

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr

Chapter 218

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The comments reached Sonia's ears as well, but she just smiled and didn't take them to heart because she had heard such things countless times.

Confused, Carl looked at her smiling face and asked, "Aren't you angry, Sonia?"

She took a sip of juice and replied, "There's nothing to be angry about."

"They're speaking so badly about you." Narrowing his eyes, Carl scanned the gossip-mongers as though he wanted to memorize their faces.

Chuckling, she answered, "Just let them say whatever they want. I can't possibly seal their mouths, can I? Furthermore, I can't be angry at so many people."

"But I am!" A spiteful look flashed in his eyes, but it disappeared the next second. These people who insulted Sonia... I won't let any of them off!

Not knowing what was on his mind, Sonia patted him on the shoulder and said, "It's alright, I know you feel unjustified for me, but you shouldn't be bothered since I'm not even angry about it. Just let them be. They're simply a bunch of gossip-mongers, and we don't have to stoop to their level."

Grinning, Carl nodded. "Alright."

"I'm going to get another glass of juice," she said and placed her empty glass on the side before heading off to the drinks corner, leaving Carl and Charles alone.

Resting an arm on Carl's shoulder, Charles asked in a hushed voice, "Rascal, are you going to do something to these people?"

Throwing his arm off his shoulder, Carl replied coldly, "Of course. I have to teach them a lesson since they have the nerves to insult Sonia."

"I'm with you on this, but don't overdo it. If they become suspicious of Sonia—"

"I got it," Carl interrupted while looking at him.

Charles patted him lightly on his shoulder and said, "Good, Sonia's coming back now. Don't reveal anything."

"Yeah," he muttered as Sonia came over with a glass of mango juice in her hand.

Smiling, she asked, "What are you guys talking about? I saw from afar that both of you looked very serious."

"We're just discussing your birthday gift," Charles said, laughing loudly.

Going along with his answer, Carl nodded. "Yes, Sonia. What would you like for your birthday?"

"My birthday is in June next year," she said, not knowing whether to laugh or cry. "There's still half a year to go and you're already discussing what to prepare as my gift. Don't you think it's too early for that?"

"Not at all," Carl replied gently, shaking his head. "Some gifts have to be custom-made ahead of time."

"Exactly, darling," Charles agreed.

"Are you guys discussing what to get for Sonia for her birthday? Count me in as well," Zane interrupted suddenly as he joined them.

Charles rolled his eyes at him and said, "What's Sonia's birthday got to do with you?"

“Of course it does since she’s also my friend,” Zane answered, sticking out his chest.

Snorting, Charles snapped, “Let me correct that. Your friend is Toby Fuller.”

“So what if he is? There’s no limit to the number of friends I can have, and I’m also Sonia’s partner in work, right?” he said and winked at Sonia.

Charles sulked and had no words to retort all of a sudden, but Carl narrowed his eyes and asked, “Sonia, what are you working on with Mr. Coleman?”

“It’s something important, but I can’t tell you the details just yet,” she answered, smiling.

The feud was between the Reeds, the Grays and the Colemans. Therefore, there was no need to tell Carl about it because it would just cause him unnecessary worries. However, his eyes turned gloomy and he appeared crestfallen at the fact that she refused to tell him.

“That’s right, Sonia. Let me bring you to meet some important figures of the trade,” Zane offered suddenly.

At first, Sonia’s eyes sparkled, but then she scrutinized him dubiously. “Why are you being so kind and helping me to extend my network?”

“Take it as my thanks because you babysat Douglas the last time. Alright, let’s go now and don’t keep them waiting.” Then, he grabbed her by her wrist and dragged her away.

Even though Charles was unhappy, he didn’t stop him for the sake of Sonia’s career, but Carl stared at Zane with a somber expression and asked, “Hey Charles, since when did he become so close with Sonia?”

He knew Zane as Toby’s friend, and there weren’t many exchanges between him and Sonia before, but how did he become so close with her in just a little more than two months? In addition, he really didn’t like the way Zane looked at her.

“Maybe it’s because of the partnership,” Charles answered, swirling the wine in his glass.

Turning to him, Carl asked, “And what partnership is this, exactly?”

Spreading his palm, Charles said, “You shouldn’t try to find out more about this. Since Sonia doesn’t want to tell you, I won’t go against her wishes as well. Let’s go, I’ll introduce some key figures in the entertainment industry to you.”

In the meantime, Sonia was able to meet many bosses and collected a lot of business cards with Zane as her introducer. Although many of them gave her their business cards because of Zane, there were also some who were impressed with her self-presentation.

Whilst there weren’t many of them, it still made Sonia very happy. At the very least, she was able to present herself well enough for the big bosses, and she believed that it would help her greatly in future partnerships.

“Sonia, I’m going to the washroom. You—”

“I’m going to the lounge area. I’ve been standing for a long time and would like to sit down for a while,” she broke him off with a smile.

Nodding, Zane said, “Okay, I’m going now.” He placed his wine on the tray of a waiter who was passing by and turned to leave the room.

After Sonia put the business cards into her handbag, she headed toward the lounge, but she had barely taken a few steps when a sarcastic voice belonging to a woman said, “Oh, isn’t this Sonia Reed? Why are you alone by yourself? Where are all your boyfriends?”

Hearing that, Sonia pursed her lips and spun around, facing Cynthia and Tina with an expressionless face.

Tina tugged at Cynthia’s arm and said, “Don’t say that, Cynthia.” Then, she gave Sonia an apologetic smile. “Miss Reed, I apologize

on Cynthia's behalf. I'm sorry, she didn't do it on purpose. It's just because she's an outspoken person."

"Outspoken?" Sonia snorted. "Do you know what that means? It simply means that she meant what she said and wasn't just shooting her mouth off. The fact that you called her an outspoken person instead of disagreeing with her shows that you actually agree with the things she said. Therefore, why did you even apologize? Don't you think that's a little too pretentious of you?"

"Miss Reed, how could you say something like that..." Tina uttered, biting her lower lip and looking as though she had been accused. "Even if I said something wrong, you shouldn't have called me pretentious."

"Exactly," Cynthia echoed, raising her chin. "She just used the wrong word. Do you have to be such a bully? Also, did I say anything wrong? You were acting so intimate with so many men—"

"Are you envious?" Sonia interrupted, crossing her arms across her chest as she looked at her with ridicule.

Blood rushed to Cynthia's face and she shouted angrily, "Who are you calling envious?"

"If you're not, then why are you trying to stir up an issue with me using Zane and the rest? You don't have to use the men around me as an excuse to start a fight with me," Sonia snapped.

"I-I..." Cynthia stammered, tongue-tied as her eyes burned with fury.

Sweeping her disdainful gaze over them both, Sonia added, "I would suggest you girls to think of a better excuse before coming to pick a fight with me next time. Otherwise, you'll only make a fool out of yourselves."

With that said, she twirled and wanted to leave the scene, but Tina bit her lip and grabbed her arm all of a sudden after malice flashed in her eyes.

The moment her hand touched Sonia's arm, she acted as though she was shoved and staggered backward in horror before falling

to the floor on her bottom. The glass she was holding shattered to pieces and the wine spilled all over her dress. Suddenly, the entire room fell silent and everyone turned their heads to look in their direction.

Seeing that everyone was looking their way, Tina raised her head and looked at Sonia with a tear-streaked face. "Miss Reed, you're too much. You didn't have to push me just because I bumped into you."

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In the beginning, Sonia was confused about why Tina suddenly fell, but she immediately figured out that she had feigned the fall herself and was now trying to frame her for it. Thus, she chuckled and gazed at Tina with an icy look in her eyes as she asked, "And when did I push you?"

"Could I have fallen by myself if you didn't push me?" Tina lifted her head and met her gaze angrily.

However, Sonia snorted and retorted, "Well, that's actually possible. Who knows? Maybe you fell by yourself and you're trying to set me up now."

The second she finished speaking, Cynthia pointed a finger at her and yelled, "How dare you say something like that, Sonia Reed?! You're the one who pushed Tina, but you turned around and accused her of falling by herself just to set you up. Who would risk getting hurt to do such a thing?"

"She's right." The people who were watching nodded in agreement, and the edges of Tina's lips curled up ever so lightly as a smug look appeared in her eyes.

Let's see how you wriggle yourself out of this, Sonia, she thought.

"You heard them," Cynthia said, her hands on her hips. "Nobody thinks that Tina would do something like that. Moreover, I saw

with my own eyes that you were the one who pushed her. What do you have to say now?"

"I—"

Sonia was about to speak up when a deep, male voice cut her off. "Tina!"

"Toby," Tina whimpered. With tears in her eyes, she gazed at the man rushing toward her and extended her hand toward him.

After he helped her up, he looked at her dirtied dress and frowned. "What happened?"

"Yeah, Tina. Tell me what happened here." Titus, who arrived with Toby, wanted to understand the situation as well. He threw a dirty look at Sonia. Clearly, he suspected that she was the one who pushed Tina to the floor.

Sonia merely rolled her eyes and snorted instead of saying anything.

Tina sobbed while she was in Toby's embrace. "Earlier, Cynthia and I saw Miss Reed, so we came over to say hi to her, but she accidentally pushed me."

"What do you mean she accidentally pushed you?" Cynthia barked indignantly. "Why are you still trying to make things look better for her at a time like this? Just tell President Fuller directly that it was Sonia who pushed you down on purpose."

Toby turned to Sonia and saw that she was very composed; she didn't seem to be flustered at all. From that, he knew that there was another side to the story in this situation.

However, to be fair, he still asked, "Sonia, did you push Tina?"

Before she could answer, Titus snorted and interrupted their conversation. "Toby, Cynthia witnessed everything. Why are you still asking her that question?"

“That’s right, President Fuller. But I’m not the only one. Everyone else saw it as well,” Cynthia said while pointing at the people crowding around.

The people weren’t expecting that she would drag them into the mess, so they were mad at her. Nevertheless, with Toby at the scene and the fact that Tina was his fiancée, they didn’t want to offend her. After all, offending Tina was as good as offending Toby himself.

Compared to getting on the wrong side of Tina, they would rather put Sonia on the spot instead. Thus, they quickly bobbed their heads, expressing that they had really witnessed the incident.

For some unknown reason, the sight of the crowd nodding sparked an inexplicable fire of fury within Toby, and it showed on his face. However, the people merely thought that he was really mad at Sonia because he believed that she was the one who pushed Tina.

Even Tina jumped to the same assumption, so she twisted her head around to throw a triumphant smile at Sonia when the others weren’t watching.

Upon seeing that, Sonia grinned wryly and thought, The villain is really happy, huh?

“What do you have to say, Sonia?” Toby asked flatly with his eyes fixed on her.

Titus was obviously disgruntled when he heard that. “Toby, why are you still letting her defend herself when the people here saw that she was the one who pushed Tina? Just send her to the police immediately!”

Toby frowned slightly, but other than that, he showed no other signs of having heard Titus. He simply kept his eyes on Sonia, for he wanted to hear her say that she didn’t do anything like that. Unexpectedly though, she played with her fingernails as she smiled slightly. “What should I say? And who would believe my words? Will you?”

Toby's lips moved, and the words 'I will' almost slipped out. Still, his rationality took over him at the last second, and he dropped his gaze without saying a thing.

Just then, three strong voices boomed through the crowd simultaneously. "I believe her!"

The crowd turned to the source of the voices, and they saw three men with different looks and height, but all equally dashing, marching toward them. The aura they carried was so intimidating that the crowd opened up a path for them automatically.

The three men were none other than Charles, Zane, and Carl.

Like guardians angels, they strode up to Sonia and stood in front of her protectively before giving everyone a glare with their sharp eyes and declared loudly, "We believe that she didn't push anyone!"

Even the onlookers had to admit that they were intimidated by the arrival of these three men, and some of them hung their heads out of guilt. Of course, there were also some ignorant daredevils that started discussing among themselves in hushed voices, saying that Sonia was so well-practiced in controlling men that all three of them could be on such good terms with each other even when she was flirting with them all at once.

But the majority of the people with such comments were women, and they all sounded jealous. It was obvious to anyone who saw them that they were envious of Sonia. Undeniably, they wished to be just like Sonia—loved and protected by so many outstanding men. Of course, Tina was one of them as well.

She always knew that Sonia always got along well with men, so she devised a scheme and impersonated Sonia to snatch Toby from her after she learned that Sonia was the one writing to Toby.

Initially, she thought that Sonia would have nothing left after she snatched Toby away from her, but to her dismay, the men revolving around her grew in number with Toby out of the picture.

This is so unfair! She was so angry that her eyes were bloodshot, and she was biting her lip.

On the other hand, the look on Toby's face was unpleasant, and an incomprehensible feeling of enmity rose up in his chest the second Charles, Zane, and Carl showed up.

Furthermore, this sense of enmity intensified when a delighted smile broke out on Sonia's face after she saw them arriving. He even had the urge to strangle all three of them.

"So what if you believe her? Everyone here saw that she pushed my daughter. What can the three of you prove?" Titus yelled, his face livid.

Tina gripped Toby's sleeves tightly and sniffled aggrievedly in his arms. Right then, someone else joined the scene—the organizer of the banquet, Michael and Brenda.

Brenda approached the scene while holding her husband's arm and glanced at Tina, who was in Toby's arms. Then, she asked with a stiff smile on her face, "What's happening here?"

"You arrived at the perfect timing, Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin," Titus said. He shot Sonia another dirty look before telling everything that happened minutes ago.

After listening to him, Brenda nodded and said, "So that's what happened. If I understood it correctly, everyone is now debating if Miss Reed really pushed Miss Gray, right?"

"Yes," Titus answered solemnly while nodding. "But I believe that she was the one who pushed my daughter. Even Cynthia herself said that everyone had seen it."

In response, Sonia merely smiled without saying anything. Charles, on the other hand, kept the argument going, a displeased look on his face. "So you're just taking her word for it?"

Carl stood forward as well. He had a stony look on his usually gentle face when he spoke. "I believe Sonia isn't a person like that, and I know her very well. If she was the one who pushed Tina, she would have admitted it. Since she didn't admit to it, it only means that it wasn't her."

“Yeah, I think Sonia didn’t push Tina as well. On the other hand, Tina has past records of staging an act before,” Zane added. He was glancing at Tina with a half-smirk.

Upon hearing that, Tina burrowed deeper into Toby’s embrace, appearing to be terrified. Titus pointed his finger at Sonia and her friends while shouting, “Don’t you dare slander Tina!”

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“You can’t just simply say that these young men are slandering Miss Gray or not. You need proof. What do you think, everyone?” Brenda asked with a thoughtful smile. She then released Michael’s arm and took a step forward.

Seeing that she had a point, everyone nodded, and Tina’s heart dropped to the bottom of her stomach when she saw the smile on Brenda’s face. Immediately, she had a bad premonition, which made her tense up.

Sensing the abnormality in her, Toby lowered his head and asked in concern, “What’s wrong?”

“I-I’m alright,” she uttered stiffly. “It’s just that I’m hurting a little from the fall earlier. Can you please bring me to a doctor, Toby?”

Her instincts told her that she had to leave this place as soon as possible, or something beyond her control would probably happen.

Subconsciously, Toby wanted to tell her that he could take her to the doctor after this issue was resolved, but when he looked into her pleading eyes, he nodded in agreement in the end. Then, he helped Tina up and was about to turn to leave when Sonia saw them.

She narrowed her eyes and stopped them emotionlessly. "Wait a minute, why are you leaving before everything is cleared up?"

"Exactly. Sonia is the person you guys accused of pushing Tina, and she's still standing here without any plans of leaving. So, why are you guys in such a hurry to go instead? Could it be that you're guilty of crying wolf?" Charles said.

As Zane and Carl nodded, a hint of sarcasm appeared in Brenda's eyes.

Tina turned around. Her eyes were red and she whimpered, "We're not leaving. I just want to go to the doctor's because I'm hurting. Toby can vouch for that."

Nodding in acknowledgement, Toby said, "We'll be back after a visit to the doctor's."

"Who knows how long it will take you at the doctor's." Carl pointed that out, and he folded his arms across his chest.

"He's right. You don't have to visit the doctor yourself. What will you do if it worsens the injury? It's better to just call a doctor here. Is that all right, Mrs. Laughlin?" Zane turned toward Brenda.

"Of course it's all right," Brenda said as she waved for a server and instructed him to get a doctor here.

There was no time at all for Tina to stop her, and she could only watch in vain as the server left the room. She was burning with rage. I knew it! These people here are picking on me and putting me on the spot on purpose!

"Miss Gray, you don't look too happy. Are you unhappy that we called a doctor for you? That's not right. It's fine if you don't thank us for trying to take care of you, but you're even getting mad at us now. That's too much of you." Charles criticized Tina directly while looking at her as though she was an insensible child.

Even the onlookers chirped in. "Yeah, Miss Gray. You're in the wrong this time."

“You...” Tina muttered. She was hopping mad with anger.

Beside her, Toby patted her shoulder and said, “That’s enough, Tina. They’re right, you shouldn’t be angry over this.”

“I...” She trailed off, her body shaking with anger. Am I angry because of this? The reason I’m so mad is because these people stopped me from leaving! Nevertheless, she couldn’t say what was on her mind, so she shut her mouth as she tried to suppress the anger inside.

Soon, the doctor arrived. With so many pairs of eyes on her, Tina couldn’t turn the doctor away, so she had to let him inspect her.

After giving her a checkup, the doctor said, “There’s nothing serious with this young lady. Just a minor scratch on her arm. Nothing a band-aid can’t do.”

“I got it. Please send the doctor out,” Brenda instructed the server who brought the doctor in.

After they left, Sonia flipped her hair and said, “All right. The drama is over now. Since there’s nothing serious with Miss Gray, let us continue from where we left off earlier and figure out exactly how she fell so we can be done with this sooner.”

Cynthia snorted and pointed at Sonia’s nose. “No matter what you say, the truth is that you’re the one who pushed Tina.”

Toby threw a frosty glance at Cynthia, thinking that she was a detestable person, but he simply couldn’t explain why he disliked all these people who accused Sonia.

“Cynthia is right,” Titus added. “There’s nothing much to be said about this. Mrs. Laughlin, you must have sent her the invitation since she was able to get in here, but I think you should throw out people like this who are lacking in ethics, lest they ruin this banquet.”

With furrowed brows, Toby said, “Mr. Gray, we still haven’t gotten to the bottom of the matter yet.”

“Of course we already did. Cynthia already said it so clearly, and so many people here had also seen it with their own eyes. Are you

trying to cover up for your ex-wife, Toby?" Titus asked. His eyes were widened with disbelief, while Tina sniffled sadly beside Toby.

Feeling frustrated, Toby loosened his tie and replied in his husky voice, "I'm not covering up for anyone, but you need proof for everything. So what if someone had seen it? Where is the evidence?"

When Sonia heard it, she looked at him in surprise. She was shocked that he could actually say something that was actually fair. But this is unlike him, she thought. Doesn't he always trust Tina unconditionally?

Titus snorted. "Toby Fuller, I think you're just trying to protect your ex-wife." Turning to Sonia, he continued sarcastically, "I really didn't know that you can be that good at your ways with men. You already have so many men by your side, but you're still trying to get your ex-husband—"

"What did you say, old fart? Don't make me hit you!" Charles roared. He was fuming mad as he raised his fist and was about to lunge forward.

"Don't do it, Charles!" Sonia shouted.

Zane held Charles back as he tried to reason with him. "Don't act impulsively, Charles. I know you're angry, because I'm angry as well. Still, that's not reason enough to hit someone else. We didn't see how Tina fell, but everyone will witness it once you hit someone, and that will just mean more trouble after that."

Even though Carl found it a pity that Charles wasn't able to teach Titus a lesson, he already decided that he would do it himself after returning.

Still oblivious to the fact that he had been targeted, Titus staggered backward fearfully and then pointed his finger at Charles furiously. "The nerve of you to raise your hand at me, you b*stard. Mrs. Laughlin, didn't you go through the guest list before sending out the invitations? Why did you invite these sorts of people?"

Brenda chuckled. "You're right. It's my fault that you guys are invited because I didn't go through the guest list beforehand." All of a sudden, her smile faded and her face turned stern. "Someone, throw the Grays out of here!" she ordered loudly.

Upon hearing that, everyone was shocked, and there was soon an uproar. Why were the Grays being thrown out instead of Sonia and her friends?

Even Sonia and her friends were puzzled. When Brenda first started to speak, they thought that they would be the ones to be thrown out, but not even in their wildest imagination did they think that it would be Titus and Tina instead.

After Toby stole a look at Brenda, he lowered his gaze as though he had understood the situation. Rubbing his forehead in exasperation, he then released his hold on Tina. "I'm really disappointed, Tina!" he said abruptly.

"Toby..." Tina muttered. Panic-stricken, she tried to grab his sleeve, but he avoided her grasp, and her heart sank. My instincts were right, she thought. There was something off about Mrs. Laughlin's smile earlier, and sure enough, the situation now has completely spiraled out of my expectations and control.

With a crestfallen expression, Titus asked, "Are you kidding, Mrs. Laughlin?"

"Of course not," she answered with a smile as she met his eyes.

The muscles on Titus' face twitched. "May I ask you for the reason, please? We're the ones who suffered an injustice, yet you want to chase us out instead. If you don't give us a reason, your family will lose its footing in society and our families will be enemies from now on."

"Is this a threat to me, Mr. Gray?" Brenda asked in return, a frosty smile plastered to her face.

"I wouldn't dare to," he answered stiffly. "But I just find it unfair."

"Don't worry. I'm always fair in everything I do, so I have my reason for chasing you out, and one of it is your daughter," she answered, then she turned to gaze at Tina.

