

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 171-As Mia looked down at Wilhelmina, who was sprawled on the floor, she couldn't help but comment. "Your acting skills are truly remarkable. It's a shame you didn't venture into the entertainment industry." Wilhelmina shot her a resentful look. "Mia, you're just trying to deflect. Care to explain how you managed to secure that design order?" At that moment, all eyes were on Mia.

Unfazed, Mia approached Fiona, speaking in a hushed tone. "I'm aware of the complications associated with the land for your family's invested golf course.

"If this information becomes public, it could potentially result in significant repercussions for your family's company." "How do you know about this?" Fiona questioned, her expression instantly turning wary.

After all, very few people were privy to this information, known only within their exclusive circle.

How did Mia, a seemingly inconspicuous designer, come to know about such details? What was her background?

Mia responded nonchalantly. "That's not important. I simply want to convey that this is the reason I could successfully secure the design contract and leave your father's villa." Fiona hesitated for a moment, finding it challenging to believe Mia's words.

Nonetheless, there were indeed certain complications associated with that specific piece of land. It appeared that Mia did possess some insider knowledge after all.

Upon collecting her thoughts, Fiona swiftly turned around and delivered a resounding slap to Wilhelmina.

"No wonder you managed to manipulate my dad so effortlessly. Your scheming runs deeper than I thought. Let's see how I deal with you today!" she warned.

Recognizing her inability to address one issue, Fiona decided to confront the situation at hand.

Armed with photographic evidence, there was no way Wilhelmina could evade the consequences of her actions.

Wilhelmina wore a bewildered expression, pondering how Mia managed to extricate herself effortlessly.

What exactly did Mia say just now?

Feeling a sense of despair, Wilhelmina turned toward Grace and implored, “Save me, please, call the police!” Grace swiftly took cover nearby, exclaiming. “So, you’re the one spreading rumors that led to our studio being slandered, ruining my blind date—and I haven’t settled the score with you yet!” Iris Loftman, another female colleague, indignantly chimed in, “Wilhelmina, it’s no surprise you always flaunt your wealth. Turns out, all that money comes from being someone’s sugar baby!

“You’re shameless for spreading lies and defaming Mia. Honestly, you have no dignity!” Amidst the tension, no one was willing to come to Wilhelmina’s defense, as many felt she had brought this upon herself.

Witnessing the lack of initiative from others, Felix, compelled as the boss to prevent trouble in his studio, reluctantly interjected, “Enough with the fighting.

“If she’s in life-threatening danger, you’ll all be in trouble. After all, we live in a society governed by the rule of law.” Iris finally stopped, still somewhat exasperated, saying, “Alright, I’ll take her outside and handle this.” Upon hearing this, Felix let out a sigh of relief.

Meanwhile, Wilhelmina, her face now stained with blood, desperately looked to Felix and pleaded, “Please, help me!” Feeling conflicted, Felix chose to remain silent.

The instant he glimpsed those incriminating photos, he discerned Wilhelmina’s true nature—maliciously defaming Mia while upholding an innocent facade.

It became evident that she harbored a deceitful and unscrupulous side.

With a tinge of disappointment, Wilhelmina redirected her gaze and started crawling toward Mia, eventually kneeling before her.

“I wasn’t acting alone in this. I simply followed Shelly’s instructions. This has nothing to do with me!” she pleaded.

Stepping back, Mia remarked, “However, these photos aren’t fabricated. I offered you a chance to confess this morning, and you chose not to.

“Who’s to blame now? It’s a classic case of reaping what you sow.”
Wilhelmina gazed at the scattered photos on the ground, her mind echoing Mia’s earlier words from the day when she overheard her talking on the phone.

Regret coursed through Wilhelmina, desiring to turn back time. Yet, she acknowledged it was merely wishful thinking.

Several dark-suited bodyguards promptly escorted Wilhelmina away, leaving the studio’s lobby in disarray.

An awkward atmosphere settled in the aftermath of their departure.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 172-In the morning. Wilhelmina went to great lengths to tarnish Mia’s reputation. However, as the afternoon unfolded, the truth emerged, revealing that Wilhelmina was the one involved with Keegan.

Felix cleared his throat before turning to Tammy, the receptionist. “Have someone tidy up the lobby. There’s not much left to attend to now. Everyone is free to call it a day,” he instructed.

Before long, the studio was left with only Felix and Mia.

Raising her gaze, Mia commented, “With the truth finally revealed, it has brought trouble to the studio.” “I’ve always believed in your innocence, Mia. It’s just surprising to discover the kind of person Wilhelmina truly is.”

“The studio will soon release a statement terminating her. It’s getting late. Let’s grab some dinner together after sorting out this mess,” Felix replied.

“Alright.” Aware that she had inconvenienced Felix, Mia couldn’t bring herself to decline his invitation.

Shortly after, Felix headed to his office to address the issue.

Sitting at her desk, Mia opened her computer and found the photos and videos she had shared using an alternate account.

As she read the comment section, she observed a flurry of reactions.

Reflecting on Wilhelmina's recent downfall, Mia decided to remove the incriminating videos and photos she had posted.

Yet, judging by the intensity of the online buzz, she suspected that the content had already circulated extensively.

At that moment, Mia stumbled upon a post from a prominent media personality: "Mia Bowen became the target of a jealous studio colleague who deliberately tarnished her reputation with false accusations and slander.

"The truth has now surfaced following the exposure of the perpetrator's incriminating videos and photos." Intrigued, Mia clicked on the post, finding a clear and detailed explanation of the origins and intricacies behind the false accusations.

Nonetheless, it failed to shed light on the fact that others were involved with Wilhelmina in this matter.

Mia suddenly came across another trending topic: "A prestigious law firm in Nord City has officially filed a lawsuit against the CEO and his family of a construction company." "The allegations centered around Mia's defamation, with the legal action also seeking a public apology from the accused parties." Upon seeing the renowned legal team, Mia found herself momentarily taken aback. She recalled it was the company where Jason worked.

As Mia witnessed her brothers rallying to support her, a comforting warmth enveloped her.

So, this was what having a family felt like!

It was truly heartening!

An hour later, Felix emerged from his office after completing his tasks. "Mia, we're needed at the police station to finalize the case," he informed.

“Let’s go.” Mia felt a profound sense of gratitude toward Felix for trusting her during the incident this morning as well as for his proactive approach in reporting it to the police.

Now, she was certainly committed to working closely with Felix to address these matters.

After leaving the studio, the two went straight to the police station.

By the time everything was sorted out, it was already dinner time.

As Felix drove, he casually asked, “What are you in the mood for dinner tonight?” “I’m good with anything. Let’s just find a nearby spot to grab a bite.” Feeling a bit fatigued, Mia looked forward to returning home and getting some rest.

Half an hour later, Felix parked his car in front of a restaurant and turned to Mia, inquiring. “Mia, have you hired a lawyer?” Meeting Felix’s gaze, Mia discerned that he was probably alluding to the public lawyer’s letter.

“My brother is a lawyer and works at that law firm. Upon learning about the false accusations against me, he felt compelled to step in and offer his support,” she explained.

Felix hesitated before asking. “But aren’t you an orphan?” “Yes, but I’ve found my family.” “Really? That’s great. Were you originally from Nord City?” Affirming with a nod, Mia replied. “Yes.” “It’s impressive to have a brother working in such a prestigious law firm. It speaks volumes about his accomplishments. Your biological family must be doing quite well compared to your adoptive parents.

“Congratulations on that! I’ve noticed you seem even brighter and more cheerful than before.” “Thank you.” Mia couldn’t help but acknowledge that she was indeed in a significantly better state than before.

Stepping into the restaurant, she looked up and immediately spotted someone familiar.

Truly, it was a small world!

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 173-Mia caught sight of Maya walking ahead, the unforeseen encounter casting a shadow over her mood.

Upon turning around and spotting Mia, Maya's demeanor noticeably darkened.

Having just ended a call with Shelly, Maya was still processing the events that unfolded at the studio today. It was astonishing how Mia had effortlessly managed to disentangle herself from the situation.

Where did Mia find those incriminating videos and photos? And, more intriguingly, how did she manage to enlist Jason's law firm to personally intervene and pursue accountability for this matter?

Maya felt a sense of discomfort, her expression turning cold as she walked past Mia.

Noticing Maya approaching, Mia turned to Felix and casually remarked, "I just bumped into an acquaintance.

Felix, why don't you take a seat and wait for me?" Felix nodded understandingly, stepping aside to grant them a private space for conversation.

Mia redirected her attention to Maya and inquired, "You and Shelly were responsible for the Wilhelmina incident, weren't you?" "To be honest, I never anticipated you'd extricate yourself so effortlessly. That honestly caught me off guard.

"However, that's beside the point. I wanted to let you know that Tim and I are getting engaged. I'll be extending invitations to my brothers for the engagement ceremony.

"It would be wise for you to maintain a low profile. If my brothers catch wind of your actions, they won't be lenient when confronting you," Maya retorted.

With her arms crossed, Mia said sternly. “If I manage to uncover evidence implicating you in this matter, rest assured, I won’t let you off lightly.” “Sure, go ahead, as long as you can produce the evidence! Just so you know, my brother happens to own the renowned law firm in Nord City.

“So, don’t get too comfortable. With just one call from me, they certainly won’t lift a finger for you.” As Maya shifted her gaze toward the restaurant entrance, she quickly changed the subject, saying, “Mia, I never expected you to have such a good rapport with men.

“Going out to dinner with someone else behind Linden’s back—if he were to find out, do you think he would abandon you?” Maya snickered.

Realizing Maya had misunderstood, Mia chose not to explain herself. “My personal life is none of your concern. Whether I choose to date one or several men is entirely my business,” she shot back.

As her words lingered in the air, Mia couldn’t help but notice an odd gleam in Maya’s eyes, tinged with a hint of excitement.

Sensing an unusual tension in the atmosphere. Mia turned around only to find herself locking eyes with Timothy.

The intensity of his narrow, deep-set eyes caused Mia’s expression to stiffen abruptly.

No wonder Maya, that mischievous troublemaker, suddenly shifted the conversation. It became apparent that she had been patiently awaiting Timothy’s arrival all along.

Mia swiftly composed herself. Given her ongoing divorce proceedings with Timothy, Mia wasn’t in the mood for any additional complications.

With determination she turned and headed toward Felix, “Let’s go.” Glancing at Timothy and Maya across the room, Felix addressed Mia with a probing look. “How do you know them? Isn’t that Timothy, the heir of the Barrett Group, and his rumored fiancée?” he asked.

Mia’s expression briefly froze upon hearing this. “Felix, you know who they are?” Timothy usually kept a low profile, so not many people were acquainted with him.

“I happened to spot them at an event once, and someone mentioned that he was Timothy,” Felix explained.

Lowering her gaze, Mia elaborated, “I used to work as a caregiver for Grandma Laura, so that’s how I became acquainted with the Barretts.” “Oh, I see.” Felix glanced back once more, only to be met with Timothy’s chilling and intense eyes.

The formidable aura radiating from Timothy made maintaining eye contact difficult. Felix couldn’t shake the sense of hostility emanating from him.

He shifted his gaze to Mia beside him—was this perhaps just a product of his imagination?

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 174-Mia remained resolute, never glancing back throughout the entire ordeal.

Timothy stood in place, retracting his gaze before proceeding toward the adjacent elevator.

Maya caught up swiftly, her voice brimming with excitement. “Timothy, I’d love to invite my brothers to our engagement ceremony. What do you think?” Unfazed, Timothy replied, “Suit yourself.” Their engagement was merely a transaction, after all.

A subtle smirk adorned Maya’s expression. “Timothy, is this a business dinner? How about I join you?” “That would be unnecessary. This is a men’s gathering. Do you really want to intrude?” Timothy retorted.

With a cold expression, he entered the elevator, leaving Maya behind. Even with her resilience, all she could do was watch as the elevator doors closed before her.

Maya grappled with a sense of reluctance, but for the time being, she had to go along with it.

Nonetheless, if Timothy were to agree to her proposal of inviting her brothers to their engagement, that would be acceptable too.

With a glimmer of hope, she dialed Dominic’s number. “Dominic, there’s

something I'd like to discuss with you.

At the Lane residence in Nord City, Dominic lounged comfortably on the sofa. "Go ahead," he responded..

"In just a few days, Timothy and I will be getting engaged, and this means a lot to me.

"I truly wish to have my family there on that special day. So, could you, Nathan, and Connor attend our engagement ceremony?" Dominic couldn't help but frown. He wasn't exactly fond of Timothy.

He responded vaguely, "It depends on my schedule. I'll try to make it if I'm free." "Dominic, it's crucial that you find the time to come. It would feel incredibly lonely without a single family member present. Grandma always mentioned she would attend my wedding if it ever happened.

"However, considering the distance to Bern City, I didn't want to trouble her to come just for the engagement." With a frown, Dominic advised, "Let's avoid discussing this with Grandma. We wouldn't want her insisting on making the journey to Bern City.

"Considering her health, a long trip might worsen her condition." Maya's eyes betrayed a hint of disappointment, but her tone remained composed. "That's precisely my intention and the reason I called to invite you, Nathan, and Connor to come over." After a brief pause, Dominic responded, "Connor is already in Bern City, so he should be able to make it. I'll "Thanks, Dominic." Maya said before ending the call, a trace of coldness playing on her lips.

It seemed that Dominic was only willing to compromise when it came to Laura.

Maya quietly reminded herself to endure a bit longer. Once she married Timothy and took on the title of Mrs. Barrett, she wouldn't need to tread so carefully.

Seated in a private booth, Mia and Felix finished their dinner.

As a true gentleman, Felix apologized, "Mia, I'm sorry about the Wilhelmina situation. If I hadn't brought her to the studio in the first place, none of this would have happened." "It's not your fault, Felix, Mia reassured him.

Mia was aware of the support Wilhelmina had from Shelly and Maya, but given Wilhelmina's timid nature, she posed no real threat to Mia.

Without power or influence, one could only endure and swallow their pride.

Taking a brief moment in the restroom, Mia looked at herself in the mirror, recalling the scene of Timothy and Maya dining together. Surely, they must have finished their meal by now.

Gently caressing her belly, she found comfort in the presence of her unborn child. With a baby on the way, there was nothing else worth fretting about.

Exiting the restroom, Mia coincidentally crossed paths with Timothy. Her gaze shifted instinctively behind him. but she didn't spot Maya.

Was he alone?

Timothy's gaze fell upon Mia's hands, tenderly placed over the small bump of her abdomen.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 175-Sensing Timothy's gaze. Mia swiftly withdrew her hand.

She deliberately turned away, intending to stroll past him.

Despite this, Timothy deftly sidestepped, obstructing her path with an air of superiority. "Don't you have anything to say?" he inquired condescendingly.

Lifting her gaze, Mia replied, "I don't think there's anything worth saying." "Looks like you've already moved on to someone else. Honestly, he seems rather ordinary. Do you genuinely find him appealing?" Timothy remarked, his tone tinged with disdain.

Indeed, his choice of words was intriguing.

Mia responded with a wry smile. "Well, it's a two-way street" It seemed ironic that Timothy, who himself showed interest in Maya, was now criticizing Mia's decisions.

“Mia, I never thought you’d become such a troublemaker now. You used to keep a low profile for three years. I truly feel sorry for you.” Timothy remarked.

“Speaking of which, Mr. Barrett, I’d like to remind you to manage your family affairs properly.

“Now that we’ve reached a divorce agreement, please ensure that your family, especially Shelly, refrains from creating any issues for me,” Mia warned.

Timothy couldn’t help but narrow his eyes. “What do you mean?” he quipped.

“In a literal sense, if it weren’t for Shelly’s manipulation, Wilhelmina wouldn’t have dared to defy Keegan.

“She believed that having Shelly as a supporter would provide her with protection, only to be exploited and heartlessly abandoned,” Mia explained, her eyes carrying a hint of mockery.

“I spent three years bowing down in servitude to your family, but now I have no ties to them whatsoever. Don’t expect me to swallow my pride like before. That’s not something I can do!” she continued.

Having said her piece, Mia proceeded to briskly walk past Timothy.

Timothy stood in place, and after a brief pause, he retrieved his phone to call Heath, instructing. “Look into the recent communications between Wilhelmina and Shelly.” Heath swiftly returned with the investigation results. “Shelly has indeed grown closer to Wilhelmina since the Fleur International Design Competition.

“I’ve also gathered information that when Wilhelmina was being reprimanded, she consistently implicated Shelly.

“However, reluctant to stir trouble with the Barrett family, they channeled their frustrations onto Mia.” Timothy’s expression was nuanced with surprise. For the past three years, he had assumed Mia’s life in the Nonetheless, Timothy hadn’t anticipated Shelly daring to engage in such actions.

o meet A stem expression replaced his initial surprise. “Return to the Barrett residence and summon Shelly to me. If she refuses, deactivate all her credit cards,” he ordered.

In the evening, Mia returned home from the restaurant and was surprised by a call from Dominic. "Hey Mia, Eva and I find ourselves with some free time. We're thinking of coming to Bern City to see you." Given the recent upheaval, Dominic felt concerned about his sister's emotions. Determined to ensure her well-being, he decided to personally visit her.

Sensing Dominic's intentions, Mia reassured him, "Dominic, I'm fine. You don't have to go out of your way to be with me. I'm not a child anymore, and I wouldn't want to disrupt your busy work schedule." Despite Mia's insistence, she couldn't deny the solace she found in her brothers' unwavering support amid these recent events. To her, the reassuring backing of her family was all she needed.

Clearing his throat, Dominic responded, "Mia, I have a few days off anyway, and there's nothing urgent at work.

"Alright, then." Upon learning that Dominic was on vacation, Mia chose not to press further.

Following the call, Dominic turned to Walter, his assistant, wearing a stern expression. "How did the company's acquisition go?" he inquired.

"Very smoothly." "Ensure they apologize to Mia. Otherwise, I won't leave them with a single penny." Dominic's face revealed a steely resolve. If this incident hadn't unfolded in distant Bern City, he would have undoubtedly ensured severe consequences for those involved.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 176-After finishing his work, Dominic turned to Eva and suggested. "Babe, what do you think about bringing Mia back to Nord City to live with us? That way, no one would dare to mistreat her." Eva couldn't help but sigh. "But Mia has always been living in Bern City. If we bring her here, we'll need to have an honest conversation with her. Are you certain that Mia has fully accepted us?" "Regardless, Maya has already chosen to marry Timothy and will be living in Bern City. Bringing Mia back to Nord City wouldn't have any significant impact, considering the substantial distance between them.

*Besides, Maya is marrying into the prestigious Barrett family, so it's not as though we're treating her unfairly.

right?" With unwavering resolve, Dominic continued, "During our upcoming trip to Bern City for Maya's engagement, we should discuss with Maya the possibility of ending her adoption.

"We certainly can't allow Mia to return to the Lane family only to find another girl there, replacing her. It simply wouldn't be fair to her." Raising an eyebrow, Eva questioned, "Terminate Maya's adoption? Do you think she would agree to that?" Mia's extraordinary journey from an orphanage to her current standing was an accomplishment most people couldn't fathom. Besides, Eva has never been particularly fond of Maya.

Maintaining a serious expression, Dominic asserted, "I can't let Mia endure any more injustice. When the time comes, I plan to provide Maya with some assets as a fair settlement.

"Her departure will be amicable, and I assure you there will be no mistreatment. After all, I haven't breached our initial agreement." The following day, Mia resumed her routine and headed to the studio for work.

Shortly after, two female colleagues approached her, each holding a box of freshly baked cookies. "Mia, we owe you an apology. We were misled by Wilhelmina," one of them expressed.

"Mia, please accept these as a token of our goodwill," the other added.

Recognizing the influence Wilhelmina had on her colleagues, Mia graciously accepted the gifts, deciding not to dwell on the past. After all, she knew she had to uphold a professional relationship with them.

At that moment, Tammy nervously entered, announcing. "Mia, someone is here to see you. It's the woman who confronted Wilhelmina last time." As her words lingered in the air, an uneasy atmosphere settled in the studio once again.

Mia hadn't anticipated Fiona coming to find her. Could it be that Wilhelmina had spread more rumors about her?

As Mia rose to confront Fiona, she noticed her approaching. However, this time, Fiona seemed less arrogant, wearing a somewhat worn expression.

Maintaining a composed demeanor, Mia calmly inquired, "What brings you

here?” Suddenly, Fiona dropped to her knees with a thud, speaking earnestly, “Ms. Mia, I must confess that I fell victim to Wilhelmina’s schemes.

“Regrettably, I mistakenly believed the issue was connected to you, and I realize my words may have offended you. I sincerely apologize. Please forgive me!” Mia was taken aback by this sudden display of humility.

In shock, she took a step back and asked, “What are you doing?” The expressions of everyone in the room mirrored Mia’s surprise. Fiona, the heiress of a wealthy family, kneeling and sincerely apologizing to Mia—a truly unprecedented scene.

Responding to the commotion, Felix quickly emerged from his office, standing by Mia’s side. “What’s going on?” he inquired.

“I honestly have no idea,” Mia replied.

She was just as bewildered as everyone else. Fiona’s unexpected apology had to be connected to something she wasn’t aware of.

At that moment, Mia’s phone chimed, and she received a link from Gina: “With the successful acquisition of Keystone Construction, the family of that despicable old man is now facing bankruptcy.

“It appears that he is finally reaping the consequences he deserves.” Mia was surprised to learn that Keegan’s company had been acquired.

But what did that have to do with Fiona’s sudden apology?

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 177-Mia shared the link with Felix, saying, “Felix, take a look at this.”

Meanwhile, Fiona turned toward Mia, pleading. “Ms. Bowen, please forgive me. I admit it was my mistake.

“I shouldn’t have confronted you without conducting a thorough investigation first. It’s entirely my fault.”

Mia's expression held a blend of emotions. She remained unconvinced that Fiona would offer an apology solely because her family's company had been acquired.

After a moment of hesitation, Mia inquired, "Why did you come to see me?"

Fiona, too, seemed taken aback, but calmly clarified. "Ms. Bowen, I truly recognize my mistake. Please forgive me this time."

"You should get up first," **Mia** urged.

Determined, Fiona retorted, "Unless you forgive me, Ms. Bowen, I won't get up."

She remained on her knees, refusing to stand.

It wasn't until Mia uttered words of forgiveness that Fiona finally rose, her **eyes** reflecting apprehension, completely devoid of **the** arrogance she had displayed **earlier**.

After Fiona left, the office gradually returned to silence.

Standing nearby, Felix finished perusing the message from Mia.

His gaze became intricate as it shifted toward Mia. He hadn't expected her to be behind the scenes.

avigate the situation so deftly

Despite Keystone Construction facing bankruptcy, the Stewart family was affluent, having been wealthy for several generations. The sight of Fiona kneeling to apologize to Mia was truly surprising.

In a hushed tone, Felix instructed, "Mia, **come** to my office for a moment."

Mia knew what he wanted to discuss. She entered his office and candidly expressed, "Felix, to be honest, I'm not entirely sure about the details of **everything** that happened.

"Right now, I'm just as puzzled as you are."

"Alright, if you're not willing to share, I won't press further. But it seems like there's **a** silver lining to this situation," Felix commented.

Aware of Felix's skepticism, Mia decided not to delve into more details.

Upon returning to her **seat**, she couldn't resist the urge to search for information about Keystone Construction, eager to unveil the identity of the sudden acquirer.

A possibility flashed through Mia's mind, though it seemed highly unlikely.

After conducting a brief search, she discovered that the acquiring entity was none other than Vista Properties.

Could it truly be Maya's family's company?

Mia found the situation increasingly perplexing. **Just** yesterday, at the **restaurant**, Maya had threatened her, asserting the support of a powerful brother.

Now, coincidentally. Maya's brother had acquired the company!

What could Maya be plotting?

While scrolling through messages, Mia suddenly stumbled upon reports of environmental pollution issues at the golf course owned by Keystone Construction.

The heightened public concern triggered an immediate limit-down for the company's stock.

Simultaneously, news began to circulate that Keegan, overwhelmed by the stress, had suffered a stroke and was admitted to the hospital.

With his survival hanging in uncertainty, a scandal erupted as multiple children contested the inheritance.

Overnight, Keystone Construction had plummeted into a profound crisis.

Mia wasn't surprised at all. After all, Keegan had caused harm to so many women in the past, and ending up in such a situation was simply what he deserved.

Nonetheless, the series of events unfolding appeared to be too coincidental.

In that instant, Mia received a call from Shelly. She answered with a frown, "Hello?"

"Mia, did you complain to Timothy about me? He canceled my credit card and prohibited my family from giving me any money. You're a heartless woman," Shelly accused.

Mia was stunned. She had indeed voiced her concerns to Timothy about the incident involving Shelly.

However, her intention was merely for Timothy to caution Shelly, advising her to steer clear of Mia's life. All Mia yearned for was a tranquil existence, untangled from family conflicts.

Yet, she never anticipated that Timothy would take concrete measures against Shelly, especially given their familial connection.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 178-Listening to Shelly's complaints on the other end of the phone, Mia calmly **replied**, "It's not as if I canceled your credit card. You should contact the person who did it."

With that, she hung up the phone. Nonetheless, Shelly persisted with her calls, prompting Mia to switch her phone to silent mode.

Despite the recent surge of rumors, they quickly dissipated. Mia hadn't anticipated such an effortless resolution.

She breathed a sigh of relief and tenderly caressed her belly, sensing the presence of her unborn child within.

Following Laura's surgery at the end of the month, Mia could finally sever all ties with Timothy.

It dawned on her that she should schedule a prenatal checkup.

Taking out her phone, she made an appointment at the hospital and began packing up to leave work early for the examination.

"Mia, are you leaving early for college?"

Upon hearing Felix's voice, Mia turned around.

“Indeed, there’s something I need to attend to, and there isn’t much work on my plate right now. So, I thought of leaving early.

“If there’s anything urgent, I can stay back and handle it,” she replied with a hint of awkwardness.

“No worries. I’m just concerned about you. With the recent rumor incident, people are bound to discuss it. especially at your college,” Felix expressed.

“Thanks for your concern, Felix, but I’m not heading to college,” Mia clarified.

Felix couldn’t help but chuckle. “Mia, you don’t **have** to be so cautious around me. I’m not an enemy. After all we’re friends, right?”

Mia eased up a bit, although her guard remained. Her past relationship with Timothy had made her somewhat wary of men, causing her to instinctively maintain a distance.

Fortunately, Felix didn’t press further. Entering the elevator, Mia headed straight to the hospital.

She went for her prenatal checkup without notifying Connor in advance.

Considering Connor’s hectic work schedule, Mia decided not to disturb his time to accompany her, opting to go to the checkup alone.

After the doctor’s examination, Mia **received** comforting news. “The baby is healthy, there are no issues.”

She carefully tucked the B–scan report into her bag, creating a habit of preserving such important documents.

After all, those B–scan pictures were precious snapshots of her child, even if the details were a bit blurry and Checking the time and realizing it was still early, Mia decided to head upstairs to find Connor.

Exiting the elevator, she looked up and saw Connor standing in the corridor, accompanied by a woman.

To her surprise, it was Maya.

Mia froze, her gaze locking onto the unexpected scene of Connor and Maya together. A flicker of bewilderment crossed her eyes as she processed the sight.

Why were they standing together? Did they know each other?

Mia discreetly positioned herself around the corner, avoiding Maya's line of sight.

Every encounter with Maya seemed to bring trouble, and Mia was determined to keep her connection with Connor under wraps to spare him from any unnecessary complications.

As Mia quietly observed, it seemed that Maya was animatedly expressing something, perhaps engaged in an argument.

Was there some unresolved history between Connor and Maya?

Meanwhile, Connor appeared somewhat impatient as he addressed Maya, "I've told you before that I'm busy with work. I don't have time to attend your engagement."

"But Dominic assured me that you would find time. I wouldn't want my engagement to go by without a single family member present. It would deeply hurt me."

"If you're adamant about having your family present, why did you turn down Dominic's offer to help you locate your biological family?" Connor questioned.

Upon hearing this, Maya's complexion grew pale.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 179-A flicker of guilt crossed Maya's **eyes**; she harbored no desire to be reunited with her biological family.

Being discarded in the past signified their lack of desire for her, or perhaps **an** inability to provide for her.

With the Lane family offering such favorable conditions and Maya holding the title of heiress, she wondered if it was necessary to search for her birth parents.

Was biological family really that important?

Having experienced hardships in the orphanage, Maya recognized the significance of wealth and social standing. Hence, she had no interest in reconnecting with her birth family.

With a hint of reluctance, Maya responded, “Regardless of whether I find my biological family or not, it doesn’t impact my engagement.

“You all are my family now, and that’s why I sincerely hope you can join me and Timothy for our engagement ceremony.”

Connor observed her with a scrutinizing gaze. “Maya, you’ve achieved your goal. I’ve agreed to perform the surgery on Grandma. There’s no need to be overly demanding.”

“But Connor, I’m a part of the family too. How can asking for your presence at my wedding be considered greedy?”

*Dominic **was** the one who brought you back initially. Honestly, I never supported Dominic’s decision, so I’ve never really regarded you as my sister.

“And let’s not forget, Maya, the years you’ve spent claiming the title of the **Lane** family heiress—you’re well aware of your actions.

“I know precisely what kind of person you are, so it’s in your best interest to show some restraint.”

Due to Connor’s understanding of Maya’s nature, he decided to conceal her identity and refrain from publicly disclosing Mia’s, aiming to prevent any potential drastic actions from Maya.

With this revelation. Maya’s last glimmer of hope was shattered as she **realized** that pretense was no longer a viable option.

During her childhood, Connor had seen through her facade on several occasions. As **a** result, she had always kept her distance from him, fearing that he might expose her true identity.

Brushing away the tears in her **eyes**, Maya responded calmly, “Connor, Dominic assured me that you and the others would be present at my engagement.

“If not, I’ll be left with no choice but to inform Grandma.”

“You wouldn’t dare!” Connor snapped.

“Connor, I don’t want to disturb Grandma’s peace, considering her kindness toward me over the years. All I’m asking is for my family to be there with me during the engagement ceremony—a simple request.”

With her words lingering in the air, Maya gracefully turned and walked away. However, her expression was notably grim, She hadn’t anticipated Connor to unveil everything so directly.

Nevertheless, it didn’t matter. Once she married Timothy, she wouldn’t have to endure such humiliation anymore.

As Maya departed, Mia emerged from around the corner. Approaching Connor, she cautiously began, “Connor, is that you?”

Initially feeling a bit agitated, Connor’s demeanor shifted to surprise upon hearing Mia’s voice. “Mia, why are you at the hospital? Are you feeling unwell?”

“I came for a prenatal checkup and thought I’d drop by to see you: I didn’t expect to find you talking to Maya, so I decided not to interrupt,” Mia explained.

Connor’s expression grew uneasy. “You saw us?”

Mia nodded. “Connor, do you happen to know Maya?”

To Mia, it appeared they were more than mere acquaintances, almost as if they shared a deeper connection.

Connor’s mind raced, and he quickly clarified, “Maya approached me to discuss Grandma Laura’s surgery. I’ll be performing the procedure this time.”

“Oh, I see. With your expertise, I trust you’ll handle it well,” Mia replied.

She was aware of the intricate nature of this surgery, requiring collaboration among several doctors, but she

hadn’t expected Connor to be involved.

Relieved that Mia **accepted** his explanation, Connor instinctively let out a sigh.

Fortunately, she harbored no suspicions. He had come dangerously close to slipping up just moments ago.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 180-Mia spoke up. “Connor, given your Involvement in this surgery, please Inform me promptly if there’s any update on Grandma Laura’s condition.” Indeed, Mia was genuinely concerned about Laura’s wellbeing.

Observing Mia’s compassionate demeanor, Connor couldn’t help but sigh. “Mia, don’t worry. Grandma Laura will be just fine. I promise.” Connor would undoubtedly put forth his best effort in performing the surgery, ensuring that Mia could sever all ties with the Barrett family.

After Mia’s departure. Connor called Dominic and inquired, “Hey Dominic, when did I agree to attend Maya’s engagement ceremony?” Clearing his throat, Dominic explained. “Well, didn’t I mention that I won’t be able to make it?” “Come on, Dominic. If you made a promise, it’s your responsibility to follow through. I never agreed to attend Maya’s engagement ceremony in the first place.” Connor retorted.

He disapproved of Maya’s manipulative tactics—using Laura as leverage.

If Maya were obedient and compliant, it would be a different story. However, Maya’s actions contradicted the innocent facade she portrayed.

Indeed, Connor harbored a profound disdain for individuals who exhibited a two-faced character.

Sighing on the other end of the line. Dominic conceded, “Alright, I’ll make a trip to Bern City in a couple of days.

“Given the unfair accusations against Mia, Eva and I have decided to go over personally and assess the situation for our peace of mind.

“Regarding Maya’s engagement, here’s my plan...” Dominic proceeded to share his thoughts.

Connor pondered for a moment. “I think that could work, but I’m unsure if Maya will agree. It’s still worth a shot.

I “However, I hope we can keep Mia’s presence under wraps. I’m concerned it might bring harm to her.

“Con, Maya wouldn’t stoop to that level,” Dominic reassured.

Upon hearing this, Connor was at a loss for words.

Despite Dominic’s seemingly aloof exterior, he harbored a deep sense of trust for his family, extending that trust even to Maya, who had been adopted into their family.

In the end, Connor didn’t press further. As long as Maya married Timothy and remained in Bern City, that would suffice.

Once Mia returned to Nord City in the future, nobody would dare mistreat her.

Upon the birth of Mia’s child, they would seamlessly become a cherished member of the Lane family.

Mia would also be able to enjoy a sense of autonomy and protection in Nord City, with no external interference.

Considering these factors, attending Maya’s engagement ceremony seemed like a sensible choice for Connor.

After all, it could be seen as his final farewell to Maya.

Returning home to rest, Mia found herself greeted by an intriguing revelation the next day—Maya’s impending engagement had seized the media’s attention, dominating the entertainment headlines.

Mia stumbled upon photos of Maya trying on her wedding dress, the very same dress she had glimpsed at Maya’s villa.

With the engagement date now revealed, Mia remained unfazed, having anticipated this development.

She attended her college classes as usual and then went to the studio for work.

Having repeated a grade, she found herself less acquainted with her current classmates and had no inclination to form close bonds with them.

Upon entering the studio, Mia observed that Wilhelmina's workspace had been vacated, devoid of any personal items.

Reflecting on Wilhelmina's downfall, Mia couldn't help but feel a pang of regret.

After all, Wilhelmina was once a proficient designer, showcasing her talent by securing second place in the esteemed Fleur International Design competition.

Unfortunately, she had taken a wrong turn in her career, leading to a downward spiral.

Mia's thoughts then drifted to her marriage with Timothy, drawing eerie parallels to Wilhelmina's predicament.

Suddenly, her phone buzzed.

Upon seeing the caller's number, a subtle squint emerged in Mia's eyes. She hadn't spoken to Mary in quite some time.

The unexpected call from her already hinted at troubling news.