

Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 603

Matthias was worried that Heather would suffer frostbite, so he had no choice but to chase

after her. However, Heather walked so fast she had disappeared in the blink of an eye.

When she turned around, she saw Matthias following her from a distance. Her eyes met

with Matthias', and she wore an inexplicable expression.

"Why did you follow me?" Heather just wanted to have some time alone. She didn't expect

Matthias to tag along, so she was a little frustrated.

"Why are you angry all of a sudden?" Matthias was distressed. He actually wanted to retort

but he ended up biting his tongue.

"I'm not angry. I just came out to watch the snow," Heather said indifferently.

"You're wearing so little and it's so cold out here. Don't stay outside too long or you might

get frostbite." Matthias grasped Heather's hand, wanting to bring her back to the car.

"Just let me take a walk and get some fresh air." It was suffocating in the car, and Heather

really needed some space.

"Are you still worried about what's happening back in Solaria?" Recently, Heather had rarely

brought up the matters in Solaria, but Matthias could feel that something was bothering her.

"Stop asking me about these matters." Heather was already vexed enough, yet Matthias

kept reminding her of the issues. This made her very annoyed.

"What exactly is going on in your mind?" To be frank, Matthias was troubled too because he

couldn't figure out Heather's thoughts at all, yet Heather was keeping everything from him.

"I don't want to argue with you in the snow. Just leave me alone, will you?" At this point,

Heather suddenly regretted asking Matthias to come along to Iceland because she couldn't

be at peace at all with his presence. She would be reminded of Myra whenever she saw him.

Every day was new yet stressful for Heather because too many things were weighing her

down, and she felt as if she was about to break down sooner or later.

"If the matters back in Solaria really are troubling you, let's just go back," Matthias suggested. He, too, was worried that Heather would have an emotional breakdown.

"If we leave now, wouldn't all our efforts go to waste? We haven't even caught a glimpse of the Northern Lights yet." Heather wanted to use this agenda to distract herself. The goal she had initially set for herself was to see the Northern Lights. Since she had yet to achieve her goal, naturally she wouldn't want to leave just yet.

"We'll only get to see the Northern Lights if we're lucky. If we don't get to see it during this winter, are you planning to stay here forever?" Matthias' tone turned stern as he was very determined to bring Heather back to Solaria.

After realizing Matthias' intention, Heather put on a gloomy and scary smile. "So you're asking me to obey your command then?" Originally, Heather wanted to avoid picking a fight with Matthias, but he wouldn't stop pushing her buttons. Technically, Matthias brought this upon himself. Right now, Heather wished Matthias could just disappear.

"Stop running away. I'll always stay by your side and face everything with you. Go back with me, alright?" Matthias tried to convince Heather so that she would muster some courage to face reality.

"Why do you want to keep influencing me?" Heather stared at Matthias. This time, she felt that he had over-interfered in her life.

"Don't cross the line, Heather." Despite Matthias' good temper, he couldn't stand Heather's derision.

"I just need some time alone. If you miss home so much, just go." Heather didn't want to stay with Matthias anymore. At this moment, she just wanted to be alone. She would be less frustrated without seeing anyone else, especially Matthias.

"Sure," Matthias replied firmly. Today, both of them were rather touchy, and for once, Matthias didn't want to please Heather in a servile manner. Heather was relieved after hearing Matthias' reply as she thought this outcome was favorable too—no more quarrels.

For some reason, Matthias was dejected to see Heather's relieved look. Looks like she really doesn't want me around. He couldn't help but feel like the past few days were a joke, mocking coldly at Matthias.

"So it seems like you were actually done with me long ago," Matthias croaked heartbrokenly as he couldn't reconcile with himself seeing Heather's expression.

Snowflakes fell on their hair and body, but Matthias couldn't feel a tinge of coldness at all, for he was completely dispirited. This nasty weather actually matches my current feelings.

Matthias smiled ruefully. Nevertheless, he shouldn't let himself dwell in this pathetic state of mind any longer.

Then, Matthias made a call to Nikolai. "Book a plane ticket for me." His order was short and

concise, and he hung up immediately even before Nikolai could respond.

Meanwhile, Heather still wore a stubborn look. She knew she was about to drive Matthias

away, but it actually made her feel better mentally.

Seeing that Heather remained silent, Matthias went back to the car on his own. He didn't

want to bother with Heather anymore as he was already disheartened after being given the cold shoulder.

There had been multiple situations where Matthias wanted to ask Heather just how could

she be this ruthless and cruel. Did she not care for his feelings even to the slightest bit? She

just couldn't care less about my feelings. There were numerous times Matthias was filled

with hope, but he was let down again and again; he felt like his heart couldn't take it anymore.

The car heater had completely gone off, making the inside of the car as cold as the outside.

Matthias stared at the dead car engine and felt that his heart was in the exact same state at

this moment.

Heather gradually disappeared from his sight. As she strode away further and further,

Matthias felt like he could never hold on to her. He reached out his hand and dejectedly put

it down again. Heather had already left, just like how their relationship was slowly drifting

away. It seemed like they could never get on the same page.

Matthias decided to stop being distressed about it as he leaned against the car seat and

waited for the arrival of the rescue team. He could not be concerned with Heather's whereabouts anymore.

After staying around Heather for so long, Matthias felt like he was going to lose himself

soon. As a matter of fact, he had even thought of changing his life plans for the sake of

Heather, but he had never had a place in the latter's heart. It was only just Matthias' wishful thinking to put Heather in his future plans. What a joke. What's taking the rescue team so long? Matthias waited anxiously. Every second was torture to him. He had to refrain from getting out of the car to go look for Heather. The more he couldn't see her, the stronger his impulse to go find her. Matthias was anxious; he wished to leave this place immediately and was dying to run away from Iceland. Meanwhile, Heather walked further in the opposite direction. She didn't want to stay beside Matthias because she was worried that the closer they got, the more she would want to make him stay. Would a person feel lonely when he or she was alone? If she hadn't experienced being together with Matthias, she wouldn't have felt so alone. At that thought, a cold smile appeared on her face—one that was as cold as the snow. Currently, she had a hunch that there would be people in front. Heather walked for quite a while with her persistence, and sure enough, Matthias did not come after her anymore. Heather was relieved, but at the same time, her heart felt heavy for some reason. She had long anticipated that one day, Matthias would be done with her, and it seemed like the day had finally come. This was indeed taunting. Heather couldn't feel the cold physically. Due to her being alone in Iceland now, her heart felt bleak. The snow was very heavy, and it was the heaviest one Heather had seen ever since she was born. From time to time, some snowflakes would fall onto her collar and slide down her neck. She regretted not wearing a thicker coat. The wind coat that she was wearing currently only had an attractive appearance, and it didn't really have any other function than that. "If it's this cold all year long..." Heather stopped halfway upon realizing that she sounded like a psychopath talking to herself when she was alone. Heather suddenly felt lonely without Matthias being by her side. It was only then that she realized she had long been used to Matthias' existence. She even started missing that annoying mouth of his. They just parted not long ago, yet Heather was already missing him

dearly. She hated herself right now, for she felt useless. Why would I become so fragile and emotional? I just parted with Matthias. This isn't a valid reason to be sad. How absurd!

Heather wanted to get rid of all the messy thoughts in her mind. She didn't want to be emotionally affected by Matthias anymore. She was not a little girl who wasn't capable of being on her own—she was a strong and independent woman in the eyes of others. However, at this moment, Heather was as fragile as a child. She even had an impulse to cry.

When the snowflakes fell on her cheeks, she would sometimes refuse to wipe them off with her hand and allowed the snowflakes to be melted by her body temperature and flow down her cheeks like tears.

The two hearts were torn apart, but neither of them was reluctant to give in. Heather wouldn't be honest with Matthias while the latter was totally disheartened this time round.

Despite his urge to find Heather, he had suppressed the impulse of doing so. There were multiple instances where even Heather couldn't understand herself. Why did they have to torture each other like this? She wasn't any happier seeing Matthias being sad.

She had pushed Matthias away again and again, but deep down, she actually couldn't bear to see him leave too. Heather felt like she was being increasingly psychotic as even she couldn't understand her mentality.

She yearned to be in a bustling crowd; she wanted to be around people and not be alone.

Truth be told, walking alone in the snow wasn't that romantic, after all. On the contrary, it made one seem even more lonely. This was the last situation Heather would want to be in.

Once she had had a taste of the goodness of someone or something, it would be hard to leave them anymore, and it would be even more painful to lose them.

You can't lose something you've never had in the first place. Gaining something is the start of losing it. Heather had seen this quote somewhere and it had left a strong impression in her mind. Recalling it, Heather was filled with mixed emotions.

After walking for a long time, Heather felt numbness in her feet as a result of the cold.

Perhaps Matthias was right—she would succumb to frostbite if she carried on like this.

Heather trudged arduously through the snow. Every step she took was difficult. The snow

was getting thicker and it seemed like Heather was sinking into it.

On the other hand, Matthias closed his eyes and allowed the coldness to engulf him.

He

could feel the vastness of the earth, yet he had lost his place to hide among this vast space.

As such, he pressed the honk just to hear some noise.

A sharp and loud sound pierced Matthias' ears. It seemed that was the only thing that could

keep Matthias in check. At this moment, he felt deflated, as if he had just experienced a

breakup.

The car honk was blaring non-stop. Matthias was acting in an increasingly weird manner—so weird he was disgusted with himself. Since when have I become like this?

Where could Heather be? Matthias had completely lost trace of Heather. He couldn't identify

her in the heavy snow with his bare eyes. Even the footprints that she had left behind were

almost covered by the snow. It was as if she had never been there.

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Meanwhile, back in Solaris, the news of Matthias' return soon traveled to Tony's ears.

However, what surprised Tony was that Heather didn't come back with him.

Ever since Matthias returned to Solaria, he had been wearing a sulky face every day.

His

handling of company matters had become increasingly harsh and resolute. Initially, the

working atmosphere in Locke Group was rather relaxed. However, due to the sudden change

in Matthias' mood, the atmosphere of the entire company became gloomy too.

Nikolai had already expected this to happen. He was in a state of shock when

Matthias had

asked him to book him a flight back home. After that, he couldn't reach the latter by phone

at all. He also never replied to his messages, even when Nikolai had sent them through

various channels.

As such, Nikolai guessed that Matthias had a fight with Heather. Even then, he still bought

two flight tickets just in case. Alas, Matthias still came back alone toward the end.

From

that moment, Nikolai knew things had gotten serious when he picked Matthias up from the airport.

Matthias' face was scarily stiff. At that time, Nikolai wanted to bring up some relaxing

topics to ease the tension, but the latter had started a serious conversation before he could

speak up.

"Any recent updates from Locke Group?" Matthias asked Nikolai in a stern manner.

"It's very complicated. I'm afraid I can't explain it to you right now," Nikolai

answered

awkwardly. He felt pressured being asked such a question right after they met.

"Just summarize it. You don't have to go through the details." Matthias insisted

Nikolai give

him a summary. This was truly a difficult task for Nikolai as he wouldn't be able to summarize everything within such a short time.

Matthias fixated his eyes on Nikolai, who quietly lowered his head after receiving the

pressure from Matthias' gaze. Matthias narrowed his eyes as he was annoyed seeing

Nikolai's reaction. "Nikolai, have you forgotten my command to you?" Matthias

questioned

him angrily.

Nikolai lowered his head even more. Indeed, he hadn't taken Matthias' exhortation to heart.

All this while, he had obviously been relying on Matthias with the perception that the latter

would have everything handled even if some issues occurred.

Although he had perceived Matthias' intention to let him deal with things

independently,

Nikolai didn't want to officially do things on his own. Matthias, however, had a

totally

opposite reaction toward this action of his, resulting in Nikolai being extremely flustered.

All this while, Nikolai had been obediently carrying out tasks according to Matthias' orders,

and he had lost the ability to think independently. Now that Matthias suddenly requested

him to do so, there was no way he could do that.

"Lift up your head. You're getting more irresponsible," Matthias rebuked

disappointedly. He

hadn't lectured Nikolai in a long while, so Nikolai felt like he was being thrown into hell

hearing Matthias' strict remarks.

"Where's Lara?" Matthias was surprised to not see Lara. By right, she should be the one

coming to pick him up.

"She has some matters to attend to in the company," Nikolai answered guiltily. He didn't

even dare to lift his head to look at Matthias.

“What happened in the company?” Matthias didn’t expect to receive this kind of news right

after stepping back into the country, which made him even fretful.

“Some people are stirring up trouble in the company, so Lara is resolving it.” Truth was,

Nikolai couldn’t handle the situation at all, so he pushed it to Lara. Even Nikolai himself

thought he was such a failure as a man.

“Why didn’t you tell me about this earlier?” Matthias was even more irritated, growing more

disappointed in Nikolai’s actions.

“Lara didn’t want you to worry, so she asked me not to tell you,” Nikolai mumbled timidly. He

had truly pissed Matthias off this time, and he didn’t even know how to respond to him.

“Did you think you would be able to hide such matters from me?” Matthias really wanted to

crack Nikolai’s brain to take a look at what was in it.

Nikolai stuttered, for he was truly at a loss for words. Matthias’ words actually made him

uncomfortable, making Nikolai reflect upon his own problems. Lately, he had indeed spent

too much energy on some issues even though he was aware Locke Group was in a critical

period.

“Your heart has not been about work at all recently. I have no idea what exactly happened to

you, but you shouldn’t let it affect your performance at work.” Matthias realized his words

were a little too harsh just now, so he adjusted his tone as he didn’t want to be too fierce

with Nikolai.

To think about it, Matthias actually regretted dragging Nikolai into the business circle because the latter was an emotional and artistic person to begin with. As such,

Matthias

was thinking if he should have a talk with Nikolai. Back then, he thought what he did was for

Nikolai’s benefit, but now it seemed like he might be wrong.

The two of them quickly arrived back at the company, and it just so happened that Matthias

caught Lara looking all anxious. As such, he quickly walked over to her. He knew all the

people who were causing trouble were the mid-level managers in the company. By right,

they should be a rational group of staff, so why did they come to cause a scene at the

director's office?

The calm look on their faces subsided a little when they saw Matthias. On the other hand,

Matthias glared coldly at them while wearing a half-smile.

"Don't you all have tasks to complete today?" Matthias' voice was cold. His mood was

already unpleasant to begin with, yet this group of people still wanted to cause trouble at

this point in time.

"Director Locke," one of them who seemed to be the leader greeted Matthias politely.

"So, you do remember that I'm the director of Locke Group." Matthias curled his lips in

disdain.

That person lowered his head with guilt. He, too, did not have the guts to look

Matthias in

the eye. Today, Matthias was indeed different from how he was in his usual days, especially

his eyes; it was as if his eyes were piercing through their flesh. Initially, they were all staring

at Matthias, but after he walked into the office, no one dared to even make eye contact with

him.

"So what's your problem? Come in and tell me," Matthias said while opening his office door.

Before this, Lara had been stopping them from barging into the director's office, but now

when Matthias actually invited them to come in, none of them dared to come forward.

Matthias turned around and looked at them. "Don't you all have something to complain

about? Why are you still standing there? Shall I escort you in personally?"

Hearing that, the leader took a step forward, and it was only then that the others followed

suit. Seeing this, Matthias roughly knew that this ruckus was planned. Seeing how obvious

that there was a leader, Matthias reckoned someone must be instigating this group of

employees in the dark.

Matthias sat in the chair and waited for them to come over. It would only take a few steps to

walk into his office, yet the managers took around two minutes to muster the courage to

walk into it. Matthias stared at them coldly as they approached him.

In the past, Matthias would invite them to take a seat. After all, he had always remained

friendly on the surface despite his fierceness deep down. But today, he had directly put away his disguise. His face was so gloomy and terrifying that none dared to look at him at all.

"I didn't ask you to take a seat," Matthias said to one of the managers who took a seat self-consciously.

Matthias knew straight away this person was the laziest among this group of managers. He would be the first person to sit down whenever there was a chair, and he would never stand if there was an option to sit. That person stood up immediately, which made the leader look at him in disappointment. What a bad beginning. Their energy was diminished right from the start.

"Why didn't the last one who entered the room close the door?" Matthias asked crabbily.

With that, the crowd was flustered. It seemed like Matthias was very different from usual as he had been picking on them. Sweat broke out from the forehead of the leader as he felt immensely stressed.

"Are you guys putting on airs for me?" Matthias questioned them sternly. Everyone turned to look at the leader as they didn't know how to respond to Matthias' question. They could only depend on the leader now. Meanwhile, the leader was stunned by Matthias' vehemence; he was so stunned he couldn't even recall any of the appeals that he had prepared before this.

"No one's talking. Did you guys plan this whole thing just to annoy me?" Matthias continued picking on them. He had completely overwhelmed the managers with his solemn aura.

"Not at all, Director Locke. You've mistaken us. This time, we—" The leader finally spoke up in a timid manner as he was still fearful of Matthias.

Unfortunately, Matthias didn't even give him the chance to complete his sentence and interrupted him directly, "What is it that you guys are stirring up trouble this time for?"

Matthias had directly deemed their actions as causing trouble, not intending to be nice to them at all.

“Director Locke, we’re really not looking for trouble.” The leader pulled a long face as he regretted agreeing to be part of this stupid plan. Now, he had officially offended Matthias.

“I’ll be the judge of that.” Matthias continued retorting the leader as he was extremely cheesed off.

“Just get to the point and tell me about your dissatisfaction.” Matthias deliberately softened his tone as he knew it would be meaningless to argue with this bunch of people. He would rather stay calm at this moment.

The managers stared at one another. They had lost the nerves to say a single word after they saw Matthias. In fact, that was exactly the situation Matthias had expected, so he used his glare to scare them off. He had returned from Iceland after having a fallout with Heather, and these mid-level managers decided to find trouble with him. As such, Matthias wanted to teach them a good lesson.

“I’ll give you three minutes. If there’s nothing you’d like to say, get back to your respective work after three minutes. Since you’re my employees, I’ll entertain you no matter how big of trouble you want to stir up, provided that your tasks are not affected,” Matthias said nonchalantly. This was, in fact, a subtle threat.

Three minutes had never felt so long before. The managers were all waiting for their leader to speak up, but the leader was actually even more timid than they were. After a while, the leader still failed to speak up while the others just stared at the ground and only lifted their eyes occasionally.

“Time’s up,” Matthias humphed gloomily in a cold voice.

“Since you all have nothing to say, get back to your tasks immediately. Each of you will receive a salary deduction of half a month for making trouble out of nothing today,” Matthias rebuked coldly. Since you dared to stir up trouble, don’t blame me for giving you a heavy punishment.

Finally, the leader mustered his courage and said, “Director Locke, I’m not sure how I should say this.”

“Three minutes isn’t enough for you to sort out your thoughts? It seems like you’re really

stupid. Locke Group doesn't need a fool." Matthias didn't directly call him out on his last sentence, but obviously, he intended to beat the dog before the lion. The leader had never thought Matthias would make a decision in such a short time. What was worse, he had never expected such an unfavorable outcome—to lose his job because of this incident. As such, he was put in an awkward situation. "Director Locke, I'll give you a reasonable explanation, but if you're asking me to just spit it out, I'm afraid I can't put it to you adequately." Since Matthias had already driven him into a corner, he might as well be bolder and honest with Matthias.