t just sit around enjoying my peace. Sooner or later, I’ll have to face it anyway, so I

might as well take the initiative to approach him instead of waiting.” As she no longer had

the desire to drag the matter any further, she decided to be the one to find the Moriartys

since they wouldn’t show up.

So far, the Moriarty Family hadn’t made a move, so Heather couldn’t figure out whether they

were waiting for an opportunity for an ambush or for the Langstons to make a compromise.

Since they were still friendly on the outside, Heather thought she might as well use that to

her advantage and approach Caleb to find out anything she could.

“Since when were you this dense, Heather? You’re oversimplifying things!” Seeing how

Heather was growing irrational, Leon scoffed coldly. The Heather he once knew wouldn’t

have made such rash decisions.

“How should I know my odds at winning if I don’t at least give it a try?”

Since she had made

up her mind, whatever he said would not make her waver.

“Fine, then. I’ll not stop you, but I’ll not jump with you either.” Since they didn’t see eye-to-eye,

Leon decided not to give her his support.

“Fine. I won’t force your hand,” Heather claimed apathetically. Based on their stiff

exchanges, it seemed she really had ticked him off.

“From now on, I’ll only put my mind on the company. Do not come looking for me for anything else,” he furiously stated as he signaled for her to leave the room.

As a result, both of them were irked by each other. Before Heather rushed out the door, however, she gave Leon a final glance. “I’ll prove myself right.” Bang! Leon slammed the door shut. Then, he lay against the door, perturbed by Heather’s self-destructive behavior. Despite being told that Caleb had no intentions to harm her, she insisted on taking him on. She is truly offering herself up on a silver platter! Despite their conflict, Leon couldn’t bring himself to calm down as his friend walked toward her fall. Hence, he decided to inform Matthias about this. Since there were certain details that he couldn’t disclose, he planned to only tell him the causes and effects.

As of now, he could only wish for Matthias to protect Heather. Unfortunately, after having run a check on Matthias’ background, Leon discovered that Matthias had his plate full as well. Unlike the impeccable façade he donned, he wasn’t as influential and powerful within the Locke Family. Thus, he could also be troubled by his family members. Aware of that, Leon suspected that Matthias had already known about the collaboration between the Moriartys and the Lockes but could only do as told. And sadly, the only one who could have Matthias down on his knees was the head of the Locke Family, which led to Leon’s fear of the possible pact between the two families. In the end, Leon pulled out his laptop that he always carried with him. Luckily, he hadn’t left the laptop at home during the explosion, or all the data he had collected would have turned

to dust.

After going through the Locke Family's information, Leon couldn't find anything about the shady, mysterious head of the family. Even on various media platforms, he could not find any photos of the Lockes' head, nor any audio files either. Regardless, Leon couldn't grasp the intention behind the enigma or what they were preparing for. Despite the lack of information, Leon knew that the Lockes were no decent businesspeople.

Whether it be things that were immoral or unlawful, they had done it all. However, the information Leon had at hand suggested that Matthias had no hand in the family's fishy business, and it was his leader and relatives that were behind the obscene acts.

Pondering on this, Leon wished to understand how much Matthias knew about his family's inside jobs. Nevertheless, he wasn't sure whether Matthias was actually working with his rotten relatives. Thus, Leon could only make a bet for now.

While he scrolled over the pages of data, he was contemplating how he should approach Matthias about the matter and more importantly, whether to reveal the truth to him.

Either way, the only thing Leon was sure of was that Matthias' affection for Heather was genuine—that was the only leverage Leon had. Regrettably, Leon wasn't Matthias so he couldn't tell if Matthias' feelings for Heather were strong enough for him to go against his own family.

Up until now, Leon had stressed himself very much for Heather's sake, assisting her both openly and discreetly. Judging by the Moriarty Family's power, Leon thought that the only group that could take the family on was his own. If the Moriartys were to take action,

perhaps even the Lockes had no way to stop them. Needless to say, Leon hadn't the influence nor the capabilities to help Heather with his family's power as he was unable to persuade his grandfather to lend a hand. Despite that, there was a way that could guarantee his help, and it was one that got Leon scratching his head and biting his lips—get Heather to be his wife and put a baby in her. To Leon, who had never pondered about marriage and having a child, the idea was indeed crazy. Besides, it wasn't like Heather would agree to it. Skipping the impractical method, Leon concluded that he wouldn't be able to get his family's help. Even if it was a matter of life or death, he would not look for his family.

On the other side, a ringtone pierced through the silence. Knowing that she wouldn't be receiving any calls from anyone except Matthias, Heather immediately locked her phone as she wasn't in the mood to speak to anyone. After having called thrice and with none of them being picked up, Matthias simply sent her a text. As a matter of fact, he had received a text message earlier mentioning Heather was in danger and urging him to hurry over to Violeast Hotel. In order to make sure the message wasn't actually spam, Matthias wished to call her for confirmation, not knowing it was Leon behind it. In fact, Leon wanted to test if Matthias would come to him. If he rushed over without any hesitation, that would prove he really loved Heather and lost his rationality in the process. After a while, seeing how Matthias hadn't responded, Leon figured he was calling Heather. Leon knew that she wouldn't answer any calls or reply to any texts that weren't coming from Robert or Myra. Indeed, feeling irritated by Matthias' volley of calls and texts, Heather immediately turned

her phone off without even glancing at his texts.

Her temper would get even worse whenever she was upset. And so, when Matthias made another call, he noticed that she had already switched off her phone. As it was rare for her

to do so, he couldn't help but worry.

To verify the text, Matthias attempted to dial the number of the sender, and Leon revealed a

victorious grin when he saw the former's call.

However, Leon chose not to answer the call and continued to text.

Hastily, he typed down a

series of messages and sent them over to Matthias.

'Since you have the time to ask for proof, why don't you come over and see for yourself? Or

perhaps, Director Locke, you don't care one bit about Miss Heather's safety. Well, that's all I

have for you. It's all up to you whether to come over or not.' Leon sent an aggressively

provocative message. At that moment, Heather's whereabouts were constantly changing, so

Matthias would be forced to come over since he couldn't determine her position.

'Which room in Violeat Hotel?' There was no way Matthias could afford to barge into

different rooms to locate the sender based on the urgency of the matter at hand.

'Fifth floor.' After revealing the floor he was in to Matthias, Leon swiftly erased the number

of the burner phone and waited as a show presented itself.

He wanted to see if Matthias would check on every room on the fifth floor. If Matthias was

able to locate him, Leon would share with him Heather's ballsy plans and try to have the

other man protect her.

As for what would come next, it all lay with Matthias' determination as Leon hoped that

Matthias wouldn't let him down. After all, it was just one floor.

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Before Matthias' arrival, Leon connected his laptop to the satellite and found out Heather's whereabouts. It had been a long while yet she was still on the roads, reluctant to head home.

Accordingly, Leon attempted to call her, only to find out that she had turned her phone off.

No wonder! He revealed a helpless grin as he mused, She's so persistent! Looks like his actions had hurt her. Since he was unable to support his friend into doing the wrong things, he could only think of righting her wrongs.

Even now, Leon was trying to prove that point with his actions—baiting Matthias to see how concerned he was about Heather.

If Matthias chose to be smart and strategic in this case, that would prove he hadn't fallen

deep enough for her. Back when Leon was all in for Heather, the Langstons used her as bait

to lure him home. Although he considered himself sharp-witted, he didn't contemplate too

much back then and eventually fell for such ridiculous excuses. Perhaps he was blinded by love!

Now, Leon wished to draw the same card—luring Matthias over. And all he had to do next

was to wait for the latter to knock on his door.

Surprisingly, Matthias showed up much faster than he had expected.

Pulling the door open,

Leon saw a drenched Matthias standing outside.

Looking at Matthias, who was soaked after running around under the storm without an

umbrella, Leon felt a gush of satisfaction in his heart. After all, they were technically love rivals.

“How may I help you?” Leon pretended as if he didn’t already know Matthias.

“Is Heather here?” Matthias inquired with a frighteningly dark expression. Terrified, Leon swore to himself not to reveal to Matthias that it was him behind the text message.

“Why are you looking for her?” Leon acted as if he was clueless. Gazing at him, Matthias responded, “I know you’re her junior, so she must be inside. Let me in!”

Leon then looked at him perplexedly as he countered, “What a load of bull! Have you lost it?”

he muttered as he pointed at his head.

“Sod off!” Shoving him away, Matthias entered the room as he yelled, “Heather? Heather!”

Although Leon stayed in one of the most luxurious rooms, the room wasn’t at all complex as

everything fell in sight at the entrance. Crossing his arms, Leon stated, “She left earlier, so

she won’t respond even if you shout yourself hoarse.”

Upon hearing that Heather was no longer here, Matthias turned around and walked toward

the exit, only to be stopped by Leon. Upon seeing that, the former said, “Let me through.”

Snickering, Leon scorned, “You enter and exit as you want. What do you think my place is?”

Of course, at that moment, he had to irritate Matthias in order to see how perturbed the

other man was.

“Please move—I wish to look for Heather. Do you know where she is?”

Truth was, he could

not stop worrying, not until he found Heather.

“And I wish to know why you are here and what’s your business with her.” Leon was so into

his act that the disdain on his face seemed genuine.

“Tell me where did she go.” Suddenly, Matthias grasped Leon’s collar, effectively exhibiting

his fighting skills that were higher than that of Heather’s. With just a swing of an arm, he

quickly subdued Leon.

“Ouch! Let go of me. I can’t breathe!” Not expecting Matthias to be so terrifying when he got triggered, Leon figured that he should proceed with a rather amicable method or he would be digging himself a grave.

“So do you know where she is?” Matthias repeated the question as he was about to lift Leon

up with one hand, effectively making the latter slightly panicked.

The reddened eyes and threatening gestures all indicated his love for Heather. Seeing that,

Leon was almost sure that he indeed cared about her.

“I’ll need you to explain the situation to me. I’ve no idea what’s going on.

For starters, do

unhand me or I’ll tell you nothing,” Leon urged furiously, shocked by

Matthias’ monstrous

strength.

“Okay.” Despite loosening his hands, Matthias was still maintaining his

scowl—a horrifying

one, at that.

Meanwhile, Leon was still dazed by Matthias’ fighting skills. Although he had heard from

Heather about how Matthias was really adept at fighting, he had never imagined him to be

this proficient, perhaps even in another league altogether.

“Tell me what’s going on. You’re looking for her so panickedly, so what’s the urgency? If it’s

so urgent, why don’t you call her? Even if I tell where she is, do you think you’re able to chase

her down?” Leon continued to play pretend. In that instant, there was

no way Matthias, who

was about to blow a gasket, could see through Leon’s acting.

“Someone texted me saying that Heather was in danger and had me come over to Violeat

Hotel to look for her. When I arrived, I went to the reception and asked whether Heather was

here as a guest. I even described her appearance in detail. One of them claimed to have

seen Heather and I soon found out that she was in your room. And here I am now, knocking at your door.” Matthias explained his side of the story in detail, from beginning to the end.

Upon hearing that, Leon acted as if he had an epiphany. “I see...”

“Now, can you tell me where she has gone?” Having not the time to lurk around, Matthias

wished to pinpoint her location immediately.

Seemingly troubled, Leon muttered, “About that...”

“Hurry up! Don’t waste my time!” What Matthias wanted was a place, not Leon’s stressful expression.

“She’s either at the Langston Residence or...” Leon deliberately made a pause, only to see

Matthias frowning tightly, as if he was going to burst into rage again.

At that point, Matthias had long become frustrated by Leon’s suspense.

“Or what?” How

could a man be this hesitant?

“I’m not sure if I should tell you about this because Heather didn’t want me to tell anyone...”

Leon seemed unsettled, as if he was wondering whether to reveal the truth or not.

“Spit it.” Seeing that Leon was so indecisive, Matthias figured something was off and

Heather must have been heading toward somewhere dangerous.

“Please, you mustn’t let her know that I’m the one who told you this.”

Requesting affirmation,

Leon made the matter seem so serious as if it would cost him his life if Heather were to find

out he had betrayed her.

“Hurry up, then!” Matthias, on the other hand, was growing impatient.

How is this guy such a

p*ssy?

“Earlier, Heather mentioned that she intends to get close to Caleb. As for why, I’m afraid I’m

in no place to tell you. The point is, I suspect that she’s going to look for him,” Leon finally

exposed the full truth to Matthias, and what would happen next was up to the latter's imagination.

"But why would she do that? What's really going on?" Of course, Matthias had heard about Caleb, but he couldn't fathom the nature of the relationship between Heather and the other man.

However, Leon simply replied, "I have no idea either. Some family feud, I reckon." After a few seconds, he turned to Matthias with a stern face and urged, "I've told you everything I know.

Please keep this from Heather, okay?"

In order to settle Leon down, Matthias had to give him an assurance. Thus, he nodded his head and earnestly promised, "I swear I won't let anyone know about what happened here."

"Honestly, I'm worried about Heather as well, but I don't think I have the power to interfere in such a matter. If you really care about her, you have to protect her well. And remember—do not let her know I've told you all this. Just pretend that you know nothing and shield her discreetly," Leon advised Matthias. After revealing his ultimate purpose, he felt immensely relieved.

"I got it." Matthias patted him, signaling his gratitude.

"That's all the help I can give. I think you'd better not look for her now, but you may try waiting for her at the Langston Residence. She might reach home very soon," Leon advised Matthias.

"I'm really worried about her. Even though I don't know who sent me the text, I can't help but feel uneasy," Matthias stated as he showed Leon his phone. After scanning the message, Leon smilingly claimed, "Must have been a fake. Even the number looks sketchy."

At once, Matthias shot him a weird gaze as he didn't quite grasp what he meant. Realizing that, Leon scolded himself internally for speaking too much. Very quickly, he attempted to cover up his lies and offered, "I'm good with computers so I can track down callers and senders," "How could you tell that the number is sketchy and the content is fake?" Matthias was not one to mess with, so he demanded a clear explanation from Leon. "Typically, people wouldn't use their personal numbers to send such shady texts, so the number is most likely fabricated. As for the message, it must have been a prank of some sort. Sure, Heather was here in Violeast Hotel and in my room. But the question is, why would she be in danger when she's in my room? That's utter bull!" Leon exclaimed, as if he was speaking facts. Pondering on the other man's words, Matthias thought they weren't entirely illogical. Regardless, he couldn't put down his worry, not until he made sure that Heather was safe. "Just trust me and wait for her at the Langston Residence. She'll surely return," Leon suggested as he didn't want Matthias to wander around aimlessly in such hazardous weather.

"But you told me she might be looking for Caleb, so why should I wait for her there?" As Matthias remembered everything vividly, Leon couldn't dismiss him so easily. "She'll definitely go home so it's best you wait for her there. Otherwise, where would you look for her in such heavy rain?" Seeing how assiduous Matthias was to detail, Leon grew slightly helpless as he became more careful with his words. "No way. I'll search for her right now. I'll find her," Matthias claimed as he was about to push

Leon away and storm out the door.

“Sure, if you insist. Don’t forget to try calling her, though; she might have turned her phone on.” With that, Leon gave no more suggestions, fearing Matthias would catch him red-handed.

Before leaving the room, Matthias expressed his gratitude for sharing such critical information and he murmured, “Got it, thanks.”

“You’re welcome. Be sure to protect her! Honestly, I don’t hate you that much. In fact, I kind of think you guys are a good match,” Leon commented with a bright beam as he complimented his rival, all the while cursing himself in his heart for doing so.

Upon hearing that, Matthias, who had always thought Leon was interested in Heather, was surprised by his sudden blessing. And so, he responded with a smile, “Thank you.” With that, he quickly took his leave after voicing his last words.