

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 816

Chapter 816 Stopped

Zane had fallen in love with Sonia because of her kindness, and more importantly, he could see hope when he looked at her.

Sonia had been so deeply in love with Toby, only to end up getting divorced by the very man she gave her heart to.

It was quite common for women to get their hearts broken by men in their circle. There were even a whole bunch who had it worse than Sonia.

Those women often give up on themselves, and eventually on life after getting hurt.

However, Sonia, on the other hand, was able to bounce back quickly. She even managed to make herself fall out of love soon after.

She always had that hopeful glint in her eyes. Not only did she not fall into a spiral, she put all her focus into saving the barely-salvageable Paradigm Co., and making it into what it was today.

Sonia was not someone who would stay trapped in a person or in a situation.

She might have battle scars all over her body, but she would always get out as soon as she could. Always one to have the right mentality, she never allowed herself to be drifted by the flow.

She knew that neither heartbreak nor Toby were her life's priority, and so she wasn't going to lose herself for the things and people that didn't matter the most to her.

Instead, she got them out of her head fairly quickly, and with that, she started to create a better, more productive life for herself.

As simple as it might sound, this wasn't something that just anyone could do.

Zane could even go as far as to believe that if Sonia had been forced to act as a puppet of her family, she would have never conformed. Instead, she would break free from them and create a path of her own.

He believed so because she was always someone with a clear head. She knew what she wanted, and she had the courage to go after her dreams.

She was unlike him and the rest of the bunch, who not only weren't gutsy enough, but would always end up being brainwashed by their family values, and eventually live the life they never wanted.

It was Sonia's hopeful gaze that never stopped looking forward that had first caught Zane's interest. At some point, that interest began to turn into romantic feelings.

Now that he listened to her share her plans for the future, he was suddenly hit by the realization that it was impossible for him to let her go.

Sonia soon realized the fiery gaze on her after she had shared her dreams with Zane. "What is wrong?" she asked, a frown on her face.

Fearing that she would see the raw emotions running in his eyes, Zane quickly dropped his gaze and shook his head. "It is nothing. I suddenly remembered something, that's all."

"Oh." Sonia nodded and didn't say anything more.

However, Zane was slightly disappointed by her lukewarm reaction, so he asked, "Are you not going to ask me what came to my mind?"

Sonia gently shook her head again. "What is there for me to ask? Everyone has a secret or two. I don't have to pry into everything."

More importantly, she wasn't at all interested to know what was in his head.

Also, they were only normal friends. She could never be thick-skinned enough to ask him something so private.

Zane shrugged when he saw that Sonia wasn't interested. "Okay, then," he huffed, even though he wouldn't have told her even if she had asked.

I'll probably scare her off if I told her, he mused.

He needed time to calm himself down too.

It had taken him a lot of strength to decide to give up on her, but now that she had rekindled the flame, he was reluctant to give up again.

He knew that it wasn't right of him to act that way, which was why he needed to calm down and adjust his mentality before he did something that he would end up regretting.

The two of them soon fell into silence as they waited for the court session to begin.

The wait went on for the next 10 minutes. After all the involved parties were present in the room, the judge took a glance at the time and announced the start of the hearing.

The court session was actually for the sake of formalities. They had solid evidence of both Jessica's offenses, after all. Jessica couldn't possibly talk her way out of her crimes since she had verbally confessed to them.

She was finally sentenced to half a year in prison, with the consideration of getting parole.

Despite it being a light sentence for someone who had committed those crimes, Jessica immediately panicked and wanted to appeal for a second ruling. Even half a year was too long for someone who didn't want to go to prison.

It was her constitutional right as a citizen of the country to file an appeal, so the court allowed it.

However, everyone knew that the court wouldn't change her sentence even if she had the second trial.

That was why Sonia wasn't that concerned when she heard Jessica's request to appeal.

Jessica knew better than to act out when she had so many scrutinizing eyes on her, so she gradually calmed down after her outburst.

She managed to calm herself down, but after learning about how the second trial would go, she sat there with a blank face, her eyes staring into the air. She looked as energetic as a soulless zombie.

An unperturbed Sonia threw her a glance before standing up to leave the courtroom.

There was no reason for her to stay any longer since the first hearing had already ended on a good note. She would come again for the second hearing.

Zane, too, stood up and followed after Sonia, but not before he glanced over at Jessica another time and clicked his tongue in disapproval.

They had to walk past Jessica to leave the courtroom, but just as they were walking by her, Jessica was enraged by how Sonia treated her as though she was invisible. Her eyes looked alive again then. She seemed to have thought of something suddenly when she let out a smirk and shouted, "Sonia, aren't you interested to know who your birth parents are?"

Upon hearing her words, Sonia froze at the spot before whipping her head around to glare at Jessica. "What did you say?" she growled.

The smirk on her face turned more evil when she saw the way Sonia reacted to her words. "I said I know who your biological parents are. I bet you would be so surprised to know that they are—"

Her words were interrupted when the bailiff suddenly covered her mouth.

“Shut your mouth. Court has been adjourned. You have to return to the detention center with us. Stop dilly-dallying and go!” the bailiff barked as she threw a glance at another officer.

As soon as the other bailiff caught her gaze, she nodded and stepped forward before the two of them brought Jessica out of the room.

In order to hide the truth from Jessica, they tried their absolute best to not show a trace of panic on their calm faces.

They were reminded to never let Jessica say a word about Sonia’s birth parents, but due to their momentary negligence, Jessica had managed to reveal to Sonia a hint of the secret.

They could only blame their luck that they had let it happen under their watch.

Even though they had stopped her in time, those who had seen how abruptly they had covered her mouth could have easily guessed that they were trying to cover something up.

The only thing they could do now was hope that Jessica hadn’t realized their true intention.

Sonia let out a frown while she looked at Jessica throwing a fit as she was dragged away by the bailiffs. “The officers looked like they intentionally stopped her from telling me who my birth parents are,” she speculated.

Zane’s eyes seemed to brighten when he heard her words. He then laughed. “How is that possible? You may not know this because you are not part of the system, but after the court has been adjourned, the criminal is the first person who has to be brought out. It could get nasty if the family members of the victim were to get aggressive. And that is why the bailiff was so rough with Jessica. She needed to bring her to the police car as soon as possible. She was just doing her job.”

“Is that so?” Sonia raised her eyebrow and looked at Zane skeptically, in which the man gave a few serious nods in return.

“Of course!” he gushed.

Sonia began to chew on her lower lip as she pondered over his seemingly unbelievable words, but after a while, a smile broke across her face, and she said, “You are probably right. That officer doesn’t even know me or Jessica personally. There is no reason she would do that, right? I probably thought too deeply into it.”

Zane didn't answer, and only let out a forced laugh. After all, he did feel quite guilty for lying.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 817

Chapter 817 Too Late for Regrets

Zane was someone from the organization, which was why he would know first-hand how there was no existing law that mentioned anything about having to escort the criminal out right after court had been adjourned. That had been something that he had made up on the spot to stop Sonia's suspicious mind from wandering.

He did notice how the bailiff, as Sonia suspected, seemed to have tried her absolute best to stop Jessica from revealing information about Sonia's birth parents.

By right, it didn't matter whether it was before or after the court session, but the defendant had the right to speak as long as they hadn't been restricted by the court.

However, the bailiff had suspiciously stopped Jessica from speaking.

The only plausible speculation Zane could come up with was someone had gone to the people of the organization before the court hearing today, and had specifically mentioned to keep an eye on Jessica in case she blurted out the truth about Sonia's birth.

As for who that 'someone' was, he could already somewhat make a guess.

There were only a few influential figures in Seafield who could get the organization to help with silencing Jessica, one of them being his own father and the other the political head of the Coleman Family.

However, it didn't seem plausible for either one of them to interfere with the matters of a woman they didn't know.

There was one more person other than them that had the ability to do this—Toby.

Zane was sure that Toby was the one who had talked the organization into it.

However, why would he do this? Zane wondered quietly. He didn't understand why Toby wouldn't let Sonia know who her birth parents were. Does Sonia's parents have some kind of secret they can't let her know?

The lingering question remained in his head all the way to the cafe, where he only snapped back to reality after Sonia waved in his face.

Seeing that he was gradually coming back to earth again, she put down her hand and asked, "What are you zoning out for?"

"It is nothing," Zane replied with a smile before taking a sip of water from the glass in front of him. "What do you want to drink?"

He then put down his glass and passed the menu to Sonia.

She didn't take the menu, and instead shook her head. Then, she looked at the waiter standing beside their table. "I don't need the menu. Black tea with milk, please."

"Alright." The waiter took down her order and waited for Zane to place his.

Zane took the menu again and flipped through it for a while before finally ordering an Iced Americano.

After the waiter left to prepare their drinks, Sonia took out the file containing the sperm donors' information and gave it a careful read.

"I was super serious when I gathered this list for you. These guys are all highly educated. There are a few that are from a poor family, but they have good character. I'm sure you will find at least one satisfactory one from the file," he confidently said after seeing her scan through the papers.

Sonia's eyes never stopped looking as she flipped the papers. "Indeed. These guys are great."

"No, they are the greatest! These kinds of genes are treated like treasure at the sperm banks. Those without a net worth of at least ten billion aren't even taken into consideration. I heard that a lot of women abroad want these genes to give birth to quality babies, but they were all rejected because their worth isn't high enough. These sperm banks target rich clients who don't want to get married, but still need a successor to inherit their legacy."

Sonia gently closed the file and smiled after hearing his words. "Seems like we will need Jessica to play the role of a rich woman with a ten billion net worth."

"It seems so," he chuckled and took a sip of his cold drink. He then asked, "Oh right, which one do you fancy? I'll book the person for you first in case some other rich lady comes along and brings that semen away."

"Let's go with the third one," she concluded as she handed the file back to him. "I'm satisfied with what I have seen. He must be a smart guy, for him to be a university professor. And it says here that he is an orphan that is about to pass on soon because of his sickness. This is wonderful. At least the child won't have any contact with its father in the future."

Sonia needed a child, but she wanted one that wouldn't start searching for its father after asking her how they came about.

That would end up becoming more troublesome than she liked.

She had seen many similar cases on the news where a lot of children born this way would eventually set off on a search for their fathers. Some would accept them as their biological father while there were others who went as far as to connect both families together.

That was why she hoped that the father wouldn't have any next of kin. She could save herself from a whole lot of trouble in the future if she had prevented it earlier on.

Zane understood where Sonia was coming from as he listened to her. Having a child this way was equivalent to buying it, and like any other business transaction, the buyer-seller relationship should only last until the moment the goods arrived. He didn't think there was anything wrong with Sonia's plan at all.

Furthermore, anything could happen especially when the rich mother was a member of the Reed Family.

She is right, Zane thought approvingly.

"I like the third one too! I was going to advise you to pick the third one, but I didn't want your decision to be affected by my unsolicited opinion. I can't believe we both like the same one. We are so in sync!" He laughed while stirring his coffee..

Ignoring his words, Sonia took a sip of her tea and continued, "You can go ahead and bring Tim the sperm sample. He will get everything else ready. I told him about this a while ago. All we have to do after this is to wait for Jessica's discharge, after which we can proceed with the procedure."

"You have everything planned out!" he exclaimed, his brows wiggling in the process. "I was going to ask you if you have found a hospital. I would have arranged it for you if you haven't, but it turns out you already have everything set up."

"I have been setting everything in place from the moment I made up my mind to do this. All that is left now is for the IVF procedure itself, but we will have to wait for at least another 6 months. Jessica is in no condition to be a mother now." Sonia sighed.

He looked at her and quickly reassured her then. "Don't hurry. You can't rush things like this. Just take your time."

"Yeah," she replied. "I got it. Alright, enough of that. How has Douglas been doing lately?" She changed the conversation by mentioning Zane's nephew.

Zane's lips immediately formed a grumpy pout at the kid's name. "Don't even talk about him. He is so infuriating. He made me so angry that I almost had high blood pressure the day before!"

"Why? What happened?" a curious Sonia asked.

He started to tell her about all the mischief that the young boy caused, and by the time he was done with his story, he had his hands up in resignation while his head was throbbing. "What more can I do? He is at that super annoying age."

Sonia covered her mouth and giggled, clearly entertained by the boy's antics. "Don't say that. Douglas is such a cutie pie!"

"To you. Not to me." He rolled his eyes.

Just as Sonia was about to say something in return, her phone suddenly rang.

She quickly apologized to Zane and took out the phone from her bag, and in the instant that she saw the caller ID, the smile on her face grew.

Zane could tell from the happiness showing on her face that she had probably received a call from Toby.

All it takes is one phone call from Toby to make you smile like that? You are in so deep, Sonia, he grumbled as jealousy began to grow. He held his coffee cup tighter, and he let out a self-ridiculing laugh when he started to reminisce about the past.

Zane regretted not knowing Sonia earlier.

There was a common saying that one can easily move hearts if they had reached out during times the other party needed help.

If only he had been there to give her warmth during the 6 year she had to endure the Fullers' cold treatment, he would have had the chance to be with her after the divorce.

He had found himself wondering about Sonia during the past 6 years. At times, he would question the reason why she was so loyal to the man even though he hadn't shown her an ounce of kindness. He didn't understand why she chose to stay with Toby.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 818

Chapter 818 Jealous Rage

His curiosity and desire to see her were always on and off, which was how he dragged it on for 6 years before he finally met her. He kept telling himself that he wasn't

romantically interested in her—she was only someone whom he occasionally thought about. Someone whom he sometimes wanted to see. Someone whom he was curious about every now and then.

That was the reason why he didn't think it was important whether they met or not, and it was for that exact reason that he missed the opportunity to strike when the iron was hot.

He truly regretted not making a move.

Would the outcome have been any different if he had spent time seeing her?

At that, Zane was so dismayed that he suddenly let out a weird howl before he covered his face, and his torso leaned into the chair.

Not only was Sonia surprised by his odd actions, the other patrons of the cafe also turned to look at the two of them.

As she was uncomfortable at having the spotlight shining on her and Zane, she apologetically smiled at them and forced out two small hacks to cough away her embarrassment. "Zane," she called out in a whisper. "What the hell are you doing?"

Zane had a smile that looked even worse than the ugliest cries on his face as he looked at her. He seemed to be feeling all the sorrows in the world when he waved his hands dejectedly and moaned, "Nothing. I was just thinking about that one time I lost an opportunity of a lifetime, and how much I want to knock myself out, is all."

"Huh?" Sonia didn't understand a single word that Zane said.

He only shook his head without further explaining himself. "It is nothing. Go ahead and answer your call."

"Oh." She could tell that he wasn't going to say more, and so she simply gave him a short reply as she nodded. She then pressed her phone to her ear and said gently, "Hello?" Her attention was now fully on the phone call.

Her voice put Toby to ease in an instant. Even the frown between his eyebrows had disappeared. "Why did you take so long to answer the call? Has the court hearing not ended yet?" he asked.

"It ended some time ago," she answered. "I was talking to Zane."

With that, she threw a glance at Zane, only to see him raising his cup at her with a smile on his face.

Toby immediately jumped out of his office chair when he heard her saying the name of Zane Coleman. "Zane?" he repeated, his thin lips pursing.

“Yup.” Sonia nodded.

After making sure that he hadn't heard her wrongly, Toby's eyebrows knitted together again. “Is he there with you?”

“Yeah.” She nodded again. “I'm meeting up with him because we have something to discuss.”

“What kind of ‘thing’ is it that you need to meet up to discuss?” His low voice rang out as his grip on his phone was getting tighter by the second.

Zane might have said that he had given up on pursuing Sonia, but it was hard to draw the lines when it came to feelings.

What if Zane suddenly didn't feel like giving her up after he had seen her?

Anyhow, Zane was a ticking time bomb that Toby wasn't sure when it would go off.

Even though he knew that his friend wouldn't possibly attempt to blatantly snatch Sonia from him, Zach was still a love rival that was on par with him.

It was difficult for Toby to be at ease, knowing that his lover was with someone who had eyes on her. Even his sense of danger was telling him that one wrong move from his side and he could potentially lose Sonia to his love rival.

The more Tony thought about the possibilities, the angrier he became. If circumstances allowed, he would have loved to toss his work aside, head straight to them, and kick Zane away from his woman.

However, much to his regret, the only thing he could do was become grumpy.

A smiling Sonia began to shake her head in all helplessness when she detected the jealousy in his voice. Doesn't sound like he is only a little jealous, she mused.

He was reacting exactly as she imagined he would, which was why she didn't even think to tell him about Zane accompanying her to court. He might just get so jealous that he'll come here right away!

“We have business with each other. You know that he and I are collaborating to deal with the Gray Family. We are just talking about our next steps.” Sonia's eyes were twinkling when she said that.

Zane, who had already calmed his hysteria, placed his cup of coffee down and looked at her strangely. He didn't understand why she had to lie about their meeting.

Sonia, on the other hand, only shook her head at him without any explanation.

Toby's face on the other side of the call had visibly relaxed after hearing her explanation.

He had thought that Zane was the one who asked her out and that he was probably waiting to confess to Sonia.

Toby had always found people who confessed despite knowing that the other party already had their own partners extremely disgusting. He never understood why they felt the need to do something so that they wouldn't feel like their one-sided feelings were a waste.

He was relieved that it wasn't as he had thought because he would have personally dragged Zane to hell otherwise.

Toby didn't hesitate to trust Sonia's words, and he only nodded slightly as he reminded, "Go home earlier after your discussion. Don't stay with him for too long. He is a bad guy."

A wave of guilt was just about to hit Sonia for lying to Toby, and that was until his childish warning that she didn't know whether she should laugh about it.

There was no doubt that Toby and Zane were lifetime friends.

One told her that the other was an emotionally unbalanced man while the allegedly emotionally unbalanced man was calling his friend a bad guy.

Now that she knew that bickering was the two men's usual conversation style, she couldn't believe how angry she became when Zane had 'slandered' Toby.

Thinking of that, Sonia lifted her gaze and humorously looked at Zane. "Okay, I got it. I'll be right back after the discussion," she said into the phone.

Zane began to wonder whether Toby had mentioned him, and so he pointed at himself and moved his other hand around.

Bingo, Sonia thought while nodding at Zane.

Knowing that Toby probably said something funny about him, he immediately rolled his eyes.

On the other side of the phone, Toby was in a better mood after Sonia had reassured him, but the heaviness in his heart still wasn't completely gone.

This time, he was worried about Sonia's plan to confront the Gray Family with Zane.

He knew that she had decided to partner up with Zane for a better revenge, but what he couldn't understand was why she went to Zane instead of him for help.

With what Toby was capable of, it would only take a snap of the finger to execute the revenge she was looking for. However, she had insisted on doing it without his help, and that she wouldn't forgive him if he were to lend her a hand without her knowledge.

He knew that she was doing so for his sake, but he couldn't get himself to be okay with the fact that she would rather depend on someone else rather than him.

Toby pinched the bridge of his nose as he forced himself to stop thinking about the thoughts that were starting to get overwhelming.

He had to stop himself now if he didn't want to be paranoid about Sonia. He was afraid he would start assuming the worst with Sonia, should he allow such negative thoughts and emotions fill his mind.

I have to stop this. I can't ruin it this time, he sternly warned himself. Sonia might have said that she didn't want me to help her behind her back, but I can always find a way to lend her a hand in broad daylight!

He finally started to calm down a little when he placed himself in the right mindset.

"Oh, right! Are you busy now?" Sonia suddenly asked.

Toby hummed an acknowledgment. "I'm taking a short break. I have a meeting in a bit."

Her heart slightly ached for her man who didn't seem to have the time for a good rest nowadays. "Good work." she sighed.

Toby let out a gentle smile at that. "It is only for now."

"Okay," she hummed, a smile appearing on her face as well.

He suddenly thought of the court hearing earlier and swiftly asked, "What was the court's ruling?"

"Half a year, but Jessica went for a second appeal. She didn't seem like she was happy with the court's decision." Sonia's smile now turned bitter as she replied.

"Don't worry, the court's ruling won't change no matter how many appeals she makes."

"Right, and that is why I'm not worried at all," Sonia answered with a shrug.

A seemingly nervous Toby began to squeeze his fingers and, as nonchalantly as he could, asked, “Did Jessica behave strangely at court today? Or did she say anything weird?”

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 819

Chapter 819 Don't Wish to Trouble Him

“Anything strange?” Sonia straightened her back and frowned. “What do you mean?” she asked tentatively.

She couldn't understand why Toby had asked this question.

In the court, Jessica had indeed said something weird to her—she asked if Sonia would like to know who her biological parents were.

Could this be what Toby was referring to?

On the other hand, Toby naturally perceived the doubt in Sonia's tone too. With downcast eyes, he responded calmly, “I'm asking whether Jessica said nasty things to you or threatened you in court.”

“Oh, so this is what you're referring to by ‘strange words’.” Sonia's knitted brows smoothed as she heaved a sigh of relief inwardly.

She actually thought there was something that he didn't want her to find out.

Toby pressed his lips and said, “Yeah. What else did you think I'm referring to?”

“Nothing. I overthought.” Smiling, Sonia waved her hands about and continued, “Of course she said nasty things to me. You knew how much Jessica hates me. How could she possibly not be agitated upon seeing me?”

Toby hummed in response, “That's true. Besides that, did she do anything else to you?”

Sonia shook her head. “Not really. She actually almost dashed over to rough me up, but there were court officers at the scene and she was handcuffed, so I'm very safe.”

“Good.” Toby nodded slightly as he could finally stop worrying.

Although he did not ask Sonia directly whether Jessica told her about her biological parents, he could deduce from the conversation earlier and from Sonia's calm tone that Jessica most likely did not.

If she did tell Sonia about her biological parents, Sonia wouldn't possibly be this calm.

Anyway, Toby was relieved that Jessica did not say it.

He knew the most effective way Jessica could seek revenge against Sonia was to tell her about her biological parents, and by doing so, defeat Sonia's conviction to seek revenge against the Gray Family besides putting her into agony and desperation.

He could prevent Jessica from seeing and keeping in touch with the outsiders when she was in the detention center or prison, but he couldn't stop her from meeting Sonia in court.

As such, in order to prevent Jessica from taking extreme measures to tell Sonia the truth while at the court, Toby had informed the court before this to keep an eye on Jessica so that she could not possibly come into contact with Sonia and mention to Sonia anything about her biological parents.

In fact, Toby was extremely nervous throughout the entire trial today. Because he couldn't head to court and did not know whether the officers there would keep an eye on Jessica as per his instruction, he actually couldn't focus at work today and couldn't help checking the time now and then.

When he thought it was about time for the trial to be over, he quickly called Sonia to check in on her.

If truth be told, he was on pins and needles during the few seconds that Sonia had yet to answer the call. He was worried that Sonia might have been made aware of the matter about her biological parents and was having a breakdown, hence did not answer the phone.

Fortunately, the outcome was not as serious as he had thought.

At this thought, Toby supported his forehead with one hand as his nervous look and stiff mood finally relaxed.

"Alright Toby, I'm going to hang up first. I still have some important stuff to talk to Zane. Don't you have a meeting soon too? I shall not disturb you first. We can talk at night if there's anything else," Saying that, Sonia cast a glance at Zane, who was seated across from her and looking dispirited.

Toby's pupils dilated when he heard Sonia call him 'Toby'. Stirred up, he gulped and exclaimed agitatedly in a hoarse voice, "What did you just call me?"

Sonia actually called Toby by his first name.

Truth was, ever since their divorce, she had always addressed him in a formal and distant way—she would either call him President Fuller or Mr. Fuller.

Even after they reconciled, she had only addressed Toby by his full name.

Before this, Toby did not think it was inappropriate for Sonia to address him by his full name. However, it was only earlier that she called him by his first name did he suddenly realize it actually felt distant to be addressed by his full name, and of course, it sounded more intimate when Sonia called his first name directly.

Humans were made of greed. At this moment, Toby realized he couldn't accept Sonia addressing him by his full name anymore. Now that he had heard her call his first name, he wished she would always do the same moving forward.

The smart Sonia naturally perceived the suppressed joy from Toby's tone at once, and she knew what made him so elated all of a sudden. It's just a name and he's actually this happy. This guy is so easily satisfied!

Sonia shook her head with a smile and answered generously, "I'm calling you 'Toby'."

It was not an accident, nor did he hear it wrongly.

Sonia had indeed genuinely called him that.

A joyful smile spread across Toby's face. His voice became increasingly hoarse because he was agitated, but it was attractive and pleasing to the ear. "I like the way you addressed me just now. Can you keep it that way from now on?" he asked in anticipation.

Sonia didn't want to disappoint him either, so she nodded without hesitation and agreed gladly, "Sure."

The smile on his face widened.

Thereafter, the two said goodbye in a clingy manner before ending the call.

Opposite Sonia was Zane, who was extremely jealous and tinged with sour grapes as he saw her keeping away her phone with a sweet smile, but he still feigned a disgusted look and teased her as chills ran down his spine, "Hey, that's enough, you guys. Do you have to be so clingy even over a phone call? I've witnessed too much PDA already!"

Saying that, he rubbed his eyes in a cheeky manner.

Sonia glanced at Zane and made a dry cough in embarrassment. "You're exaggerating! Why don't I feel like we're being clingy?"

"Of course you don't." Zane pouted. "Isn't there a saying that goes like this—love makes one blind. Anyway, I think you guys are clingy. By the way, did you and Toby mention me just now?" he stared at Sonia and asked, to which Sonia nodded in response.

Zane fiddled with the teaspoon in his hand and muttered, “Did he talk bad about me?”

Sonia lifted her brows. “You actually guessed it right!”

“Hmph!” Zane rolled his eyes. “Toby and I have been friends for more than 20 years, so of course I know him well. After you told him you met me, he would surely taint my name to ruin your impression of me, given how possessive and jealous he is. So, tell me—what did he say about me?”

Smiling, Sonia took a sip of black tea and said, “Nothing much. He just said you’re not a good guy and asked me not to hang out with you for too long and to go home earlier.”

Zane tutted and blurted, “This fellow... How dare he say I’m not a good guy!”

Following that, he waved his hands about and said, “Forget about it. Since I’ve talked bad about him too today, we’re all square now and I shall not go after him. Sonia, I’d like to know why you didn’t tell him directly that we met up to discuss the matter regarding Jessica’s child’s gene, though? Why did you have to lie to him? You didn’t tell Toby that I’m helping to find a compatible gene?”

Zane’s expression became slightly more solemn.

Sonia nodded and answered, “Yeah. I didn’t tell him.”

“Why?” Zane couldn’t understand.

Leaning backward, she rested a finger on her lips and said in a nonchalant manner, “Because I don’t want to trouble him. I know you’ll surely have doubts—Toby is my boyfriend. Isn’t it reasonable for me to ask for his help? Why did I say I don’t wish to trouble him?”

“Yeah.” He nodded. “Exactly what I’m thinking.”

Sonia smiled and continued, “It’s very simple, actually. I don’t wish to owe Toby favors anymore. He has already helped me a lot and saved me several times before we got back together. I’ve already owed him too much, so I don’t wish to continue adding more to that.”

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 820

Chapter 820 Buy You a Meal

“That’s not an issue. You guys are boyfriend and girlfriend now. If everything goes smoothly, both of you will even remarry and become husband and wife by then. You’re not really owing him or whatsoever. Isn’t it reasonable for him to do these for you?” Zane shrugged disapprovingly.

However, Sonia shook her head and replied, "Nothing in this world should be taken for granted. True enough, Toby and I are boyfriend and girlfriend now and will eventually become husband and wife, but this doesn't mean that he has to do everything for me. This concept is wrong per se. Besides, I don't prefer owing favors to others to begin with because it makes me feel uncomfortable as if there's a weight on my mind. I can only feel relieved upon returning those favors."

"Yeah, I can tell that." Zane looked at Sonia and agreed.

Sonia smiled and continued, "I've just said that I've already owed Toby too much even before we got back together, so I don't wish to owe him more. Moreover, now that we've reconciled, I'll feel inferior to him and that we're not equal in this relationship if I have to trouble him with everything and owe favors to him. In addition, if I'm counting on him to solve all problems for me, I'll lose my problem-solving skills and the ability to think independently. Eventually, I'll think of asking for Toby's help whenever I encounter a difficulty, but have you thought of this..."

"Think of what?" Zane blinked in confusion.

She put the cup of black tea on the table. "At this moment, Toby is very much in love with me. I believe he'll not turn down any requests from me and he'll try his best to achieve them. As much as this is great, if our love for each other fades off someday and he stops loving me anymore, but it has already become a habit for me to rely on him, will he continue helping by that time?"

She shook her head and added, "I don't think so. Sometimes, love will cease to exist after it is depleted. So, I don't want to treat Toby like a handyman who can handle everything for me. Not only is this unfair to him, it's also a misjudgment and distrust of my own ability."

Zane was completely stunned upon hearing Sonia's statements. He parted his lips but couldn't say a word to refute her.

In his original conception, a man should pamper his woman and directly help her to solve any problems or difficulties when one arises. He thought it was the right thing to do because it was a man's responsibility.

However, after listening to Sonia's opinion, he was able to look at things from a different perspective. All of a sudden, he thought his original conception didn't appear to be right after all.

Indeed, it was a way to show one's love and care toward his lover by helping his lover to solve every problem.

Nonetheless, this love would indeed make his lover lose the ability to be independent, and make the other party become someone who couldn't handle situations independently. So, was this actually an act of love or harm?

Zane reckoned the answer was both. It was not wrong to lend a helping hand, but one shouldn't do it blindly in an obsequious manner. It would only be truly meaningful for one to extend his support to his lover when the other party ran into bottlenecks.

Besides, Zane totally agreed with one point that Sonia brought up—when one was in love with another person, he or she would not mind taking all the trouble to solve every problem for the other party. However, once the love ceased, the person would start feeling annoyed.

As much as the person might continue helping the other party for the sake of the relationship that they once had, he or she would become tired of it after several times.

At this thought, the affection in Zane's gaze toward Sonia increased. "Indeed, you're still so unique and sober when looking at things." And that was exactly the reason why he couldn't let her go.

Nonetheless, Sonia did not perceive the implication in Zane's words. Smiling, she said, "Besides these reasons, there's another one—Toby will definitely not allow me to return him favors even though he has helped me this much. If I insist on returning him favors, he will surely be displeased, but I don't wish to have arguments with him. So, when I face some difficulties that can't be solved on my own, I'll think of you and Charles. At least, we're friends, so you guys can't reject it when I want to return you favors because you know I'll be unhappy if you actually did."

With a sudden realization, Zane wore an unfathomable smile. "No wonder. I was thinking why you didn't seek Toby's help for this matter but actually came to me. So, it turns out that it's because I won't and can't reject your return of favor. I guess the same reason goes to the pursuit of the Gray Family, then."

"Hmm?" Sonia stared at Zane.

Zane leaned forward slightly and explained, "Before this, I couldn't understand why you didn't ask for Toby's help to seek revenge because that would be much easier. Although Toby can't tackle the Gray Family directly because he might receive warning from the authorities, given his power, it's a piece of cake for him to destroy the Gray Family in the dark. Even if the authorities know it is Toby's doing, they can't really give him warnings since he did not do it outrightly."

He tapped his fingers on the table and continued, "So, if you actually asked Toby to help you go after the Gray Family, the Gray Family would have long been gone and won't be alive and kicking until today. However, you did not seek Toby's help all these while and insisted on relying on yourself. After so much effort, the effect is still vague. I was

wondering what the reason behind your approach was, but I didn't expect it is actually because of this."

"Well, this is not the sole reason," Sonia said with downcast eyes. "The main reason is that the grudge is between the Reed Family and the Gray Family, so what's the point of leveraging the Fuller Family's power to seek revenge? The Fuller Family has such achievements today thanks to Toby's grandfather. His grandfather is one of the pioneers in developing this country and has left a very good impression on the authorities. I don't wish the positive image of Toby's grandfather, which he had diligently built all these years, to be affected in the authorities' opinion just because Toby helped me to seek revenge. I can't be that selfish."

"Well, it's not wrong to say that, but have you thought that Toby actually will not let the Gray Family off too? Tina Gray hypnotized Toby—this alone has started a feud between Toby and the Gray Family, yet he has not gone after the Gray Family all these while. Have you thought of the reasons behind it?" Zane asked.

Sonia smiled and replied, "I'm actually aware of it because I've asked Toby the same question before this. He said it's because of me. He knew I wanted to seek revenge on the Gray Family with my own ability. So, after I rejected his help, he established that he can wait for me to finish taking vengeance first, then he'll handle the remaining powers of the Gray Family and take that as a revenge on Tina for hypnotizing him."

"So, you guys actually have had everything arranged. It seems like I've been worrying for y'all for nothing." Zane twitched the corner of his lips in resignation.

Sonia checked the time on her watch and said, "Please don't say that. I appreciate your concern toward us. You helped me to find a compatible gene this time, so I owe you a favor. I'll do whatever you ask me to, but of course, illegal affairs are an exception."

"Don't worry." Zane waved his hands about. "I'm an officer to begin with, so I won't possibly consciously break the law. Besides, I won't ask you to do something that puts you in a difficult position, but I can't think of what I need yet. I'll let you know after I've decided."

"Whatever, but please don't forget about it because if you do, I might take it as I'm unaware of it," Sonia quipped. Thereafter, she stood up and took her purse. "It's almost lunch time. Let me buy you lunch to thank you for accompanying me to the trial just now and for helping me to look for the gene."

Zane leaned backward vigilantly and blurted, "Don't tell me you're thinking of using this meal to fulfill the promise earlier."

She was amused. "Of course..."

Hearing that, he became even more alert.

Sonia rolled an eye at him and said, "Of course not. I'll be belittling myself if I actually intended to return your huge favor just by buying you a meal. Alright, let's go. Time for lunch."

"Coming." A giggling Zane followed Sonia and went out of the cafe.

After lunch, Zane and Sonia went their separate ways.

Zane did not head back to Coleman Villa but drove to the Fuller Group as he wanted to clarify some matters with Toby.

Upon arriving at the Fuller Group, Zane walked straight to the elevator without anyone stopping him. After all, he came so frequently in the past that even the receptionists knew him, so they naturally wouldn't stop him.

However, the truth was Zane never came ever since he told Toby that he was in love with Sonia. And in fact, the friendship between the two men was not as deep as before with even cracks in their relationship.

Nevertheless, the outsiders were unaware of all these and they actually thought Toby and Zane were still as close as before.